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Chicago Tribune



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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2018

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

Cohen admits lying to Congress

Former Trump attorney pleads guilty, points to talks about Moscow tower project

BY ERIC TUCKER, LARRY NEUMEISTER AND CHAD DAY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's former lawyer, Michael Cohen, confessed in a surprise guilty plea Thursday that he lied to Congress about a Moscow real estate deal he pursued on Trump's behalf during the heat of the 2016 Republican campaign. He said he lied to be consistent with Trump's "political messaging."

Cohen's plea arrangement made clear that prosecutors believe that Trump, who insisted repeatedly throughout the campaign that he had no business dealings in Russia, was continuing to pursue the Trump Tower Moscow project weeks after he had clinched the Republican nomination for president and well after he and his associates have publicly acknowledged.

The negotiations about building the Moscow tower continued as late as June 2016 — the same month Trump's oldest

Turn to **Cohen**, Page 16

How Ill. firms found window to vent toxins

New files show Sterigenics, others found an opening

BY MICHAEL HAWTHORNE
Chicago Tribune

After a series of explosions at medical sterilization plants during the late 1990s, federal safety officials urged Sterigenics International and other companies to overhaul the way they handled highly volatile and extremely dangerous ethylene oxide gas.

Instead of following through on some of the safety recommendations, the companies persuaded President George W. Bush's administration in 2001 to relax clean air regulations so sterilization facilities could bypass pollution-control equipment and vent the cancer-causing gas directly into the air, according to memos and other documents compiled by the nonpartisan Congressional Research Service at the behest of U.S. Rep. Dan Lipinski, D-Chicago.

California and a handful of other states later adopted their own regulations requiring all sterilization plant emissions to be filtered. But Illinois failed to follow their lead, enabling a

Turn to **Sterigenics**, Page 7



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Federal investigators carry boxes from Ald. Ed Burke's 14th Ward office on West 51st Street in Chicago on Thursday.

FBI agents raid Ald. Burke offices

Speculation swirls as feds again circle 14th Ward alderman

BY BILL RUTHHART, JOHN BYRNE AND JASON MEISNER
Chicago Tribune

Federal agents swarmed Ald. Ed Burke's City Hall and ward offices Thursday morning, kicking out employees and hours later hauling boxes of records and computers from rooms that for decades have been at the center of Chicago's longest-standing political power structure.

The scenario was a somewhat familiar one for the 14th Ward's Burke, Chicago's longest-serving politician who is known for his bold pinstripe suits, great political wealth and as half of one of the city's elite power couples. In his 50 years in politics, the Southwest Side alderman has been under federal scrutiny several times before, but never convicted or indicted.

"As you are aware, there have previously been several other investigations such as this. In every instance we cooperated fully. And in every instance nothing has been found," Burke said in a statement. "So once again, we will be cooperating fully, and I am completely confident that at the end of



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Ald. Ed Burke, 14th, returns to his Southwest Side home on Thursday after federal raids on his offices earlier in the day.

the day nothing will be found amiss in this instance either."

When the 74-year-old alderman arrived at his Southwest Side home late Thursday,

he repeated variations of the same statement as reporters inquired about the investigation.

The FBI's Chicago office also had little to say about the matter, other than to confirm the searches. That set off parlor games among City Hall insiders about just which slice of Burke's political domain had once again fallen under the microscope.

Nationally, media outlets were quick to note that Burke once served as the attorney who appealed property taxes on behalf of President Donald Trump's Chicago tower before cutting those ties earlier this year. And the raids on Burke's office came on the same day the president's former attorney Michael Cohen pleaded guilty to lying to Congress about a Trump project in Moscow as part of special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

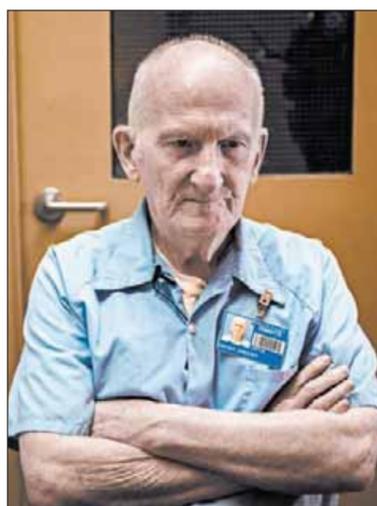
The timing of that development and the raid on Burke's offices led to rampant speculation that the searches were related to work Burke's law firm did for Trump.

Turn to **Burke**, Page 9



ARNOLD TOLCHIN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chester Weger is seen, at left, during his trial in 1961. As his 80th birthday nears, Weger, right, continues to insist he's innocent of the triple murder at Starved Rock State Park.



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2016

Starved Rock killer falls 1 vote short of parole

60 years after murder of 3 women, a bid for freedom thwarted

BY MIKE RIOPELL AND CHRISTY GUTOWSKI
Chicago Tribune

A 79-year-old man serving a life sentence for the 1960 killing of three Riverside women at Starved Rock State Park fell one vote short of winning his release on Thursday.

For the second year in a row, the Illinois Prisoner Review Board ended up tied 7-7 on whether to parole Chester Weger, who has been locked up for nearly 60 years following his murder conviction for what at the time was considered Illinois' crime of the century.

The latest vote was not without contro-

versy. One board member who was absent Thursday had voted in Weger's favor last year. The veteran board member, retired Chicago cop Salvador Diaz, was ill, according to board Chairman Craig Findley.

Weger attorney Andrew Hale pleaded with Findley about whether Diaz could vote remotely, or whether another vote could be taken when Diaz was available.

"It's a very important case for both sides," Hale said. "Chester Weger has been in prison for 58 years. We're having a parole hearing where we need a majority vote. This doesn't have to happen Nov. 29. We could do it tomorrow."

Turn to **Parole**, Page 7

Tom Skilling's forecast High 40 Low 33

Chicago Weather Center: Complete forecast on back page of A+E section

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BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Longtime Ald. Ed Burke returns to his Southwest Side home Thursday after federal raids on his offices earlier in the day.



JOHN KASS

Do the feds want Burke wrapped up like a roast?

When the feds raided Ald. Ed Burke's City Hall office Thursday, they wrapped the glass doors tight with brown butcher paper, and it looked like a nice, juicy crown roast of pork.

"The FBI doesn't show up just to say, 'Hi,'" said Jose Torrez, one of several Latino candidates challenging Burke's rule as alderman of the Southwest Side's 14th Ward.

Yes, Jose, the feds don't show up just to say hi. And they don't bring a coffee cake.

And when they leave carrying cardboard boxes, you can bet those boxes aren't full of invitations to a party where Burke could play the piano and sing show tunes.

"It's a surprise this comes before the election," Ald. Joseph Moore, 49th, not exactly a pal of Burke's, told me at City Hall. "My understanding was that feds take a holiday before an election."

Destiny never takes a vacation, alderman.

Burke has been alderman for 50 years. He's hardworking, disciplined, utterly ruthless and a historian of Chicago politics.

Years ago, the first words I ever heard him say were these: "Always take care of the coppers first."

A series of mayors have tried to dislodge him from the chairmanship of the City Council Finance Committee. They've failed.

Now Burke will have to lawyer up. Chicago politicians will ask one another, not on the phone but perhaps in a Russian bathhouse, if Burke could give the feds something, or someone, that would keep them off his back.

You might look at Burke, with that white hair, fine suits and those bodyguards of his, and see the classic Irish Democratic ward boss, one of the last of his breed.

Yet I see him also as a walking intelligence operation. Burke's sparrows are everywhere: cops and lawyers, generations of judges he's made, workers, executives. They hear things and fly to him and sing.

But his hold on the 14th Ward is shaky, the result of changing demographics. As a powerful alderman and friend of the master mapmaker, Illi-

nois Democratic Boss Mike Madigan, Burke has survived by having his ward boundaries moved ever southwestward, chasing white ethnic precincts.

Unfortunately for him, Boss Madigan needed those precincts, so Burke is putting his Spanish to use as he makes his last political stand. He's also hoping Hispanic voters forget he was President Donald Trump's real estate tax lawyer in Chicago.

Incoming U.S. Rep. Jesus "Chuy" Garcia — who wants to devour Burke — issued a statement after the federal visit.

"Make no mistake," Garcia said. "Ald. Burke is the last bastion of Chicago machine politics."

Yes, Chuy, but you're the new machine. We shall see if Garcia applies the same rhetoric to mayoral candidate Susana Mendoza, the state comptroller who endorsed Mayor Rahm Emanuel over Garcia in the last mayoral election.

"No one wants to have the FBI come visit you," said Moore. "But if you're looking just through a political lens, this could actually be beneficial to Ald. Burke."

How so? "There's a natural distrust of the federal government right now in the Latino community," Moore said. "Ed has been very vocal in his opposition to federal crackdowns on undocumented residents ... He could easily make the argument that this is the federal government punishing him for standing up for his constituents."

Burke could also raise his fist in the air and sing of the Mexican revolution, in Spanish. But few would believe it.

For his part, Burke released a statement telling those who love him not to worry.

"As you are aware, there have previously been several other investigations such as this. In every instance we cooperated fully. And in every instance, nothing has been found," Burke said. "So once again we will be cooperating fully, and I am completely confident that at the end of the day nothing will be found amiss in

this instance either."

Until we see some federal paper, it's speculation. So, let's speculate. What were the feds after?

Some think the feds want to see what's in that giant \$100 million city-worker compensation fund that Burke runs, all by himself, doling payments to city payrollers without interference from others at City Hall.

Whatever it was, I bet the FBI wasn't looking for Burke's fingerprints on some greasy envelope of 50-dollar bills.

Burke isn't some cheap crook. He's a lawyer. And his wife is a justice on the Illinois Supreme Court.

Yet with his lucrative law practice, and as chairman of the council's Finance Committee, Burke knows about leverage, and how to push things right up to the edge.

Most aldermen who go away don't have that patience. They think they can dance along The Chicago Way. Most aren't lawyers, and they're not chairman of a powerful committee. They don't know how to leverage things.

What they know how to do is take the envelope. And they go to prison.

"Most aldermen, most politicians are hos," former Ald. Arenda Troutman 20th, said on federal tape before she was sentenced to four years in federal prison.

They are the low-hanging political fruit the feds are used to picking. What the feds don't do is go after the big bulls.

Chicago mayors, for example, are historically fed free, with not one mayor of the modern age ever facing indictment. Perhaps Chicago mayors bathe in holy waters.

With his sparrows telling him things, Burke has been remarkably fed free too.

Until Thursday, when the FBI wrapped up his office like a roast.

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Hey CPS, what's your sexual violence policy?

Parents would like to know about kids' safety



HEIDI STEVENS
Balancing Act

I have questions, CPS. As a parent with kids in your schools, I want to know why I'm not hearing more from you about the shocking levels of sexual violence within your system, first uncovered in June by my Chicago Tribune colleagues in a series of news stories that drew on police data, public and confidential records, and interviews with current and former students.

I'm reading the news stories. In Thursday's paper, I read about the 624 allegations of sexual misconduct fielded so far this year by your newly created Office of Student Protections of Title IX.

Last week, I read about the close to 130 CPS employees — teachers, classroom aides, hourly workers — who've been terminated or recommended for dismissal, or who have resigned following updated background checks in the wake of the Tribune series. I read about the additional 124 employees barred from work until they submit fresh fingerprints for an updated district background check.

In September, I read about federal education officials withholding \$4 million in grant money from CPS, citing your failure to protect students from sexual violence.

In June, I read about two brave young women — one former CPS student, one current CPS student — testifying in front of the Illinois Legislature about the abuse they endured.

I'm reading a lot. Almost none of it is from you.

Here are my questions.

Where is the "awareness and education campaign" promised on your website?

"The district will implement a public awareness campaign in schools, district offices, and City of Chicago facilities to raise awareness of child abuse and the responsibilities of mandated reporters," according to the CPS plan of action page on your site. "This campaign is being developed and will be implemented during the 2018-19 school year. It will encourage all parties — students, employees, families, and members of the public — to report suspected abuse as well as educating students, parents, and community members about appropriate relationships and interactions between students and adults."

Where is CEO Janice Jackson? Why wasn't she at Wednesday's meeting with the City Council's education committee when members were discussing the 624 allegations fielded by the new Title IX office? (How do I contact that Title IX office, by the way? How

do my kids?)

Why wasn't Jackson there in June when Illinois lawmakers listened to those two young women — plus child welfare authorities, representatives from CPS, the Chicago Teachers Union and the Illinois State Board of Education — testify?

Who are the employees who've been terminated or recommended for dismissal or who have resigned? Will they show up working in other districts or other jobs near children?

Why aren't I receiving emails, robocalls, letters home, invitations to town halls to learn and discuss what's been uncovered and what you're doing about it?

Why aren't I receiving resources and advice for talking to my children about their safety in your school buildings and around your school staff?

Is that on individual principals to implement and offer? It shouldn't be. Resources and communications need to be systematic and districtwide when we're talking about something as fundamentally critical as our children's safety.

You know how to reach us. When there's a snow day, you find us. When there's a teachers strike looming, you find us. When the dang circus comes to town and CPS is offering discounted tickets, you find us.

Fill my kids' backpacks with handouts. Fill my inbox with emails. Fill my voicemail with robocalls. Tweet at me. Invite me to community meetings.

Tell me what you're doing to keep my kids safe. Tell me what you're doing to keep all kids safe. Tell me what you've told my kids. Tell me what I need to tell my kids.

Do they know whom to go to if someone hurts them at school? Do they know what should happen next? Do they know what to do if that next step isn't taken? These are conversations I have with my kids at home. What are you doing to make sure all parents know how and why to have them?

More than once, when I've talked to fellow CPS parents about this, they've said, "What sex abuse?"

Maybe you want it that way. Maybe the Catholic Church wants parishioners saying, "What priest abuse?" Maybe the military wants service members saying, "What spike in sexual assault reports?" Maybe Hollywood wants actors and audiences saying, "What #MeToo movement?"

Maybe you're focused on damage control.

I'm focused on damage. Far, far too much of it has been done to our children. Your children. The children you are tasked with protecting and educating.

Tell me what you're doing about it, or I assume you're spending most of your energy trying to sweep it under the rug.

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STERLING BAY

Sterling Bay presented revised plans for its \$5 billion Lincoln Yards mixed-use development on Thursday.

Music venues join ranks to battle plans for Lincoln Yards

Live Nation could significantly impact the city's musical landscape

By **STEVE JOHNSON**
Chicago Tribune

A group of Chicago independent music venues has banded together to ask the city to slow down the \$5 billion Lincoln Yards development and its proposed "three to five" concert halls run by Live Nation that the venues deem a threat to their existence.

Separately, Live Nation COO for U.S. Concerts Mark Campana sent a letter on Thursday to Ald. Brian Hopkins, 2nd, asserting that "we want to be a great neighbor and always work with independent venues."

Lincoln Yards, which would include residences, hotels and other businesses on 54.5 acres along the river's North Branch, raises issues that go far beyond music venues. But the clubs have joined neighborhood groups to stake out a role in asking questions about the Sterling Bay company's development and its planned financing.

"We should be in those conversations," said Robert Gomez, owner of Subterranean and Beat Kitchen. "Everything's happening behind closed doors between the mayor, the alderman and Sterling Bay. Enough."

"I work with Live Nation," said Gomez, co-chair of the new group that calls itself CIVL, for Chicago Independent Venue League. "This isn't an anti-Live Nation movement. This is: If you're going to alter the cultural music scene of the city, we need to be in the conversation."

The nightclub group formally announced its formation Thursday evening, just before a contentious community meeting at which Sterling Bay unveiled its revised plan for the massive development. The group rallied hundreds of supporters to the meeting. Not surprisingly for a group of music venues, the organization already had its new logo, a peregrine falcon wrapped with a snake, printed on black tee-shirts.

"I think all the other aldermen will agree this will crush small venues," said former 2nd Ward Ald. Bob Fioretti, who is running for mayor.

In addition to Gomez' clubs, CIVL represents a group of mostly North Side venues that include The Hideout, Thalia Hall and the Empty Bottle, Metro, Martyrs', Schubas and Lincoln Hall, and the new Sleeping Village. It is the first time the city's leading venues have joined together to form such a group, CIVL leaders said.

Another key stakeholder, Chicago music promoter Jam Productions, is "very much aware of what we're doing and he (co-owner Jerry Mickelson) supports us," Metro owner Joe Shanahan said. Mickelson could not be reached for comment Thursday.

Echoing earlier concerns raised by Tim and Katie Tuten, owners of The Hideout, the storied venue in the vicinity of the planned development, CIVL wants City Hall to delay implementation of a tax increment financing district that would place property tax revenues from the area into a special fund for 23 years.

"Why don't we just take our time and do it right?" asked Bruce Finkelman, a CIVL board member whose company runs Thalia Hall, The Empty Bottle and Promontory. "Why are we going so fast?"

Details for Live Nation's planned new music facilities have not been offered beyond "three to five venues from 200 to 3,000 seats," Gomez said, plus the potential of the planned soccer stadium that could also host musical events. "It's hard to answer questions when we don't have answers ourselves. Are we talking, like, a shopping mall of musical venues?"

A new detail emerged in Thursday's community meeting, held at Park Community Church, 1001 N. Crosby St.: A plan architect said the Lincoln Yards "entertainment district" would be primarily in two buildings adjacent to the soccer stadium.

Asked by Gomez to clarify what that meant, Dean Marks, Sterling Bay general counsel and principal, said what Live Nation might develop has "yet to be determined."

But it seems clear that if Live Nation, which runs Ticketmaster and manages leading musical artists, gains such a concentrated presence with a range of seating capacities, it would significantly impact the city's musical landscape.

"This will put an equal number of venues out of business," Gomez said, because there is not demand for that many new concert seats here.

CIVL leaders called for a delay in approving the plan and the TIF until after a new mayor and City Council are seated in April. "Let the next mayor and City Council make the final decisions," Gomez said.

They asked that the process be opened up and their expertise in presenting live music and running entertainment venues be tapped. And they are offering to the city "a set of recommendations about how to protect and build on this city's treasured and historically significant independent music scene," Gomez said.

In the community meeting that followed in the nearly full auditorium of the church, Ald. Hopkins said he has not made up his mind on the project and "I will not schedule the next hearing on this TIF proposal until (your) questions are answered."

Hopkins' office released the conciliatory letter from Campana, who says he is a "resident of the neighborhood" and as such "I want to see the Hideout successful."

"At Lincoln Yards," he wrote, "our goal is to add to the scene and complement the established independent music venues. We have no interest in changing the vibe."

He suggested the business might work with The Hideout, for instance, on logistics of the club's annual Hideout Block Party music festival.

But Katie Tuten did not sound mollified. "We're standing up now to say, 'Not here. Not in Chicago. Not on my watch,'" she said. "Conglomerate corporate giants should look elsewhere."

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CHICAGOLAND

Pot opponents claim racial disparity

'A gangsta move worthy of Al Capone'

By **ROBERT MCCOPPIN**
Chicago Tribune

Anti-marijuana forces warned Wednesday that legalization will allow white corporate exploitation of minority customers, comparing its effects to those of alcohol and tobacco.

The Rev. Gregory Seal Livingston of New Hope Baptist Church said that legalization will amount to marijuana companies "pimping" blacks and Hispanics.

"Profit is the motive," he said. Livingston spoke in downtown Chicago with several other members of Healthy and Productive Illinois, a group that opposes legalization and is supported by Smart Approaches to Marijuana, a national anti-cannabis organization.

Illinois has already decriminalized the possession of small amounts of marijuana, which takes away much of the social justice argument in favor of legalization, said Livingston, who has been active in social justice issues in Chicago.

Industrially grown marijuana has a higher concentration of THC, the component that gets users high, which will only attract more and heavier users in minority communities, while mostly white entrepreneurs will make the money, Livingston said.

The group hopes to persuade Gov.-elect J.B. Pritzker to change his mind and oppose the legalization of marijuana. Advocates plan to reintroduce legislation in January to legalize cannabis, arguing that it will reduce criminal arrests in minority communities, raise significant tax revenues and provide quality control to prevent toxins and other contaminants that can be found in the illegal market.

Opponents are raising their voices as advocates forge ahead with legalization efforts, with backers boasting of the possibility of enacting and rolling out recreational marijuana by the end of 2019 or early 2020, though it remains illegal under federal law.

But many details would need to be negotiated before any bill could pass, including how legal marijuana would be taxed and how those proceeds would be spent, what role existing medical marijuana companies might play in the new market, how it would be licensed and regulated, whether citizens who were previously convicted of possession would have those cases reversed and whether individuals would be allowed to grow the plant for personal use.

A crucial component of the pro-legalization argument has been that the war on drugs has disproportionately targeted minorities. Blacks traditionally have been almost four times more likely than whites to be arrested for marijuana, typically for simple possession, despite similar self-reported usage rates, according to a 2013 report by the American Civil Liberties Union.

Cook County in particular had an even more disproportionate arrest rate as of 2010, according to the ACLU report. Such convictions can make it harder for minorities to get jobs, higher education and housing.

To address that issue, Chicago lawmakers in 2012 decriminalized the possession of small amounts of marijuana, and Illinois lawmakers did so in 2016. Even after decriminalization, though arrests fell dramatically, opponents pointed out that arrest rates were still disproportionately higher for blacks.

In Colorado, even after legalization, blacks and Hispanics continued to be more likely to be arrested for

marijuana than whites, according to the Colorado Department of Public Safety.

In Illinois, most medical marijuana companies are owned by wealthy white men who gathered millions of dollars to invest to meet the requirements under state law. Illinois initially banned felons with drug convictions from qualifying for medical marijuana, and the proposed federal bill to legalize hemp, which are cannabis plants with very low THC, would ban people with drug-related felonies, again shutting out minorities at a greater rate.

Livingston pointed out that Pritzker has a cousin, Joby Pritzker, who is an investor with Tao Capital Partners, which has financial interests in Juul, the electronic cigarette company, and Pax Labs, which sells vaporizers and pods of cannabis.

Livingston, who has also led anti-violence marches in Chicago, called the effort to take over a lucrative illegal market "a gangsta move worthy of Al Capone."

"Mr. Pritzker, for those of us who can see through the smoke, we can clearly see and smell the new money that your family and business cronies cannot wait to pocket," Livingston said of the governor-elect.

Pritzker's campaign spokesman Jordan Abudayeh said that Pritzker has no financial stake in his cousin's companies, and they don't influence his policy.

Abudayeh said J.B. Pritzker supports legalization to end racial disparities, adding, "J.B. will also prioritize inclusion as we move toward legalization by intentionally including black and brown entrepreneurs in the planning and licensing of new marijuana businesses, ensuring new jobs and businesses are created in the communities that have experienced the disinvestment in the past."

Sponsors of the legalization bill, state Sen. Heather Steans and Rep. Kelly Cassidy, have said that it would include funding for communities disproportionately hurt by the war on drugs, as well as funding for substance abuse prevention and counseling, though no specifics have been set.

Among Chicago mayoral candidates, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, who is African-American, has said she backs legalizing marijuana as a way to focus on violent crime rather than the war on drugs. Hispanic mayoral candidate Gery Chico backs legalization to help address the city's financial crisis.

Fellow candidate Lori Lightfoot, a former assistant U.S. attorney who prosecuted crack and cocaine dealers, said legalization is a chance to "right the wrongs" of the criminalization of cannabis.

"We can do it in a way that's thoughtful, that learns from the lessons in other states," she said. She suggested that requiring licenses for minority and women-owned businesses, and allowing partnerships or joint ventures, could help ensure that revenue from the industry goes back to communities of color, while regulation could easily prevent the concentration of businesses in any one area.

Retiring Chicago Ald. Danny Solis, who sponsored the city's decriminalization bill, and represents the largely Hispanic Lower West Side, said he was now leaning toward legalization as well, as a way to reduce penalties on minorities, reduce revenues for illegal drug dealers, and generate tax revenue.

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CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

People walk through the Union Station Great Hall, with its newly refurbished skylight and new lighting, Thursday.

Repaired skylight keeps Union Station bright



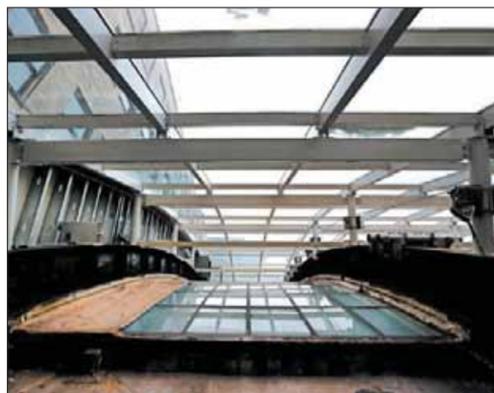
MARY WISNIEWSKI
Getting Around

Union Station's Great Hall, a stopping point for millions of travelers since 1925, is a lot brighter this holiday season, thanks to a \$22 million renovation of its skylight and decorative walls and ceiling.

The station was designed by Chicago architect Daniel Burnham, and the centerpiece of the Great Hall is the 219-foot-long skylight rising 115 feet above the floor.

For almost a year, the skylight has been obscured by a suspended working deck as Berglund Construction and architect Goettsch Partners repaired it and added another modern, protective skylight 5 feet above the original. Natural light in the Great Hall has now increased by 50 to 60 percent, according to Leonard Koroski, principal at Goettsch.

"What I think we've ended up with is a wonderful bright space, not unlike that in the 1920s," said Koroski, speaking after a holiday tree-lighting ceremony Thursday afternoon.



A new skylight hangs over the old one above Union Station's Great Hall in downtown Chicago.

"But it's also a very comfortable space that's a safe lounge for Amtrak passengers," he added.

Over the years, the skylight had deteriorated due to time and problems with the original structure and materials. Water damaged the walls and statues, and repairs to the skylight's glass panels gradually shut out the light. Train passengers going through Union Station in recent decades have gotten used to a murky atmosphere, and often saw buckets set out to catch water from the roof.

The Amtrak-funded project included determining the original paint colors for the walls and col-

umns, the addition of new lighting to emphasize architectural elements, and restoration of the two Henry Hering statues that sit above the entrance into the main station. The Grecian-style statues are of two women — one holds an owl, representing night, while the other holds a rooster, representing day.

There is also a new elevator from Canal Street, making access to the hall from the west side of the street complaint with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The station serves 376 million Amtrak and Metra rail passengers annually and 120,000 on a typical weekday.

Some scaffolding remains in one part of the hall — Koroski said it will be gone by the end of the month. Goettsch Partners also worked on restoring the hall's marble staircase, which is featured in the iconic shootout scene in the 1987 movie "The Untouchables."

Travelers in the hall Thursday took pictures of the columns and statues, as well as the Great Hall's Christmas tree, which was decorated with railroad emblems.

One admirer was Rhonda DeGarmo, 64, a mural artist from Reno, Nev.

"It's so beautiful," DeGarmo said, snapping pictures with her phone. "The detail is amazing."

Amtrak spokesman Marc Magliari said the Clinton Street side of the Great Hall, currently occupied by the seasonal "Polar Express" train, will eventually be opened with a new entrance and retail space added.

A 50-story office building is being planned for a block south of the station.

"This part of the Loop's hot now," Magliari said. "We want to be part of that."

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'I am very scared for the people of Illinois'

Rauner doesn't plan to leave the state as Pritzker prepares to take over

By **MIKE RIOPELL**
AND **RICK PEARSON**
Chicago Tribune

SPRINGFIELD — Lameduck Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner on Thursday said he was "very scared for the people of Illinois" as a result of Gov.-elect J.B. Pritzker's victory and expanded Democratic legislative majorities in the state House and Senate.

Answering reporters' questions for the first time since his Nov. 6 defeat, Rauner also responded to the actions earlier this week by lawmakers in both parties to override several of his vetoes, warning their actions could be "devastating for taxpayers and economic growth" in the state.

Rauner was asked why he was handily dispatched by Pritzker after one term in office. Instead of answering that question, he issued a warning over Democratic control of state government.

"I am very scared for the people of Illinois. I believe that the folks who put Illinois into a financial quagmire are now back in

complete control of the government," he said. "The policies that have created the financial mess for the state of Illinois are now the policies that will be dominating completely without any resistance whatsoever."

Contrasting with his call for unity in his postelection concession speech, Rauner on Thursday predicted a future of "deficit spending, tax increasing, overregulating, self-dealing" by Democrats with "no voice pushing back."

Rauner has a little more than a month left in office, ending a four-year term marked by a historic budget impasse, battles with public worker unions and a political war with powerful House Speaker Michael Madigan, who also chairs the state Democratic Party.

Rauner on Thursday didn't preview what's next for him after years of leading and using his personal wealth to heavily subsidize the state Republican Party, but he did offer some clues.

He said it's his intention to live in Illinois. He also said he soon will be talking more about his ongoing

contract conflict with the state's largest employee union. And he said he'd have more to say about President Donald Trump.

"I will be commenting more about the president in the future, not today," Rauner said.

The governor had a complicated relationship with the president during his term, at first largely avoiding saying Trump's name in public. Then at the end of his re-election campaign, he traveled to a Trump rally in southern Illinois and never took the stage.

Rauner also blasted lawmakers for handing him a string of defeats over the past few weeks by overriding many of his vetoes.

He called out for specific criticism an override of his veto of legislation aimed at helping families of more than a dozen residents at the Downstate Quincy veterans home who died of Legionnaires' disease and have filed negligence cases against the state.

He said the plan to raise limits on lawsuit damages in state Court of Claims cases from \$100,000 to \$2 million was "falsely sold as a Quincy veterans bill" because it would apply to all manner of complaints against the state, not just

families of Quincy victims. "This is going to be a massive invitation for lawsuits against the state," Rauner said, calling it "a major sop" to the state's civil liability attorneys who are a major backer of Democratic lawmakers.

The legislation got caught up in controversy this week when a Democratic state lawmaker on Tuesday said she wanted to pump a lethal "broth of Legionella" bacteria into the water system of a Republican colleague's family. She apologized a day later.

As he prepares to leave government, Rauner said he hasn't talked to Pritzker personally since conceding the election not long after the polls closed on Nov. 6. But he said his staff has worked closely with Pritzker's transition team to help the incoming Democrat get started.

"My immediate predecessor did the exact opposite," Rauner said of former Democratic Gov. Pat Quinn. "I learned what not to do."

Riopell reported from Springfield and Pearson reported from Chicago.

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Eyewitness says police waved him away

Man testifies he was shooed from the McDonald scene without statement.

BY MEGAN CREPEAU,
CHRISTY GUTOWSKI
AND STACY ST. CLAIR
Chicago Tribune

Moments after watching Laquan McDonald fall to the pavement on Pulaski Road, fatally shot by Officer Jason Van Dyke, bystander Jose Torres encountered another patrolman: this one waving him away from the scene without saying a word.

"From a distance, he just shined the flashlight and made a gesture to me to leave," Torres testified Thursday at the Leighton Criminal Court Building.

Torres took the witness stand about two months after testifying in Van Dyke's trial, which ended in a Cook County jury's historic conviction on second-degree murder and 16 counts of aggravated battery.

This time, he was testifying in the trial of Van Dyke's then-colleagues: ex-Detective David March, former Officer Joseph Walsh and Officer Thomas Gaffney, all of whom face charges they conspired to shield one of their own from scrutiny in the incendiary shooting.

Torres' testimony Thursday served a dual purpose for prosecutors. His eyewitness account directly contradicts the narrative written by the defendants in their police reports. And police shooed him from the scene without taking his statement — a key element of the cover-up, according to prosecutors.

Torres was Thursday's only witness, and shortly afterward the first week of the landmark case closed with a whimper. Proceedings were unexpectedly derailed by lengthy arguments about whether prosecutors can use as evidence emails among police supervisors about McDonald's shooting.

Associate Judge Domonica Stephenson, who is deciding the officers' fate at the bench trial, said she would not announce her decision until the trial resumes Tuesday afternoon. If she bars the emails, it could prove a significant setback for prosecutors who have argued the emails prove a broad conspiracy that includes the three defendants and other unindicted Chicago police officers.

The emails, if allowed, will be the last evidence introduced by prosecutors. Torres was the week's last witness and the only non-government employee to testify during the first week.

Torres told the court that he was driving his son to the hospital that night in 2014 when he stopped because of police activity near 41st Street and Pulaski Road. He watched 17-year-old McDonald walking south on Pulaski, heard police shouting — then gunfire erupted and the teen fell.

Police continued firing after McDonald hit the pavement, Torres testified.

"When they continued shooting I was upset, and I said why the f--- are they still shooting," he said.

Torres testified a police officer soon shooed him and another motorist away without taking down their information.

"From a distance, he just shined the flashlight and made a gesture to me to leave," Torres said.

After seeing a police union spokesman on television that next morning saying McDonald had lunged at officers, Torres went days later to the Independent Police Review Authority, the city's police oversight agency at the time.

While defense attorneys commonly tread lightly around civilian witnesses in front of jurors to avoid looking harsh, the officers' lawyers hammered hard on Torres, since Stephenson alone will decide the officers' fate.

They repeatedly asked why he didn't call 911, whether he had actually heard anyone verbally direct him away from the scene, whether he handed police his contact information and why he didn't contact authorities other than IPRA.

There was no need to call



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK / CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS
Former Detective David March and his attorney James McKay watch assistant special prosecutor Ron Safer address the court at Leighton Criminal Court Building on Thursday.

911 since police were already on the scene, Torres said. The officer who waved him away made it clear police wanted Torres to leave without having to say anything, he said, and since he was directed to leave he did not have the opportunity to give them his contact information. And he thought contacting IPRA would be enough to lodge his concerns.

What he saw weighed on his conscience, Torres testified.

"It's a burden on my shoulders," he recalled. "It's eating away at me. I would say for the next few days, I couldn't sleep."

Stephenson, in turn, expressed impatience with Torres, directing him sharply to not interrupt attorneys or volunteer information that he had not been asked about.

But Torres remained resolute: McDonald never made aggressive moves toward the officers, and police made it clear they did not want to speak to him on scene.

Proceedings ended abruptly Thursday afternoon after defense attorneys lodged lengthy objections over prosecutors introducing certain emails from CPD supervisors into evidence.

Stephenson had already ruled earlier this month that prosecutors could use emails to support the conspiracy charge.

But in order for them to be used at trial, defense attorneys said, prosecutors have to show that the three co-defendants in fact collaborated on a cover-up — a standard they did not meet this week, they argued.

"They haven't (established) that there's any agreement between these three men at all," argued attorney James McKay, who represents March, the lead detective investigating the shooting. "And now they want to put in emails by authors nowhere near this courtroom. ... There's no evidence that David March even knew about these emails."

While not all the disputed emails have previously been disclosed publicly, some of their contents were revealed in pretrial court filings.

In one instance, the paperwork shows Sgt. Daniel Gallagher and Lt. Anthony Wojcik — neither of whom were criminally charged with wrongdoing — allegedly planned to clear Van Dyke early in the investigation.

Gallagher wrote to Wojcik that "we should be applauding (Van Dyke) not second-guessing him" and suggested that McDonald "chose his fate. Possible suicide by cop."

After hearing more than an hour of argument, Stephenson retreated to chambers to read the emails in question — only to emerge after half an hour and say she would need more time.

Stephenson is not expected to reveal her decision until the trial resumes Tuesday afternoon.

If she decides to bar the emails, it could indicate she is leaning toward the defense argument that prosecutors have not proven that a conspiracy existed among the three co-defendants.

In blasting the quality of the state's evidence as flimsy and disingenuous, the defense seemed to preview their expected request

for Stephenson to acquit the officers altogether before the defense puts on evidence. Known as a motion for a directed finding, such a request is standard in criminal trials — but rarely granted.

Those arguments could come as early as Tuesday, when prosecution is expected to rest its case.

Also Thursday, prosecutors read into the record excerpts from testimony

given by Gaffney to a federal grand jury in 2015.

After the shooting, Gaffney testified, the officers who had been on the scene of the shooting spoke with detectives as a group and individually. The officers' union representatives also met with the patrolmen — including Van Dyke — as a group.

"We talked about it as a group. ... They (the detectives) also talked to us indi-



Jose Torres testifies that he was kept away without a statement after watching the shooting of Laquan McDonald.

vidually," he testified.

Gaffney told the grand jury that he believed group meetings were standard procedure after officer-involved shootings. The same thing had happened in 2000 or 2001 when Gaffney himself was involved in a police shooting. He fired his weapon twice in that incident, he testified, but the shooting was not fatal.

But prosecutors have hinted that those group meetings were efforts to get all the officers' story lined up together.

During that same grand jury appearance in 2015, Gaffney downplayed his contact with McDonald in the minutes before the fatal shooting. Gaffney had filed a police report saying McDonald had battered

him that night, but he testified in 2015 that the teen never attacked him.

"He wasn't stabbing at me," a transcript quoted Gaffney as testifying. "He just came down on the side (of the car)."

Gaffney also repeatedly testified he did not fear McDonald was "going to cause him death or bodily injury," contradicting his police report from that night. "Like I said, I was still in my car," Gaffney testified in 2015. "I had my vehicle to protect me at that time."

Gaffney's federal grand jury testimony can be used as evidence only against him.

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ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Sterigenics plant in Willowbrook is located in a cluster of nondescript buildings within a mile of four schools and neighborhoods where more than 19,000 people live.

Firms allowed to vent toxins

Sterigenics, from Page 1

Sterigenics plant in Willowbrook and a Medline Industries facility in Waukegan to vent uncontrolled ethylene oxide into neighboring communities for nearly two decades.

The Bush administration's industry-friendly decision garnered little attention at the time. It had been largely forgotten until earlier this year, when a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency analysis found that residential areas near Sterigenics and Medline are among only a few dozen nationwide where the long-term risks of cancer from breathing toxic air pollution exceed federal safety guidelines.

In Willowbrook, Sterigenics rushed to redirect its vents into pollution controls shortly before the EPA released its National Air Toxics Assessment to the public in August. Medline is following suit after the

Tribune began asking questions about the facility's emissions.

Yet lawmakers say those voluntary steps fall woefully short of what needs to be done to protect communities from a chemical that increases the long-term risks of breast cancer and lymphomas.

"It's long past time for the EPA to update its air emissions standards for ethylene oxide — a known carcinogen," said U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin, who along with Sen. Tammy Duckworth and Reps. Lipinski, Bill Foster and Brad Schneider cited an ongoing Tribune investigation while introducing new legislation Wednesday intended to address the pollution problems.

Their bills would require the agency to overhaul outdated regulations within 180 days to reflect a significantly more stringent safety limit in the EPA's 2016 reassessment of the chemi-

cal's health dangers.

The EPA relied on its new safety limit last year when it calculated cancer risks from the 5,566 pounds of ethylene oxide released in communities surrounding Sterigenics during 2014.

Even with its Willowbrook sterilization chamber vents hooked up to pollution controls again, Sterigenics can legally emit up to 36,400 pounds of ethylene oxide annually at the facility, located in a cluster of nondescript buildings within a mile of four schools and neighborhoods where more than 19,000 people live.

Company-supplied records show the plant released more than 254,000 pounds of ethylene oxide into the air between 1993 and 2017. After a Tribune investigation of Sterigenics emissions, Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan and Robert Berlin, the state's attorney of DuPage County, filed a bipartisan lawsuit

last month accusing the company of violating state environmental laws.

Sterigenics, Medline and corporate lobbyists have responded with tactics that U.S. chemical industry executives have relied on for decades when confronted with research showing their products are harmful.

Among other things, they have hired an industry-connected researcher to raise doubts about the EPA's assessment of ethylene oxide. The companies also have said the chemical is naturally produced in the body at levels exceeding EPA safety guidelines, citing as proof a review published in an journal that frequently publishes industry-backed articles.

And they have tried to pick apart a separate analysis of Willowbrook conducted by an arm of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, claiming falsely that the agency "cherry-picked" samples to

get the results federal researchers allegedly wanted.

When the EPA announced the day before Thanksgiving that it might have overestimated levels of ethylene oxide in air samples collected in May near Sterigenics, the company, business lobbyists and right-wing propagandists claimed falsely that the federal agency and local media had needlessly scared residents.

"Unfortunately, the flawed report has ... stigmatized the community and caused good people to wrongly worry about a facility that operates safely and provides a vital service to our health care system," Sterigenics said in a statement.

But the announcement that the analysis of air samples collected in May might be flawed has no effect on the EPA's estimates of cancer risks in the Willowbrook area, which were based on pollution

legally emitted by Sterigenics in 2014.

Additional air samples are being collected by agency officials and by consultants hired by local governments, all of whom will analyze the results using a method that can clearly discern the differences between ethylene oxide and related chemicals.

Given the potency of ethylene oxide, questions remain about whether continued use of the chemical close to homes, schools and shopping centers is safe.

"EPA has been making questionable decisions about how to regulate ethylene oxide for many, many years, and the regulations have been out of sync with the latest science for years now," Lipinski said. "It's time for the agency to do its job and protect the health of the people of Illinois and the rest of the country."

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60 years later, no parole for killer

Parole, from Page 1

Findley, however, did not concede. Diaz could not be reached for comment Thursday.

Weger was a dishwasher at the Starved Rock lodge when Lillian Oetting, 50; Frances Murphy, 47; and Mildred Lindquist, 50, arrived on March 14, 1960, checked into their rooms and ate lunch. They headed out for an afternoon hike through St. Louis Canyon, a popular attraction framed by a scenic waterfall and high rock walls. They were never seen alive again.

A search was organized. Two days later, the women were found in a cave bound, partially nude and bludgeoned to death, each having injuries consistent with suffering more than 100 blows. Authorities believed the killer or killers caused catastrophic head injuries by swinging a frozen tree limb that was found nearby and stained with blood.

The case baffled investigators. Early on, they focused on Weger after lodge employees reported seeing scratches on his face, but he passed several lie-detector tests. Authorities believed twine used to bind the women came from the lodge kitchen, where Weger worked.

Weger also fit the description of a young man who bound and raped a teenage girl in a nearby park in 1959. For months, police followed Weger. Investigators also interviewed him

several times, including during an all-night interrogation. Weger confessed early Nov. 17, 1960.

Prosecutors said Weger knew things only the killer could have known, such as the fact that a red-and-white airplane flew over the canyon the day of the murders. Detectives later confirmed that detail by checking the flight logs at a local airport.

When he was arrested, Weger was a 21-year-old married father with an infant son and toddler daughter. As his 80th birthday nears, Weger is now a balding grandfather with gray hair, dentures and a list of ailments that includes arthritis and asthma.

In a lengthy December 2016 interview at Pinckneyville Correctional Center in southern Illinois, Weger told the Tribune he is innocent, as he has maintained since his 1961 trial. He insists his detailed confessions were coerced and his re-enactment of the crimes at the state park — in front of a gaggle of reporters and photographers — was choreographed by the now-deceased police detectives who he said framed him.

"Why should I say I committed a crime that I never committed?" he said. "I'll stay in prison the rest of my life to prove my innocence before I'll make any deal with any of you crooked people."

Once an active outdoorsman, Weger told the Tribune he long ago ad-



CHICAGO TRIBUNE HISTORICAL PHOTOS

A jury convicted Chester Weger, far right, of killing Frances Murphy, from left, Mildred Lindquist and Lillian Oetting at Starved Rock State Park in March 1960. The case has seen many twists and turns over the ensuing years.

"I'll stay in prison the rest of my life to prove my innocence before I'll make any deal with any of you crooked people."

— Chester Weger said in a 2016 interview

apted to his constricted life in custody. If released, Weger said he would like to spend his remaining years with his family, which includes three grandchildren. He'd love to go fishing again.

The case has seen many twists and turns over the years. The defendant's request for DNA tests on hair found in the victims' fists and blood on Weger's fringed leather coat was stymied in state court in 2004 after it was learned the items had not been properly preserved and no longer held evidentiary value.

The last surviving juror died a year ago at age 93. In

2016, Nancy Porter told the Tribune she regretted her decision to convict. Porter said she found the confession implausible and the idea that an unarmed Weger, who stood a thin 5-foot-8, could alone overpower three women, unlikely. Still, after a six-week trial and hours of deliberations, Porter said she gave in to the will of the other 11 jurors.

Some familiar with the case wondered if this might finally be Weger's year to win release. In addition to last year's tie vote, in April the board granted parole to Carl Reimann, who was convicted of fatally shooting five people during a robbery

at a Yorkville restaurant in late December 1972. Reimann had expressed remorse for his crime and been a model inmate who volunteered in the prison hospice unit for years.

In past years, board members had cited Weger's lack of remorse in denying him parole. During Thursday's debate, however, board members who supported Weger's release pointed to his long declaration of innocence as a reason to release him. They also noted that Weger contends his confession was coerced.

"Mr. Weger ... has served 58 years in institution. He has maintained his innocence for that amount of time," said board member Vonetta Harris, who interviewed him in prison and proposed his release. "He does not pose a risk to society in my opinion and does have the support of his family."

Board member William Norton, however, said that a

jury found Weger guilty and the board shouldn't retry the case.

"This was a really brutal and heinous crime," Norton said. "And there were three victims. ... And these ladies were cut down in the middle of their lives, and their families, all of them, had to live without them."

Diane Oetting, a granddaughter of one of the victims, urged the board to deny parole, recounting the toll the killings took on her family and how her father read about it in the London Times.

After the vote, Oetting said she was relieved that Weger did not win parole, but that this year was tougher because she'd met Weger's family, people "we've always kept in our thoughts."

"Just as relieved as I was, that's how sad they were," Oetting said.

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ANDREW HARNIK/AP

Rep. Cheri Bustos, D-Ill., left, with Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., speaks at a 2017 news conference on Capitol Hill.

Bustos will lead House Democrats in 2020 campaign

BY RICK PEARSON
Chicago Tribune

U.S. Rep. Cheri Bustos of Moline continued her rise in the ranks of Democratic leadership Thursday, winning election from her partisan colleagues to chair the party's congressional campaign committee efforts leading to the 2020 election.

Bustos, who gave up an assistant House Democratic leadership spot for her bid to chair the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, will be entering her third term representing northwestern and west central Illinois' 17th Congressional District.

Reflecting the growing number of women entering the Democratic caucus and the influence of the women's vote in powering Democrats to control of the House, Bustos becomes only the second woman to chair the DCCC.

Bustos, 57, campaigned throughout the country in the 2018 midterm cycle to assist Democratic candidates. She gained stature in party leadership as one of only a dozen Democrats who won House seats in congressional districts that Donald Trump won in the 2016 presidential election.

In the midterm cycle, Bustos said she raised and

gave nearly \$3 million to support candidates and traveled to 11 states to support dozens of candidates.

On Thursday, she received 117 votes from the House Democratic caucus for the campaign post, defeating Reps. Denny Heck and Suzan DelBene, both of Washington. Heck received 83 votes and DelBene got 32 votes.

She will succeed current DCCC Chairman Ben Ray Lujan of New Mexico, who is moving into an assistant leadership spot.

"Over the next two years, our charge is to build on this progress to fortify our new Democratic majority so we can deliver bold change for the American people," Bustos said in a statement. "We will do this by placing a new emphasis on incumbent protection while going on offense in the districts where we came up short this year. We must do both."

Bustos said of 62 incoming Democratic freshmen, half come from districts that Trump won in 2016. Last month, she defeated a nominal Republican opponent by 24 percentage points, the largest margin of victory of any Democrat from a Trump district.

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Chicago Archdiocese adds 10 names to suspect clergy

List is of those with credible abuse allegations

BY KAYLI PLOTNER AND KATHERINE ROSENBERG-DOUGLAS
Chicago Tribune

The Catholic Archdiocese of Chicago has added 10 names to the list of clergy with substantiated allegations of child sexual abuse — a move Attorney General Lisa Madigan says was made after she began a sweeping investigation of all dioceses in Illinois.

"Our initial review has found the number of Catholic clergy in Illinois with credible allegations of sexual abuse against minors is more extensive than the Church previously has disclosed to the public," Madigan said in a statement. "My investigation will continue in order to provide victims, parishioners and the public with a complete and accurate accounting of sexually abusive behavior with minors involving priests in Illinois."

Four of the clergy added to the Chicago list were priests with the archdiocese, two were deacons, two were "extern priests" from dioceses outside the United States who served in Chicago and two were priests from religious orders. All those from Chicago have died, while the priests from other dioceses and the religious order priests have been removed from ministry or defrocked:

■ Chicago Archdiocese priests: Edmund F. Burke, Thomas Carroll Crosby, Dominic Aloysius Diedrich, Thomas Francis Kelly.

■ Chicago Archdiocese deacons: Patricio William Batuyong, Louis Wojtowicz.

■ Extern priests: Sleva Raju Policetti, Czeslaw Przybylo.

■ Religious order priests:

Eusebio Pantoja, C.M.F., and Carlos Peralta, S.D.B.

The archdiocese said in a statement late Wednesday that the list previously contained only priests from the archdiocese who were alive when the first allegation was made against them and whose allegations were substantiated by the Archdiocese Independent Review Board "or similar archdiocesan process."

The statement said Cardinal Blase Cupich asked that the list be expanded to include all diocesan, extern and religious order priests and deacons with allegations of child sexual abuse that were found to be substantiated. The allegations against the two extern priests and two religious order priests were substantiated by the Archdiocese Independent Review Board in 1999, 2003 and 2007, it said. Extern priests are those ordained in another diocese who are given permission to act as priests by a local diocese's bishop.

The Illinois attorney general's office released a statement overnight saying its "ongoing investigation into the Catholic Church" prompted the Chicago archdiocese and other Illinois dioceses to disclose additional names of priests with credible allegations of sexual abuse against minors.

"So far, the Archdiocese of Chicago has disclosed 10 additional names, the Diocese of Peoria has disclosed three additional names, and the Diocese of Rockford has disclosed 11 additional names," Madigan said in the statement.

Madigan said she "anticipates additional names will be disclosed as her office's investigation continues."

Madigan began her investigation in August following the release of a

Pennsylvania grand jury report that identified at least seven priests with connections to Illinois. Madigan said her office has met with the six Catholic dioceses in Illinois and is reviewing documents and files, "including diocesan procedures for receiving and investigating allegations of abuse."

Allegations against at least six of those named Wednesday — Policetti, Peralta, Pantoja, Burke, Batuyong and Kelly — have been publicly aired before. Policetti, Peralta and Pantoja are still alive, according to the archdiocese:

■ Policetti was charged in 2002 with 20 counts of criminal sexual assault and abuse of a then-16-year-old Chicago girl. He abruptly left Chicago and fled to India, where he battled extradition, according to previous Tribune reporting. His victim eventually told prosecutors she didn't want to pursue the case, but after a canonical trial in 2008, the Vatican defrocked Policetti over the sexual assault allegations.

■ In 2002, the archdiocese acknowledged it did not know that Peralta, a Salesian priest who worked in a Northwest Side parish, had a long history of allegations of sexual abuse against him. In 1999, the priest was accused of molesting four children from one Chicago family. The Salesians promised the archdiocese they would investigate, but transferred the priest first to New Jersey and then out of the country, never notifying law-enforcement authorities of the allegations. By the time Chicago police started a criminal investigation, detectives were unable to locate Peralta. Peralta was removed from public ministry in 1999, according to the archdiocese.

■ Pantoja was accused of sexually assaulting a 14-

year-old child, the Tribune reported in 2013. Pantoja and the Claretian Missionaries, of which he was a member, were sued in 2003 over allegations that he committed acts of abuse in 1970 at his home and in Our Lady of Guadalupe Church. At the time of the suit, Pantoja was assigned to a parish in Mexico, said Marc Pearlman, an attorney for the plaintiff, who was 14 at the time of the alleged abuse. Pantoja was removed from public ministry in 2004, according to the archdiocese.

■ Burke died in 1989, five years after retiring from St. Francis Xavier Catholic Church in Wilmette, where he had been from 1972 to 1984. He had served as an assistant pastor at Blessed Sacrament, Holy Name of Mary, St. Leo and St. Columbanus, all on the West Side. In 1966, he was made pastor of Blessed Sacrament parish and six years later transferred to St. Francis Xavier.

■ Batuyong, who was born in July 1945 and died in 2009, was accused of criminal sexual assault while he served at a Hanover Park parish from June to September 1991. The deacon later was found guilty of aggravated criminal sexual abuse and sentenced to probation and home confinement, according to court records. The incidents involved one victim and occurred in Hanover Park, Palatine and Hoffman Estates, prosecutors said. Batuyong was a deacon at St. Ansgar Catholic Church during that time.

■ In 2005, the archdiocese settled with 24 adults who together accused 14 priests of molesting them when they were children. Kelly, who died in 1990, was among them.

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Agents raid Burke offices

Burke, from Page 1

The Burke investigation, however, was being conducted in conjunction with the U.S. Attorney's Office in Chicago, not Mueller's office, said Joseph Fitzpatrick, a spokesman for U.S. Attorney John Lausch.

Authorities did not search Burke's law office Thursday, a law enforcement source told the Chicago Tribune. The investigation involves recent allegations and no arrests were made or are imminent, according to the source.

The focus of the federal investigation remained uncertain. What is clear: Burke's influence at City Hall and beyond is vast.

The City Council Finance Committee he has chaired for decades holds great sway over the city's purse strings, controls the city's \$100 million per year workers' compensation program and often decides whether Chicago's most important legislation will move forward. For decades, Burke also has held heavy influence on who gets appointed to the judicial bench in Cook County.

Burke long has been the most prolific fundraiser among Chicago's 50 aldermen, often accepting contributions from interests affected by legislation before the City Council. The 14th Ward alderman also has a lucrative business as one of the city's most prominent property tax appeals attorneys, routinely saving some of Chicago's largest business interests millions of dollars on their tax bills, Trump included.

As FBI agents rummaged through his offices, the alderman attended a luncheon at the Chicago Yacht Club celebrating his wife, Anne Burke, who on Thursday was sworn into her second 10-year term on the Illinois Supreme Court.

When Burke emerged wearing a khaki trench coat, he told Fox-Ch. 32 that he wasn't aware of the federal investigation before Thursday's raids.

"I have no knowledge what the U.S. attorney has been doing," Burke said calmly. "I guess someone should ask him."

The U.S. attorney's office offered no details on the focus of its investigation.

Word of Burke's federal heat spread like wildfire through City Hall after federal agents arrived at his third-floor office, telling employees to leave and taping brown paper over its glass doors.

By 2 p.m., investigators had walked boxes and computers down a back staircase and out of City Hall, out of the view of an assembled media contingent, according to city sources.

A similar scene unfolded in Gage Park on the Southwest Side, where FBI agents descended upon the offices of Burke's 14th Ward Regular Democratic Organization on 51st Street. The brown paper was taped on the glass doors there, and by 1:30 p.m., federal agents had left with boxes, at least three monitors and what appeared to be a computer.

For Burke's longtime political foes, the developments led to an almost unbridled celebration, particularly from Southwest Side progressive Hispanics who frequently have clashed with the powerful Irish Catholic alderman who represents a heavily Latino ward.

Chief among them: Congressman-elect Jesus "Chuy" Garcia, who released a statement slamming Burke. Garcia tied the investigation to Burke having served for decades as "an impediment to political progress and community empowerment."

But in a city that since 1972 has seen 29 aldermen convicted of crimes related to official duties, some were more empathetic.

That included Ald. Howard Brookins, who dodged a federal investigation a few years ago in which his longtime chief eventually pleaded guilty to taking a \$7,500 bribe. Brookins, whose City Hall office is next to Burke's, said he was surprised federal agents would conduct raids of an official standing for re-election in just a few months.



GEORGE QUINN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 1969

Ed Burke, second from right, on the day he was sworn in, is seen with his mother, Ann Burke, Judge Joseph B. Hermes, left, and the Rev. Richard Wolfe.

tion in just a few months.

Burke is facing four opponents in a bid for a record 14th term in the Feb. 26 election.

"I wish Ald. Burke the best. He's been a great friend and a mentor in leading me in the right direction. ... And I pray that he will be all right," Brookins told reporters.

Burke's close calls

This isn't the first time Burke has come under investigation, as federal authorities have peppered his office with subpoenas before. The difference this time was the all-out FBI raid.

Still, Burke has shown a penchant for avoiding charges while others at City Hall have been taken down.

Burke's undisputed authority flows from his decadeslong grip as chairman of the City Council Finance Committee. In addition to having great influence over the city's fiscal matters, the committee oversees the city's \$100 million-a-year workers' compensation program that covers disability claims. In most cities, workers' compensation is overseen by the human resources or law departments.

Both the U.S. attorney's office and City Hall inspector general have had an interest in how Burke handles workers' compensation. But Burke and his allies have fought those efforts, making the handling of workers' compensation one of the most opaque multimillion-dollar operations at City Hall.

In 2012, Inspector General Joseph Ferguson sought access to records related to the workers' compensation program to review it for waste and inefficiency. Burke denied Ferguson access to those records, contending they fell outside the watchdog's jurisdiction.

That same year, a federal grand jury issued subpoenas for the program's database, injury records, medical assessments and claim investigation records dating back to January 2006. Federal authorities also had subpoenaed similar records in 2006. Nothing appeared to have come of those requests.

Ferguson did not respond to a call seeking comment.

Federal authorities also sought records from Burke's Finance Committee in 1995 as part of Operation Haunted Hall. That probe centered on ghost payrolling — government no-show jobs — and saw a former city clerk and daughter of an alderman convicted.

Marie D'Amico, the daughter of then-39th Ward Ald. Anthony Laurino, held ghost payroll jobs with the Finance Committee from 1991 to 1993, purportedly overseeing workers' compensation claims, federal authorities said at the time.

Back then, Burke blamed



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A reporter tries to take a photo through the brown paper lining the alderman's offices.



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

From his perch on the City Council Finance Committee, Ed Burke is one of the council's most powerful members.

a dead man — Horace Lindsay, D'Amico's Finance Committee supervisor — for forging time sheets to cover her behavior.

"I don't supervise the personnel," Burke said then. "Do you expect I should know where everybody is, all 75 or 80 people or whoever's there?"

At the time, officials had been looking closely at Burke since former short-time Ald. Joseph A. Martinez, who was a lawyer in Burke's private law office and onetime Finance Committee employee, pleaded guilty to charges that he held ghost jobs with three City Council committees while working full time for Burke's law firm.

In late 1997, Burke was under investigation again, this time by a federal grand jury.

At the time, Burke and 11th Ward Ald. Patrick Huels, the former floor leader for then-Mayor Richard M. Daley, drew the federal heat. The grand jury subpoenaed the two aldermen's campaign finance records, records of their personal campaign committees and financial payments awarded by the Finance Committee and the Transportation Committee, which Huels chaired.

Huels recently had resigned after admitting he borrowed \$1.25 million from a Daley friend who also was a city contractor.

In 1998, federal agents subpoenaed city financial records of payments to Michael Pedicone, a lawyer working for Burke's Finance Committee who also

served as president of a security firm that was part of an investigation of City Hall's financial dealings.

Burke was the licensee in charge of the security firm, SDI Security Inc. Huels was an owner. The loan that led to Huels' resignation helped bail out the security guard agency, which owed the Internal Revenue Service for failing to pay federal employment taxes.

At the time, Burke withdrew calls to resign. Burke said that Pedicone had been paid \$490,000 in legal fees by the committee since 1989, primarily to represent the city in claims filed by employees in work-related accidents.

"I have no intention whatsoever of stepping down," Burke said then, "simply because I have done nothing wrong."

City Hall clout

Burke's family has controlled the 14th Ward since 1965. As a young police officer, Burke won election as Democratic committeeman for the ward in July 1968 after his father, Ald. Joseph P. Burke, died of lung cancer while in office. The following year, Burke won election as alderman and has held the post ever since, rising from a young ward heeler to one of the most powerful council members the city has seen.

Burke first became Finance Committee chairman in 1983. In the decades since, he has consolidated a huge amount of control within the committee, handling the workers' compen-

sation program and Police Department settlements, along with just about any other high-profile proposals that impact the city's bottom line.

It's not unusual for Burke to frequently lock down proposed ordinances in his committee, deciding how and when to bring forth for hearings those he favors while leaving others to wither on the vine. Burke has an encyclopedic knowledge of City Council rules, and often outfoxes aldermen trying to push proposals he doesn't like by citing some guideline they've failed to heed.

He was known in the 1980s as a key player in the racially tinged Council Wars, when a bloc of white aldermen led by him and Ald. Ed Vrdolyak feuded with Harold Washington, often blocking the initiatives of Chicago's first black mayor.

The alderman's City Hall duties, however, often conflict with his lucrative outside business of filing property tax appeals for Chicago's wealthy.

Each year, Burke files a long financial disclosure list that includes firms from which his law firm has earned money. The alderman often abstains from committee and council votes because his firm represents businesses that could be affected by the outcome — even after presiding over committee hearings at which the issues were discussed.

Earlier this year, the city Board of Ethics looked into whether Burke violated city conflict-of-interest rules when he sidelined an effort to increase the property taxes paid by the owners of two buildings his law firm represents.

The board, however, cleared Burke, with Chairman William Conlon saying the alderman "submitted compelling evidence" that he did not know the proposed City Council "order" he stalled could have affected firms represented by his law firm, Klafner & Burke, in property tax appeals cases.

Burke also drew ethics scrutiny for helping a re-

tired lawmaker receive a pension windfall by giving him a short-term job a decade ago.

Former Democratic state Rep. Robert Molaro worked a month, wrote a 19-page report and collected \$12,000. The state formula allowed Molaro to treat that paycheck as if he had earned that amount every month for an entire year — a salary rate of \$144,000. As a result, Molaro was eligible to raise his state pension from about \$64,000 a year based on his roughly \$75,000 salary as a lawmaker to more than \$120,000 a year based on the \$144,000 figure, according to a Tribune/WGN investigation.

Political peril?

Over the years, Burke has built one of the strongest ward organizations in the city's history and rarely has faced a ballot threat. He has run unopposed in 10 out of his last 11 elections for alderman and never has received less than 70 percent of the vote.

But in the 65 years that the Burke political machine has been humming, the demographics of the Southwest Side have changed dramatically. A bungalow belt once made up of Polish, Lithuanian and other Eastern European white ethnics made way for a Mexican-American and immigrant population.

That has led Garcia and other allies from the 22nd Ward rooted in Little Village on the Southwest Side to take aim at Burke. In his 2015 runoff race against Emanuel, Garcia won 65 percent of the vote in Burke's ward.

And earlier this year, Garcia backed high school counselor Aaron Ortiz, who ousted Burke's brother Dan Burke from a Southwest Side state House seat he had held for 27 years.

Ed Burke publicly has shrugged off the possibility he could be defeated after 50 years on the council.

The alderman's allies, however, have said privately that he is concerned about the prospect of losing and months ago took the rare step of starting to walk door-to-door through his ward.

By Monday's filing deadline, four opponents had submitted paperwork to run against Burke, and two showed up outside his ward office Thursday as federal agents searched his office.

"Reform is in the air. It's time for change. Fifty years is enough," said Jose Luis Torrez, one of the candidates challenging Burke. "The FBI doesn't just show up to say, 'Hi.'"

Chicago Tribune reporters Hal Dardick, Gregory Pratt, Ray Long, Rosemary Sobol and Elvia Malagon contributed.

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Chicago Tribune

NATION & WORLD

President cancels meeting with Putin

Trump cites Russia-Ukraine tensions as he heads to G-20 summit

By ZEKE MILLER AND CATHERINE LUCEY
Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — President Donald Trump abruptly canceled a planned meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin as he headed to the Group of 20 Nations summit Thursday, citing Russia's seizure of Ukrainian vessels as a source of tension in a relationship he has fostered in the face of criticism.

Trump tweeted his decision from Air Force One shortly after his former lawyer, Michael Cohen, revealed he had lied to Congress to cover up that he was negotiating a real estate deal in Moscow on Trump's behalf during the Republican presidential primary in 2016.

The news ensured any meeting with Putin would spotlight the special counsel's investigation into whether the Trump campaign colluded with Moscow during the campaign. Trump has denied any wrongdoing and on Thursday called Cohen a "weak person" looking for a reduced sentence.

The last-minute move kicked off a global economic meeting expected to be dominated by Trump's seat-of-his-pants diplomacy. The Putin meeting — a continuation of a controversial summit between the two in July — was just one of a series of high-stakes items on Trump's agenda, which also includes talks with Chi-



President Donald Trump speaks to the news media while departing the White House on Thursday for the G20 Summit in Argentina.

nese President Xi Jinping on how to ease a rising trade war.

Although Trump had previously floated canceling the meeting with Putin, White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders told reporters he did not make the final decision until boarding the plane for Argentina and speaking with national security adviser John Bolton and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. The Kremlin said it had not been formally notified of the decision, which came hours after Moscow said the meeting was on track.

"I look forward to a meaningful Summit again as soon as this situation is resolved!" Trump tweeted from Air Force One.

Ukrainian President Pet-

ro Poroshenko praised Trump on Twitter, saying, "This is how great leaders act!"

Sanders said that two of Trump's planned bilateral meetings — with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and South Korea's Moon Jae-in — also had been canceled. Trump will instead speak informally with those leaders at the conference. She did not offer any explanation for those changes to the schedule.

The stakes for the sit-down between Putin and Trump were raised this week by Russia's stepped-up aggression in the Kerch Strait, stemming from its yearslong occupation of Eastern Ukraine. Russia recently seized three Ukrainian vessels and crews. Russia

said Ukraine didn't have permission to pass between Russia's mainland and the Crimean Peninsula. Ukraine insisted its vessels abided by maritime laws.

Tensions had already been high over the war in Syria and allegations of Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential race. Trump has sought to improve the relationship with Putin, but was roundly criticized after the July summit in Helsinki for failing to publicly denounce Russia's interference and appearing to accept Putin's denials of such activity.

While Trump's statement was strongly worded, he has made similarly dramatic moves before only to walk them back. In the spring he canceled a

planned summit with North Korea's Kim Jong Un, only to revive the meeting a week later.

The G-20 meeting in Buenos Aires comes amid growing economic uncertainty and global displeasure with Trump's trade policy.

The most pressing issue on Trump's packed schedule of meetings is whether he can reach a detente with Xi over trade after months in which both sides have raised tariffs on hundreds of billions of dollars of each other's goods, shaking financial markets and threatening the global economy. Without an agreement, the U.S. is set to increase the tariffs on Jan. 1.

Departing the White House on Thursday, Trump

said he was "very close" to a deal with China, but added, "I don't know that I want to do it, because what we have right now is billions and billions of dollars coming in to the United States in the form of tariffs or taxes."

On the ground for just two days, Trump is packing every moment with diplomacy, conducting bilateral meetings with numerous world leaders as well as group events.

Trump's visit will also put him in the same room as Saudi Arabian Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman for the first time since the murder of journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

While no official sit-down is scheduled, Trump has kept the door open to a casual meeting.

Dems not likely to OK new proposal to pay for wall

By ERICA WERNER AND SEUNG MIN KIM
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Congressional Democrats said Thursday they're prepared to reject a new GOP plan to get President Donald Trump the money he's demanding for his border wall, escalating the chances of a partial government shutdown next week.

The new plan would deliver \$5 billion for Trump's long-promised U.S.-Mexico border wall by dividing the expenditure over two years — \$2.5 billion in 2019 and \$2.5 billion in 2020.

But Democrats, who have rejected the idea of spending \$5 billion on a wall Trump claimed Mexico would pay for, said splitting the money up over two years did not make it more palatable.

"No matter how many years you spread it over, \$5 billion for President Trump's wasteful wall is too much money," said Rep. Nita Lowey, D-N.Y., the top Democrat on the House Appropriations Committee. "While we are willing to negotiate on how best to secure our border, we will never support wasting tax dollars on a wall designed to gin up the Republican base."

Senate Democrats also said the plan for \$5 billion over two years wouldn't fly.

"He's asking the taxpayers to give him money ... when he gave his solemn word that ... the Mexicans would pay, and has threatened to shut down the government in I guess an attempt to bail out the Mexicans from his promise," said Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., the top Democrat on the Senate Appropriations Committee. "It doesn't make much sense."

Funding for the Homeland Security Department and a handful of other



President Donald Trump takes a tour of his border wall prototypes in San Diego County last March.

government agencies expires Dec. 7 at midnight. Unless Congress and Trump reach an agreement before then, a partial shutdown would begin.

Such a shutdown would be limited in scope since about 75 percent of the government, including the Pentagon, have already been funded through next September. But it would nonetheless disrupt the lives of thousands of federal workers and impede important functions across agencies.

The White House blamed Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., the top Senate Democrat, for the impasse.

"Another Schumer shutdown would not surprise anyone; it has become the new norm in Washington," said Meghan Burris, a spokeswoman for the White House Office of Management and Budget. "Democrats would rather shut the government down and leave millions of Americans less secure than work with the administration to solve this unchecked crisis."

Senate Appropriations Chairman Richard Shelby, R-Ala., said Thursday that he held out hope that Democrats would agree to \$5 billion over two years.

"You know they have a

lot in these bills. So do we," Shelby said. "Now the question is are they willing to shut it down over this. We're trying to avoid that."

Democrats contend that if there is a shutdown next week, it will be Trump's fault.

Speaking on the Senate floor Thursday, Schumer said Trump could either sign off on the \$1.6 billion deal agreed to in the Senate or sign a "continuing resolution" that extends government funding at its current levels.

"If President Trump wants to throw a temper tantrum and shut down some departments and agencies over Christmas, that's certainly within his power, but he has two more sensible options available to him," Schumer said. "It would be a shame if the country suffered because of a Trump temper tantrum."

Also Thursday, House and Senate negotiators said they have reached a deal on the multibillion-dollar farm bill after months of contentious talks.

The tentative deal scraps a plan backed by House Republicans and Trump that would have added new requirements for some food stamp recipients.

Associated Press contributed.

NASA turning to private firms for payloads on lunar missions

By SARAH KAPLAN
The Washington Post

NASA's next lunar science experiments will arrive at the moon via a spacecraft built by one of nine private companies — a first for one of the agency's science missions.

In an announcement Thursday, the space agency named the organizations that are now eligible to bid on delivering science and technology payloads to the lunar surface. They include some longtime players in the aerospace industry, like Lockheed Martin, but are mostly newer names with start-up cultures, like Pittsburgh-based Astrobotics and Masten Space Systems in Mojave, Calif.

The Commercial Lunar Payload Services program is a priority of NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine, who said in May that leveraging commercial capabilities would allow for more frequent and affordable access to the lunar surface. "More missions, more science," a news release about the CLPS program promised.

It also continues a trend at NASA toward public-private partnerships for exploration.

The CLPS contracts have a combined value of \$2.6 billion over the next 10 years.

The announcement came just three days after NASA landed a spacecraft on Mars. NASA wants to see how it goes at the moon before committing to commercial delivery services at Mars.

Under President George W. Bush, companies were awarded contracts to fly cargo to the International Space Station. The Commercial Crew Program, developed under President Barack Obama, will pay companies to transport human crews.

The CLPS missions would be the agency's first such partnership in deep



NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine, left, and Dr. Thomas Zurbuchen talk about the private deliveries Thursday.

space. The first could fly as early as next year, and NASA hopes to send 2 payloads every year for the next 10 years. It's not clear what kind of instruments NASA hopes to send, though the first call for proposals should come out in the coming weeks or months.

Most of the companies involved have never flown a spacecraft of this complexity, and Bridenstine said that some of the CLPS missions will likely fail to achieve a "soft" landing on the lunar surface.

"This is a venture capital kind of effort," he told reporters Thursday. "At the end of the day the risk is high, but the return is also very high for a low investment."

"It's a big experiment," Associate Administrator for Science Thomas Zurbuchen said.

The relatively small and inexpensive payloads delivered via the CLPS program would be followed by more traditional medium- and large-class missions, Bridenstine said, including an eventual crewed mission to the moon.

President Donald Trump has named sending American astronauts to the moon as a goal for his administration. His Space Policy Directive 1, signed last December, directs NASA to collaborate with the private sector in return-

ing to the moon en route to a longer-term mission to Mars.

But no U.S. spacecraft has touched down on the moon since the last Apollo mission in 1972, and it's been exactly 50 years since NASA last sent a robotic mission to the lunar surface. Earlier this year, NASA shocked scientists by canceling the Resource Prospector mission, the only American lunar rover currently in development.

Still, Earth's only natural satellite is being explored by other nations; China's Chang'e 4 and 5 missions, which would deliver a rover to the moon, and return rock samples from the surface, are scheduled to launch next year. India and Israel also plan to launch lunar landers next year.

The CLPS announcement comes as NASA conducts safety reviews of SpaceX and Boeing. Both companies have been contracted to fly astronauts to the International Space Station but have suffered setbacks and delays as their work to develop their spacecraft.

SpaceX has drawn scrutiny after founder Elon Musk took a hit of marijuana and drank whiskey on a podcast. Neither company is among those selected for CLPS eligibility.

Associated Press contributed.

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Children unwitting snitches at border

Groups demand halt to using kids' data to deport relatives

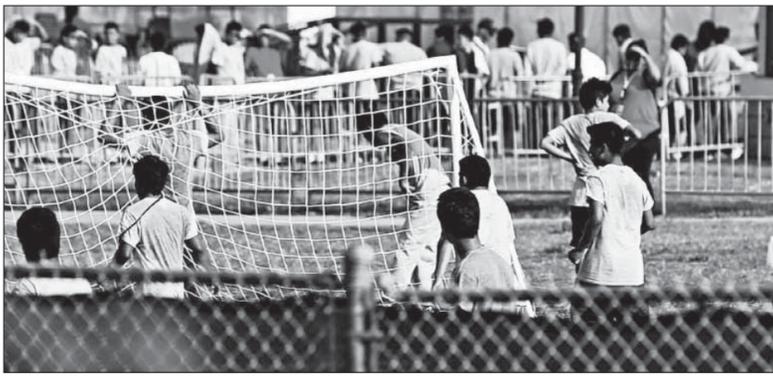
BY FRANK BAJAK
Associated Press

Earlier this year, the federal agency tasked with caring for asylum-seeking children separated from their parents at the U.S.-Mexican border officially took on a new, little heralded role: helping to deport relatives of the young migrants.

In a recent letter to the heads of the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Homeland Security, 112 civil-liberties and immigrant-rights groups, child-welfare advocates and privacy activists are crying foul, demanding a halt to what they call an illegal practice.

HHS and DHS are using information on U.S.-based relatives and other potential sponsors obtained from detained children to "arrest and deport those families," the authors complain. Already, they write, "families have become too scared to step forward to sponsor children."

The new role for the Office of Refugee Resettlement, an HHS unit that



WILFREDO LEE/AP

Right groups call obtaining information from detained children to help deport relatives illegal.

works to reunite unaccompanied migrant children with relatives until their legal status can be resolved, began under an information-sharing agreement it quietly signed in April with immigration enforcement agencies in DHS.

Fingerprints and personal data from would-be sponsors and members of their households were then fed into a DHS database originally intended to track criminal histories — but revamped in May to aid immigration verification, government documents show.

The letter complains that federal, state and local au-

thorities — and some foreign governments — have virtually untrammelled access to that database, which could subject law-abiding potential sponsors to unwarranted scrutiny.

Federal officials say the information-sharing aims to protect the migrant kids from traffickers and other abuse. But since it began, the average time children spend in federal custody has roughly doubled to more than two months.

Worse, child-welfare advocates say, the arrangement has made unwitting snitches of the children themselves — most of them Central Americans fleeing

some of the world's most violent, lawless nations.

"Children are being turned into bait to gather unprecedented amounts of information from immigrant communities," said Becky Wolozin, an attorney with the Legal Aid Justice Center, which signed the letter.

Neither the refugee-resettlement office nor the Homeland Security Department responded directly to questions about whether the arrangement violates legal protections for unaccompanied migrant children, which require they be held by authorities the shortest possible time.

At least 41 relatives and household members in the country illegally have been arrested for deportation by ICE based on the data-sharing, Matthew Albence, a top Immigration and Customs Enforcement official, told a September congressional hearing. An ICE spokesman said the arrests occurred from early July to early September but did not provide an updated number.

Democratic lawmakers in both houses of Congress — Sens. Kamala Harris of California and Ron Wyden of Oregon and Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz of Florida — have introduced legislation that would prohibit DHS from using information obtained in screening potential sponsors in deportation proceedings.

The American Civil Liberties Union sued earlier in November to end the mandatory fingerprinting of potential sponsors and household members instituted with the information-sharing. The group blames the practice for delays in releasing migrant children, which has contributed to their growing numbers in custody — now officially around 14,000, the largest number in U.S. history.

Bob Carey, who ran the

resettlement agency for nearly two years until January 2017, said the average time in custody for unaccompanied children "hovered around 33 days the entire time I was there." Now it's closer to 70 days, HHS says.

Trump administration officials show no signs of budging.

The AP asked the Office of Refugee Resettlement how the new policies square with its mission to place children as quickly as possible with relatives or other sponsors. The office called the longer stays "a symptom of the larger problem, namely a broken immigration system that encourages them to make the hazardous journey."

Previously, the resettlement office only collected fingerprints of prospective sponsors in specific circumstances, Carey said — most often in the case of unrelated adults volunteering to sponsor children.

He said a study he once commissioned found fingerprint checks to be more trouble than they were worth, as few applicants had a record of legal offenses. Those that turned up were nearly all traffic violations, he said.



REBECCA BLACKWELL/AP

Men bathe in a flooded shower and toilet area Thursday at a sports complex sheltering 6,150 Central American migrants, with 1,068 of those being children, in Tijuana, Mexico.

Fears grow over unsanitary conditions at Tijuana shelter

BY CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN
Associated Press

TIJUANA, Mexico — Aid workers and humanitarian organizations expressed concerns Thursday about the unsanitary conditions at the sports complex in Tijuana where more than 6,000 Central American migrants are packed into a space adequate for half that many people and where lice infestations and respiratory infections are rampant.

As rain fell, the dust that coated everyone and everything in the open-air stadium turned to mud Thursday, making the already miserable conditions worse. On one side of the complex, a mud pit grew where people took outdoor showers next to a line of foul-smelling portable toilets.

The one large wedding-style tent pitched in the middle of a sports field and several smaller ones with a capacity for just a few hundred people were far from adequate for the swelling number of migrants who keep arriving daily. The vast majority of the migrants were camped in makeshift enclosures made of lashed blankets and sheets of plastic or flimsy tents. An additional

200 people slept on sidewalks because they couldn't find space in the complex or decided it was more comfortable outside.

"The truth is there is no room there inside. We asked yesterday," said Astrid Yajaira of Sonsonante, El Salvador, who spent the night with three friends on a sidewalk in front of a warehouse across the street from the stadium. She had a sore throat and had hoped to find shelter inside.

The U.N. children's agency, UNICEF, said it was "deeply concerned" for the well-being of more than 1,000 migrant children waiting in Tijuana or still moving north through Mexico. According to local officials, of the more than 6,150 migrants at the shelter as of Wednesday, 1,068 were children.

"These children have limited access to many of the essential services they need for their well-being, including nutrition, education, psychosocial support and health care," UNICEF said Wednesday. Making the situation worse, the agency's workers had to remove the coloring books, crayons and few other materials they had for children late Wednesday, because the agency lost its space on a baseball field to the ar-

rival of more migrants.

Mexico's National Human Rights Commission also urged the government to act Thursday, noting that the sports complex was only planned to house 3,500 migrants and now had nearly twice that many.

"It's unmanageable," said Edgar Corzo, who heads the commission's migrant rights division. The overcrowding "can produce all kinds of infections, all kinds of things can spread and we have four cases of chicken pox. They are contained, but it's a risk."

Miguel Angel Luna Bifano, a health volunteer with the Nazarene Church Compassion Ministries, which has been accompanying the caravan since the migrants crossed into southern Mexico, said his aid group was dealing with lice and nit infestations as well as many respiratory infections.

"The overcrowding here causes them to get into places where they shouldn't like under the bleachers" where it's filthy, Luna said. "There's overcrowding and very few hygiene norms. ... With the water and the cold there are going to be too many infections, a lot of fevers. There is going to be a need for antibiotics."

Suicides, drug overdoses help push down U.S. life expectancy

BY MIKE STOBBE
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Suicides and drug overdoses pushed up U.S. deaths last year, and drove a continuing decline in how long Americans are expected to live.

Overall, there were more than 2.8 million U.S. deaths in 2017, or nearly 70,000 more than the previous year, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Thursday. It was the most deaths in a single year since the government began counting more than a century ago.

The increase partly reflects the nation's growing and aging population. But it's deaths in younger age groups — particularly middle-aged people — that have had the largest effect on calculations of life expectancy, experts said.

"These sobering statistics are a wake-up call that we are losing too many Americans, too early and too often, to conditions that are preventable," said Dr. Robert Redfield, the CDC's director.

The suicide death rate last year was the highest it's been in at least 50 years, according to federal government records. There were more than 47,000 suicides, up from a little under 45,000 the year before.

For decades, U.S. life expectancy was on the upswing, rising a few months nearly every year. Now it's trending the other way: It fell in 2015, stayed level in 2016, and declined again last year, the CDC said.

The nation is in the longest period of a generally declining life expectancy since the late 1910s, when World War I and the worst flu pandemic in modern history combined to kill nearly 1 million Americans. Life expectancy in 1918 was 39.

Aside from that, "we've never really seen anything like this," said Robert An-



DAVID MAIALETTI/THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

Death rates for heroin and prescription opioid painkillers were flat, but deaths from fentanyl soared in 2017.

person, who oversees CDC death statistics.

In the nation's 10 leading causes of death, only the cancer death rate fell in 2017. Meanwhile, there were increases in seven others — suicide, stroke, diabetes, Alzheimer's, flu/pneumonia, chronic lower respiratory diseases and unintentional injuries.

An underlying factor is that the death rate for heart disease — the nation's No. 1 killer — has stopped falling. In years past, declines in heart disease deaths were enough to offset increases in some other kinds of death, but no longer, Anderson said.

CDC officials did not speculate about what's behind declining life expectancy, but Dr. William Dietz, a disease prevention expert at George Washington University, sees a sense of hopelessness.

Financial struggles, a widening income gap and divisive politics are all casting a pall over many Americans, he suggested. "I really do believe that people are increasingly hopeless, and that that leads to drug use, it leads potentially to suicide," he said.

VoteCast, a survey of the electorate conducted by The Associated Press, found voters expressing pessimistic views about the future: About half of voters nationwide said they expect life in America for the

next generation to be worse than it is today. Nearly a quarter said life would be better and about as many said it would be the same. VoteCast surveyed more than 115,000 voters nationwide as Americans cast ballots in this year's midterm elections.

Drug overdose deaths also continued to climb, surpassing 70,000 last year, in the midst of the deadliest drug overdose epidemic in U.S. history. The death rate rose 10 percent from the previous year, smaller than the 21 percent jump seen between 2016 and 2017.

The CDC figures are based mainly on a review of 2017 death certificates. The life expectancy figure is based on current death trends and other factors.

The agency also said: ■ A baby born last year in the U.S. is expected to live about 78 years and 7 months, on average. An American born in 2015 or 2016 was expected to live about a month longer, and one born in 2014 about two months longer than that.

■ The suicide rate was 14 deaths per 100,000 people. That's the highest since at least 1975.

■ Deaths from flu and pneumonia rose by about 6 percent.

■ Gun deaths rose for a third year in a row, to nearly 40,000. Like in other years, most gun deaths were suicides.

Doctors' 2010 role in autistic woman's death examined

BY MARIA CHENG
Associated Press

LONDON — Belgian officials are investigating whether doctors improperly euthanized a woman with autism, the first criminal investigation in an euthanasia case since the practice was legalized in 2002 in the European nation.

Three doctors are being investigated on suspicion of having "poisoned" Tine Nys in 2010. The 38-year-old had been diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome, a mild form of autism, two months before she was euthanized by a doctor in an apparently legal killing that

she had asked for.

Belgium is one of two countries, along with the Netherlands, where the euthanasia of people for psychiatric reasons is allowed if they can prove they have "unbearable and untreatable" suffering. Among Belgians euthanized for mental health reasons, the most common conditions are depression, personality disorder and Asperger's.

Many experts dispute whether autism should be considered a valid reason to be an euthanasia candidate.

Last year, The Associated Press reported that after Nys' family filed a criminal complaint, alleging numer-

ous "irregularities" in her death, her doctors attempted to block the investigation.

"We must try to stop these people," wrote Dr. Lieve Thienpont, the psychiatrist who approved Nys' request to die — and one of the doctors now facing charges. "It is a seriously dysfunctional, wounded, traumatized family with very little empathy and respect for others."

Belgium's Chamber of Indictment "presumes that there are sufficient indications in this particular case" and the doctors involved have been referred to the Court of Assize in Ghent.

Belgium's euthanasia commission had previously approved the case after Nys' death and did not publicly cite any problems with it.

The doctors who granted Nys' euthanasia will now face trial "due to poisoning," said prosecutor Francis Clarysse. The doctors could still appeal the decision. The charge of poisoning carries a maximum penalty of a lifetime sentence.

Sophie Nys, one of Tine's sisters, said the doctor who performed the euthanasia asked her father to hold the needle in place while the doctor administered the fatal injection, among other fumbling efforts. Afterward,

the doctor asked the family to use a stethoscope to confirm that Tine's heart had stopped.

Concerns have previously been raised in other cases about whether Thienpont too easily approved euthanasia requests from patients with mental illnesses. Some experts estimated that Thienpont has been involved in about a third of all euthanasia cases for psychiatric reasons in Belgium.

In the 15 years since doctors were granted the right to legally kill patients in Belgium, more than 10,000 people have been euthanized.



MARIA CHENG/AP 2017

Psychiatrist Dr. Lieve Thienpont is one of the doctors facing charges in Belgium.



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Daily Stormer's Anglin had dad's help

Depositions reveal father's limited role in neo-Nazi website

BY MATT PEARCE
Los Angeles Times

The white nationalists mailed their donations in dribs and drabs: Sometimes a \$10 check, sometimes as money orders, sometimes in cash — often in U.S. dollars, but also in British pounds and other foreign currencies.

All of it went to support the Daily Stormer, the internet's most notorious neo-Nazi website, featuring sections including "Jewish Problem" and "Race War." Over the last five years, the far-right site operated by Andrew Anglin, 34, raked in \$100,000 to \$125,000 from supporters, according to an estimate contained in court records filed recently.

The money went to an office — and later, a P.O. box — in Worthington, Ohio, maintained by Anglin's father, Greg, a retired therapist, who would collect and deposit the funds. Greg Anglin had helped his son, at the time a far-right blogger, set up the website in 2013 and it soon became one of the internet's top destinations for unabashed racists.

"I was sitting in my living room of my condo with my son, and he told me that he was going to start another website," Greg Anglin said in a deposition on Oct. 31, where he also revealed the details about the site's donations and finances. "And I said, 'OK.' And he asked me if he could use my credit card to register the name. And I asked how much it was, and it wasn't very much money, so I said fine."

And thus the Daily Stormer was born.

When asked why he had assisted his son in setting up the site — and helped file incorporation documents and deposit donations — Greg Anglin replied: "I have a difficult time as a dad



MICHAEL NIGRO/PACIFIC PRESS 2017

Contributions to the Daily Stormer spiked after the United the Right rally in Charlottesville, Va., Greg Anglin said.

sometimes knowing what to support and what not to support. I don't take responsibility for someone else's actions."

But, under oath, he also indicated he was displeased with his son for registering the Daily Stormer website under his name.

"We had a very direct conversation where I told him I was very disappointed in him that he allowed that to happen, and that I wanted it removed immediately," Greg Anglin said. He also claimed not to know anything about the Daily Stormer's financial condition.

The disclosures provide a new window into the Daily Stormer's operations at a time when America's organized far right has been besieged by lawsuits and corporate crackdowns, a backlash incurred by the movement's increasingly bold attempts to gain more mainstream attention via social media and rallies.

Public concern about the

movement's activities is arguably greater than ever, as law-enforcement officials report a sharp rise in hate crimes, including an Oct. 27 mass shooting at a Pittsburgh synagogue that left 11 dead.

The Daily Stormer, which features a disavowal of violence on its homepage, first rose to public prominence in 2015 after a commenter on the site, Dylann Roof, killed nine black worshippers at a church in Charleston, S.C.

"My ideology is very simple," Andrew Anglin said in an interview with the Los Angeles Times after the massacre. "I believe white people deserve their own country."

Its occasional targeted hostility has made many critics feel unsafe. After Anglin organized his readers to go on a "troll storm" against a Jewish woman in Montana — unleashing hundreds of messages directed at her — she filed a federal harassment lawsuit

against the Daily Stormer in 2017 with the help of the Southern Poverty Law Center, an anti-extremism nonprofit that has filed a series of lawsuits against white supremacist groups, some of which have then gone into bankruptcy.

An attorney for Anglin has tried to mount a free speech defense to dismiss the case, but a federal judge in Montana rejected the request last week, writing, "Anglin exploited the prejudices widely held among his readers to specifically target one individual."

That has cleared the way for Anglin to face trial and possible financial damages.

Naturally, it's hard to run a website full time if you don't have the money to pay for web hosting — or food, or rent — which is among the things that makes litigation such a threat to the outlets of the far-right movement. But Anglin has made himself a hard man to reach.

Process servers for multi-

ple lawsuits failed to locate Anglin in Ohio, and lawyers learned that Anglin had requested an absentee ballot for the 2016 election before he fled to Krasnodar, Russia. Anglin checked a box that read, "I am a U.S. citizen residing outside the United States, and my return is not certain."

Anglin was also sued for defamation in federal court in Ohio by SiriusXM Radio host Dean Obeidallah after the Daily Stormer falsely accused Obeidallah, a Muslim American, of "masterminding" the 2017 terror attack in Manchester, England.

Anglin has declined to show up in court, so Obeidallah's attorneys have requested summary judgment to secure damages. As part of that request, they deposed Anglin's father to learn more about Andrew and his assets, filing excerpts of the deposition into the public record to support further discovery. (An attorney for Obeidallah declined

to comment.)

Greg Anglin told Obeidallah's attorneys that he didn't know where his son was, and he speculated that Andrew Anglin had been out of the country for five years, possibly in Russia and Thailand at various times. (Greg and Andrew Anglin did not respond to messages seeking comment.)

"He would have come and seen me if he was in the country," Greg Anglin said.

Which is how Greg Anglin said he ended up handling his son's mail.

He said the donations started to spike in mid-2017, which is when the deadly rally in Charlottesville, Va., brought new attention to the far-right movement, and some of the donations include bitcoin.

His son's hate-for-profit business, registered in Ohio as Moonbase Holdings LLC, appeared to have benefits for Greg Anglin: In April of 2017, while undertaking a "real-estate rehab" project in Columbus, Greg Anglin said he borrowed \$60,038 from his son's donations and paid the money back when he was done.

But Greg Anglin also hinted that the Daily Stormer had injected a frost into his relationship with his son, telling the lawyers that he had told his son that he was frustrated that he had to testify and that he told his son that "I will not open any correspondence addressed to Daily Stormer or to Moonbase Holdings."

Greg Anglin said he made his final deposit for his son in December 2017 and revealed the comical futility of outsiders now trying to mail anything to his son.

"I put them in a big plastic tub," Greg Anglin said of the legal documents that his son receives.

"And what happens to them afterwards?" an attorney for Obeidallah asked.

"They sit in the tub."

"You don't forward them on to anybody?"

"No, I do not."

Jurors hear different takes on driver's mindset at rally in Va. trial

BY DENISE LAVOIE
Associated Press

CHARLOTTESVILLE, Va. — No one disputes James Alex Fields Jr. plowed his car into a crowd of counterprotesters at a white nationalist rally in Virginia last year, killing a woman and injuring dozens more.

The only question, jurors were told Thursday, is why did he do it?

During opening statements at his murder trial, prosecutors and defense

lawyers painted different pictures of what prompted Fields — a 21-year-old reputed Hitler admirer — to drive his gray Dodge Challenger into a crowd of people in Charlottesville on Aug. 12, 2017.

Prosecutor Nina-Alice Antony told the jury that Fields was angry after fighting broke out earlier that day between white nationalists who came to Charlottesville to protest the planned removal of a statue of Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee and others who came

to protest against them.

Antony said Fields had driven all night from his home in Maumee, Ohio, to attend the rally in support of white nationalists. A former teacher of Fields has said he was fascinated by Nazism and admired Adolf Hitler. Three months before the rally, Fields twice posted on Instagram an image of a crowd being struck by a car, Antony said, adding that the people in the crowd were described as "protesters."

"This case is about his

decision to act on that anger," Antony said.

Defense attorney John Hill agreed there's no doubt Fields drove the car that careened into the crowd, but Hill said it happened after hours of clashes between white nationalists and counterprotesters.

Hill said Fields eventually met up with two other people who will testify that he was not angry and appeared calm when he gave them a ride to their cars. A short time later, Fields drove into the crowd. Hill

told jurors they will hear testimony from a police officer who pulled Fields over after the crash. "You'll hear James tell the officer that he feared for his safety, that he was scared to death," he said. Fields also expressed remorse, Hill said.

One of the first witnesses called by prosecutors was a man whose image was captured in a dramatic photo as he was struck by Fields' car.

Marcus Martin became tearful several times while testifying, particularly

when asked to describe Heather Heyer, a 32-year-old paralegal and activist who was killed when she was struck by Fields' car. "She was just a great person," Martin said.

Martin said he, his fiancée, Heyer and another friend had just joined the counterprotesters when he heard a tire screech. He said he pushed his fiancée out of the way, then he was hit by Fields' car, suffering a broken leg and other injuries. "I really didn't know what happened," he said.

Fire's fortunate ones fight guilt

Those who didn't lose homes still have grief

BY LAURA NEWBERRY
Los Angeles Times

PARADISE, Calif. — When Brook and Matt MacKay are asked how they fared in the Camp Fire, they are sometimes unsure how to answer. Our house is still standing, they usually say. But we lost our home.

The husband and wife met as kids in Paradise and reconnected at Brigham Young University in Utah. They moved back from Washington state eight years ago with their five children.

Now Paradise is gone. But their house, by some miracle, was spared. The Camp Fire took everything else around it: all their neighbors' homes, the corner store, even the tree house in their backyard.

They are acutely aware of their good fortune. But they also are suffering. Their home is inaccessible. Their community of 17,000 has scattered to Sacramento, to Redding, to Idaho. Several people died in the blaze on the hill just behind their property. They are shouldering the grief of so many family members who suddenly have nothing.

"We technically have a home, yes. But I still feel like

I've lost it," said Brook MacKay as she sat with her family in the 400-square-foot RV they bought after the fire. "I feel guilty for not being happier that it's still standing. But what use is a home in a destroyed community?"

As the national spotlight has turned to Butte County and its unfathomable plight, most attention and supportive resources have been funneled to those now without homes. Yet the relative few whose houses were not reduced to ash are confronting their own trauma. When they survey the devastation that surrounds them, it is easy to dismiss it. It is difficult to discuss their struggles openly without feeling insensitive.

Being in such a position can be incredibly isolating, said Mary Kearns, a chaplain and grief counselor in Chico. She's met with many people dealing with these complicated emotions — which she considers to be a form of what mental health professionals call "survivor's guilt" — in the past two weeks since the Camp Fire took at least 85 lives and 19,000 structures.

"But even if you weren't trapped in the fire or burned out by it, you have a



GINA FERAZZI/LOS ANGELES TIMES

The MacKay family home survived the flames, but most of their Paradise neighbors' did not. They are staying in an RV.

tremendous emotional investment in your friends, your community, your schools," said Kearns, who has been counseling evacuees. "Of course you're going to be impacted."

Post-disaster guilt manifests in different ways. For the MacKays, it has meant turning down gift cards handed to them at disaster relief events. It has meant going to an open house for a rental in Chico, only to find 15 other families in line who actually lost everything. It wouldn't be fair for us to take this, they think. It has meant speaking of their grief only among themselves and a few others in similar situations.

Just south of Paradise in Oroville, Megan Brown is sorting through her own

guilt. In 2017, the Cherokee Fire destroyed two family homes and all of the corrals on her 3,500-acre cattle ranch — \$3 million worth of damage. Her property was unscathed this time. Yet she has woken up sick with anxiety every morning since. She feels guilty that she's in her warm bed while so many friends are displaced, especially because she knows how they feel.

"I self-correct when I start feeling down," said Brown, 37. "There are others who are suffering more."

Brown said she knows she should probably speak to a counselor. But right now she doesn't want to take resources away from those who lost homes or loved ones.

To cope with these feel-

ings, Brown has thrown herself into relief efforts. She brought several tons of hay and other farming supplies to the animal shelter in Gridley. She's taking in old friends from Paradise.

The best way to confront this trauma is to slow down, share your story, and make yourself available to those who want to share theirs, Kearns said. It is the only way to alleviate sorrow.

"It's important to validate and normalize our reaction to this disaster so that we can then, in turn, be strong enough to help those who did lose everything," she said.

For Jon and Susie Warren, Paradise residents and friends of the MacKays, this is easier said than done. Their home was also spared,

but Jon's certified public accountant's office was destroyed.

They are unsure the business will survive — there is no clientele left in Paradise. They are still paying a mortgage on a house they may never return to. They worry about the long-term effects this will have on their four kids.

And then there is an image that the Warrens cannot shake. On the first Sunday after the fire, their church congregation in Chico was divided into two groups for counseling: those who lost their homes and those who didn't.

The Warrens and the MacKays sat with a handful of others — the lucky ones — in a small room. The rest filled the sanctuary.

Southwest apologizes for mocking 5-year-old girl's name: Abcde

BY LINDSEY BEVER
The Washington Post

A mother is calling out a Southwest Airlines employee who she said mocked her 5-year-old daughter's name and posted a picture of the child's boarding pass on social media.

Traci Redford told ABC network-owned KABC her daughter's name is Abcde, pronounced "ab-si-dee."

The incident occurred several weeks ago when she and her daughter were preparing to board a flight from Santa Ana, Calif., to El Paso, Texas, Redford told the station. A gate agent at

John Wayne Airport saw Abcde's name and started pointing, laughing and talking to other employees about Redford and her child.

"So I turned around and just said, 'Hey, I can hear you, so if I can hear you, my daughter can, too. I'd appreciate if you'd just stop,'" she told the station.

She added: "While I was sitting there, she took a picture of my boarding pass and chose to post it on social media, mocking my daughter. It was actually brought to my attention by somebody who had seen it on Facebook and reported

it to Southwest Airlines. And after two weeks of doing a formal complaint, Southwest hadn't done anything."

Redford could not be reached for comment Thursday.

Southwest Airlines has since apologized, saying that the social media post is "not indicative of the care, respect and civility" it requires of employees.

"We take great pride in extending our Southwest Hospitality to all of our Customers, which includes living by the Golden Rule and treating every individual with respect, in person or

online," a spokesman for the airline said in a statement. "The post is not indicative of the care, respect, and civility we expect from all of our Employees. We have followed up with the Employee involved, and while we do not disclose personnel actions publicly, we are using this as an opportunity to reinforce our policies and emphasize our expectations for all Employees."

Although Abcde is an unusual name, it's not unheard of. In 2014, Vocativ reported that over the past three decades, 328 baby girls have been given that



MIKE STEWART/AP

name, 32 of whom were born in 2009. But when the name is entered into the Social Security Administration's database of popular baby names, it states that "Abcde is not in the top 1000 names for any year of birth beginning with 2000."

Nicknames include Ce-Ce, Sidy, Abby, Xyzzie, Aebi and Seedy, according to BabyNameWizard.com.

Defector thought war was coming

BY ADAM TAYLOR
The Washington Post

In November 2017, North Korean soldier Oh Chong Song made a dash toward freedom through the Korean Peninsula's demilitarized zone. His fellow North Koreans fired at him, hitting him at least five times and leaving him fighting for his life. When doctors in the South treated the 25-year-old, they found more problems, including an infection of parasitic worms.

Despite all this, Oh survived. Now, roughly a year after he escaped from the North, he gave his first interview to a foreign media publication. In it, the defector offered a grim picture of life inside North Korea and the factors that motivated him to escape.

"I really felt that we would have a war with the United States," Oh told the Japanese newspaper Sankei Shimbun, referring to the increase in tensions between Washington and Pyongyang.

Sankei Shimbun published a video of its interview with Oh, which did not show his face but featured a man talking with a slight North Korean accent.

In his interview, Oh revealed that his father was a major general and suggested that he had enjoyed a relatively comfortable lifestyle growing up in North Korea. However, he said he was indifferent to the rule of Kim Jong Un and had no loyalty to the North Korean regime. Oh estimated that roughly 80 percent of his generation felt the same way.

The soldier's dramatic escape from North Korea captivated many people around the world. While defectors from the country are far from uncommon, few take the dangerous path through the peace village of Panmunjom in the demilitarized zone of the Joint Security Area.

Despite the heavy military presence, Panmunjom is best known as a tourist area now. The last time a shooting took place in the Joint Security Area was 1984.

Oh's defection was captured on closed-circuit television footage later released by the U.S. military. It showed the young soldier driving a jeep-like vehicle before it got stuck in a ditch. He then jumped out of the vehicle and began running, while other North Korean soldiers shot at him.

In his interview with Sankei Shimbun, Oh denied reports in the South Korean press that he was wanted for murder in North Korea. Instead, he said, he had been drinking after getting into trouble with his friends. After breaking through a checkpoint, he had become fearful of being executed, so he had just kept going in a bid to escape.

Cohen admits lying to Congress

Cohen, from Page 1

son met in Manhattan with a Kremlin-connected lawyer — even though Cohen told two congressional committees last year that the talks ended that January.

Cohen also discussed the proposal with Trump on multiple occasions and with members of the president's family, according to court papers filed by special counsel Robert Mueller, who is investigating Russian interference in the presidential election and possible coordination with the Trump campaign. Cohen is cooperating with Mueller and has met with his team at least seven times, prosecutors say.

The Cohen case was filed in New York a week after Trump and his lawyers provided Mueller with responses to written questions and is the first new charge filed by the special counsel since the appointment of Matthew Whitaker, who has spoken critically about the investigation, as acting attorney general with oversight of the probe.

Whitaker was advised of

the plea ahead of time, according to a person familiar with the investigation.

Cohen is the first person charged by Mueller with lying to Congress, an indication the special counsel is prepared to treat that offense as seriously as lying to federal agents and a warning shot to dozens of others who have appeared before Congress.

There is no clear link in the court filings between Cohen's lies and Mueller's central question of whether the Trump campaign colluded with Russia. And nothing said in court, or in associated court filings, addressed whether Trump or his aides had directed Cohen to mislead Congress.

Even so, the case underscores how Trump's business entity, the Trump Organization, was negotiating business in Moscow at the same time when investigators say Russians were meddling on his behalf in the 2016 election, and that associates of the president were mining Russian connections during the race.

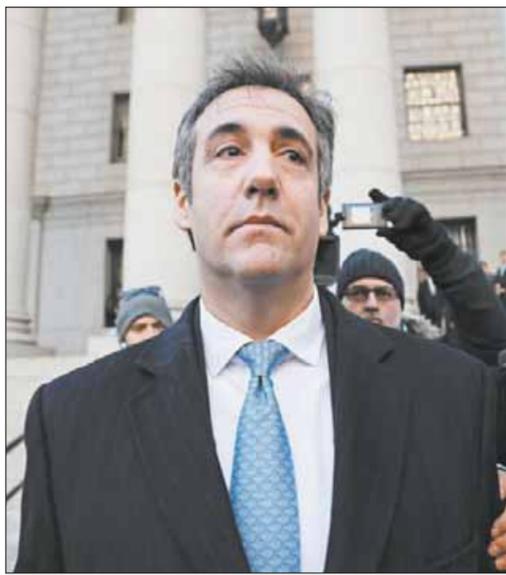
Cohen's court appearance marked the latest step in his evolution from trusted Trump lawyer — he

said Thursday he had lied out of "loyalty" — to prime antagonist. It is the second time the lawyer's legal woes have entangled Trump, coming months after Cohen said the president directed him during his campaign to make hush money payments to two women who said they had sex with Trump.

Trump on Thursday called Cohen a "weak person" who was lying to get a lighter sentence and repeatedly stressed that the real estate deal at issue was never a secret and never executed. His lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, said that Cohen was a "proven liar" and that Trump's business organization had voluntarily given Mueller the same documents cited in the guilty plea "because there was nothing to hide."

"There would be nothing wrong if I did do it," Trump said of pursuing the project. "I was running my business while I was campaigning. There was a good chance that I wouldn't have won, in which case I would have gone back into the business, and why should I lose lots of opportunities?"

He said the primary rea-



JULIE JACOBSON/AP

President Trump on Thursday called Michael Cohen a "weak person" who is trying to get a lighter sentence.

son he didn't pursue it was "I was focused on running for president."

But during the campaign, Trump was repeatedly dismissive of claims that he had connections to the Kremlin, an issue that flared as especially sensitive in the summer of 2016 after the Democratic National Committee and a cybersecurity company asserted that Moscow was behind a punishing cyber-attack on the party's network.

"I have a great company. I built an unbelievable company, but if you look there you'll see there's nothing in Russia," Trump said at a July 2016 news conference. "But zero, I mean I will tell you right now, zero, I

have nothing to do with Russia," he said.

The guilty plea comes as Mueller's team has accused Trump's former campaign chairman, Paul Manafort, of lying after his own guilty plea and continues to investigate whether campaign associates had advance knowledge of hacked emails becoming public. Another potential target, Jerome Corsi, has rejected a plea offer and faces a possible indictment.

It was not immediately clear whether questions about the Russian real estate deal were among those answered by Trump and his lawyers last week. But a prior list of queries that Mueller's team presented to Trump lawyers this year did include a question about it, and Mueller's team is known to have asked about Trump's business dealings over the years.

If he did answer questions on the topic, Trump could have problems if the responses deviate from prosecutors' factual narrative.

Thursday's charges were handled by Mueller, not the federal prosecutors in New York who handled Cohen's previous guilty plea in August to other federal charges involving his taxi businesses, bank fraud and his campaign work for Trump.

Cohen is to be sentenced Dec. 12. Guidelines call for little to no prison on the new charge.

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NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

Trump to sign bill extending HIV/AIDS program, Pence says

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump will soon sign legislation to extend a 15-year-old HIV/AIDS program that has helped millions, primarily in Africa. HIV/AIDS advocates welcomed the news and immediately called on Trump to drop efforts to cut federal funding for the life-saving program.

Vice President Mike Pence made the announcement Thursday at a White House event

marking World AIDS Day on Saturday.

The Senate late Wednesday passed legislation extending for five years the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief and advancing the bill to the White House for Trump's signature. The House passed an identical measure in mid-November. Pence also announced that \$100 million will go to religious groups working to combat the spread of HIV/AIDS.

Ex-FBI chief Comey challenges House subpoena in court

WASHINGTON — Former FBI Director James Comey has challenged in court a subpoena from the House of Representatives.

Lawyers for Comey argued in a court filing Thursday that he shouldn't have to appear for a closed-door interview with lawmakers next week.

The Republican-led House Judiciary Committee subpoenaed Comey earlier this month to an-

swer questions about FBI actions and decisions during the 2016 presidential election.

Comy said last week that he intended to contest the subpoena, but said that he'd be willing to answer questions at a public hearing.

His lawyers say that his testimony in a closed-door interview would be "subject to selective leaking by members of the Judiciary Committee."

Army wants augmented-reality headsets for battlefield

Virtual- and augmented-reality headsets haven't had much traction in the consumer market, but they're finding a place on the battlefield.

The Army said Thursday that it has awarded Microsoft a \$480 million contract to supply its HoloLens headsets to soldiers.

The head-mounted displays use augmented reality, which means viewers can see virtual imagery

superimposed over the real-world scenery in front of them.

Redmond, Wash.-based Microsoft said the technology will provide troops with better information to make decisions.

Military bidding documents say the technology will be used for both training and fighting, bringing more situational awareness to troops to help them become more lethal and mobile.



Remain in light: "Talking Heads" by Viktor Vicsek of Hungary is displayed Thursday at the Hong Kong Pulse Light Festival, a multimedia showcase of international artists.

ZHIZHAO WU/GETTY

Suspect arrested in Ala. mall shooting; protests continue

HOOVER, Ala. — Authorities arrested a suspect in a Thanksgiving shooting that spread panic at Alabama's largest shopping mall Thursday, but protesters said they would continue demonstrations over the police killing of another black man who was initially believed to be the shooter.

Erron Brown, 20, of Bessemer was captured in Georgia at a relative's home south of Atlanta, authorities said. He was jailed awaiting a hearing to be sent back to Alabama.

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency said

Brown was charged in the shooting of Brian Wilson, 18, of Birmingham, who was wounded at the Riverchase Galleria in Hoover on Thanksgiving night.

Authorities didn't announce charges in the shooting of a 12-year-old girl who was wounded.

Protesters said Brown's arrest didn't resolve what they referred to as the "murder" of Emantic "EJ" Bradford, 21, and they vowed continuing demonstrations over his death.

Police have said a Hoover police officer who was working security at the mall heard shots and re-

sponded within seconds. The officer, who has yet to be publicly identified, saw Bradford with a gun and shot him, police said.

Authorities at first identified Bradford as the shooter who wounded two people. They later retracted that allegation and searched for the gunman.

Bradford's relatives have said he had a permit to carry a gun legally, and their attorney Ben Crump has quoted witnesses as saying Bradford was trying to help when he was gunned down.

"He was a good guy with a gun," Crump said.

Nominee for CFPB passes key Senate hurdle

WASHINGTON — The Senate advanced Kathy Kraninger's nomination to lead the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau in a key procedural vote Thursday, putting her one step closer to taking control of the consumer watchdog.

The chamber voted 50-49, along party lines, to

advance Kraninger's nomination. A final confirmation vote could come as early as next week.

If confirmed, Kraninger would replace the bureau's acting director, Mick Mulvaney, who is also the White House budget chief and Kraninger's current boss.

She is expected to continue Mulvaney's efforts to curtail the powers of the agency.

The CFPB was born in response to the global financial crisis to police the way banks manage mortgages, credit cards, payday loans and other financial products.

Students of ITT Tech score win in settlement

WASHINGTON — As creditors of ITT Educational Services fight over the remaining assets of the defunct for-profit college operator, one group has secured a significant victory in the bankruptcy proceedings: former students.

On Wednesday, a federal judge gave final approval to a settlement that will erase nearly \$600 million that 750,000 students owed ITT Technical Institute. The agreement will also refund \$3 million that students paid the for-profit chain.

Before shutting down in 2016, ITT issued students "temporary credits" to cover remaining tuition after federal and private student loans were taken into account. These credits were allegedly marketed as grants, but debt collectors pursued students for the money even after the company filed for bankruptcy.

In Texas: Samuel Little, 78, who says he killed about 90 people as he moved around the country for nearly four decades, offered his confessions as a bargaining chip to be moved from a California prison, authorities say. But an FBI statement this week didn't say why he requested the transfer. He is now in prison in Texas.

In Congo: A deadly Ebola outbreak is now the second-largest in history, behind the devastating West Africa outbreak that killed thousands a few years ago, the World Health Organization said Thursday. Congo's Health Ministry said the number of cases has reached 426, with 198 confirmed deaths, and 47 probable ones.

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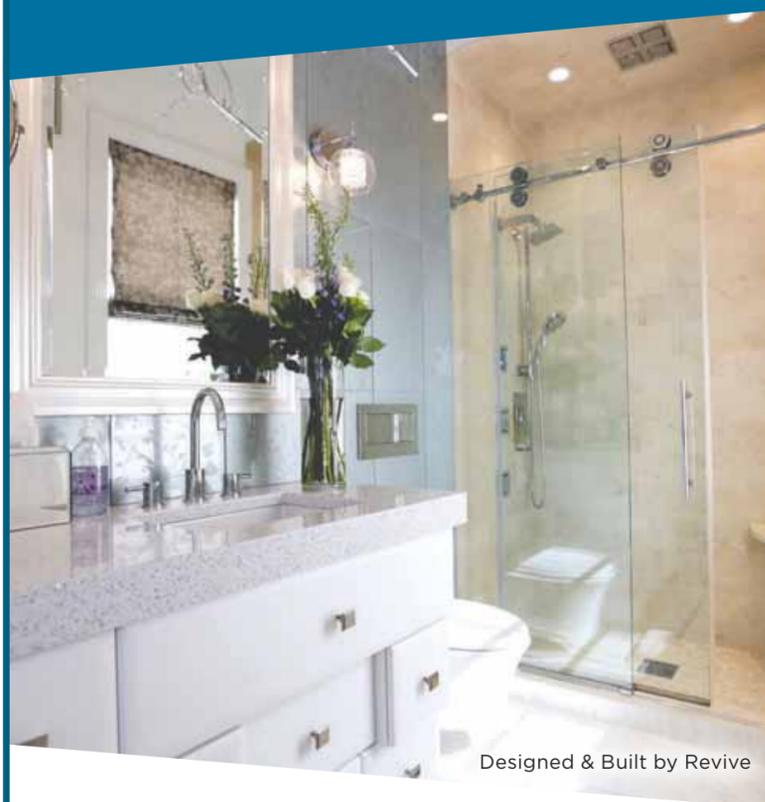


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EDITORIALS

Ald. Ed Burke and the feds

Anywhere else, sheets of brown paper taped to a window would signal a remodeling project. Construction underway. Pardon our dust.

But the postal paper taped to the window of Ald. Ed Burke's City Hall office early Thursday set off a storm of speculation. This was no makeover project. Multiple news outlets quickly confirmed federal agents had raided Burke's City Hall and ward offices and blocked the windows for privacy. A shiver swept through the city's political establishment.

We can't say what prompted law enforcement to descend upon Burke's offices on an otherwise routine wintry day in Chicago. The feds have raided City Hall offices before. And Cook County offices. And the homes of clouted officials. And other government offices too. Sometimes the fishing expeditions reel in criminal indictments. Sometimes they yield nothing at all.

We do know Burke for years has sewn a web of potential conflicts between his private law practice and his role on the City Council. It is no secret he represents clients who do business with the city. He abstains from voting on matters involving his clients, and those abstentions happen regularly. Too regularly.

Burke is not just the city's longest-serving alderman. He's also chairman of the influential Finance Committee, kingmaker of Cook County judicial slating, husband of Illinois Supreme Court Justice Anne Burke, partner in a clout-heavy law firm and a prolific fundraiser. That's a lot of overlap with city business, and a lot of potential conflicts.

Earlier this year, the city's Board of Ethics cleared Burke of an alleged violation involving two properties his firm represented to win tax assessment reductions. The properties sold to new owners for more than twice the value assigned to them by Cook County Assessor Joseph Berrios. Ald. Ricardo Munoz, 22nd, introduced a measure to bring the assessments on Burke's clients' buildings and five other properties in line with their sale price. If approved, the ordinance likely would have increased the property tax bill for Burke's clients.



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Ald. Ed Burke returns to his Southwest Side home Thursday after federal raids on his City Hall and ward offices earlier in the day.

But the proposal didn't move. Munoz had asked that it be assigned to a housing committee where it would get a hearing. Burke sidlined it by requesting it be moved to his Finance Committee. That's where it stalled. And so Ald. Scott Waguespack, 32nd, asked the city's ethics board to investigate. Did Burke violate a city code that prohibits officials and employees from participating "in any governmental decision with respect to any matter in which he has any financial interest"?

The board investigated. But it cleared Burke, who claimed he didn't know his clients could be affected.

Burke also got tangled in controversy involving President Donald Trump's 98-story condo-hotel along the Chicago River.

Burke's firm represented Trump for years to win property assessment reductions on the building, saving Trump more than \$14 million. But Burke and Trump parted ways a few months ago when Burke realized his link to Trump would become an issue in his aldermanic race. Four candidates filed paperwork to challenge him in the Feb. 26 election.

Burke has survived a number of other controversies. In 2011, a Tribune/WGN-TV investigation revealed that a former lawmaker, Robert Molaro, an ally of Burke's, nearly doubled his public pension by spending one month as an aide in Burke's office. Years before that, a former alderman, Joseph Martinez, pleaded guilty to corruption charges for ghost pay-rolling on

Burke's Finance Committee — getting paid for a no-show job — while he also worked full time practicing law at Burke's firm.

Burke also serves as gatekeeper of the city's \$100 million workers' compensation program. A recent lawsuit filed against him and Mayor Rahm Emanuel alleges that Burke leverages that position to load up on patronage workers and award disability benefits as political favors. Those are only allegations, however, in a civil lawsuit.

Whatever the outcome of Thursday's raid, the activity is a signal that the feds are focused on City Hall, even as resources seem to be increasingly strained and big fish seem harder to fry. Burke has not been accused of wrongdoing. But he certainly is a big fish.

Daley's commuter tax would drive jobs from Chicago

Know what one high-profile candidate for Chicago mayor said he would consider if elected? Sure you do, because you live in Illinois and you're poorer for doing so: He said he'd consider creating a new tax.

Specifically, Bill Daley said Wednesday that a commuter tax on suburbanites who work in Chicago is potentially part of his solution to the city's public employee pension funds crisis. Presumably, it would mean that people who live outside the city would get dinged by an extra withholding from each paycheck, with the money sent to City Hall.

It's a sneaky gambit we'd rank alongside Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle's sweetened beverage tax, which went down with voters about as well as a swig of warm, flat root beer. Under pressure from unhappily gouged residents, the county rescinded that bad idea. And yes, Preckwinkle is also running for mayor.

The soda tax episode is instructive because it reflects the temptation felt by too many Illinois pols to remedy every budget crisis by looking around frantically for something or someone to tax.

Look, a soda machine — let's tax pop! Hey, there are some commuters arriving on a Metra train — they've got to be good for something!

Currently there are 21 candidates for mayor. Will one propose a tax on shoes because walking wears down sidewalks? We say this thinking about how the city levies taxes and slaps fees on everything from amusements to bottled water to plastic bags, on top of already high property and sales taxes (and state income taxes). Even the fraud-riddled red light camera program was a play to raise revenue for the city.

Tax revenue is necessary to fund government services, including public employee

retirement costs. Unfortunately, Illinois and Chicago badly mismanaged their pension obligations. Chicago soon will need to make extra payments totaling hundreds of millions of dollars, so Daley said: "We have to find new revenues, and everything is on the table." He mentioned casinos, commuter taxes and real estate transfer taxes among the options.

Daley's not wrong about the need to improve city finances. We give him credit for confronting that reality at a time when several other candidates are dodging it. But we don't want the problem-solving of any candidate to begin with finding another creative way to lift money from people's wallets. The primary emphasis should be on operating government services more efficiently, looking hard at budgets to reduce spending and making the city more attractive to employers and residents. That economic growth would

translate to more tax dollars — without raising taxes.

To mayoral candidates, the commuter tax may look like a no-brainer: The people who would be forced to pay aren't city voters so they can't show their displeasure on Election Day. The issue with a commuter tax is it becomes one more cost-related reason to drive businesses away from Chicago. City and county and state tax burdens are high, and employers know it. They weigh many factors in deciding whether to locate in Chicago vs. Deerfield or Indiana or Texas. A Tribune news story cited a 2010 report by Inspector General Joseph Ferguson that found a commuter tax in Philadelphia resulted in job losses.

No matter where they live, people who work in Chicago already contribute tax revenue via their purchases, parking taxes and other spending. Let's not chase anyone away.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

The Democrats who won in midterms — Jon Tester, Joe Manchin, Tim Kaine — tended to be more centrist. The party's progressive stars — Beto! Andrew! Stacey! — were wiped out, leaving Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez sitting forlornly in the corner with her movie-star cheekbones, glamorous jackets and lost dreams of a socialist-Democratic future. This does not mean that Democratic voters will choose a nominee who is in step with mainstream politics in 2020. But these losses make that possibility more likely. ... There's even the possibility that Democrats may look at the midterms and the caravan and learn a lesson about immigration. They're never going to outbid Trump on nativism, but they don't have to. All they have to do is convince a small share of marginal independent voters that they're not secretly for open borders and that they do take illegal immigration seriously. If you can't do that while maintaining your liberal base, then you don't belong in professional politics. It's not a heavy lift.

Jonathan V. Last, *The Weekly Standard*

NASA announced that the Kepler space mission to detect exoplanets (planets orbiting stars other than the sun), launched in 2008, was at an end. The Kepler Space Telescope, which orbits the sun and not the Earth, has run out of fuel and has been shut down. It was named for Johannes Kepler (1571-1630), one of the giants of early physics upon whose shoulders Newton stood, and its impact on the study of the universe could be similarly profound. Kepler discovered ... 2,682 exoplanets, about 70 percent of all known planets. In addition, there are still 2,900 candidates discovered by Kepler that have not yet been confirmed by Earth-bound observation. It is altogether likely that most of them will be. ... Before 1992, the number of known exoplanets was exactly zero. For all we knew, the solar system was the only planetary system in the universe.

John Steele Gordon, *Commentary*

SCOTT STANTIS



Chicago Tribune PERSPECTIVE



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Defense attorney James McKay talks to prosecutors Tuesday during the trial of police Officer Thomas Gaffney, former Detective David March and ex-Officer Joseph Walsh.

Cop cover-up trial only looks like it's gone off the rails



ERIC ZORN

"We're done for today," said Associate Cook County Judge Domenica Stephenson with more than a hint of annoyance in her voice. "I know there was supposed to be another witness, but I thought that witness was going to be called first and that we would have been done by around, I think, maybe it would have been 6, 7 o'clock at the latest."

It was 7:52 p.m. Wednesday, and even those of us watching the livestream from our desks of the trial of three Chicago police officers accused of covering up for a fellow officer after he shot and killed Laquan McDonald were ready for a break.

Stephenson complained about the long hours her court

reporter and clerk had been working, with barely any breaks.

One's heart goes out. Though not to Stephenson. She is, perhaps deliberately, allowing the trial to meander madly and interminably into ad hominem attacks on witnesses and utterly bizarre conspiracy theories — James McKay, one of the defense attorneys, put forth and hammered on the idea that, in the aftermath of the October 2014 shooting, someone impersonated his client on the phone in order to give false information to an investigator with the Cook County medical examiner's office.

Stephenson has also allowed much of the trial to devolve into a replay of the trial earlier this fall of Officer Jason Van Dyke, the shooter.

That trial, which captured the attention of the nation, focused on the six seconds from when Van Dyke exited his police SUV until he began emptying his gun into McDon-

ald, a drug-addled teen who was carrying a knife.

The question then was, what would jurors believe: The defense claims that McDonald was in attack mode and posed such a grave threat to Van Dyke's life and safety that he had to shoot? Or what their own eyes showed them as they viewed the famous dashcam video, which was McDonald clearly attempting to walk clear of his police pursuers?

It was a slam-dunk for the latter. Despite a mighty effort by Van Dyke's defense team to, in effect, put the victim on trial by talking about how he'd behaved in the minutes and hours and even years before his death, jurors quickly convicted Van Dyke of second-degree murder and 16 counts of aggravated battery, one for each shot he fired. He is awaiting sentencing.

Ostensibly, the current trial is to determine what happened in the six hours, more or less, that followed the shooting: How did a blatantly false narra-

tive emerge from a number of officers and other police officials that McDonald was raising his knife and lunging at Van Dyke and his partner?

"The case is clear, the case is straightforward, and it is concise," said special prosecutor Patricia Brown Holmes in her opening statement Tuesday. "It boils down to what the defendants wrote on paper versus what is shown on video."

But Stephenson has given defense attorneys considerable latitude to attempt to relitigate Van Dyke's decision to shoot — to delve into McDonald's aggressive behavior that evening prior to his death, calling him a "crazed individual," and to question what we can see and what we can't see on the dashcam video.

The judge has allowed McKay to sneer at the educational attainment and parenting skills of prosecution witnesses.

If this were a jury trial, the presentation would amount to

an outrageous and highly prejudicial distraction from the only question that matters: Where did all that police misinformation come from?

But it's a bench trial. Stephenson knows the law and, presumably, the story behind this case very well. Like the rest of us, she's seen the video. And I'd be surprised if she's not metaphorically rolling her eyes harder than anyone at the defense's theatrical indignation and lengthy digressions into irrelevant character assassination and far-fetched interpretations of obvious truths.

Both she and the special prosecutor seem to know that allowing defense attorneys to retry the Van Dyke case this week may make for some long days in court, but it diminishes the chance of a successful appeal if any or all of the officers are convicted.

What looks like a circus may simply be justice in action.

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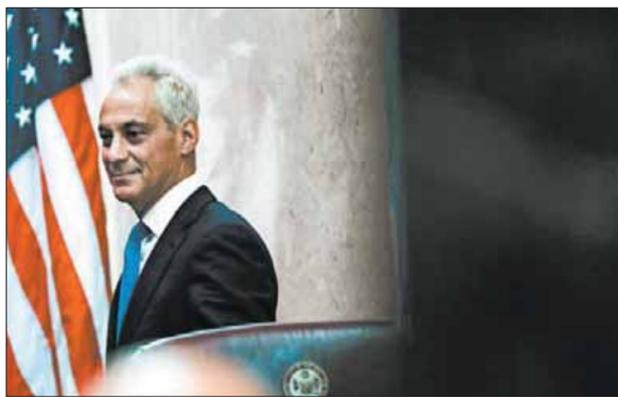
Emanuel's handling of Lincoln Yards project will shape his legacy

BY DAVID GREISING

Mayor Rahm Emanuel, as he prepares to leave office next year, keeps proffering fabulous parting gifts to billionaires, futurists and developers. And the fanciful forays keep filling his legacy with backfires and false starts.

There were incentives exceeding \$2 billion (from the city and state) if only Amazon founder and CEO Jeff Bezos would build his so-called "second headquarters" here. There was the announcement that Emanuel had selected Elon Musk and his Boring Co. to build a high-speed underground conveyance from downtown to O'Hare International Airport.

And now, in an unfolding saga, there is Emanuel's push to offer tax incentives and other help so a developer will move forward on the \$6 billion Lincoln Yards project.



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

growing skepticism the man who brought us SpaceX and Tesla will ever bore his way to O'Hare. At a June news conference, standing alongside Emanuel, Musk predicted he could begin digging on the \$1 billion project within three months. Five months have passed, and there is no sign of a city contract with Musk, much less a groundbreaking.

Now comes the massive development deal called Lincoln Yards — the one that's so close to closing Emanuel can just taste it.

The mayor is driving hard on winning approval for the housing, office, hotel and entertainment mega-project before he leaves office in May. But he has offered no explanation why there should be such a hurry, and no evidence the city might lose Lincoln Yards if he — or even his successor — just takes the time to get it right.

Amazon, after a much-hyped selection process that lured dozens of cities into revealing sensitive data about themselves, decided to split its HQ2 in two. New York's Long Island City and the Crystal City neighborhood in Arlington, Va., just outside Washington, D.C., each got half an HQ2. Nashville scored an additional major investment.

Chicago had no choice but to enter the Amazon beauty pageant. At best, the city placed fourth. Hardly a signature signoff for the city's "closer in chief."

As for the Musk deal, there is

from across the city to demand a seat at the negotiating table.

The Hideout — a treasured neighborhood bar and music club that would essentially be encircled by Lincoln Yards — has valid concerns. The Hideout's defenders fear a tax increment financing district for Lincoln Yards could set the stage for shuttering a place with an eclectic mix of music and events that is the antithesis of Live Nation's big-ticket formula.

Now Metro, Schubas, Lincoln Hall, Subterranean and Thalia Hall — music venues that sit north, west and south of Lincoln Yards — plan to jump in with a far broader concern. They want plausible assurances that Lincoln Yards won't put Chicago's thriving independent music scene at risk.

"We want to quantify the economic value of the existing music venues. We want to see how this affects the people who work at the venues on the North Side, the South Side and the West Side," said Joe Shanahan, Metro's owner.

A difference between business and politics is that capital can be patient. It bides its time and eventually gets its way. It doesn't need the headlines or a boost in the polls. Sometimes profit just takes time. It can wait.

Emanuel is constitutionally impatient. And in this case, the haste is wasting his chance to strike the city's best deal.

Sterling Bay has shown no sign that a harder city negotiating line would put Lincoln Yards at risk. This week's downsizing of its original bid shows the developer

is willing to negotiate. Developers as savvy as Sterling Bay don't just walk away from potential paydays the size of Lincoln Yards.

The city can bargain to avoid unnecessary giveaways, and the community can get a better deal, if only they both stand their ground. The case for the proposed tax incentives has not yet been made. Further accommodation to the community is still possible.

Emanuel, who has earned a measure of self-regard for his deal-making prowess, must surely know he has leverage with Sterling Bay. If he feels compelled to move forward, then he owes the city an explanation why. And if the deal is not done before he leaves office, that actually could be a win for Chicago.

For that matter, the candidates for mayor should be weighing in too. One of them will wind up working this deal. We can learn a lot about their plans for neighborhood development, and tax giveaways, if they speak up now.

Every mayor wants a legacy project: For Richard J. Daley, it was Circle Campus; for Richard M. Daley, Millennium Park. Lincoln Yards will be a legacy for a mayor of Chicago. If Emanuel hands off Lincoln Yards to whoever succeeds him, he may not get full claim to this project as his legacy. But he'll be showing he can keep the city's best interests at heart, and that's a legacy in itself.

David Greising is president and chief executive officer of the Better Government Association.

PERSPECTIVE

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Shovel or pay

Since our mayor uses almost any excuse to raise money for the city, why aren't his agents ticketing those who don't shovel their sidewalks? OK, so maybe a few such tickets have been written downtown, but for sure not many in the neighborhoods. I propose that an army of agents be hired for the few days or weeks after every heavy snowfall. They would ticket every business or government property that violates the city ordinance requiring timely shoveling.

And a snaking one-shovel-wide path shouldn't cut it, either. Only a sidewalk-wide clearing with salt (or equivalent) applied afterward to prevent icing would qualify. Such tickets could not only earn the city millions of dollars, they could also save on big settlements or jury awards for personal injuries from slip-and-fall accidents.

What's a possible reason for this not happening?

— David Cady, Chicago

Firefighters and cancer

Thank you for the Tribune's important recent coverage of firefighters and cancer ("Cancer among firefighters causes alarm, uncertainty and heartbreak," Nov. 25 and 26). An impetus for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health research referenced in the series was a University of Cincinnati College of Medicine study of an analysis of 32 studies of over 100,000 firefighters that was published in 2006. This study showed a significant increase in 10 cancers including colon, multiple myeloma, prostate, testis, skin, malignant melanoma, brain, rectum and stomach cancers. The study sounded an alert that was followed up by the International Agency for Research on Cancer the year after the UC research was published.

Firefighting is a dangerous occupation that involves firefighters being exposed to a soup of cancer-causing chemicals. Raising awareness about these risks and continuing to research effective preventative measures is key.

— Grace LeMasters, Ph.D.

Professor emeritus, Environmental Health
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

Our modern Renaissance

It's likely that Italians 600 years ago had no idea that they were living through the Renaissance. Most lived as peasants in the countryside. For the fortunate few, however, life was changing. They were wealthier, which meant they had time for leisure and education. In Florence, more than any other Italian city, that leisure, that need for trinkets and education led to Donatello, DaVinci, Michelangelo and a new way of thinking.

Today, we are experiencing another Renaissance. As before, it was preceded by increased wealth, leisure, education and trinkets. Only today, the location is California. And as in Florence, three names stand out: Steve Jobs, Mark Zuckerberg and Elon Musk.

Musk is probably DaVinci. His concern about global warming led to Tesla Inc., which in six years has made the self-driving electric car the model for the entire auto industry. He also pursued the concept of passenger travel by high-speed tube. And because he wants humanity to avoid eventual extinction, he readies his SpaceX Starship for its first flight.

Future histories will wax eloquent about the Renaissance that marked the beginning of the third millennium and how it made inevitable humanity's expansion across the galaxy. Little will be made of the politics of the day.

— Len Robertson, St. Charles

Arts in education

As a former Chicago Public Schools teacher, and now substitute, I've seen a lot of different scenarios at CPS. I try not to tell tales out of school. However, after working in more than 80 schools, I witness such negative behaviors in places that cut art and music programs in lieu of test prep classes. I urge parents to lobby school administrators to keep art programs in CPS.

A model school that celebrates the arts and constantly strives to give students a forum for creative expression is Ravenswood Elementary School. Ravenswood's curriculum includes art, drama and dance. The students appear more tolerant of differences, perhaps because they have daily opportunities to express themselves, vent frustrations and show joy. The arts pique curiosity and encourage multiple learning styles.

Although learning cannot often be quantitatively measured from art classes, teaching a child how to cope with and express emotions translates to a happier person and a more open learner. What a priceless gift!

— Peg Suchan-Pickert, Chicago

For online exclusive letters go to www.chicagotribune.com/letters. Send letters by email to ctc-TribLetter@chicagotribune.com or to Voice of the People, Chicago Tribune, 160 N. Stetson Ave., Third Floor, Chicago, IL 60601. Include your name, address and phone number.



GEORGE FREY/GETTY

Republican Mitt Romney, shown with wife Ann, can be a key part of the solution to a divided nation as a U.S. senator.

Sen.-elect Romney, America should have listened to you

BY NEWTON N. MINOW

Dear Sen.-elect Mitt Romney, Although we were of different political parties, your father, George W. Romney, and I were good friends. Like yourself, your father was a successful business leader, a valued governor of a great state and a Republican candidate for president. I admired his courage and statesmanship, and he spoke of you often. He would be so proud to know that you have followed his example of public service and will soon become a member of the United States Senate.

I know your father would have been especially proud of the moral stand you took in an important speech you gave on March 3, 2016. You said: "Now, I'm far from the first to conclude that Donald Trump lacks the temperament to be president. After all, this is an individual who mocked a disabled reporter, who attributed a reporter's questions to her menstrual cycle, who mocked a brilliant rival who happened to be a woman due to her appearance, who bragged about his marital affairs, and who laces his public speeches with vulgarity. ... There's plenty of evidence

that Mr. Trump is a con man, a fake. Mr. Trump has changed his positions not just over the years, but over the course of the campaign. And on the Ku Klux Klan, daily for three days in a row. ... Here's what I know. Donald Trump is a phony, a fraud. His promises are as worthless as a degree from Trump University."

Tragically, your warnings were drowned out by the skillful manipulation of

constitution to change things for the better. Like no time in our history, one strong voice of moral courage could be the tipping point that earns the gratitude of future generations for many years to come. You could be that strong voice. Because the Senate is so closely divided, a few votes one way or the other could make the difference between providing the Senate's historical check on the executive branch or

constitutional role in overseeing the executive branch.

Third, you can stand for the foundational principles of Republican conservatism: personal responsibility, fiscal prudence, the rule of law, limited government.

We are in desperate need of principled, sensible, moral leaders. And we are especially in need of Republican leaders who are willing to hold President Trump to account. You will be able to remind Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and your fellow senators that future generations will not thank today's Senate if it permits hatred, racism and deceit to be the brand of the Republican Party. Civility and bipartisanship are what the American people need and want, as so emphatically demonstrated in our recent elections.

Your 2016 speech was prophetic. You now have the chance to carry that truth forward and restore respect and civility to our political system, the principles your father exemplified. I know your father will be applauding from on high.

Newton N. Minow is senior counsel at the law firm Sidley Austin in Chicago.

One strong voice of moral courage could be the tipping point that earns the gratitude of future generations for many years to come.

a frustrated minority of the country. As a result, we are now an even more bitterly divided nation with a shameful lack of civility in our politics, and a complete breakdown of bipartisan commitment to our shared goals of a safe country with a strong economy and opportunity for all.

You were not in a position to prevent that in 2016, but now you are a key part of the solution as a member of the United States Senate.

You will enter the Senate with a unique opportu-

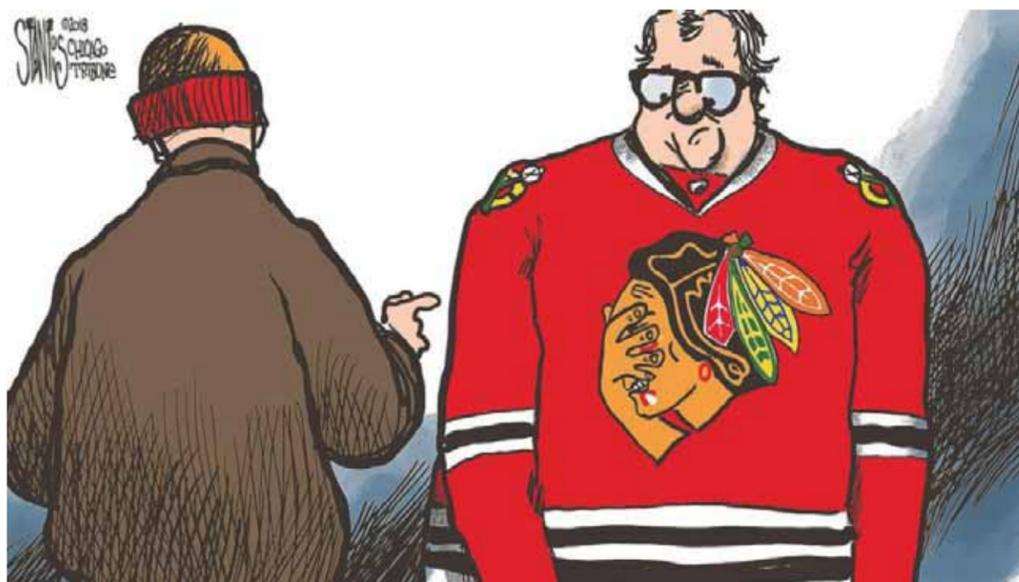
enabling further vandalism to our system of government. With the tragic death of Sen. John McCain and the retirements of Sens. Bob Corker and Jeff Flake, the Senate will be in desperate need of principled Republicans who are not intimidated by President Trump.

Here are three things you can do for the nation:

First, you could help restore civility and bipartisanship to the Congress.

Second, you can ensure that Congress fulfills its

SCOTT STANTIS CARTOON CAPTION CONTEST



Think you are simply hysterical? Enter the Scott Stantis cartoon caption contest. Scott draws a cartoon each week — this week's cartoon appears above — and invites readers to submit their ideas for the caption. Scott will choose 10 finalists and readers will vote on the winner. Here's how to play: Scott will post a new cartoon each Thursday afternoon at chicagotribune.com/caption. Readers can submit their captions by email to ctc-captions@tribpub.com until noon Monday. Please include your name and town of residence. Voting will start Monday afternoon and finish at noon Thursday. A new cartoon, plus the previous week's winners, will appear online each Thursday afternoon and in print each Friday.

CAPTION CONTEST WINNERS



WINNER:
Gee, Santa, can I ask for an early gift this year: a quick-healing shoulder for Mitch?
Chris Dransoff, Batavia

RUNNERS-UP:
I know in past years I told you I was good, but this year, I really am good.
Ron Matekaitis, DeKalb

Well, the taxpayers could build me a new stadium if they just closed a few dozen libraries and schools.
Suzanne Seed, Chicago

Santa, why haven't you come to visit me since 1985?
Wally Salganik, Buffalo Grove

PERSPECTIVE

There are ways Trump can win over Hispanics and blacks



VICTOR DAVIS HANSON

President Donald Trump's challenges are not really his economic policies and foreign affairs agendas. For the most part, they are supported by the American people and are resulting in prosperity at home and security abroad.

The economy continues to deliver near-record-low unemployment, wage gains, strong growth and unmatched energy production.

No nation can remain sovereign and secure with insecure borders. There are few ways to stop massive illegal immigration other than building a wall, insisting on employer sanctions and recalibrating legal immigration to be measured and meritocratic.

For all the hysteria over Trump's foreign policy, many observers quietly concede that the U.S. is far tougher on Vladimir Putin and Russia now than President Barack Obama was in 2016.

America had reached a point of no return with China. It either had to renegotiate its enormous trade imbalances and confront regional Chinese aggressions or simply acquiesce to China's agenda of predetermined global superiority. Yet there were few levers other than temporary trade tariffs to force China to trade equitably and to follow global commercial norms.

The status quo that Trump inherited with North Korean nuclear-tipped intercontinental missiles was an unsustainable proposition. So was an Iran deal that would have guaranteed even-



EVAN VUCCI/AP

President Donald Trump cannot consistently reach 50 percent approval in the polls.

tual Iranian nuclear capability.

Yet Trump cannot consistently reach 50 percent approval in the polls. And, like most presidents, he experienced a rebuke in the House during his first midterm elections.

So, what might Trump do to translate his policy successes into 51 percent majority support?

He needs to pick up more minority voter support, perhaps winning about 20 percent of the African-American vote and 40 percent of the Hispanic vote. That is a difficult proposition for any Republican in general, and in particular Trump, who is loathed by Democratic and identity-politics activists.

Yet Trump's economic policies

have achieved record-low minority unemployment. His immigration policies will eventually curb illegal immigration and give clout to entry-level workers, who will have less competition from imported low-wage labor.

Trump should go into minority communities and hold frank discussions with local leaders, many of whom oppose him politically, about policies geared toward economically empowering inner-city youth.

Trump's message should be that his economic agenda is aimed at ensuring that minority workers regain some clout over employers. In a growing economy short of labor, those who were once bypassed and ignored now

for the first time in decades have the ability to choose from among multiple job options and enjoy rising wages.

Trump also must pick up 5 to 10 percent more of suburban centrists and Republican voters, many of whom privately support the Trump agenda but publicly recoil at Trump's sometimes blunt (though usually accurate) assessments of opponents, celebrities and foreign nations.

The obvious complaint among these swing voters is not so much with Trump's substance as with his style — which nonetheless appeals to millions in the Trump base who are sick and tired of political hedging and politically correct sentimentalism.

Referring to opportunist Stormy Daniels as "horse face" or to often-erratic Rep. Adam Schiff as "Little Adam Schitt" is unnecessary to secure a base already appreciative of the fact that Trump has done what he said he would do while on the campaign. His gratuitous slurs of enemies turn off voters who otherwise appreciate the security, prosperity and confidence that Trump has returned to America.

In this regard, Trump is at his best when he is funny and self-deprecating — attributes that play especially well in suburbia.

During the Brett Kavanaugh Supreme Court confirmation circus, an all-too-human Trump joked, "I never had a glass of alcohol. I never had alcohol, for whatever reason. Can you imagine if I had? What a mess I would be. I would be the world's worst."

When Trump campaigns and holds rallies, he is the rare politician who sincerely uses a plural possessive pronoun of endearment to talk of Americans as "our farmers," "our soldiers," "our miners" and "our workers." His speeches about reviving the deindustrialized Midwest show more empathy than the usual boilerplate from free-trade libertarians or social-welfare liberals.

Trump does not have to win over all minority voters and suburbanites. He just needs to recalibrate his messaging and re-emphasize his solid achievements, reminding those he has benefited why and how he has helped them — and why he is not the ogre so often stereotyped in the media.

Otherwise, Trump will end up getting results without getting political credit for it.

Tribune Content Agency

Victor Davis Hanson is a classicist and historian at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University.



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Chicago Tribune BUSINESS

Advocate Aurora Health to raise its minimum wage

By LISA SCHENCKER
Chicago Tribune

Advocate Aurora Health plans to raise its minimum wage to \$15 an hour by 2021, a move that could affect as many as 15,000 employees.

The system, which has 27 hospitals in Illinois and Wisconsin, announced the news in a memo to employees Thursday. It plans to raise its starting wage to \$13 an hour by mid-2019 and \$14

an hour by early 2020. Current starting wages are \$11 to \$13 an hour.

The change will most affect food service and custodial workers, said Kevin Brady, the system's chief human resource officer. It will also, however, likely have a ripple effect, resulting in better wages for workers who already receive slightly higher pay, such as medical assistants, phlebotomists and certain technicians.

"We are truly trying to be in the

place where in all levels of the organization we're attracting and retaining the top talent," Brady said.

The City of Chicago has been gradually raising its minimum wage and will require employers to pay at least \$13 an hour to non-tipped employees by 2019, with increases after that indexed to the consumer price index. Cook County also decided to require employers to pay a minimum wage of \$13 an hour by

2020, though many suburbs have opted out of the ordinance.

Advocate laid off about 75 of its roughly 35,000 employees more than a year ago after announcing \$200 million in cuts due to missing a revenue target. In April, Advocate merged with Wisconsin's Aurora Health Care, creating the 10th-largest not-for-profit hospital system in the country.

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Kraft Heinz to buy Primal

Food giant to acquire paleo darling Primal Kitchen for \$200M

By LESLIE PATTON
Bloomberg News

Kraft Heinz Co. agreed to purchase Primal Kitchen, a maker of condiments and salad dressings, for about \$200 million, as the food giant seeks to add healthier options in a bid to ignite sales.

Kraft's move follows the broader trend in Big Food toward consolidation. Large companies are increasingly looking to smaller startups to goose stagnant sales of older, legacy brands. Primal Kitchen is seen generating about \$50 million in sales this year with its health-focused products.

The relatively small deal for Primal Kitchen likely won't satisfy investors who have been waiting for Kraft to pursue a transformative acquisition in the wake of its failed attempt to buy Unilever in 2017. Kraft is co-headquartered in Chicago and Pittsburgh.

Primal Kitchen bases its product selection on the so-called paleo diet, which is heavy on proteins and vegetables and stays away from carbohydrates. Its selection includes organic unsweetened spicy ketchup, avocado oil, and collagen nut and seed bars.

This might offer a fresher group of items to Kraft's existing portfolio, which includes its namesake ketchup and Oscar Mayer hot dogs.

Markets largely shrugged off the deal, with Kraft shares rising 0.5 percent to \$51.45 at 12:01 p.m. in New York. The stock has lost more than a third of its value this year.

Amazon wants to sell alcohol at Go store

By LAUREN ZUMBACH
Chicago Tribune

Amazon is seeking a liquor license at the address of a cashier-less grab-and-go store expected to open in the Illinois Center next year.

Amazon submitted the request for a liquor license earlier this month, according to a city website. While the business name was listed as "Tbd," the address matches an Amazon Go store the company announced last month.

Three Amazon Go stores, which use customers' smartphones and a network of cameras and sensors to track their purchases and eliminate the check-out counter, have opened in Chicago since September. Two are in the Loop, and one is in a space connected to Ogilvie Transportation Center.

The Chicago stores that have already opened sell pre-made meals and snacks, other convenience store items and beverages — but only soft drinks.

Verifying that a customer is old enough to legally purchase alcohol makes the experience slightly less seamless. At the only Amazon Go that currently sells beer and wine, the original store near Amazon's Seattle headquarters, employees card customers when they enter the alcohol section, according to the Amazon Go app.

You won't find Pabst Blue Ribbon, but Amazon Go's app lists a mix of local Pacific Northwest and nationally-recognized breweries. IPAs appeared to be the most popular style, but the store also carries seven ciders and two hard seltzers. The wine selection included 55 red wines and 20 whites, with prices ranging from \$7.99 to \$34.99. There are also a handful of roses and sparkling wines, one dessert wine and 14 single-serving cans and bottles.

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DREW ANGERER/GETTY

Pabst and MillerCoors announced a settlement agreement in a lawsuit Pabst filed in Milwaukee County Circuit Court.

DEAL KEEPS PBR FLOWING

Pabst reaches last-minute settlement with Chicago's MillerCoors

By MEAGAN FLYNN | Washington Post

The fate of Pabst Blue Ribbon was in the hands of a jury. The classic lager — the cheap, light beer of choice among many hipsters and baby boomers alike — was at risk of disappearing from the shelves, the jury had been told. Wednesday marked the end of a nine-day trial involving a brewing contract dispute between Pabst and MillerCoors, one beer company versus a much bigger one, both steeped in more than a century of history.

The question was whether MillerCoors, which has been brewing PBR since 1999, would extend its brewing con-

tract with Pabst to 2025. Pabst sued Chicago-based MillerCoors in 2016 after the brewer said it would be cutting ties

with Pabst in 2020, the year the contract expires, as the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported. PBR's lawyers argued that MillerCoors's decision not to extend the contract was in bad faith, claiming its reasoning — that it no longer had the capacity to brew PBR into the next decade — was false and flawed. Likewise, MillerCoors claimed that PBR's fear of going out of business was simply exaggerated and not true either.

But just as the jury was busy deliberating Wednesday, the

beer companies returned to court: They had reached a settlement agreement, they told the judge. And it involves keeping PBR alive.

"The parties have amicably resolved all outstanding issues in the case," a spokesperson for Pabst told The Washington Post in a statement, while declining to disclose the terms of the settlement. "Pabst will continue to offer Pabst Blue Ribbon and the rest of our authentic, great tasting and

Turn to PBR, Page 2

TAP Air Portugal coming to O'Hare

By LAUREN ZUMBACH
Chicago Tribune

An airline new to Chicago will begin offering the city's first nonstop flights to Lisbon, Portugal, next year.

TAP Air Portugal will fly between O'Hare International Airport and Lisbon five times a week starting June 1, the airline announced Thursday.

TAP investor and JetBlue Airways founder David Neeleman said the airline sees an opportunity to attract passengers who found Portugal more difficult to get to than other European cities. "When we have nonstop service, people just discover Portugal," Neeleman said. "It's such a unique and beautiful country, when people go they love it and want to come back."

But the flights aren't just aimed at Lisbon-bound tourists. Passengers can opt for a layover of up to five nights before connecting to another city, and about

half the airline's American passengers fly to destinations outside Portugal, according to TAP.

TAP will use Airbus A330-900neo aircraft for the Chicago-Lisbon flights. One-way fares in economy class start at \$278, and round-trip fares start at \$595. In the airline's Executive business class, which offers fully reclining seats, one-way fares start at \$1,456 and round-trip tickets start at \$2,951, TAP said. The coach fares include meals and allow passengers to bring a personal item, a carry-on and a checked bag, and a business class ticket allows an extra checked bag with no added fee.

The Chicago flights are part of a bigger North American expansion for TAP, which currently serves New York, Boston, Miami and Toronto. The airline is part of the Star Alliance, which includes United Airlines.

Flights between Washington, D.C., and Lisbon are scheduled to start June 16, and Neeleman said



LOIC VENANCE/GETTY-AFP

TAP Air Portugal will fly between O'Hare International Airport and Lisbon, Portugal, five times a week starting June 1.

he could see the airline adding three more North American destinations by summer.

Chicago has been working to bring more international traffic to O'Hare. The Chicago Department of Aviation expects Friday to mark the start of the 17th new international route this year, when Air New Zealand begins operating flights between Chicago and Auckland, New Zealand. It will be the longest flight operating out of O'Hare.

Other routes added this year have connected Chicago to cities

including Venice, Italy, and Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Neeleman is also working on a new U.S. airline, but those plans are in the early stages, he said. The new airline committed to buying 60 Airbus A220-300 aircraft in July. But the first plane won't be delivered until 2021, in part because Airbus plans to make them in the U.S. and needs to ramp up production at the plant, Neeleman said.

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Devices to treat pain bring it

AP: Many hurt by hyped, ill-regulated medical implants

BY MITCH WEISS
AND HOLBROOK MOHR
Associated Press

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Desperate for relief after years of agony, Jim Taft listened intently as his pain management doctor described a medical device that could change his life.

It wouldn't fix the nerve damage in his mangled right arm, Taft and his wife recalled the doctor saying, but a spinal-cord stimulator would cloak his pain, making him "good as new."

But Taft's surgically implanted stimulator failed when a wire along his spine broke. After an operation to repair it, he said the device shocked him so many times that he couldn't sleep and even fell down a flight of stairs. Today, the 45-year-old Taft is a prisoner in his own bed, barely able to get to the bathroom by himself.

"I thought I would have a wonderful life," he said. "But look at me."

For years, medical device companies and doctors have touted spinal-cord stimulators as a panacea for millions of patients suffering from a wide range of pain disorders, making them one of the fastest-growing products in the \$400 billion medical device industry. Companies and doctors aggressively push them as a safe antidote to the deadly opioid crisis in the U.S. and as a treatment for an aging population in need of chronic pain relief.

But the stimulators — devices that use electrical currents to block pain signals before they reach the brain — are more dangerous than many patients know, an Associated Press investigation found. They account for the third-highest number of medical device injury reports to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, with more than 80,000 incidents flagged



SEAN RAYFORD/AP

Jim Taft is virtually bedridden at his home in West Columbia, S.C., after experiencing debilitating health issues following a spinal cord stimulator implant.

since 2008.

Patients report that they have been shocked or burned or have suffered spinal-cord nerve damage ranging from muscle weakness to paraplegia, FDA data show. Among the 4,000 types of devices tracked by the FDA, only metal hip replacements and insulin pumps have logged more injury reports.

The FDA data contain more than 500 reports of people with spinal-cord stimulators who died, but details are scant, making it difficult to determine if the deaths were related to the stimulator or implant surgery.

Medical device manufacturers insist spinal-cord stimulators are safe — about 60,000 are implanted annually — and doctors who specialize in these surgeries say they helped reduce pain for many of their patients.

Most of these devices have been approved by the

FDA with little clinical testing, however, and the agency's data show that spinal-cord stimulators have a disproportionately higher number of injuries compared to hip implants, which are far more plentiful.

The AP reported on spinal stimulators as part of a nearly yearlong joint investigation of the global medical devices industry that included NBC, the International Consortium of Investigative Journalists and more than 50 other media partners around the world. Reporters collected and analyzed millions of medical records, recall notices and other product safety warnings, in addition to interviewing doctors, patients, researchers and company whistleblowers.

The media partners found that, across all types of medical devices, more than 1.7 million injuries and nearly 83,000 deaths were reported to the FDA over

the last decade.

The investigation also found that the FDA pushes devices through an abbreviated approval process, then responds slowly when it comes to forcing companies to correct sometimes life-threatening products.

Devices are rarely pulled from the market, even when major problems emerge.

The FDA acknowledges its data have limitations, including mistakes, omissions and under-reporting that can make it difficult to determine whether a device directly caused an injury or death. But it rejects any suggestion of failed oversight.

"There are over 190,000 different devices on the U.S. market. We approve or clear about a dozen new or modified devices every single business day," Dr. Jeffrey Shuren, the FDA's medical device director said at an industry conference in May. "The few devices that

get attention at any time in the press is fewer than the devices we may put on the market in a single business day."

In the last 50 years, the medical device industry has revolutionized treatment for some of the deadliest scourges of modern medicine, introducing devices to treat or diagnose heart disease, cancer and diabetes.

Pete Corby, who injured his back working as a movie stuntman, said a spinal-cord stimulator helped him deal with his constant pain and stop using the opioids he'd become dependent on.

Medical device companies have "invested countless resources — both capital and human — in developing leading-edge compliance programs," said Janet Trunzo, head of technology and regulatory affairs for AdvaMed, the industry's main trade association.

At the same time, medical device makers also have spent billions lobbying

regulators, hospitals and doctors.

Taft's neurosurgeon, Jason Highsmith of Charleston, S.C., implanted the device in April 2014. But Taft and his wife say the device never worked.

In October 2014, Highsmith said he operated on Taft to install a new lead, tested the battery and reinserted it. Still, Taft's medical records show that he continued to report numbness, tingling and pain.

The stimulator was surgically removed in August 2015.

Highsmith said the overwhelming majority of his spinal-cord stimulator patients gain significant pain relief.

That's little comfort for Taft.

"This is my death sentence," Taft said, stretched out beneath his bed's wooden headboard on which he's carved the words "death row."

"I'll die here," he said.

Pabst, MillerCoors reach last-minute settlement

PBR, from Page 1

affordable brews to all Americans for many, many years to come."

To understand how Pabst, at one time the best-selling beer in America, could even find itself in a situation such as this, you have to go back — way back — to where it all began. Pabst has been around for 170 years, but it really has lived two separate lives: the one inside a Milwaukee brewery, and the one after it shuttered, when, for reasons that still fascinate marketers, it experienced an unexpected renaissance as a hipster beer.

The beer's roots in Milwaukee date back to the 1840s, a time when German immigrants were busy turning Milwaukee into the hops capital of the U.S. Jacob Best founded the brewery in 1848, but a certain Capt. Frederick Pabst joined in 1863 after marrying into the family. Under his leadership, the beer would grow to become the nation's largest brewery by 1878 and win an actual blue ribbon at the 1893 Chicago's World Fair. For decades thereafter, the blue ribbon never left Pabst.

But the Pabst family eventually did.

The captain's grandson, August Pabst, the last remaining Pabst family member involved, sold his holdings in 1983, and it was about that time that things started to get rocky. Sales had been declining for several years. A California company, S&P Corp., bought Pabst in 1985 and things only got worse. One Pabst brewery employee told The Washington Post in the late years that he felt the tides beginning to change in 1990, when the bottomless coolers of free beer in the lunchroom disappeared, and beer on the job was no longer allowed. For six straight years

thereafter, the brewer failed to turn a profit.

Like at the Schlitz and Miller breweries, Pabst was beloved by its long-time employees, many of whom had been on the job since its heyday in the 1970s. The same could be said of its loyal drinkers, many of whom snubbed Schlitz and Miller the same way Cubs fans don't root for the White Sox. But all of that love evaporated the day Pabst brewery closed its doors in October 1996. The local taverns started dumping it. Customers started boycotting. The brewer's union sued on behalf of disgruntled unemployed workers. As Milwaukee historian John Gurda told CNN that month, "The closing of the brewery is more or less like a death."

That brings us to why MillerCoors started brewing Pabst shortly thereafter, and why, for the last nearly 20 years, Pabst has relied on the larger company.

The thing is, Pabst today is nowhere near the nadir it experienced after shuttering the brewery in 1996, which has made its desperate-sounding legal battle with MillerCoors seem all the more unusual. According to the Brewers Association, Pabst Brewing Co. was ranked fifth in overall beer sales nationwide in 2017, trailing only Anheuser-Busch, MillerCoors, Constellation and Heineken. At the same time, its growth is also not anywhere near its astounding comeback in the mid-2000s.

If Pabst died in Milwaukee in 1996, it was reborn several years later — in Portland, maybe. For the first time in more than two decades, the company experienced a climb in sales in 2002. It was listed in the 2003 "Hipster Handbook" as the "best-tasting domestic beer," recommended for

hipsters along with its Milwaukee cousin, Schlitz. And it was especially popular in Portland, Ore., the New York Times Magazine discovered in 2003, when it went looking for the reason PBR had mysteriously reemerged as a beer for cool underground "alternative people," as a Portland sales rep described the new customers.

The Times found that it was especially popular among Portland bike messengers, who secured PBR sponsorships that never required them to display flashy advertisements like signs on their backs. The local alt-weekly newspaper, the Willamette Week, ran a large picture mocking the Portland hipsters that showed a guy drinking PBR, the Times noted. The Week said of Miller Brewing: "It's totally not indie rock!"

So what was the reason behind this resurgence? The main theory for PBR's seemingly organic rebrand, experts told the Times, was Pabst's marketing strategy of, well, no marketing. The bike messengers didn't owe them any free ads. Kid Rock, a noted PBR fan, wanted to do an endorsement deal, but PBR execs said no, as the Times reported.

The other theory, put forth by marketing consultant Alex Wipperfurth in the book "Brand Hijack: Marketing Without Marketing," was that a rumor that percolated during the late 1990s that Pabst was going out of business had the effect of a "rallying cry."

After this latest drama with MillerCoors, there's no telling for sure who will keep brewing Pabst Blue Ribbon for, as its spokesperson promised, "many, many years to come."

But at least, loyal PBR drinkers, you can rest assured it's not going away.

Babies add complication in opioid addiction case

Lawyer for infants wants their legal action separated

BY GEOFF MULVHILL
Associated Press

The expansive court case seeking to hold drug-makers responsible for the nation's opioid crisis has a new complication: How does it deal with claims covering the thousands of babies born addicted to the drugs?

Attorneys representing the children and their guardians want their claims separated from the federal case in Cleveland that involves hundreds of local governments and other entities such as hospitals. They told a skeptical panel of judges in New York on Thursday that they have different legal issues, a need for faster relief because the babies need services in the first years of their lives. They also told the judges that as it is, they lack the leverage to exact a settlement from drug companies.

Babies, unlike governments or businesses, have been directly harmed by the actions of drugmakers and are entitled to their own payments, said Scott Bickford, a lead lawyer for the children.

Bickford said more than 150,000 babies were born in opioid withdrawal from 2012 through 2016, and that the number grows yearly.

He said initial hospital stays for babies born to an addicted mother can cost \$200,000 to \$250,000 more than other infants born without complications.

"Then you have to address their developmental and learning problems," Bickford said in a Tuesday interview. "A lot of them have organ problems. A lot of them have problems we don't even know about."



TOBY TALBOT/AP 2013

A panel of federal judges will decide whether to separate babies born to addicted mothers from a larger case.

Drug manufacturers and distributors oppose creating a new structure for the lawsuits over the children and judges on the Judicial Panel on Multi-district Litigation hearing the matter in New York on Thursday wondered what good it would do.

Opioids — including prescription painkillers, heroin and synthetic substances including fentanyl — killed nearly 48,000 Americans last year, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The cost of treatment, providing an overdose antidote, foster care, jail stays, ambulance runs and addressing a growing homeless crisis have added up for governments and taxpayers. Studies have found that opioid addiction also has depleted the workforce, harming the economy.

More than 1,400 plaintiffs have had their federal cases consolidated under a single judge. They include county and local governments, hospitals, unions, American Indian tribes and individuals. Hundreds of others have sued in state courts. Cleveland-based federal Judge Dan Polster has been pushing the parties to reach a settlement.

The judicial panel's chairwoman, Judge Sarah Vance, said it's unlikely any settlement would be reached without considering the children.

"It's hard for me to see how the defendants are going to settle if they've got 150,000 children unhappy because their needs are unmet," Vance said.

Angela Vicari, a lawyer for the drug manufacturers, told the judge that she wasn't aware of the lawyers for the babies seeking to negotiate.

But lawyers for the children said they don't have a voice in the committee of plaintiffs' lawyers leading the case, making it hard to request the information from the industry that they believe would help prove their case. Attorney Kevin Thompson said it's essential to request information on any industry laboratory studies on the impact of drugs passed from mothers to children.

Lawyers also worry that any settlement reached by government agencies won't go to help the people who have been hurt. "They end up paving a road with that," Bickford said.

One of the lead lawyers for the local governments, Paul Farrell Jr., said he is trying to get help for children.

He said in an interview that the plaintiffs share a goal: holding drug manufacturers liable for the crisis. Unless that happens, he said, no one will get the payouts they're seeking.

"You've only got to shoot the pig once," he said Tuesday.

ITT Tech students score win in bankruptcy settlement

By DANIELLE DOUGLAS-GABRIEL
Washington Post

As creditors of ITT Educational Services fight over the remaining assets of the defunct for-profit college operator, one group has secured a significant victory in the bankruptcy proceedings: former students.

On Wednesday, a federal judge gave final approval to a settlement that will erase nearly \$600 million that 750,000 students owed ITT Technical Institute. The agreement, which was first announced in January, will also refund \$3 million that students paid the for-profit chain, which was based in Carmel, Ind.

Before shutting down in 2016, ITT issued students "temporary credits" to cover remaining tuition after federal and private student loans were taken into account. These credits were allegedly marketed as grants, but debt collectors pursued students for the money even after the company filed for bankruptcy.

"ITT routinely lied to hundreds of thousands of students," said Lorenzo Boyland, 40, who attended ITT Tech in Tennessee from 2008 to 2010. "They targeted people who were eligible for federal loans and grants — including low-income people and veter-



MIKE NOLAN/PIONEER PRESS

The shuttered Orlando Park campus of ITT Technical Institute is seen in 2016.

ans like me — and took advantage of our dreams and ambitions."

Boyland is among the students involved in the lawsuit filed against ITT Educational Services last year to join the line of creditors, federal regulators, state attorneys general and employees seeking redress from the company.

Attorneys for the students asserted a \$1.5 billion claim against the company for consumer-protection violations and breach of contract, and asked for status to cover anyone who attended ITT Tech between 2006 and 2016.

Wednesday's agreement recognizes the claim. If there is money in the estate to pay unsecured claims — debts that are not assured payment — at the end of the bankruptcy, students would receive a share.

In the meantime, ITT's estate has notified students who are eligible for the debt cancellation, according to the Project on Predatory Student Lending at Harvard Law School, a legal aid group that worked with the law firm Jenner & Block to represent the students.

"This settlement does more for the cheated students of predatory for-profit

colleges than (Education Secretary) Betsy DeVos has done in her entire administration," said Toby Merrill, director of the Project on Predatory Student Lending. "At a time when students are being ignored by their government, ITT students stood up to this predatory college themselves and secured the relief they are owed."

Merrill is calling on DeVos to forgive the federal loans of ITT Tech students who have petitioned the U.S. Department of Education to cancel their debt under a statute known as borrower defense to repay-

"At a time when students are being ignored by their government, ITT students stood up to this predatory college themselves and secured the relief they are owed."

— Toby Merrill, director of the Project on Predatory Student Lending

ment. The law, which dates to the 1990s, wipes away federal loans for students whose colleges used illegal or deceptive tactics to get them to borrow money to attend. Advocates for the students say ITT Tech did just that.

The chain was being investigated by more than a dozen state attorneys general and two federal agencies for alleged fraud, deceptive marketing or steering students into predatory loans. That legal morass led an accrediting body to threaten to end its relationship with the chain, which resulted in the Education Department curtailing ITT's access to federal student aid.

Weeks later, the publicly traded company closed 137 campuses that served 35,000 students and employed 8,000 people. And days after that, the company filed for bankruptcy protection to liquidate its business.

In the wake of the school's collapse, ITT Tech students have submitted

more than 13,000 applications for federal debt relief, though only 33 have been approved, according to the legal aid group.

The Trump administration has stymied efforts to grant relief by refusing to implement an Obama-era revision of the debt-relief rule that sought to simplify the process and shift more of the cost of discharging loans onto schools. DeVos issued a more restrictive rule earlier this year, but advocacy groups and state attorneys general are fighting to have the courts force implementation of the Obama rule.

"While this settlement is a victory, we are still paying federal student loans that funded a school that no longer exists," said Boyland, a veteran who amassed \$52,000 in federal and private loans pursuing an associate degree at ITT Tech. "All I'm asking for — all any of us are asking for — is a fair shot and a fresh start. I just hope the Department of Education is listening."



MICHAEL PROBST/AP

A police car light flashes in front of the Deutsche Bank headquarters during a raid Thursday in Frankfurt, Germany.

Deutsche Bank raided in laundering case

Associated Press

BERLIN — Some 170 police officers, investigators and prosecutors raided the German offices of Deutsche Bank on Thursday on the suspicion bank employees helped clients set up offshore companies in tax havens to launder hundreds of millions of dollars.

The investigation emerged from an analysis of documents leaked from tax havens in recent years, including the 2016 "Panama Papers," said Frankfurt

prosecutors' spokeswoman Nadja Niesen.

It is focused on two bank workers, both German citizens, and possibly other suspects, she said.

Niesen said the analysis of the Panama Papers and other documents "gave rise to suspicion that Deutsche Bank was helping clients set up so-called offshore companies in tax havens and the proceeds of crimes were transferred there from Deutsche Bank accounts" without the bank reporting it.

In 2016, over 900 customers are alleged to have transferred \$351 million to one such company set up in the British Virgin Islands, she said. The suspects are accused of failing to report the suspicious transactions even though there was "sufficient evidence" to have been aware of it.

Deutsche Bank was fined more than \$600 million by U.S. and U.K. authorities in January 2017 for allowing customers to transfer \$10 billion out of Russia in what regulators said was "highly

suggestive of financial crime."

The Panama Papers are a trove of documents from a law firm that handled shell companies for thousands of the rich and powerful around the world. While owning a shell company is not illegal, it is used to hide the beneficial owner of a company or transfer, making it important for the handling and laundering of dirty money.

Latvia has also emerged as a major hub of money laundering.

Keeping Asian carp from Great Lakes could cost \$778M

By JOHN FLESHER
Associated Press

TRAVERSE CITY, Mich. — Fortifying an Illinois waterway to prevent invasive carp from using it as a path to Lake Michigan could cost nearly three times as much as federal planners previously thought, according to an updated report.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers this week released a final strategy plan for upgrading the Brandon Road Lock and Dam near Joliet, Ill., which experts consider a good location to block upstream movement of Asian carp that have infested the Mississippi and Illinois rivers.

Scientists warn that if the voracious carp become established in the Great Lakes, they could out-compete native species and harm the region's \$7 billion fishing industry.

The Corps' new plan is similar to a draft from August 2017, but the estimated price tag has jumped from \$275 million to nearly \$778 million.

"Basically during the past year, some additional engineering and design work changed the scope to bring it up to that current cost," Allen Marshall, spokesman for the Corps' district office in Rock Island, Ill., said Wednesday.

The biggest increase is for building an "engineered channel" at Brandon Road.

The lock-and-dam complex is on the Des Plaines River, which forms part of the waterway link between Lake Michigan and the Illinois River, a tributary of the Mississippi.

Under the new plan, the channel would contain devices including an electric barrier, noisemakers and an air bubble curtain to deter fish from swimming upstream and remove those that don't turn back. The adjacent lock would be

retooled to flush away unwanted species floating on the water.

The draft had proposed using water jets to dislodge fish that might be stunned or caught in gaps between barges.

But the new version says a better method would be generating a continuous, dense curtain of air bubbles in the channel.

The Army Corps is accepting public comments through Dec. 24 and expects to submit the plan to Congress in February.

Its timetable envisions congressional authorization and initial funding next year and the signing of building contracts by July 2020, with work completed by March 2027.

Several states that border the lakes agreed previously to discuss sharing the costs. The escalating price could complicate those negotiations.

"Now that the cost has nearly tripled to \$778 million, we need to have a better understanding of how this project, with all the proposed components, actually reduces the risk of Asian carp and other invasive species getting into our Great Lakes in a fiscally responsible manner," said Ed Cross, spokesman for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Tammy Newcomb, water policy adviser for the Michigan DNR, acknowledged feeling "sticker shock" but said it shouldn't derail the project.

"Given the costs of Asian carp invading our Great Lakes, inaction is not an option," said Sen. Debbie Stabenow, a Michigan Democrat and co-chair of the Senate Great Lakes Task Force.

Illinois officials and business groups have questioned the need to drastically re-engineer the lock and dam — particularly if it would slow barge traffic.

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		% Down: 20%								
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SAVINGS UPDATE

Should I refinance to pay for home renovations?

Refinancing a mortgage can be a powerful tool for homeowners. While it's often done to snag a lower interest rate, another popular reason is turning your home's equity into cash for home improvements.

Increasing your mortgage balance to renovate or repair your home may be reasonable, or even smart. But not always. You'll want to consider the trade-offs carefully.

For instance, if refinancing will substantially raise your interest rate, it's likely not a great move. Also, if you think you'll sell your home within the next few years, opting for a home equity loan or line of credit will probably serve you better than opening a new mortgage.

You'll also want to forego refinancing if you don't have upwards of 20 percent equity in your home. That's because dropping below this threshold will trigger private mortgage insurance, which is an expense you want to avoid.

Also keep in mind that refinancing isn't free — you'll incur some costs for the privilege — and it will involve running a credit check, so will impact your credit score.

But if you expect to keep your home five or more years, and can get a comparable or better APR on your new mortgage, refinancing can be a good source of funding for that home improvement project.

Renovations like major updates or adding to a home's size are good candidates for tapping home equity since they'll also increase the value of your home. But cashing in equity for a new roof can also make sense, especially if your only other option is accessing a credit card or other high-interest loan.

In any scenario, the smartest move is researching what the refinancing will cost, how your other funding options and costs compare, and how the new mortgage amount and rate will affect your monthly payments.

Rate Criteria: The rates and annual percentage rate (APR) are effective as of 11/26/18. 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 \$453,001. 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 UFMIIP 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.

OBITUARIES

HAROLD GAEDE 1928-2018

Clothier to generations of Wheaton's teenagers

BY BOB GOLDSBOROUGH
Chicago Tribune

Harold Gaede ran a clothing store in downtown Wheaton for 53 years and over the years served on the boards of the western suburb's library and chamber of commerce.

"He felt that in order for his business to thrive, the community also had to thrive," said his daughter, Susan Murphy. "That was the impetus for him to get involved in everything."

Gaede, 90, died of natural causes on Nov. 6 at Wyncscape Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Wheaton. He had lived in Wheaton for 84 years.

Born in Elgin, Gaede moved with his family to Wheaton when he was 6 years old, and he grew up in a house on Willow Street in a neighborhood immediately south of the downtown business district. Gaede's father owned a gas station and sponsored a local softball team, and in June 1944, Gaede tossed a no-hitter in a game against a team sponsored by Scheffler's Florists.

"I had a lucky night, and we played a weak team," Gaede recalled to the Tribune in February 2014.

After graduating from Wheaton High School, he served in the Navy and then attended the University of Wyoming before transferring to Bradley University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in 1952.

Gaede began working at a Sears store in the boys department. In 1954, he opened Gaede's Store for Boys on the first floor of a building at 131 W. Front St. in downtown Wheaton. Gaede started the store with just \$3,500 worth of inventory, and he stocked the store's shelves with empty boxes to make its offerings look more plentiful.

The store quickly found success, and Gaede soon expanded the store to the building's basement. Gaede in 1964 moved the store to the building at 112 N. Hale St. in downtown Wheaton and then in 1975 moved it to its final spot in the building at 124 N. Hale. The store also broadened its offerings to include clothing for adult men and women, going by



MICHAEL BUDRYS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Harold Gaede, owner of Gaede's department store in Wheaton, in September 1990.

the name Gaede's Men's and Women's Shop. After moving to 124 N. Hale, the store dropped its boys department. The store was especially known for providing formal wear for school dances for several generations of Wheaton teens.

"He really enjoyed doing what he was doing," said Gaede's brother, Howard, who was the store's long-time manager. "He worked well with the people, and we kept expanding. We expanded from boys clothing to young men's to men's and women."

"He just wanted to be helpful to people and provide a service," his daughter said.

The store truly was a family affair, with Gaede's wife, Joan, his son, Bill, brother, Howard and Howard's wife, Sue, all working at the store.

In the 1960s, Gaede banded together with two other men's clothiers in other towns — Dean's in downtown Naperville and Chuck Hines in Elgin — to form a buying group called the Four Squires. The trio eventually opened three outlying stores under the Four Squires name in Antioch, DeKalb and Rockford.

Gaede was active in the Wheaton Lions Club, where he had been the longest-serving member. He also served on the Wheaton Public Library's board, where he held the role of vice president, and he had been president of the Wheaton Chamber of Commerce, and president and a board member of Glen Ellyn's B.R. Ryall YMCA.

Gaede and his wife of 66 years, Joan, also sponsored an annual 0.9-mile run in downtown Wheaton aimed at raising money for the nonprofit Wheaton Youth Outreach group. Runners were required to wear suit coats and carry briefcases.

Gaede's honors included being named the Wheaton Jaycees' Man of the Year and the Wheaton Kiwanis' Citizen of the Year. He also was awarded the Wheaton Lions Club's Lifetime Service Award.

"He was a fixture (in town)," said Wheaton Lions Club member Bill Davis, a longtime friend and frequent golf partner, who described Gaede as a "mentor." "He was involved in so many different organizations, and he was a very gentle, soft-spoken person. He was a real silent leader who people followed."

Gaede had a vacation home in Powers Lake, Wis., where he enjoyed sailing and racing boats, and spent at least part of the winter at a condominium unit he owned in Vero Beach, Fla.

In 2007, Gaede decided to close his store after 53 years in business in order to spend more time with his grandchildren.

In addition to his wife, daughter, son and brother, Gaede is survived by four granddaughters.

A visitation will take place at 10 a.m. Saturday at Williams-Kampp Funeral Home, 430 E. Roosevelt Road, in Wheaton, followed by a memorial service at noon.

Bob Goldsborough is a freelance reporter.

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



Dana Maree Paplauskas
September 19, 1980 - November 30, 2011

We think of you everyday You are missed and loved by all. Fondest memories & Love always. Dad, Brody, Liz, Mom, Bill, Britney and the Boys

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Death Notices

Applebaum, Sylvia

Sylvia Applebaum. Loving wife of the late Jacob. Devoted mother Morris (Beverly) Applebaum, Rose Blumstein and Helen (Norman) Taffet. Proud grandmother of Sam, Daniel, Brian, Jason, Jenna and Carly. Service Sunday 12 Noon at Chicago Jewish Funerals, 8851 Skokie Blvd (at Niles Center Road), Skokie. Interment private. Memorials in her memory can be made to HIAS, 216 West Chicago Street, Suite 700, Chicago, IL 60606, www.hias.org or to the Illinois Holocaust Museum, 9603 Woods Drive, Skokie, IL 60077, www.ilholocaustmuseum.org. Arrangements by Chicago Jewish Funerals - Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Banas, Joan Mary

Joan Mary Banas, age 77, of Chicago, IL, passed away peacefully on November 27, 2018. Joan is the devoted wife to the late William Banas; loving mother to Lori (Bruce) Truchon, Ronald (Lynn) Banas, and Robert Banas; devoted grandmother to Brian Truchon, Brett Truchon, Nicholas Banas, Christina Banas, and Ava Banas; cherished sister to Raymond (Judy) Justinic; Aunt to James; and friend to many. Visitation will be Sunday, December 2, 2018 from 3:00-9:00 pm at Andrew J. McGann & Son Funeral Home (10727 S. Pulaski Road; Chicago, IL). Prayers will begin at Andrew J. McGann & Son Funeral Home on Monday, December 3, 2018 at 10:15 am. Mass of Christian Burial will be Monday, December 3, 2018 at 11:00 am at St. Christina Catholic Church (3342 W. 111th Street; Chicago, IL). She will be laid to rest in St. Mary Catholic Cemetery.

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Barr Jr., William M.

William Martin Barr, Jr, age 92 formerly of Chicago and Antioch and residing for the last six years with his daughter, Julie of Franklin Park, IL.

Loving son of the late William and Ellen Barr and the late Catherine Ford Barr.

William was a WWII Army Veteran. Funeral Director for over 50 years. Previous owner of Barr Funeral Home in Chicago and Antioch and Broadway Livery. Past Grand knight of the University Council # 1687. Beloved husband of the late Mary T. (nee Harrington) and the late Edna (nee Pedersen) Dalgaard. Loving father of William (Judy) Barr, Ellen (the late Brad) Ipsen, Michael (Kim) Barr, Mary Pat (John) Mors, Nancy Barr, Julie Barr and John (Angela) Barr. Step-father to James (Sherry) Dalgaard, the late Windsor Dalgaard and the late Cheri Dalgaard. Dear brother of the late Ellemae McGarry, Jean (Michael) Harrington and Josephine (William) Lackerman. Godfather to his favorite godchild, Sheila Suangka. Grandfather of 33, great-grandfather of 47 and great-great grandfather of 2. William is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held Saturday, December 1, 2018 from 8:30 AM until time of prayers 9:15 AM at Strang Funeral Home, 1055 Main Street, Antioch IL. A Funeral Mass will be held 10 AM at Our Lady of the Lakes Parish (St. Peters) Antioch, IL. Interment Hillside Cemetery, Antioch IL.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to Little Sisters of the Poor, 2325 N. Lakewood Ave, Chicago IL 60614 or www.littlesistersofthepoorchicago.org, would be appreciated in William's name.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Byun, Justin Hongsub

Justin Hongsub Byun passed away peacefully on Nov 25th, 2018 at his house, Buffalo Grove. He was born in Oct 28th, 1936 in Korea. First son of Korean conglomerate Hwa-Il electric power company by his father Hoyoon Byun, helped Korea's economic growth after Korean War in 60s ~70s by building infra structures, such as highways and hydroelectric dam. Justin Hongsub Byun went to Kyoung-Ki high school and received business degree from Seoul National University. He was a CFO of Kong-Young Construction Company until late 70's and came over to the United States in 1982 with his family to California. He was a consultant to Law firm and Chicago Cosmetic Surgery from 1998 ~ 2008. He was an author and philanthropist where his 'BYUN Foundation' serves people in need of reconstructive surgery. He is survived by his wife, Teresa (nee Choi), and his son, Plastic surgeon, Michael of Lake Forest, and three daughters, Julia, Dolly and Sylvia, as well as 12 grandchildren. Memorial service will be held in Kolssak Funeral Home in 189 S Milwaukee Ave. Wheeling, IL. On Saturday, December 1st, 2018 at 12:30pm. Interment to follow in All Saints Catholic Cemetery. Contributions in lieu of flowers may be made to support the BYUN Foundation.

www.chicagocosmeticsurgery.com
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON NOVEMBER 30 ...

In 1874 Sir Winston Churchill, the English statesman and prime minister, was born in Blenheim Palace, England.

In 1900 Irish-born author Oscar Wilde died in Paris; he was 46.

In 1936 flames destroyed London's Crystal Palace, which had been built for the International Exhibition of 1851.

In 1939 the Soviet Union attacked Finland after failing to obtain territorial concessions in the first Russo-Finnish War.

In 1982 the Michael Jackson album "Thriller" was released by Epic Records.

In 1993 President Bill Clinton signed into law the Brady Bill, which requires a five-day waiting period for

handgun purchases and background checks of prospective buyers.

In 1994 two passengers died and nearly 1,000 others and crew members fled the cruise ship Achille Lauro after it caught fire off the coast of Somalia; the ship sank two days later. (The Achille Lauro had gained notoriety in 1985 when it was hijacked by Palestinian extremists.)

In 1995 President Bill Clinton became the first U.S. chief executive to visit Northern Ireland.

In 1996 Tiny Tim, the 1960s novelty singer best remembered for his rendition of "Tiptoe Through the Tulips," died in Minneapolis.

In 1999 the opening of a 135-nation trade gathering in Seattle was disrupted by at least 40,000 demon-

strators, some of whom clashed with police.

In 2001 Robert Tools, the first person to receive a fully self-contained artificial heart, died in Louisville, Ky., after living with the device for 151 days.

In 2003 U.S. soldiers in Iraq fought back coordinated attacks throughout the northern city of Samarra; also, two South Korean contractors were killed in a roadside ambush.

Also in 2003 Nathaniel Jones, a black man, died during a fight with Cincinnati police in a case that heightened racial tensions.

Also in 2003 Walt Disney Co. vice chairman Roy Disney stepped down from the board of directors.

In 2004 Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge announced his resignation.

Also in 2004 NAACP President Kweisi Mfume announced he was stepping down after a nearly nine-year tenure.

Also in 2004 "Jeopardy!" fans got to see Ken Jennings end his 74-game winning streak as he lost to real estate agent Nancy Zerg.

In 2005 Shimon Peres quit Israel's Labor Party, his political home of six decades, to campaign for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's new organization.

In 2016, for the first time in nearly 20 years, Chicago exceeded 700 homicides for the year.

WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

ILLINOIS
Nov. 29
Lotto 02 03 36 40 46 48 / 23
Lotto jackpot: \$22.25M
Pick 3 midday 280 / 0
Pick 4 midday 6896 / 8
Lucky Day Lotto midday 13 14 16 24 41

Pick 3 evening 718 / 9
Pick 4 evening 3995 / 8
Lucky Day Lotto evening 06 08 09 19 34

Nov. 30 Mega Millions: \$190M
Dec. 1 Powerball: \$183M

WISCONSIN
Nov. 29
Pick 3 441
Pick 4 2337
Badger 5 01 08 15 21 24
SuperCash 01 02 06 25 36 38

INDIANA
Nov. 29
Daily 3 midday 101 / 8
Daily 4 midday 2238 / 8
Daily 3 evening 231 / 3
Daily 4 evening 5162 / 3
Cash 5 05 17 24 35 42

MICHIGAN
Nov. 29
Daily 3 midday 790
Daily 4 midday 1308
Daily 3 evening 021
Daily 4 evening 0255
Fantasy 5 15 22 25 31 39
Keno 01 02 10 17 23 24 30
31 35 41 43 45 46 48
50 52 53 64 67 69 71

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Chicago Tribune Death Notices

Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Chromizky, Rudolph J.

Rudolph J. Chromizky WWII Navy Veteran, beloved husband of Helen (nee Gniewek), loving father of Bill (Laura) and Karen Chromizky. Visitation Saturday 8:30 A.M. until time of prayers 10:00 A.M. at **Lawn Funeral Home** 7909 State Road (5500W) Burbank, IL 60459 Mass 10:30 A.M. St. Albert the Great Church. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Funeral info 708-636-2320

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Durkin, Martin

Martin Durkin M.D. 82, of Glen Ellyn. Beloved husband of Diana (nee Stone Welsh) loving father of Gina (Jordan) Marty (Wendy) Pat (Tammy) Mike (Isabel) Brendan, and Allison (Pedro). Dear grandfather of Conor, Adam, David, Brendan, Robert, Margaret, Anna, Joseph, Samuel, William, and Matthew. He is preceded in death by his wife Anna Mae (nee Walls).

Retired Physician and Professor of Medicine at Loyola University where he founded the Section of Gastroenterology in 1972 and served as the section chief until his retirement in 2000. Visitation Friday, November 30 from 4pm until 8pm at The Leonard Funeral Home, 565 Duane St., Glen Ellyn, IL 60137. Mass of the Resurrection, Saturday, December 1 at 11am at Our Lady of the Angels Chapel - Wheaton Franciscan Sisters, 21W171 Roosevelt Rd Wheaton, IL 60187. In lieu of flowers: donations to Wheaton Franciscan Sisters or Comfort Care Blanket Project c/o Loyola University Medical Center Attn: Spiritual Care Department 2160 S 1st Ave Maywood IL, 60153. Checks Payable to Loyola University Health System c/o Comfort Care Blanket Project.

Leonard
Memorial Home

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Feiwell, George S

George S. Feiwell, 91, died peacefully at home on November 28, 2018. George lived an adventurous life befitting of his colorful personality. As a young adult, George worked as a rancher in Wyoming and performed in rodeos, and later racing both cars and boats. George obtained both an undergraduate and law degree from the University of Iowa, graduating law school in 1953. George was one of the great lawyers of his generation, practicing in local, state, and federal courtrooms in a career spanning over six decades. George was especially proud of trying what at the time was the longest jury trial in the Northern District of Illinois, a trial that lasted for over five months. In his later years, George focused primarily in the Domestic Relations Division of Cook County, and continued to be a zealous advocate for his clients.

Predeceased by his parents, Morris and Mable Feiwell; loving wife, Marilyn Jane Feiwell; brother Robert Feiwell; and sister, Elinor (Stanley) Jarrow. Survived by son, Todd Feiwell, daughter, Annie (Scott) Diamond; grandchildren Lauren, Eli, Madilyn, and Dylan; and devoted companion Jan Kramer.

Shiva will be held Monday, December 3, from 3 to 7 p.m. at The Standard Club, 320 S. Plymouth Court, Chicago, Illinois. Funeral will be private. Donations can be made to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, The Chicago Yacht Club Foundation and the American Cancer Society.

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Hart, Robert James 'Bob'

Robert "Bob" James Abraham Hart, has passed away in Evanston, surrounded by family, at the age of 87. The cause of death was, at the request of his body, the completion of a full, honorable, and kind life. Bob was born on Chicago's North Side to Sonia Nitsche and attended Waller High School. After serving as a medic in the US Army, he became one of Chicago's best commercial photographers. Bob is survived by his wife, Charlotte, his children, Sonat and her spouse Robert, Oona and her spouse Danny, and David and his partner Olivia. He is also survived by five grandchildren. He is predeceased by his brother Sheridan. Graveside services will be held 12:00 noon, Friday, November 30, 2018 at Memorial Park Cemetery, 9900 Gross Point Rd., Skokie, IL 60076. Memorial contributions to a charity of your choice appreciated. Funeral information 847-256-5700.

WEINSTEIN & PISER
FUNERAL HOME

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Hartenstein, Richard 'Dick'

Passed on September 19th at the age of 90. A stock broker at A.G. Edwards and Wells Fargo for 40+ years. Preceded in death by his loving wife of 40 years, Dr. Sharon Walsh. Memorial service at the Evanston Ecology Center, 2024 McCormick Blvd. - Sunday, December 2nd at 10am.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Itkin, Janice Roslyn

DURHAM: Janice Roslyn Itkin, 88, passed away on Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at Hillcrest Convalescent Center in Durham. Ms. Itkin was born August 24, 1930 in Chicago, Illinois. She was predeceased by her parents, Albert and Fannie Lapedus; husband, Aaron Itkin; and sisters, Zelda Craig, Myra Fishman, Sally Bemoras.

Janice was born and raised in Chicago, IL where she and her beloved husband raised their four children. Together they enjoyed their retirement years in Las Vegas. Janice had a special bond with her three sisters. Her proudest accomplishment was receiving the American Legion Award when graduating from Marshall High School. She was a proud patron and valued employee of Marshall Fields. She will be eternally grateful to her dear friend, Virginia. Ms. Itkin is survived by her sons, Stuart Itkin (Andrea), David Itkin (Nancy); daughters, Sheryl Zimmerman (Philip Sloane), Marci Cohen (Paul); grandchildren, Alan Itkin (Beth), Matthew Itkin, Ryan Zimmerman (Leah), Erica Hertzberg (Brian), Rachel Zimmerman, Daniel Itkin, Joel Itkin, Alexa Cohen, Ethan Cohen, Emily Cohen, Jason Itkin, Jessica Itkin; and great-grandchildren, Malcolm Aaron Hertzberg, Charlotte Hertzberg, Gabriella Zimmerman, Madeleine Hertzberg, William Zimmerman, Joseph Aaron Itkin. A graveside service will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Friday, November 30th at Markham Memorial Gardens with Rabbi Steve Kirschnher officiating. Memorial donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association: 225 N. Michigan Ave., Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601.

The family is being assisted by **Clements Funeral and Cremation Services, Inc.** in Durham. A full-length obituary can be found www.clementsfuneralservice.com.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Jelinek, Leonora "Lona" B.

Leonora "Lona" Berta Jelinek, age 81. She is survived by her husband, Peter Jelinek; sister, Maria; brothers, Bernhard, Franz, Konrad, and Hubertus; and many beloved nieces and nephews. Memorial gathering will be held Saturday, December 1, from 9 am until time of prayers 11 am at **Nelson Funeral Home**, 820 Talcott Rd., Park Ridge. Procession to Mary, Seat of Wisdom Catholic Church for 11:30 am Funeral Mass. In lieu of flowers, memorials to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Advocate Children's Hospital would be appreciated. Interment private. For more info www.nelsonfunerals.com or 847-823-5122.

NELSON
FUNERAL HOME

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Johnson, Elbe

Elbe Johnson, former Gold Coast Realtor & Northwestern Memorial Hospital Board Member. Beloved wife of the late Fleming. Loving mother of Fleming Johnson Jr. Grandmother of Robin Johnson. Great grandmother of Matthew. Family & friendly will meet Monday, December 3rd, 9:45 a.m., at Queen of Heaven Cemetery Office 1400 S. Wolf Rd. Hillside, IL 60162 for a 10:00 graveside service. Arrangements by Giancola Funeral & Cremation 800.975.4321



GIANCOLA
Funeral & Cremation, LLC

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Kalesperis, Faye

Faye Strifits Kalesperis, long-time resident of the Greek American Nursing Home. Born into Eternal Life on November 16, 2018. Beloved wife of the late Myron Steve Kalesperis. Loving mother of Katherine (Dion) Smith, Carolyn (Sam) Torolopoulos. Faye was also dearly loved by her grandchildren James, Alexis (Colton) Long, Judson, Austin, Sam and Eleni. Kyria Kalesperis is fondly remembered for her 22 years of teaching at Korais Elementary School. Family and friends will meet at St. Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church, 11025 S. Roberts Rd, Palos Hills on Saturday December 1, 2018 for visitation 9:00am-10:00am. Funeral Service 10:00am. Interment Evergreen Cemetery. In lieu of Flowers, Memorials to the Greek American Nursing Home 220 N. 1st Street, Wheeling, Illinois 60090 and the Korais School Needy Fund 11025 S. Roberts Resident are appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to Vergos and Associates under the direction of Olson Burke/Sullivan Funeral Home, 773-774-3333.

VERGOS & ASSOCIATES
FUNERAL SERVICES

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Kalisiak, Arline V

Arline V. Kalisiak of Westchester, Beloved wife of the late Casimir; loving mother of Roger (the late Cathy), Bonnie Kruse (Freddy Williams), Glenn (Ann) & the late Cheryl Kalisiak; dear grandmother of Matthew (Brooke) Kalisiak, Kelly (Jim) Nicolussi, Jeremy (Jennifer) Kruse & Daniel (Sarah) Kruse; great grandmother of Shawn, Ethan, Wesley, Samuel, Anthony & Valerie; Aunt of Charmaine Zarzycki & Michelle Kalisiak; active and devoted parishioner of Divine Infant Church for over 60 years. Visitation Sunday 2:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. at **Hursen Funeral Home & Crematory**, SW Corner of Roosevelt & Mannheim Rds, Hillside/Westchester. Prayers Monday 9:00 a.m. from the funeral home to Divine Infant Church. Mass 10:00 a.m. Interment St. Adalbert Cemetery. Funeral info: 800-562-0082 or www.hursen.com

Hursen
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Kaminski, Roman S.

Roman S. Kaminski, age 91, of Cary passed away on November 27, 2018 at Northwestern Medical Center in Huntley surrounded by his loving family. He was born on September 16, 1927 in Chicago, the son of Stanley and Susie (Mieskowski)Kaminski. On June 18, 1949, he married Jeanette Kraus at Holy Innocents Church in Chicago.

Roman is survived by his children Paul (Betty) Kaminski, Thomas (Rita) Kaminski and Kenneth Kaminski; his grandchildren Amy (Sean) O'Brien, Chris, Krystin, Sarah and Beth Kaminski; his great-grandchildren Ella and Miles O'Brien. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Jeanette in 2012; as well as his brother and sister-in-law Vincent and Mildred Kaminski.

Visitation will take place on Monday, December 3, 2018 from 4pm to 8pm at **Colonial Funeral Home** 591 Ridgeview Dr. Mchenry IL. Family and friends will meet at Church of Holy Apostles on December 4, 2018, beginning at 9:30 am for visitation until the time of funeral mass at 10:30 am. Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be directed to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or The Church of Holy Apostles, McHenry, Illinois For more info contact the funeral home at 815-385-0063 or visit our website at www.colonialmchenry.com

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Kraus, Roselyn

Roselyn Kraus, Age 101. Beloved wife of the late Nathan Kraus for 63 years. Loving mother of Beth (Dale) Marcus, Barbara (William) Stephens and the late Howard Kraus. Adoring grandmother of Stephanie Stephens (Evan Apotheker), Melanie Stephens, Jessica Marcus, and Sam Marcus. She will be missed by her devoted caregivers, Genny and Amy. Service Sunday 2PM at **Chicago Jewish Funerals**, 195 North Buffalo Grove Rd (one block North of Lake Cook Rd.), Buffalo Grove. Interment Shalom. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Food Allergy Research & Education (FARE), www.foodallergy.org, Temple Bat Yam, www.batyam.org, or Temple Jeremiah, www.templejeremiah.org. Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** - Buffalo Grove Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

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Mangan, Robert T.



Robert T. Mangan, age 90, of Olympia Fields passed away peacefully at home on his 90th birthday Monday, November 12, 2018 with his wife and children by his side. Bob was born on November 12, 1928 to the late John Joseph and Helen (Karney) Mangan. On December 29, 1960, Bob married his cherished wife of 58 years, Kathryn Niesen. Bob was a devoted and loving father of his eight children; Molly Tracy (Tim), Jennifer Pleiman (Scott), Magdalene, Susan, Kathryn, Robert (Dana), John (Mary) and Patricia. He celebrated each of his fifteen grandchildren; Maggie, Kathleen, Patrick, Nicholas, Lauren, Andrew, Olivia, Micheal, William, Matthew, Jane, Ava, Jack, Emily and Claire. Bob was also a loyal brother to Jim Mangan and his family. He was preceded in death by his parents; father and mother-in-law, Henry and Kathryn Niesen, and brother Jack Mangan. Following in the footsteps of his father, Bob was a partner/owner with his brother Jim in Mangan Builders, Inc., a construction and real estate management company based in Oak Lawn, Illinois. An Army veteran, he served in Korea from 1951-1953. A lover of golf, horse racing, friends and family, he lived life to the fullest. Bob led by example using his 3 main principals in life: honesty, responsibility and kindness. Known for his business savvy, wit and generosity, Bob also loved to entertain and was a great storyteller. His zest for life was infectious. He was appointed in 1979 to the Board of Directors of Chesterfield Federal Savings. Bob was a member of Infant Jesus of Prague church, Chicago District Golf Association, Society of Seniors and Olympia Fields Country Club where he was a two-time club champion. Bob participated in numerous local and national golf tournaments over the decades including the US Amateur, USGA Senior Open and USGA Senior Amateur, garnering numerous honors and awards. He was the CDGA Champions of Champions Tournament winner in 1978. He served as President of South District Golf League, a Director of Chicago District Golf Association and a United States Golf Association committeeman. Bob received the CDGA Past Presidents service Award, and, in 2007, he received the USGA Isaac B. Grainger award recognizing him for over 25 years of service to the game. Bob Mangan enriched the lives of all who knew him. A Memorial Mass will be held at 11:00 am on Saturday, December 1, 2018 at Infant Jesus of Prague Church, 1131 Douglas Avenue, Flossmoor. Online condolences can be expressed www.sheehyfh.com Interment private. Arrangements entrusted to **Robert J. Sheehy & Sons Funeral Homes**

Robert J.

Sheehy & Sons

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Massari, Diane

Diane Massari, nee Yaeger, formerly of Cicero, age 85. Beloved wife of the late Leonard "Lefty"; loving mother of Julie Gabreleski and the late Linda Sue Ligan; proud grandmother of Robert Gabreleski, Linda Sue (Jason) Breitenstein and Jennifer (Sam Williamson) Gabreleski; great-grandmother of Hunter, Joey and Jay; dear sister of Fred (late Joyce) Yaeger, Lynne (late Fred) Morissette, John (Vivian) Yaeger, Judy (Robert) Lawlor, Mary (George) Slagle and the late Al (Helen) Stanley; Auntie Dee to many generations. Retired from Kraft Foods. Family and friends will be received at the **Conboy-Westchester Funeral Home**, 10501 W. Cermak Rd., Westchester (2 blks West of Mannheim Rd.) on Sunday, December 2, 2018 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Interment private. For further info 708-F-U-N-E-R-A-L.

Conboy - Westchester

Funeral Home

www.ConboyWestchester.com

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McCully, Margaret R 'Dolly'

Margaret R. "Dolly" McCully, nee Serio; Age 90; Devoted wife of the late John; Loving mother of Richard (Jeanne), and Rita Lindelsee; Proud grandma of Michael (Laurie) McCully, Shannon (Matt) Dyehouse, Jonathan (Kara) Lindelsee, and Eric Lindelsee; Great-grandma of Eliana, Kaylee, and Jenna; Dear sister of the late Annie Hamm, late Josephine O'Brien, late Emily Winters, late Joe Serio, and Marie Grant; Fond aunt and great-aunt of many nieces and nephews; Visitation Sunday 3:00 to 9:00 p.m.; Funeral Monday, 9:00 a.m. from **Curley Funeral Home**, 6116 W. 111th Street, Chicago Ridge to St. Bede the Venerable Church, 4440 W. 83rd Street, Chicago; Mass 10:00 a.m.; Interment Evergreen Cemetery; For Funeral info: (708) 422-2700 or www.curleyfuneralhome.com

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Muehlbauer, Lucille Ann

Lucille Ann Muehlbauer, 91, of Brookdale in Des Plaines, formerly of Davis, IL. Beloved wife of the late Herman Joseph Muehlbauer for 68 years. Loving mother of Wayne (Judy), Virginia "Ginny" (Robert) Goodnough and Jeffrey (Cheryl). Proud grandma of Brenda (Jon Rude), David (Katie), Robert (Trisha) Goodnough, Melissa (Jeffrey) Meyer, Marissa, Alexis and Jennifer. Loving Oma of Harland, Elena, Ethan and Lucy. Lucille was very active in many activities including the Lake Summerset Squares. Herman and Lucille enjoyed taking cruises, traveling and hosting many parties at their home in Lake Summerset. Lucille was the best cook ever. Visitation Sunday, December 2, 3 to 8pm with a funeral service at 7PM at **Malec and Sons Funeral Home**, 6000 N. Milwaukee Avenue, Chicago, IL 60646. Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Alzheimer's Association, Illinois Chapter, 8430 W. Bryn Mawr, #800, Chicago, IL 60631. Funeral info: (773) 774-4100.

Dignity Malec Funeral Home

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O'Brien, Matthew T.

Devoted son of John and Marlene O'Brien. Dear brother of John William and Michael Patrick O'Brien. Beloved nephew and cousin of many. Matt will be missed by his many friends and co-workers at Mt. Sinai Hospital. Visitation Sunday, Dec 2, 2018, 3:00 pm to 9:00pm at **Sax-Tiedemann Funeral Home**, 9568 Belmont Ave., Franklin Park. Prayers Monday, Dec 3, 2018, 9:30am from the funeral home to St. Beatrice Church for mass at 10:00am. Entombment St. Joseph Cemetery Mausoleum. For information please call (847) 678-1950 or www.sax-tiedemann.com.

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Oswald, Mary Ann

Visitation for Mary Ann Oswald (nee Alois), 76, of Calumet City, formerly of Grand Crossing and Rosemoor will from 2:00 PM - 9:00 PM on Sunday, December 2, 2018 at Thornridge Funeral Home (Janusz Family Funeral Service), 15801 S. Cottage Grove Ave., four blocks North of 162nd St. (Rte. 6) Dolton/South Holland. Prayers will said at 9:15 am on Monday, December 3, 2018 at the funeral home, proceeding to Our Lady of Knock Catholic Church, 501 163rd Street, Calumet City for Mass at 10:00 AM Interment St. Mary's Cemetery, Evergreen Park. Mary Ann was born on February 16, 1942 to John and Josephine Alois and passed away on Sunday, November 25, 2018 at her home. Mary Ann is survived by her husband Robert, whom she married on October 17, 1964, her children Ann (Tim) Leyden and Robert (Brook) Oswald Jr., her pride and joy, her five grandchildren Michael and Kimberly Oswald, Rebecca, Brian and Allison Leyden, nephew John (Jolie) Alois and great nephew Evan and great niece Tara. Mary Ann is also survived by many cousins and friends. She was preceded in death by her parents and brother Ralph (Tara) Alois. Arrangements by Ahlgrim Family Funeral Home, Lake Zurich. For info. 708-841-2300 or thornridgefuneralhome.com.

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Petrie, Jeanette

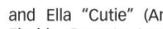
Jeanette A. Petrie (nee Scoville) of Northbrook, longtime resident of Deerfield, passed away on November 24, 2018 at the age of 87. Beloved wife of the late Alexander C. Petrie; beloved sister of the late Mary May Busse, the late James B. Scoville, the late Walter A. Scoville, Jr. and Delight Slavik Bowman. LastNameLoving mother of Laura Diamond and Leslie (Herb) Bogner. Proud grandmother of Alex Diamond, Lisa Diamond, Nicole (Michael) McMillan, Amanda Bogner, Karl Bogner and Kurtis Bogner. Proud great-grandmother of Lochlan and Everly McMillan. As a child, growing up in Riverside, IL, Jeanette developed a love for figure skating. After years of skating, she trained in Colorado Springs, CO and went on to join the Ice Follies. She was also a skilled equestrian. Jeanette loved to play the piano and sing. She graduated from Riverside Brookfield High School and received her BA from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. While at college she became a member of the Delta Gamma Sorority. After graduating from college, she worked for United Airlines as a flight attendant. In her travels she met the love of her life, Alex, while skiing at Stowe Mountain Resort in Vermont. They married on February 9, 1957 in Riverside, IL. She continued her career as a Physical Education teacher in Riverside, IL and then Northbrook, IL. After teaching, Jeanette became a licensed real estate agent and was a well-known and respected realtor for over 30 years; winning numerous awards. Music, skating, golfing and skiing were four of her favorite hobbies. Jeanette was very active in her church and joined many bible study groups. She was a kind and loving friend to many and will be missed. Visitation will be held on Sunday, December 2, 2018 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Kelley & Spalding Funeral Home, 1787 Deerfield Road, Highland Park. Funeral Service will be held on Monday, December 3, 2018 10:00 at the North Suburban Church, 200 Lake Cook Road, Deerfield. Interment at Willow Lawn Memorial Park in Vernon Hills. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research or Cancer Research Institute New York, NY. For info or directions please contact Kelley & Spalding Funeral Home at 847-831-4260 or www.kelleyspaldingfuneralhome.com

KELLEY & SPALDING
FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY

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Plucinski, Michael W. 'Mike'

Michael W. "Mike" Plucinski 48, of DeKalb died Monday, November 26, 2018 in DeKalb. He was born December 11, 1969 in Chicago, IL and was the son of Louis G. and Patricia (Casper) Plucinski. Survivors include; wife and high school sweetheart; Stephanie Hankses of DeKalb, daughters; Maia "Monkey" (Mario Fontana) Plucinski of Florida



and Ella "Cutie" (Andres Abreu Jr.) Plucinski of Florida. Parents; Louis G. and Louise Plucinski of Dixon, IL. Sister; Trisha (Eric) Osborne of Ottawa, IL, nieces; Stephanie (Ben) Logan, Alyssa (Dan Nortonsen) Watson, great nieces; Layken and Maddox Nortonsen, Avery and Harlyn Logan, and nephew; James Aldridge. Mother-in-law; Marjory Hankses of DeKalb, sister-in-laws; Michelle Hankses, Tami (Steve) Macko, and Jennifer (J.P.) Aldridge. Special family friends; Kara and Keagan Griffin, The Artiskas Family, and numerous other friends, way too many to list. He was preceded in death by his mother Patricia and father-in-law George B. Hankses. Funeral service will be held on Saturday, December 1, 2018 at 10:30am at Finch Funeral Home in DeKalb with Father Matthew McMorrow officiating. Burial will be immediately following the service at Fairview Park Cemetery in DeKalb. Visitation will be held on Friday, November 30, 2018 at 4:00pm-8:00pm at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made for Maia and Ella's college assistance. Arrangements were entrusted to Finch Funeral Home 310 Oak St. DeKalb, IL 60115 815-758-3841.

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Raiman, Joseph G.

Joseph G. Raiman, 87, of Crystal Lake, a proud U.S. Army veteran, was born on August 2, 1931 and passed away on November 27, 2018. He is survived by his children, Bill Raiman, Steve (Linda) Raiman, Diane (Dan) Winiecki, Karen Jackson, Julie (Brian) Arens; uncle of Scott Eich; grandpa and great-grandpa of many. He was preceded in death by his wife, Kathleen



J. Raiman and his parents. Visitation for Joseph will be held on Sunday, December 2 from 1-4pm at **Davenport Family Funeral Home**, 419 E. Terra Cotta Ave. (Rte. 176), Crystal Lake, IL. On Monday, December 3, visitation will continue at the funeral home at 9:30am with prayers said at 10:30am, proceeding to St. Thomas the Apostle Catholic Church, 451 W. Terra Cotta Ave., Crystal Lake, for Mass at 11:00am. Burial will be held at Crystal Lake Memorial Park, Crystal Lake. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Joseph's name to the Wounded Warrior Project, www.woundedwarrior-project.org/donate. To leave online condolences for the family, please visit, www.davenportfamily.com, or call, 815-459-3411.

Davenport
FAMILY FUNERAL HOME

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Chicago Tribune Death Notices

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Scrivner, Donald J. "Don"

Donald J. "Don" Scrivner, 65. Passed away on November 28, 2018. Beloved husband of Julie A nee Giovannetti; loving father of Jennifer (Robert) Searcy, Donald and Jaclyn Scrivner (fiancé Michael Rausch); grandfather of Joseph and Timothy Khan; son of the late John and Late Vessie; dearest brother of Jim (Pam), Rosey (Barry) Dunagan, Alice (Bobby) Shivers, the late John Wayne (Sharon), the late Vivian (Barry) Potts, the late Toney (Honey), the late Benny (late Danita); and proud uncle of many nieces and nephews. Don was a loyal employee of Dominick's for over 30 years. He enjoyed the simple things in life like going out for breakfast, playing the lottery, throwing darts, and spending time with his friends and family. People who knew him best, and any luck passerby, knew he had a passion for decorating his house for Halloween and Christmas. Most of all, he loved spending time in Las Vegas and watching re-runs of his favorite shows. He will be sorely missed by all. Visitation Friday 3-9:00 p.m. with a prayer service starting at 7pm at Colonial-Wojciechowski Funeral Home, 8025 W. Golf Rd., Niles. Morning prayers Saturday at funeral home 10:30a.m., then to All Saints Mausoleum. In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Heart Association or the American Cancer Society in his honor are greatly appreciated. Information 847.581.0536 or www.colonialfuneral.com

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Sugarman, Penny

Penny Sugarman, age 80, passed away after a long struggle with Corticobasal Degeneration. Beloved wife of Jerry Sugarman, very happily married for nearly 59 years; loving mother of Lisa (Benjamin) Waisbren and Terri (Stanton) Lewin; cherished Nana of Jenna, Henry, Alexa and Matthew. Penny was passionate about her family and early childhood education. At the age of 58 she earned her Masters degree becoming an Assistant Director of Early Childhood Education for North Suburban JCC's. She will be missed by her many friends and co-workers. Services TODAY, Friday November 30, 10:00 AM at Shalom Memorial Funeral Home, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. Interment at Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to CurePSP or Z Frank Apachi JCC Scholarship Fund. For information and condolences: 847-255-3520 or www.shalom2.com



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Tuke, Morgan Eileen

Morgan Tuke passed away at her home late Thanksgiving evening with her son holding her hand.

Born Susan Eileen Tuke to Robert and Lois "Babs" Tuke of Chicago IL, preceded by her parents and sisters Tammy and Connie, and survived by half siblings Bob, Aimee and Kelly and Kristine, her son Ben (Megan) and adored grandsons Addison and Arias.

Morgan lived her life her way, always unapologetic and genuine. Morgan's most cherished memories were of her grandma Berg and being spoiled with attention and sweets. Her grandchildren learned a lot about love from Morgan and will carry her memory with the same adore.

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Watts Sr., Daniel Edward 'Deak'

In Loving Memory of Daniel Watts. Born into Life: Jan. 25, 1966 Born into Eternity Nov. 19, 2018. Preceded in death by his parents James Edward Watts and Carol Ann Evrard, Sister: Penni Watts, Sister-in law: Candiece Robinson and Nephew: Jacob Watts. He is survived by his wife Vicky Watts, Daughter: Deanna Renee Watts, Son: Daniel (Lea) Watts Grandsons: Cameron Daniel Watts and Anthony West. Sister: Terri (Milan) Jovicevic, Brother: James (Peggy) Watts. Niece: Doris Watts and family and Nephew: Zachary Watts. Memorial will be Dec. 1st 1 -4 p.m. at the Alta Grill 4740 Vernon Ave. McCook, IL 60525. Burial will be held privately at Queen of Heaven Catholic Cemetery 1400 S. Wolf Rd. Hillside, IL 60162.

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White, Juanita J.

Juanita Jane-Ellen White (Garth), 86, of Chicago, Illinois, passed away on the 21st Day of November, 2018. Beloved daughter of the late Esther E. (Houston) and Theodis E. Garth Sr.; Cherished wife of the late Johnny F. White, Sr.; Loving Mother of Johnny F. White, Jr. (deceased), Evelyn II, Ronald E. White and Debra Dilworth; Funeral services December 1, 2018 at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 1301 North Mohawk, Chgo.

Interment with spouse December 3, 2018 at Lincoln National Cemetery 11:30am.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to www.donate.jw.org and/or epilepsychicago.org

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Wieshuber, Franz X.

Franz X. Wieshuber. Age 89. Passed away on November 28, 2018. US Army Korean War Veteran. Beloved husband of Margaret "Peggy", nee Rehm. Loving father of Dr. Margaret (Tom) Mc Nelis and Franz Wieshuber IV. Devoted grandfather of 5. Dear brother of Josephine Engelman and the late Rosa Bacher, Symund and Anton Wieshuber. Franz lived and worked in Park Ridge, where he was a local jeweler and goldsmith for many years, along with his brother, Anton Wieshuber. Visitation Sunday, December 2, 4-8 p.m. at Ryan-Parke Funeral Home, 120 S. Northwest Hwy., Park Ridge. Funeral Monday, 11 a.m. from funeral home to Mary, Seat of Wisdom Church. Mass 11:30 a.m. Interment All Saints Cemetery. Memorials to Mercy Home for Boys and Girls, www.mercyhome.org. Funeral information, www.ryan-parke.com.

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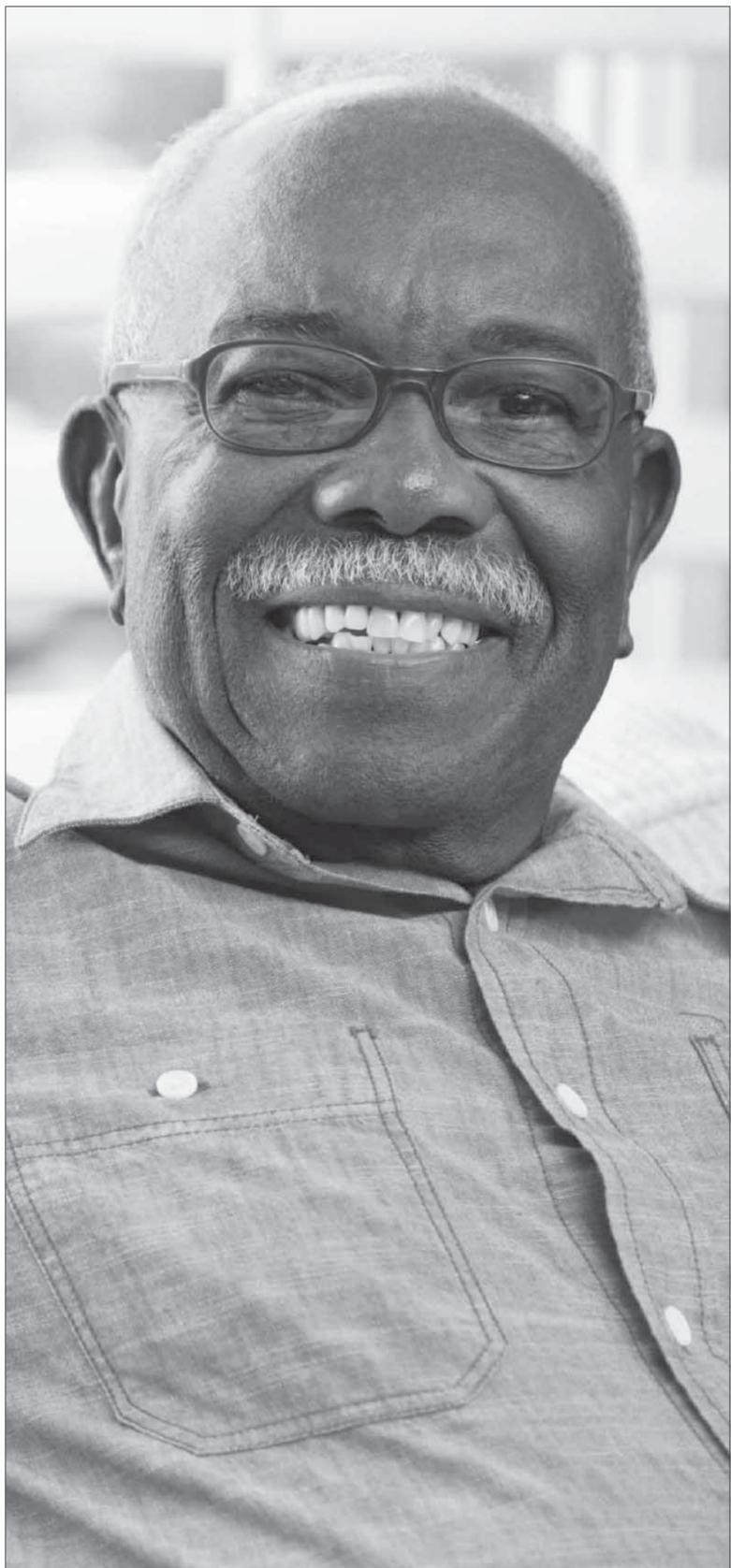
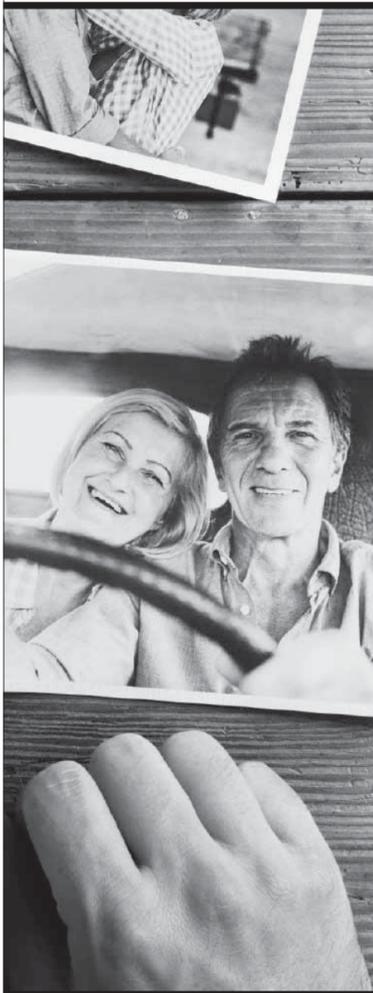
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BIG TEN CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Ohio State (11-1) vs. Northwestern (8-4) | 7 p.m. Saturday in Indianapolis, FOX-32

Showdown lowdown



TEDDY GREENSTEIN
On the Big Ten

Can NU stun Ohio State? We examine 5 key questions — and make our pick

Pat Fitzgerald took the highly unusual (for him) step of closing practice Tuesday to anyone not employed by Northwestern. Sorry, boosters and media. This week is different.

So what does the Big Ten coach of the year have cooking?

“The triple option,” one assistant coach

joked as he jogged off the field.

Northwestern faces Ohio State on Saturday night with a Big Ten title and Rose Bowl berth on the line. Do the Wildcats have a chance against the Buckeyes, a 14-point favorite that has lost to Northwestern only once since 1972? We'll get to that in this list of five key questions.

The Tribune enlisted Fox Sports analysts James Laurinaitis, Robert Smith and Dave Wannstedt for help. Wannstedt coached the Bears (who could forget?), and Smith and Laurinaitis starred for the Scarlet and Gray.

And now to the questions:

Turn to **Greenstein, Page 5**



Northwestern's
Clayton Thorson

Ohio
State's
Dwayne
Haskins

AP PHOTOS

BEARS

Jackson gets top honor for many happy returns

Safety awarded NFC Defensive Player of the Month for Pick-6 spree

BY COLLEEN KANE
Chicago Tribune

Akiem Hicks loved everything about the play except the finishing touch.

After Eddie Jackson stepped in front of Lions quarterback Matthew Stafford's pass to tight end Michael Roberts and returned the interception 41 yards for a touchdown on Thanksgiving Day, the Bears safety directed his teammates in the end zone to do a few warm-up drills, including down-ups.

Hicks prefers his celebrations to be less labor intensive, and he relayed that information to Jackson for next time. At the pace Jackson is going — five defensive

touchdowns in two seasons, three this year, two in back-to-back games — next time might not be too far off.

“I've never seen anything like him,” Hicks said. “He can cover the entire field it seems like. He knows how to get the ball in his hands, and when he gets that ball in his hands he can make his way to the end zone. It's awesome.”

Jackson, who was named the NFC Defensive Player of the Month on Thursday, has been scoring at a pace in his first two seasons that only one other defensive player in NFL history has matched. Erik McMillan is the only other player to score five defensive touchdowns in his first two seasons, while with the Jets in 1988-89.

Twenty-seven games into his career, he is four touchdowns off

Turn to **Bears, Page 8**



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Safety Eddie Jackson runs back an interception for a touchdown against the Vikings on Nov. 18.

OPENING SHOT

Steve Rosenbloom

I don't know if backup quarterback Chase Daniel expected to be starting two games in a row for the first time in his pro career, and I'm wondering if he'll give the Bears a bench-me-or-trade-me demand. More Rosenbloom, **Page 2**

MORE COVERAGE

Mitch Trubisky still not cleared to throw — and timetable for return is unclear. **Back Page**

GAME 12 | Bears at Giants

Noon Sunday, FOX-32

CUBS

No spot for La Stella in remodeled infield

Versatility needed, so pinch hitter dealt to Angels

BY MARK GONZALES
Chicago Tribune

With shortstop Addison Russell ineligible to return until May 3, there's a premium on versatility for the Cubs.

That apparently played a strong role in their decision Thursday to trade pinch-hitting specialist Tommy La Stella to the Angels for a player to be named or a cash consideration. The deal occurred one day after the Cubs acquired versatile infielder Ronald Torreyes from the Yankees.

The trade of La Stella, 29, who set a franchise record with 24 pinch hits, reduces the number of arbitration-eligible Cubs to eight who would become free agents if



La Stella

they aren't tendered a contract by 7 p.m. Friday.

The trade of La Stella, who was projected to earn \$1.2 million — \$300,000 more than Torreyes, according to MLBtraderumors.com — opens a spot on their 40-man roster that could be used for another waiver claim or a free agent signing.

The Cubs have an urgent need for middle infield versatility because Russell won't be available to start the season because he has 29 games remaining on his 40-game suspension for violating Major League Baseball's domestic-violence policy.

Turn to **Cubs, Page 5**

TOP OF THE SECOND



STEVE ROSENBLIOM

Foster signing just plain ugly

If the Redskins' ugly, ongoing episode with accused domestic abuser Reuben Foster looks familiar to Bears fans, well, it should because it recalls their ugly decision to sign accused domestic abuser Ray McDonald three years ago.

If you missed the latest mess, the 49ers waived Foster last weekend after he was accused of domestic violence in the team hotel in Tampa, Fla., and the Redskins claimed him at the start of the week.

The Redskins said they asked old teammates about Foster, although many former Alabama teammates have denied they were asked anything, so, if it's possible, the Redskins look even worse.

They also look and sound as contemptible as the Bears did in the McDonald affair in 2015. Defensive coordinator Vic Fangio vouched for the accused domestic abuser and defensive lineman he coached in San Francisco while Chairman George McCaskey did some investigating of his own, but he talked only to McDonald's parents and not the accuser, and how did that background check work out for everyone?

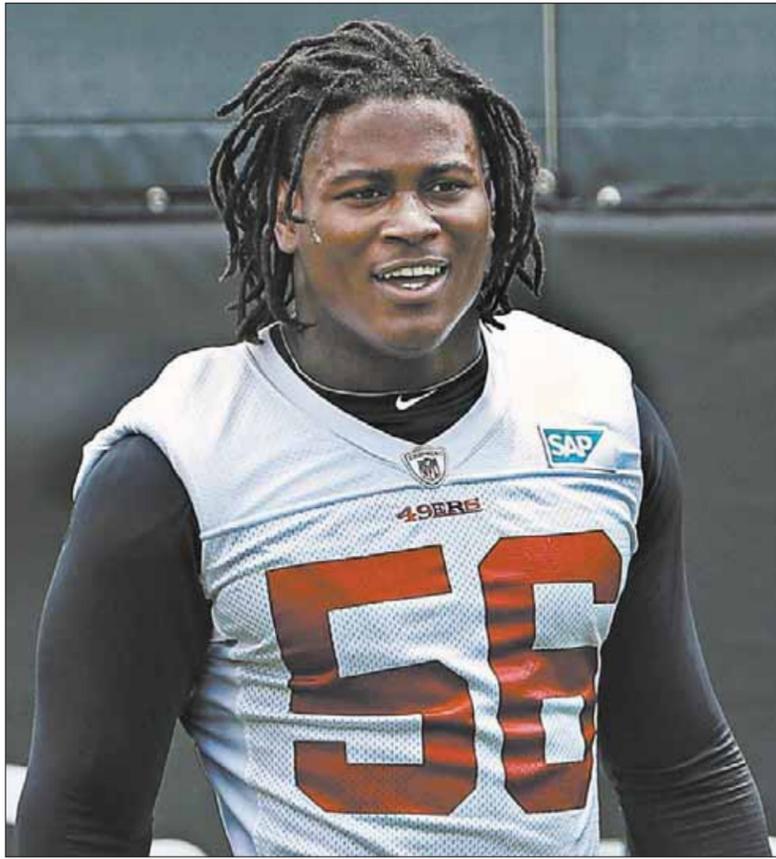
Only two months after the signing, McDonald was accused of domestic violence yet again, along with child endangerment, and was cut. Yeah, that's when the Bears found their moral compass — when police brought it to their front door.

You want your heritage franchise to look like a clown college with quarterbacks, kickers and executives, fine. But don't wade into the shallow end of a deep societal issue in such a heartless, unfeeling, inane manner.

It doesn't seem that any domestic abuser lays hands on a woman just once. Recidivism runs high with such sick people. Like McDonald, Foster now has been accused multiple times.

The Redskins look awful now the way the Bears looked awful then. The Redskins come off stupid and deaf now the way the Bears came off stupid and deaf then. It was embarrassing that McCaskey, a former prosecutor, would admit to such sloppy work. I still hold it against Fangio. And the Bears can't claim to value character.

The NFL looks shameful in all of this, which is not an unfamiliar spot for the league. Colin Kaepernick took a knee silently in protest of racial inequality in the United States and hasn't been able to get a job for two years. But an accused domestic



JEFF CHIU/AP

The Redskins signed linebacker Reuben Foster after he was accused of domestic violence.

abuser has a new team in two days. That's some proud statement, NFL.

Teams can't help themselves. Their human values seem to go only as far as the scoreboard. They cannot set an example the way they should because they have little idea what the example should be. Their actions tell you that.

Their actions and their words. GM John Lynch said the 49ers cut Foster because he let down the team, not that he was accused of laying hands on a woman. The Redskins issued a statement about claiming Foster but did not include any indication they understood the magnitude of domestic

violence in the United States.

But then, how could the Redskins have included such knowledge in a statement? If they knew the depth of such depravity, they never would have claimed Foster.

So the NFL has to save teams from their own despicable selves by refusing to allow them to hold on to anyone accused of domestic violence. When the case is cleared, then teams can offer contracts. It's pretty simple: Teams cannot hold a player's rights if the police or the courts do.

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ASK THE REPORTER BRAD BIGGS

Defenders on 'O' can create chaos

Does Matt Nagy design plays for all of the defensive players? Three weeks ago we saw Bryce Callahan on offense.

Last week, I think we saw Akiem Hicks around the goal line for a play. Who's next? — @thedbw8991

I doubt there is action drawn up for all of the defensive players to have a role on offense, but so far we have seen defensive backs Eddie Jackson and Bryce Callahan and defensive lineman Akiem Hicks and Roy Robertson-Harris on the field for offensive snaps. None of them has touched the ball on offense yet and that's what I am wondering — who gets a shot to get in the end zone? "I don't know," Jackson said. "We'll have to see." The Lions called a timeout on one snap when the Bears had defensive players on the field and it can create some confusion. The Bears have also had formations with two quarterbacks on the field, giving the opponent even more to think about.

The Bears' interceptions have skyrocketed this season. They've only had one game without one. If you assigned responsibility for this improvement, how much credit would go to the scheme, the pressure up front and the improvement of the individual players, respectively?

— @chriscremer5

The Bears have been opportunistic on defense and that has been a key to their success. Their plus-14 turnover differential is tied for best in the league and few statistics are more central to success than the turnover margin on a week-by-week basis. After only eight interceptions in 2015 — an all-time franchise low — eight in 2016 and eight again in 2017, the Bears are on pace to surpass that three-year total this season as they lead the NFL with 20. I would attribute the spike to a much-improved pass rush. The more disruptive the front seven, the more chances the defensive backs will have. The scheme hasn't changed. Yes, the defensive backs are catching the ball more when they get chances to this season, but the pass rush has been the biggest difference.

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BULLS

Called out: Carter plays the foul ball

Rookie 'definitely frustrated' because he's hearing a few too many whistles while he works

By K.C. JOHNSON | Chicago Tribune

Earlier this week, Fred Hoiberg sat down with Wendell Carter Jr. for a film session to review all his fouls from the previous five games.

Hope they brought popcorn. It could have been a double feature.

That's a cheap attempt at adding humor to a serious situation for the Bulls — Carter's inability to stay on the court for extended periods lately. In his last five games, Carter has fouled out twice and fell one short the other three times.

"I'm definitely frustrated," Carter said.

The No. 7 pick drew early-season raves for his defensive instincts and awareness and still ranks 14th in the league — and second among rookies — in blocks at 1.59 per game. But the constant foul trouble has lessened Carter's impact lately and, even worse, his aggressiveness.

"I'll find a way to adjust — if it's being a little less aggressive on the defensive end or picking and choosing my spots better," Carter said. "It's definitely hard. I haven't had to deal with it much in my career. Foul trouble never has been real dominant before. But we're all faced with challenges."

Carter watches and talks with veteran Robin Lopez. Carter studies films with coaches. He asks for explanations from officials on calls with which he doesn't agree.

None of it has worked lately.

"We're trying to eliminate the ticky-tack, silly ones," Hoiberg said. "There are some that we like. When he wraps up a guy, it's because he has to take one."

"Sometimes we all forget he's a 19-year-old kid and this is his first year out of college. He's going to keep growing and getting better."

Carter averages 4.9 fouls per 36 minutes, the third highest in the league for players with at least 500 minutes behind fellow rookie Jaren Jackson Jr.'s 5.7 and Patrick Beverley's 5.4. Jackson, with 2.1 blocks per game, is the only rookie ahead of Carter in that statistic.

Carter's defensive impact goes beyond numbers, though. His ability to challenge shots vertically and switch onto smaller players and at least slow their dribble in a league predicated on screen-and-roll sets is essential.

That's why Hoiberg has spent so much time talking with Carter about not letting the foul trouble affect him mentally.

"You have to play through frustrations in this league," Hoiberg said. "For the most part, he has done that. He's a smart kid with a high IQ. We feel he has had a good early part of his career. He'll get the foul trouble cleaned up."

Carter has averaged 9.2 points and 6 rebounds in 23.2 minutes over his last five foul-plagued games. His season averages are 10.8 points and 7.1 rebounds in 25.2 minutes.

"Offensively, I'm not trying to force anything," Carter said. "I let the game come to me. I have great teammates who are really unselfish."

Carter has flashed veteran savvy when asked about some calls that have appeared to go against him. He knows it's part of a rookie's reality.

"Even if I'm upset, I come back to reality when I come to the bench," he said. "Referees are also humans. I respect their calls. I know they have a really hard job."

So does Carter, who will face Pistons big man Andre Drummond for the second time this season Friday in Detroit. Coincidentally, Drummond fouled out in the first meeting, a two-point Pistons victory that ruined the Bulls' home opener Oct. 20.

"I feel like this stretch of foul trouble is just part of a growing process," Carter said. "I have the whole season to figure it out."

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UP NEXT | Bulls at Pistons
6 p.m. Friday, WGN-9



Wendell Carter Jr. fouls Bucks guard Eric Bledsoe in the first half of the Bulls' 116-113 loss Wednesday night in Milwaukee. Carter fouled out for the second time in five games.

JETS 6, BLACKHAWKS 5



JOHN WOODS/AP PHOTOS

Blake Wheeler of the Jets tries to control the puck as he is checked by the Blackhawks' Brendan Perlini in the second period Thursday.

'It's about results'

So says Keith, but Colliton losing patience after another defensive stink bomb

By JIMMY GREENFIELD
Chicago Tribune

WINNIPEG, Manitoba — Blackhawks coach Jeremy Colliton has preached patience since he took over the team a little less than a month ago.

Those days appear to be coming to an end after Thursday's 6-5 loss to the Jets at Bell MTS Place in Winnipeg.

"I think we've had enough games, we've had enough practices," Colliton said. "It's time."

Does he think the message he sent the players after the loss to the Jets sunk in?

"I don't know," he said. "We'll see next game."

The Hawks had three bad starts in one game as they allowed goals in the opening minutes of each period against the Jets, who got a hat trick from Nikolaj Ehlers and a pair of goals from Patrik Laine.

"Can't explain it all," Duncan Keith said. "Teams come out ready. We have to just be better."

The Hawks fell behind twice in the first 20 minutes but managed to tie it each time.

Then the second period began. Ehlers and Jacob Trouba scored 45 seconds apart during the first two minutes of the second to put the Jets in front for good.

Dominik Kahun scored with 6:10 left in the third period and Artem Anisimov added one at the 2:52 mark to bring the Hawks within a goal but they couldn't complete their comeback and dropped to 9-12-5.

"We're trying to get there and it hasn't been good enough and it's not OK," Marcus Kruger said. "We're all sick of losing here."

The Hawks have allowed 26 goals over



Patrik Laine of the Jets scores his 100th career goal as Corey Crawford watches the puck sail into the net Thursday night. Laine added an unassisted goal in the third period.

their last five games, including 14 in their last two.

"This is the NHL," Keith said. "It's not really a developmental league. It's about winning. It's about results. That makes it more fun. Winning. Winning games."

While the Jets were rebuilding their lead in the second and skating with the same ferocity they had in the early part of the first, the Hawks didn't have any shots over the first nine minutes. This included two minutes when their power play couldn't muster one shot on goal.

Jan Rutta pulled the Hawks within 4-3 at the 10:29 mark of the second and they entered the third within striking distance. But Keith was called for slashing 21 seconds into the period and Laine scored his second goal of the game — and 21st of the season — less than a minute later.

It was Laine's 10th power-play goal, which is one more than the Hawks as a

whole have scored this season.

The Hawks have talked at length about playing a full game and not disappearing for long stretches but it happened again in the second period. Ehlers got the puck near the top of the slot and while four Hawks backed away from him and left him alone he ripped a slap shot over Corey Crawford's right shoulder.

Just 45 seconds later, Trouba tapped in his own rebound while Keith, Brent Seabrook and Dylan Strome stood around him with their sticks nowhere near the ice.

The Hawks, who were 6-6-3 when Joel Quenneville was fired, are 3-6-2 under Colliton.

"I'm not new anymore," Colliton said. "I've been around here long enough. It's time to react."

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BLACKHAWKS NOTES

Jets coach: Quenneville 'ran the best bench'

By JIMMY GREENFIELD
Chicago Tribune

WINNIPEG, Manitoba — Jets coach Paul Maurice was set to square off against new Blackhawks coach Jeremy Colliton for the first time Thursday night but didn't see any reason to prepare for the game differently.

"The guy in the suit is usually the least important guy in and around the bench," Maurice said.

Maurice then somewhat contradicted himself when reminiscing about Joel Quenneville, Colliton's predecessor whom the Hawks fired Nov. 6 — 15 games into his 11th season with the team.

"Joel, for me, ran the best bench in the league in terms of how fast he was to make

adjustments," Maurice said. "His ability to handle a player like Patrick Kane, who is unique in terms of shift length early in his career to where it gets to recognizing when the game was kind of at the tipping point."

"He'd get those guys out at the right time, I thought, in two of the Cups in the way that he ran the bench. This is just coaches kind of watching other coaches, (he) had a really big impact."

"So what I said about the guy in the suit may not have applied to him."

Line dancing: Colliton has tried many line combinations in his first month as coach. Asked if he could find lines he likes but keep tinkering with new combos, Colliton said that was possible.

"Maybe," he said. "Right now I'd say when you build the lineup, you're looking for something you can lean on no matter what."

"We're looking for a combo that we can set in stone, and then you build the rest of the lineup around that. And (we are) probably not there yet."

One-timers: Despite participating in the morning skate, Henri Jokiharju (illness) missed his second straight game. ... Jets defenseman and former Blackhawk Dustin Byfuglien will not play after being involved in a big collision with the Penguins' Jamie Oleksiak on Tuesday. Byfuglien is being monitored for a concussion after developing symptoms Wednesday.

MEDIA

Meyers, Moose can bone up on Packers' roster

Thank you, Fox Sports, for assigning Burkhardt, Davis to the Bears-Giants



PHIL ROSENTHAL
On media

Dear Fox Sports: On behalf of the Chicago television market, thank you for assigning Kevin Burkhardt and Charles Davis with Pam Oliver to the Bears-Giants game this weekend.

Two questions have gnawed at Bears fans this week.

Still unanswered is whether Mitch Trubisky will be healthy enough to play. But there's a collective sigh of relief to news the broadcast team of Chris Myers and Daryl "Moose" Johnston have been assigned to call the Packers-Cardinals game.

Myers and Johnston have worked Fox's last two Bears telecasts.

It's likely the third time would have enabled them to work out the finer points of the Bears lineup. You know, as in Kyle Fuller, not Kurt; Javon Wims, not Williams; Bryce Callahan, not Brian; and Cody Parkey, not Parker.

But Bears fans here have been spoiled of late. Since Myers and Johnston worked the Lions-Bears game Nov. 11, NBC's Al Michaels and Cris Collinsworth handled the Vikings-Bears game and CBS' Jim Nantz and Tony Romo did Bears-Lions II on Thanksgiving.

Next week, it's Michaels and Collinsworth again for Rams-Bears at Soldier Field.

It doesn't get much better than that. But Burkhardt and Davis — who nearly wound up working with reality TV star Jay Cutler last year until Cutler backed out of his commentary deal to play for the Dolphins — do an excellent job.

In fact, if Burkhardt and Davis were put on the three remaining unassigned Bears games against the 49ers, Packers and Vikings, assuming none gets flexed, that would be just fine.

Johnston, with his auctioneer-paced commentary, and Myers may not have seen enough this season of Matt Nagy, not Mike, and his Bears. But Chicago has seen enough of them.

Ratings game: While Cubs flagship WSCR-AM 670 took a hit in the most recent ratings period because of the team's early exit from postseason, WMVP-AM 1000 has taken a year-to-year punch in the gut.

That's one of the takeaways from Nielsen's just-released numbers for the stations' targeted audience of men age 25 to 54 in the period from Oct. 11 to Nov. 7, compared with the same ratings period a year ago.

The Score and ESPN 1000 each suffered November-to-November declines in the key demographic, but WSCR came out ahead between the sports-talk stations because its drop wasn't as steep.

A year ago, in the demo from 6 a.m. to midnight, WSCR was No. 2 in the Chicago radio market at 5.4 and WMVP tied for fourth at 4.9. This time The Score was tied for sixth with a 4.2. ESPN 1000 was 16th with a 2.7.

One factor might have been WSCR's partnership with the resurgent Bears connected to the team's deal with parent Entercom for sister stations WBBM-AM 780 and WCFS-FM 105.9 to carry games.

ESPN's WMVP, however, hardly skimps on Bears talk, and its declines from a year ago were far more dramatic than The Score's.

This stuff can get pretty wonky — sorry — but the demographic figures matter to these stations because their advertising is bought and sold largely on the basis of their reach within that specific audience segment rather than total listenership estimates.

Admittedly, the year-to-year comparison is imperfect because — among other factors — the Cubs were still alive in National League playoffs in the first week of the 2017 November ratings book, which covered Oct. 12 to Nov. 8. They were done this postseason after losing to the Rockies on Oct. 2.

Still, where a year ago some daytime weekday ESPN 1000 shows were beating The Score, the overhauled lineup at WSCR consistently fared better than WMVP among men age 25-54 this time around.

Mike Mulligan's show with Tribune contributing columnist David Haugh fell to third in the key demographic from second last year, when Mulligan was partnered with Brian Hanley. The show's share of the advertiser-coveted listeners slipped 6.7 percent from 7.5 to 7.0.

But Mike Golic's national program, with Trey Wingo replacing Mike Greenberg, slipped from seventh to 10th, down 28.9 percent from 4.5 to 3.2 in the demo.

Where David Kaplan's 9 a.m.-noon ESPN 1000 show was beating The Score in its time slot in the demographic a year ago, its November numbers this time were off by roughly two-thirds.

WMVP's Carmen DeFalco and John Jurkovic, who in last November's book edged WSCR, saw their noon-2 p.m. numbers in the money demo almost cut in half.

Tom Waddle and Marc Silverman last November enjoyed a sizable 7.2-4.8 lead over The Score in its 2-6 p.m. time slot within the male 25-54 demo. The most recent November book had "Waddle & Silvy" trailing 4.5-4.3, its share slipping 43.4 percent from 7.6 to 4.3.

The declines for WSCR in its 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 1-6 p.m. slots were relatively muted.

The Score midday team of Dan Bernstein and Connor McKnight overtook ESPN 1000 by declining only 17.4 percent in the demographic — from 4.6 to 3.8 — from 2017's pairing of Matt Spiegel and Danny Parkins.

Similarly, Parkins and Dan McNeil — by dropping just 8.9 percent (from 4.9 to 4.5) compared with last year's 1-6 p.m. tandem of Bernstein and Jason Goff — surpassed WMVP in the afternoons.

A more complete picture of the post-Cubs impact of WSCR's changes and whatever bounce the Bears produce should come into focus when quarterly ratings come out after Christmas.

Cold comfort: Say what you will about ESPN's obsession with the Red Sox and Yankees again — at least they had good seasons.

NBC Sports Group might want to reconsider its focus on the Blackhawks, with 16 of their league-high 19 national TV appearances on NBC and cable's NBCSN still ahead in what threatens to be a long season.

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL



PAUL SANCYA/AP

It's early, but Michigan, with Isaiah Livers (4) and Charles Matthews (1), has looked like one of the best teams in the country.

BIG TEN POWER RANKINGS

Michigan on fire

Before conference play begins, here's our opening lineup

By SHANNON RYAN | Chicago Tribune

The Big Ten race won't be boring this season. Seven conference teams are ranked in this week's Associated Press Top 25, and seven won their games in the Big Ten/ACC Challenge.

While Michigan appears to be the class of the conference, don't sleep on other programs having resurgent seasons.

Every team will play a pair of Big Ten games over the next seven days before the conference schedule resumes in January. Here's our first set of power rankings entering the start of Big Ten play Friday:

1. Michigan (7-0): Calling all Wolverines football fans: It's time to turn your attention to basketball. Michigan is off to one of the most impressive starts in the nation with double-digit victories against North Carolina and Villanova. Is it the Final Four already? The Wolverines are cleaning up by a 21.7-point average margin after Wednesday's 84-67 demolition of the Tar Heels, and just like their counterparts on the gridiron, they have the nation's top-ranked defense, allowing 51 points per game.

2. Iowa (6-0): Are the Hawkeyes back? Coming off a 14-19 season, Iowa has made a strong impression in the nonconference schedule, including victories in New York against then-No. 13 Oregon and Connecticut (by 19 points) en route to the 2K Classic championship. Tyler Cook, Luka Garza, Joe Wieskamp, Jordan Bohannon and Connor McCaffery each averages at least nine points, and all except Bohannon are shooting at least 50 percent. The balanced attack is producing 85.3 points per game. The conference schedule begins with potential statement games against Wisconsin and at Michigan State.

3. Wisconsin (6-1): Ethan Happ is living up to expectations, recording a double-double in all seven games and averaging 18 points and 12.3 rebounds. His supporting cast isn't letting anyone down, either, with D'Mitrick Trice averaging 17 points and Brad Davison

9.4. The Badgers have played a strong schedule with wins over Xavier, Stanford, Oklahoma and N.C. State and a seven-point loss to No. 4 Virginia.

4. Michigan State (5-2): The loaded Spartans have showed some early flaws. They committed 17 turnovers Tuesday in an 82-78 overtime road loss to Louisville. Joshua Langford (18 ppg) and Cassius Winston (17.3) lead an offense averaging 88.1 points, 15th nationally, and as usual the Spartans are a strong rebounding squad with a 13.7 average margin that ranks seventh in the country.

5. Ohio State (6-1): The Buckeyes defense has been stalwart, not allowing more than 62 points until Tuesday's 72-62 loss to Syracuse. Their best victory was a 64-56 decision at Cincinnati to open the season.

6. Purdue (5-2): Another team loaded with talent, the Boilermakers have yet to prove themselves. They lost by six to Virginia Tech and by one Wednesday at Florida State after leading by eight with 3:43 left. The schedule doesn't get any easier in December with Michigan and Texas on the road, Maryland at home and Notre Dame in Indianapolis.

7. Maryland (6-1): The Terrapins showed resiliency in chipping away at a 17-point deficit to No. 4 Virginia in an 82-71 loss Wednesday. It was no small feat to be the first team to crack 60 points against the vaunted Cavaliers defense. Five players are averaging double-digit scoring, led by junior point guard Anthony Cowan Jr. (16.6 ppg, 4.6 apg) and sophomore big man Bruno Fernando (15.9 ppg, 9.6 rpg).

8. Minnesota (5-1): After the Golden Gophers limped to a 15-17 record last season as injuries depleted the roster, more is expected. Jordan Murphy is a double-double machine (14.3 ppg, 12.2 rpg), and he has Amir Coffey (14 ppg) back from a shoulder injury that cost him much of last season to help along with a strong freshman class.

9. Nebraska (6-1): A two-point victory at Clemson was exactly what the Cornhuskers needed. After losing to Texas Tech by 18, speculation had begun that preseason hope of improvement was nonsense. Nebraska hasn't allowed more than 66 points in any of its victories.

10. Northwestern (6-1): The Wildcats had played a pretty nondescript nonconference schedule, and a 19-point loss to Fresno State in the Wooden Legacy tournament had "last season" written all over it. A decisive victory Wednesday against Georgia Tech could be just what Northwestern needed to head into conference play with confidence and momentum.

11. Indiana (5-2): Yes, the Hoosiers got walloped by Duke. So will many teams this season. They should be more concerned with finding some much-needed consistency. The Hoosiers lost at Arkansas and struggled at times against Texas-Arlington and UC Davis. Led by freshman guard Romeo Langford (17.7 ppg) and senior forward Juwan Morgan (16.1 ppg, 8.3 rpg), Indiana should improve as the season continues.

12. Penn State (4-2): Someone please explain Penn State. The Nittany Lions hadn't played anyone of much note and still took two lumps at DePaul and against Bradley in the Cancun Challenge. But then they figured out a way to take down No. 13 Virginia Tech on Tuesday? Junior forward Lamar Stevens is second in the Big Ten in scoring with 23 points per game and averages 8.7 rebounds. If another scoring threat emerges — such as freshman guard Myreon Jones, who had 18 points against the Hokies — Penn State could defy expectations.

13. Rutgers (5-1): The Scarlet Knights are showing progress. They held Miami to 34 percent shooting in Wednesday's 57-54 victory, snapping the Hurricanes' 19-game home nonconference winning streak. Before we get carried away, Rutgers is shooting 43.1 percent and averaging 16 turnovers.

14. Illinois (2-5): The record is misleading when judging the Illini's progress. This team is entertaining, competitive, shows fight and has talent. Three of the losses went down to the final minute, including against top-ranked Gonzaga in the Maui Invitational. Giorgi Bezhaniashvili (9.4 ppg), a 6-foot-9 freshman, has given Illinois the effective post presence it has longed for.

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Hobbled Gonzaga faces tough stretch

Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. — Top-ranked Gonzaga is heading into a tough stretch without two of its key players.

Star forward Killian Tillie and guard Geno Crandall are sidelined for at least the next month with injuries suffered in practice.

That leaves the Bulldogs short-handed as they prepare to face No. 6 Tennessee, No. 11 UNC, Creighton and Washington in the next two weeks. Only the Washington game next Wednesday is at home.

"Those are four tough games," Gonzaga coach Mark Few said.

Tillie, an NBA prospect who is a big scorer and rebounder, injured his ankle a month ago in practice and has

yet to play. He's forecast to return in about a month. The Bulldogs (7-0) have weathered the loss of Tillie because they're deep in the frontcourt.

Crandall, a graduate transfer from North Dakota, was expected to provide needed depth at point guard. But he recently fractured his shooting hand in practice, and expects to miss four to six weeks. Crandall was already playing catch-up at Gonzaga after arriving on campus late because he needed to fulfill graduation requirements at North Dakota.

"I'm disappointed for him," Few said. "He fought so hard to get here."

Crandall's injury puts more pressure on starting point guard Josh Perkins, who's likely to play a lot of minutes in close games. Perkins played

38 minutes in the victory over Duke last week in Maui that propelled Gonzaga to the No. 1 ranking in The Associated Press Top 25. Perkins, a fifth-year senior, is averaging 11 points and eight assists per game.

"He's done a really good job of getting us in the right spot, making the right decisions and playing with great pace," Few said.

Shooting guards Zach Norvell Jr. and Corey Kispert can provide some help to Perkins. Forwards Rui Hachimura and Brandon Clarke are also capable of grabbing rebounds and bringing the ball down the court if needed.

"Losing Geno, that hurts us," Clarke said. "We have to have other guys step up."

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

SEC TITLE GAME

Fromm, Alabama cross paths again

Georgia quarterback switched commitment from Tide to Bulldogs

BY TIM TUCKER
Atlanta Journal-Constitution

ATHENS, Ga. — Those who follow the twists, turns, commitments and decommitments of college football recruiting knew it was a big deal when Jake Fromm, then a high school junior, switched his pledge from Alabama to Georgia in March 2016.

But no one could have known just how soon and significantly Fromm's path would intersect again — and again — with Alabama's.

On Saturday, for the second time in 11 months, Fromm will quarterback Georgia in a high-stakes game at Atlanta's Mercedes-Benz Stadium against the Crimson Tide. In January, it was for the national championship. This time, it will be for the SEC championship.

So it's time for a flashback to



JOHN BAZEMORE/AP

Jake Fromm, a onetime Alabama commitment, will lead Georgia against the Crimson Tide in Saturday's SEC championship game.

that phone call less than three years ago, when a 17-year-old Fromm informed Alabama coach Nick Saban of his decision to rescind his commitment to the Tide.

"We had a very long conversation ... anywhere from 30 minutes to an hour," Fromm recalled this week. "It was a tough one. It was

probably one of the hardest things I'd had to do.

"Telling him I was going to come here — I'm sure he probably didn't like that very much. But it was just a 'me' decision and a family decision and something that has worked out for me so far."

Things have worked out for Alabama, too, of course. Within days of Fromm's flip, the Tide offered a scholarship to another quarterback, Tua Tagovailoa. He came off the bench to rally Alabama to a 26-23 overtime victory over Georgia in last season's national championship game, will lead the Tide against the Bulldogs on Saturday and is favored to win the Heisman Trophy.

Fromm passed on the question of how differently things might have turned out for both quarterbacks if not for his decommitment.

"I have no idea," he said. "We're both here now, playing in this game, so let's go."

Long story short: Fromm committed to Alabama in October 2015, his junior season at Houston

County High School in Warner Robins, Ga., in large part because he didn't have an offer from the home-state Bulldogs. In December 2015, Georgia hired Alabama defensive coordinator Kirby Smart, whom Fromm had gotten to know during the Tide's recruitment of him, as its head coach. Smart quickly let Fromm know he was wanted at Georgia. Fromm switched his commitment on March 3, 2016, and enrolled at Georgia in January 2017 — the same month Tagovailoa enrolled at Alabama.

Interesting, albeit moot, question: Would Tagovailoa be at Alabama if Fromm hadn't flipped?

"Honestly, I'm not too sure," Tagovailoa said this week on a conference call. "I didn't know that Jake was committed (to Alabama) before I committed. ... It was more so a family decision to come to (Alabama). It's what my parents wanted more than what I wanted, you know? And it's worked out great."

As he studied Fromm in preparation for Saturday's game, Saban

saw the growth of the quarterback he first observed at an Alabama football camp.

"Jake does a great job of managing their offense," Saban said on a conference call. "He's very accurate, very poised in the way he executes, and he's got a lot of confidence in the system and scheme and does a good job of helping all the skill players that they have make plays, whether it's running or throwing."

Fromm will carry a 23-3 record as Georgia's starter into Saturday's game. In five games since the Bulldogs' only loss Oct. 13 at LSU, he has completed 62 of 85 passes with 11 touchdowns and only one interception.

This is exactly what he had in mind for his college football career.

"Playing in big games ... it's what you dream of," he said. "As far as (the loss to Alabama) last year, I really kind of flushed it out of my mind. I'm ready for a new opportunity to come out and play my best, play our best. And let's go out and win it."

Five key questions and the answers

Greenstein, from Page 1

1. Can the Buckeyes play like that for a second straight week?

If they do, it's over. Ohio State's best would beat Northwestern's best 100 times out of 100. The Buckeyes shredded the nation's No. 1 defense Saturday, gaining 567 yards and scoring 62 points against Michigan.

"That was as clean a game offensively as I've seen in a long time," Fitzgerald said. "A-plus in my book."

But here's the thing: A week ago, suggesting the Buckeyes deserve a playoff berth would have put you on the fringes of sanity. This is a team that got run off the field by Purdue, then gave up 450 yards at home to Nebraska, beat Michigan State because of its punter and gave up 339 yards on the ground to Maryland. And then, against its rival, Ohio State finally showed up.

"The offense has been there all season," Laurinaitis said. "With the defense, I'm not sure whether to believe it. They played with passion (against Michigan)."

Said Smith: "I'd like to say a performance like that is a sea change, a psychological shift, and no way could they could revert. But I've been around the game too long. They know they have zero chance to make the playoff without this win, but you never know with the kids."

2. What is the Wildcats' plan to contain Dwayne Haskins?

Study what Michigan did and then do the opposite. For real, the defensive schemes are miles apart. Michigan plays man-to-man, often forgoing the second safety to add a pass rusher. It's a high-risk, high-reward scheme. The Wolverines got burned going solo against elite Buckeye athletes such as Parris Campbell.

Haskins went 20-for-31 for 396 yards and six touchdowns. He said he was "licking his chops" when he saw the one-on-one matchups.

Northwestern bends but rarely breaks and is perfectly content to give up some yards and field-goal tries. The Wildcats have allowed 18 plays of 30-plus



JAMIE SABAU/GETTY

Ohio State burned Michigan's man-to-man scheme with dynamic athletes such as Parris Campbell.

yards, six fewer than the Big Ten average. Said NU defensive backs coach Matt MacPherson: "When you play zone, you get a lot of eyes on the quarterback — and then it's population to the ball."

Wannstedt said Northwestern's plan is this: "Make Ohio State go eight plays — execute eight in a row without a mistake. Northwestern is not a big blitz team and doesn't get a bunch of negative plays, but you don't see guys running free. Their linebackers are as well-coached as any in the Big Ten. You can't trick 'em much. They force the quarterback to read coverages and the receivers to make adjustments and sit down in holes (in the zones)."

Said Laurinaitis: "Against an explosive offense, Northwestern can live with the checkdown (pass). Stop the run and trust your linebackers, who have been great in space all year. Make Dwayne Haskins be patient. Hope you can manufacture pressure or that (defensive end Joe) Gaziano can beat somebody."

3. Should Northwestern slow down its offense?

Ohio State plays hyperfast, having squeezed off 975 plays, third in the FBS. Northwestern is not far behind, 15th nationally. The Wildcats would love to limit the Buckeyes to about 12 possessions. To do that, they'll need serious production from freshman tailback Isaiah Bowser and a high completion percentage from Clayton Thorson.

"If you sense your defense can't get stops," Laurinaitis said, "then you slow it down."

Bowser is averaging 122.3 rushing yards in his last six

games.

"He is really patient for a freshman," Laurinaitis said. "He does a nice job in the hole, he jump cuts and waits for the blocks to develop. The right guard, Tommy Doles, pulls well. When Jeremy Larkin had to retire, I thought Clayton would have to throw for 400 yards a game for Northwestern to compete. It's been the opposite. The freshman back has bailed out Thorson at times."

Ohio State ranks 18th nationally with 34 sacks, and Northwestern is allowing 2.4 per game — though that rate has decreased as the offensive line has coalesced throughout the season.

Fitzgerald wants Thorson to deliver passes quickly, putting it like this: "We can't make love to the ball. We have to get it out of our hands and make sure we're in timing and rhythm and on point."

4. What are other variables?

The fast track (FieldTurf) and ideal scoring conditions at domed Lucas Oil Stadium favor Ohio State. The NU defense was at its best in the cold of Iowa City and Minneapolis. Remember the Shirtless Brigade that stormed the field in pregame warmups at Minnesota? (Congrats if you do not.)

Northwestern is down to its third-string kicker. Punter Jake Collins has nailed his last two field goals, from 29 and 25 yards. His range is probably 35, though Fitzgerald joked that it's 70.

Ohio State lost a starter in its final series Saturday. Right guard Demetrius Knox suffered a left-foot injury and will be replaced

by redshirt freshman Wyatt Davis.

Northwestern is the nation's least-penalized team — 26.7 yards per game. Ohio State has been flagged for 76 per game.

The No. 6 Buckeyes are currently on the outs of the College Football Playoff. They either need Texas to beat No. 5 Oklahoma in the Big 12 title game (11 a.m. CT kickoff) or to get the selection committee's attention by beating the bejeezus out of Northwestern. Ohio State did this in 2014 (romping over Wisconsin 59-0) but not last year (27-21 over Wisconsin).

"There's pressure when you're playing for style points," Laurinaitis said. "Last year whenever J.T. (Barrett) missed an open receiver, you could feel the whole stadium (groan)."

5. Does Northwestern have a shot?

Wannstedt: "Absolutely — because they believe it. You cannot underestimate that. They've won 15 of their last 16 Big Ten games."

Laurinaitis: "I always give teams a chance in college football. The players are still kids. But Ohio State is favored by 14 for a reason."

Smith: "I don't think so. I love Coach Fitzgerald, but it's a huge mismatch. I have it 38-17"

Teddy Greenstein's pick:

Northwestern puts up a great fight, but in the end it's mathletes versus athletes. *Ohio State 30, Northwestern 24.*

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MAC TITLE GAME
Northern Illinois vs. Buffalo

TV/radio: 6 p.m. Friday, Ford Field, Detroit; ESPN2, WIND-AM 560.

Records: NIU 7-5, 6-2 MAC; Buffalo 10-2, 7-1.

The line: Buffalo by 3½.

The series: NIU leads 11-1, including 10-0 since Buffalo joined the Mid-American Conference. The Bulls' only victory against the Huskies came in 1968. The last meeting was a 14-13 NIU win on Oct. 14, 2017, at Buffalo.

How they got here: NIU clinched its seventh MAC West title in nine years on Nov. 13 by virtue of Ball State's 42-41 win against Western Michigan. The Huskies then lost their final two regular-season games, 13-7 to Miami of Ohio and 28-21 at Western Michigan. Buffalo clinched its first MAC East title since 2008 with a 44-14 victory Nov. 23 at Bowling Green.

Back in contention: The Huskies are making their eighth appearance in the MAC title game after a two-year absence. NIU is 3-4 in its previous appearances, winning the championship in 2011, 2012 and 2014. The Bulls are playing in the MAC championship game for the second time; they defeated Ball State 42-24 to win the 2008 conference title.

NIU by the numbers: The Huskies lead the MAC in rushing defense (107 yards per game) and have held seven opponents to fewer than 100 rushing yards. NIU opponents average 2.6 yards per carry. The Huskies also lead the MAC in total defense (344 ypg) and scoring defense (20.9 points per game) and lead the nation with 46 sacks. Defensive end Sutton Smith is sixth in the nation with 21 tackles for a loss and fourth with 13 sacks, both totals leading the MAC.

The NIU offense isn't as prolific as its defense. The Huskies are 10th in the 12-team MAC in total offense (318 ypg) and 11th in scoring (19.9 ppg), the latter figure ranking 122nd nationally out of 130 teams.

Buffalo by the numbers: Freshman Jaret Patterson leads the Bulls in rushing with 874 yards on 150 carries (5.8 average) and 12 touchdowns. He needs 44 yards to break the school's freshman record of 917 yards, set by Aaron Leeper in 2002. Kevin Marks has 733 yards on 153 carries (4.8 average) with 11 scores. Quarterback Tyree Jackson has thrown for 25 touchdowns and run for seven but also has 11 interceptions.

Linebacker Khalil Hodge had seven tackles against Bowling Green, bringing him to 406 in three seasons. Hodge is the fourth player in school history to record 400 tackles and the first to do it in three seasons. Davonte Shannon holds the school record of 461.

— Buffalo News

No spot for La Stella in Cubs' remodeled infield

Cubs, from Page 1

Torreyes, 26, has started 42 games at shortstop over the last three seasons and is regarded as adequate defensively at that position as well as at third base and second base.

La Stella, who joined the Cubs in a trade for reliever Arodys Vizcaino four years ago, improved as a defender but was only a backup at second and third when he wasn't handling pinch-hitting roles.

La Stella never played shortstop, and he started only 22 games at second and third last season. His popularity swelled after the Cubs placed him on the tempo-

rary inactive list in August 2016 when he declined to report after being assigned to Triple-A Iowa and struggled with deciding what to do about his career.

La Stella playfully ordered a bounce house to be placed on the parking stalls of President Theo Epstein and general manager Jed Hoyer in spring training last March. Last season he also served as a mentor to rookie David Bote on the intricacies of pinch-hitting.

But without Russell, who appears likely to be tendered a contract while he continues his MLB-mandated counseling for domestic abuse, the Cubs need internal options to get through the first month of the season.

Javier Baez's exceptional defense at shortstop in place of Russell during a six-week stretch late in the 2017 season and again in 2018 resurrect questions as to whether the Cubs are better off with Baez as their full-time shortstop.

The Cubs have three scheduled days off in the first 13 days of their regular-season schedule and seven days off before Russell would be eligible to return, so that should provide enough rest for Baez — who played a team-high 160 games in 2018.

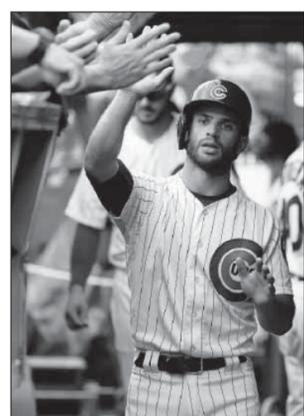
In addition to Torreyes, Bote made 14 starts at shortstop for Triple-A Iowa last season and played flawlessly during his lone

start at short for the Cubs on Aug. 29.

If Baez shifts/from second base to short during Russell's suspension, Ben Zobrist, Bote and Torreyes could handle the second base duties. The Cubs also could seek another middle infielder through a free-agent market that could expand with a list of players who aren't tendered contracts by Friday night.

A source confirmed multiple reports that Double-A Tulsa batting coach Terrmel Sledge is in line to become the Cubs' assistant hitting coach.

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TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/TRIBUNE

Tommy La Stella filled roles as a pinch hitter and as a backup at second and third base.

SCOREBOARD

CALENDAR

TEAM	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU
			@NYG Noon FOX-32, AM-780				
	@DET 6 WGN-9, AM-670	@HOU 7 NBCSCH, AM-670			@IND 6 NBCSCH, AM-670		
		@NSH 7 WGN-9, AM-1000	CGY 6 NBCSCH, AM-720		@ANA 9:30 NBCSCH, AM-720	@VGK 9 NBCSCH, AM-720	

FRIDAY ON TV/RADIO

NBA	WGN-9, WSCR-AM 670
6 p.m. Bulls at Pistons	
7 p.m. Rockets at Spurs	ESPN
9:30 p.m. Nuggets at Trail Blazers	ESPN
MINN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL	
1:30 p.m. Belfast Classic	CBSSN
5 p.m. Michigan State at Rutgers	BTN
6 p.m. Mississippi State at Dayton	CBSSN
7 p.m. Wisconsin at Iowa	BTN
9 p.m. Minnesota vs. Oklahoma State	BTN
COLLEGE FOOTBALL CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS	
6 p.m. MAC: Northern Illinois vs. Buffalo	ESPN2 WIND-AM 560
7 p.m. Pac-12: Utah vs. Washington	FOX-32 WMVP-AM 1000

GOLF	Golf Channel
12:30 p.m. Hero World Challenge	
1:30 a.m. Mauritius Open (Sat.)	Golf Channel
NHL	
6 p.m. Devils at Capitals	NHL Network
COLLEGE HOCKEY	
6 p.m. RPI at Notre Dame	NBCSN
SKIING	
11:30 a.m. Birds of Prey World Cup	NBCSN
BUNDESLIGA SOCCER	
1:20 p.m. Fortuna Dusseldorf vs. Mainz	FS2
PREMIER LEAGUE SOCCER	
1:55 p.m. Cardiff City vs. Wolverhampton	NBCSN

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF TOP 25	WEEK 14/NEXT GAME	*-A.M.				
CFP R1. TEAM	AP	RF	PF	PA	WEEK 14/NEXT GAME	*-A.M.
1. Alabama	1	12-0	588	165	Sat. vs. #4 Georgia, 3	
2. Clemson	2	12-0	548	168	Sat. vs. Pittsburgh, 7	
3. Notre Dame	3	12-0	405	207	Bowl game TBD	
4. Georgia	4	11-1	481	206	Sat. vs. #1 Alabama, 3	
5. Oklahoma	5	11-1	604	394	Sat. vs. #14 Texas, 11*	
6. Ohio State	6	11-1	520	310	Sat. vs. #21 Northwestern, 7	
7. Michigan	8	10-2	442	211	Bowl game TBD	
8. UCF	7	11-0	474	214	Sat. vs. Memphis, 2:30	
9. Florida	14	9-3	414	245	Bowl game TBD	
10. LSU	12	9-3	381	251	Bowl game TBD	
11. Washington	10	9-3	336	198	Fri. vs. #17 Utah, 7	
12. Penn State	14	9-3	415	240	Bowl game TBD	
13. Washington St.	12	10-0	460	277	Bowl game TBD	
14. Texas	9	9-3	380	302	Sat. vs. #5 Oklahoma, 11*	
15. Kentucky	16	9-3	319	195	Bowl game TBD	
16. West Virginia	15	8-3	465	292	Bowl game TBD	
17. Utah	17	9-3	370	231	Fri. vs. #11 Washington, 7	
18. Mississippi St.	20	8-4	349	144	Bowl game TBD	
19. Texas A&M	22	8-4	416	316	Bowl game TBD	
20. Syracuse	18	9-3	489	333	Bowl game TBD	
21. Northwestern	21	8-4	284	260	Sat. vs. #6 Ohio State, 7	
22. Boise State	19	10-2	444	268	Sat. vs. #25 Fresno State, 6:45	
23. Iowa State	24	7-4	295	246	Sat. vs. Drake, 11*	
24. Missouri	—	8-4	443	293		
25. Fresno State	25	10-2	435	162	Sat. at #22 Boise State, 6:45	

CFP-College Football Playoff; AP-Associated Press; PF/A-points for/allowed

THURSDAY'S RESULT

The Citadel 43, Charleston Southern 14	FCS PLAYOFFS
FRIDAY'S SCHEDULE	SECOND ROUND
MAC Championship:	Jacksonville St. (9-3) at Maine (8-3), 11*
Buffalo (10-2) vs. Virginia Tech (5-6), 11*	Colgate (9-1), noon
Northern Illinois (7-5) in Detroit, 6	Wofford (9-3) at Kansas State (10-1), 1
Pac-12 Championship:	Montana State (11-0), 2
Utah (9-3) vs. Washington (9-3)	Duquesne (9-3) at S. Dakota St. (8-2), 2
in Santa Clara, Calif., 7	SE Missouri (9-3) at Weber St. (9-2), 3
SATURDAY'S SCHEDULE	Nicholls State (9-3) at
SOUTH	Eastern Washington (9-2), 6
La-Lafayette (7-6) at	N. Iowa (7-5) at UC Davis (9-2), 6
Appalachian State (9-2), 11*	
East Carolina (3-8) at NC State (8-3), 11*	DIVISION II PLAYOFFS
Akron (4-7) at South Carolina (6-5), 11*	QUARTERFINALS
Marshall (8-3) at Virginia Tech (5-6), 11*	Slippery Rock (11-2) at
Norfolk St. (4-6) at Liberty (5-6), 11*	Notre Dame (Ohio) (12-0), 11*
Drake (7-3) at Iowa St. (7-4), 1	Ferris State (13-0) at
Stanford (7-4) at California (7-4), 2	Quincy Baptist (12-0), noon
Big 12 Championship:	Lenoir-Rhyne (12-1) at
Texas (9-3) vs. Oklahoma (11-1)	Valdosta State (11-0), noon
in Arlington, Texas, 11*	Tarleton State (12-0) at
Conference USA Championship:	Minnesota-Mankato (12-0), noon
Ala. Birmingham (9-3) at	
Middle Tennessee (8-4), 12:30	DIVISION III PLAYOFFS
American Athletic Championship:	QUARTERFINALS
Memphis (8-4) at UCF (11-0), 2:30	Muhlenberg (11-1) at
SEC Championship:	Saint Francis (Ind.) (10-2)
Georgia (11-1) vs. Alabama (12-0)	at Morningside (Iowa) (13-0), noon
in Atlanta, 3	Benedictine (Kan.) (12-1) at
SWAC Championship:	Kansas Wesleyan (13-0), 1
Southern U. (7-3) at Alcorn St. (8-3), 3:30	
Mountain West Championship:	NAIA PLAYOFFS
Fresno St. (10-2) at Boise St. (10-2), 6:45	Saint Francis (Ind.) (10-2)
ACC Championship:	at Morningside (Iowa) (13-0), noon
Pittsburgh (7-5) vs. Clemson (12-0)	Benedictine (Kan.) (12-1) at
in Charlotte, N.C., 7	Kansas Wesleyan (13-0), 1
Big Ten Championship:	
Northwestern (8-4) vs. Ohio State (11-1)	
in Indianapolis, 7	
SATURDAY, DEC. 8	
Army vs. Navy in Philadelphia, 2	

AHL

CENTRAL	W	L	OL	SL	PT	GF	GA
Milwaukee	13	6	3	0	29	64	58
Iowa	12	4	3	1	28	73	50
G. Rapids	11	7	0	2	24	63	62
WOLVES	10	7	2	1	23	76	66
Rockford	9	8	1	4	23	53	64
Minnetonka	10	1	0	21	54	66	61
Texas	8	8	1	18	61	51	51
San Antonio	8	13	0	16	50	63	63
2 pts for a win, 1 for OT/shootout loss.							

THURSDAY'S RESULT	72 (even)	68 (-4)
Ontario 3, Bakersfield 2	Tony Finau 39-33	Marc Leishman 32-36
FRIDAY'S SCHEDULE	Gary Woodland 37-35	Adrian Otaegui 35-33
San Antonio at Grand Rapids, 6	Rickie Fowler 37-35	Mathew Goggin 33-35
Syracuse at Cleveland, 6	73 (+1)	Jason Scrivener 33-35
Utica at Belleville, 6	Xander Schauffele 36-37	Douglas Klein 33-33
Charlotte at Providence, 6:05	Tiger Woods 36-37	Curtis Luck 33-36
WB/Scranton at Rochester, 6:05	74 (+2)	Hideki Matsuyama 38-36
Lehigh Valley at Laval, 6:30	68 (-4)	Australian PGA
Texas at Milwaukee, 7	Henrik Stenson 35-33	CHAMPIONSHIP
Iowa at Colorado, 8:05	Dustin Johnson 35-33	
Manitoba at San Diego, 9	Alex Noren 36-33	1st of 4 rds; RACV Royal
Ontario at Stockton, 9	Bubba Watson 32-37	Pines Rest; Gold Coast, Australia; 7,346 yards; Par: 72
	70 (-2)	Par: 72
	Justin Rose 35-35	66 (-6)
	Jon Rahm 35-35	Jake O'Leary 34-32
	Bry. DeChambeau 36-34	Matt Jager 34-32
	71 (-1)	67 (-5)
	Keegan Bradley 33-38	Dae-won Eom 32-35
	Jon Rahm 35-35	J. Paapodatos 32-35
	Jason Day 37-34	Troy Merritt 38-33

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL	Arizona: Claimed G Calvin Pickard off waivers from Philadelphia. Assigned F Mario Hempe to Tucson (AHL).	California: Assigned P Dillon Dubé to Stockton (AHL).
American League	Los Angeles: Acquired INF Tommy La Stella from the Chicago Cubs for cash considerations or a player to be named. Requested unconditional waivers on OF Jabari Blash for the purpose of granting him his unconditional release.	Seattle: Acquired LHP Ricardo Sanchez from Atlanta for cash.
NATIONAL LEAGUE	Cincinnati: Claimed OF Brian Jordan Patterson off waivers from the New York Mets.	Columbus: Agreed to terms with LHP Chris Rusin on a one-year contract.
New York: Named Adam Guttridge assistant general manager. Signed INF Nilson Herrera to a minor-league contract.		
BASKETBALL	NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION	Cleveland: Traded G Kyle Korver to Utah for G Alec Burks and second-round draft picks in 2020 and 2021.
FOOTBALL	NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE	Arizona: Re-signed OL Will Holden. Placed CE Jeremy Johnson on injured reserve. Signed DE Cameron Mayes to the Arizona practice squad. Released QB Charles Kanoff.
Cincinnati: Signed OT Andre Smith. Placed OT Jake Fisher on injured reserve.		
HOCKEY	NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE	Anaheim: Waived F Ben Street.

LATEST LINE

NBA	pregame.com	FRIDAY
at Detroit	9½	Bulls
at Philadelphia	7½	Washington
at Charlotte	13	Cleveland
at Brooklyn	off	Memphis
at Phoenix	off	at Miami
at LA Lakers	3½	Houston
at Portland	2½	Dallas
COLLEGE BASKETBALL		FRIDAY
Michigan St.	9	at Rutgers
Miss. St.	4	at Dayton
at S. Carolina	12	Coast. Carol.
Appalach. St.	2½	at East Carolina
Pittsburgh	4½	Durrough
at TCU	13½	Cent. Mich.
at Iowa	1	Wisconsin
at Minnesota	4	Oklahoma St.
at San Fran.	17	Milwaukee
6½	Stephen Austin	
NHL		FRIDAY
at Florida	off	Buffalo
at Washington	off	New Jersey
at Carolina	-180	Anaheim
at Calgary	-195	Los Angeles
at Colorado	-155	St. Louis
+145		
COLLEGE FOOTBALL		FRIDAY
WEEK 14		N
Buffalo	3½	N Illinois
Washington	5	
SATURDAY		UAB
at Mid. Tenn.	1	UAB
at UCF	3	Memphis
Oklahoma	8	Texas
at Appalch. St.	16½	La.-Laf.
Alabama	13½	Georgia
at Boise St.	2½	Fresno St.
Clemson	27½	Pittsburgh
Ohio State	23	Northwestern
at NC State	23	East Carolina
at Virginia Tech	3½	Marshall
at S. Carolina	30	Akron
Stanford	3	at California
NFL		MONDAY
WEEK 13		SUNDAY
Bears	4	at NY Giants
Indianapolis	4	at Jacksonville
at Pittsburgh	3½	at Chargers
Carolina	3½	at Tampa Bay
at Atlanta	1½	Baltimore
at Houston	6	Cleveland
at Miami	4	Buffalo
Denver	12	at Cincinnati
LA Rams	10	at Detroit
at Green Bay	14	Arizona
Kansas City	15	at Oakland
at Tennessee	7½	NY Jets
at New England	5	Minnesota
at Seattle	10	San Fran.
at Philadelphia	6½	Washington

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

WEEK 14		FRIDAY
Buffalo	3½	N Illinois
Washington	5	
SATURDAY		UAB
at Mid. Tenn.	1	UAB
at UCF	3	Memphis
Oklahoma	8	Texas
at Appalch. St.	16½	La.-Laf.
Alabama	13½	Georgia
at Boise St.	2½	Fresno St.
Clemson	27½	Pittsburgh
Ohio State	23	Northwestern
at NC State	23	East Carolina
at Virginia Tech	3½	Marshall
at S. Carolina	30	Akron
Stanford	3	at California
NFL		MONDAY
WEEK 13		SUNDAY
Bears	4	at NY Giants
Indianapolis	4	at Jacksonville
at Pittsburgh	3½	at Chargers
Carolina	3½	at Tampa Bay
at Atlanta	1½	Baltimore
at Houston	6	Cleveland
at Miami	4	Buffalo
Denver	12	at Cincinnati
LA Rams	10	at Detroit
at Green Bay	14	Arizona
Kansas City	15	at Oakland
at Tennessee	7½	NY Jets
at New England	5	Minnesota
at Seattle	10	San Fran.
at Philadelphia	6½	Washington

NFL

NFC NORTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
BEARS	8	3	0	.727	317	211
Minnesota	6	4	1	.591	265	246
Green Bay	4	6	1	.409	264	267
Detroit	4	7	0	.364	238	286
NFC EAST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
Dallas	7	5	0	.583	247	223
Washington	6	5	0	.545	220	229
Philadelphia	5	6	0	.455	230	253
N.Y. Giants	3	8	0	.273	237	288
NFC SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
New Orleans	10	2	0	.833	419	269
Carolina	6	5	0	.545	287	282
Atlanta	4	7	0	.364	280	307
Tampa Bay	4	7	0	.364	294	338
NFC WEST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
LA Rams	10	1	0	.909	389	282
Seattle	6	5	0	.545	325	293
Arizona	2	9	0	.182	155	299
San Francisco	2	9	0	.182	239</	

Week 13 picks

By **SAM FARMER**
Los Angeles Times

Last week: 13-2 (10-5 vs. spread)
Season: 118-56-2 (85-84-7 vs. spread)

	BEARS (8-3) AT GIANTS (3-8) Noon Sunday, FOX-32 4 (O/U 44½)	Eli Manning is starting behind that porous offensive line, and he won't have much more than a blink to throw the ball against the Bears' smothering defense. No matter who's at QB, the Bears roll. Bears 28, Giants 17
	RAVENS (6-5) AT FALCONS (4-7) Noon Sunday Falcons by 1½ (O/U 48)	The mobile Lamar Jackson likely is starting for the Ravens, and he gives them a different dimension. The Falcons are a better team at home, but they have issues, especially on defense. Go with the Ravens defense. Ravens 24, Falcons 20
	PANTHERS (6-5) AT BUCCANEERS (4-7) Noon Sunday Panthers by 3½ (O/U 54½)	The Panthers should bounce back from their three-point home loss to the Seahawks, and the Buccaneers put a good all-around game together in a rout of the 49ers. The Bucs defense is beat up, though. Panthers 27, Buccaneers 23
	BILLS (4-7) AT DOLPHINS (5-6) Noon Sunday Dolphins by 4 (O/U 40)	The Bills have a little confidence, but Miami is a tough place to play. The Dolphins are 4-1 at home and have been pretty stingy all season; they're eighth in fewest points allowed. Here's betting they hold serve at home. Dolphins 24, Bills 20
	COLTS (6-5) AT JAGUARS (3-8) Noon Sunday Colts by 4 (O/U 47½)	This was a close game in Indianapolis three weeks ago, back when the Jaguars still had a pulse. The Colts are rolling on offense behind Andrew Luck, and Cody Kessler is going to have a tough time keeping pace. Colts 27, Jaguars 21
	BROWNS (4-6-1) AT TEXANS (8-3) Noon Sunday Texans by 6 (O/U 48)	The Texans have quietly won eight in a row, and their defense is playing well despite a vulnerable secondary. The Browns are gaining confidence and they are believing in rookie quarterback Baker Mayfield. Texans 27, Browns 24
	BRONCOS (5-6) AT BENGALS (5-6) Noon Sunday Broncos by 5 (O/U 44½)	The Bengals have imploded and are starting Jeff Driskel at quarterback. The Broncos are coming off back-to-back wins over the Chargers and Steelers, and have a favorable schedule from here forward. Broncos 30, Bengals 23
	RAMS (10-1) AT LIONS (4-7) Noon Sunday Rams by 10 (O/U 54½)	Sean McVay knows how to keep his players focused, and the Rams should burst out of the open date. This is a good place to build some confidence against the run and get Aqib Talib back in the flow. Rams 38, Lions 20
	CARDINALS (2-9) AT PACKERS (4-6-1) Noon Sunday Packers by 14 (O/U 44½)	The Packers are far from perfect, but they're a lot better than the Cardinals, plus the game is at Lambeau Field. The Packers will establish the run, Aaron Rodgers will execute the play-action and have a big day. Packers 35, Cardinals 17
	CHIEFS (9-2) AT RAIDERS (2-9) 3:05 p.m. Sunday Chiefs by 15 (O/U 55½)	The Raiders have no pass rush, so Patrick Mahomes will be back there all day picking them apart. The Raiders might have a shred of pride that keeps this interesting for a bit, but the Chiefs are just too much. Chiefs 34, Raiders 20
	JETS (3-8) AT TITANS (5-6) 3:05 p.m. Sunday Titans by 7½ (O/U 40½)	The Titans will bounce back and have a decent defensive performance here. It's hard to run on the Jets, so this should be a low-scoring game that's fairly close, but go with the home team. Titans 21, Jets 17
	49ERS (2-9) AT SEAHAWKS (6-5) 3:25 p.m. Sunday Seahawks by 10 (O/U 46)	The 49ers are limping into this, and they can't rely on their quarterback play, particularly in such a tough stadium for visitors. The Seahawks can run it or throw it, and they still have a pulse. Seahawks 28, 49ers 20
	VIKINGS (6-4-1) AT PATRIOTS (8-3) 3:25 p.m. Sunday Patriots by 5 (O/U 49½)	With Rob Gronkowski back and healthy, the Patriots are a different animal. But the Vikings defense is coming alive, and they can rush the passer with four. It's hard to pick against Pats at home, but... Vikings 31, Patriots 28
	CHARGERS (8-3) AT STEELERS (7-3-1) 7:20 p.m. Sunday, NBC-5 Steelers by 3½ (O/U 52)	The Chargers are perfectly capable of winning this game, even with Melvin Gordon out. But the edge goes to the Steelers because of the way they rise to the occasion in prime-time games. Steelers 31, Chargers 27
	REDSKINS (6-5) AT EAGLES (5-6) 7:15 p.m. Monday, ESPN Eagles by 6½ (O/U 45)	The NFC East is knotted tight, and both these teams badly need this win. The Eagles had a tough time slowing Saquon Barkley, and their secondary is banged up. The Redskins are rested and capable. Redskins 24, Eagles 21

NFL NOTES

Cowboys put end to Saints' win streak

Associated Press

Ezekiel Elliott scored and the Cowboys stifled Drew Brees and the Saints, ending the AFC South leaders' 10-game winning streak with a 13-10 victory Thursday night in Arlington, Texas. The Cowboys (7-5) won their fourth consecutive game and assured they will at least remain tied for the NFC East lead.

The Saints (10-2) had a season low in points while missing on a chance to perfectly match the Cowboys from two years ago, when then-rookie sensations Elliott and quarterback Dak Prescott won 11 straight after dropping the opener.

Brees had his fewest yards passing in a half since joining the Saints in 2006 with 39, and couldn't get a potential winning drive going in the final minutes.

Instead, Jourdan Lewis' interception — just the third of the season for Brees — gave the Cowboys a chance to run out the clock from the Saints 1 after an interference penalty in the end zone.

Flacco back at practice: Ravens quarterback Joe Flacco returned to the practice field for the first time since injuring his right hip Nov. 4.

Having finally received medical clearance to play, Flacco threw passes and worked on handoffs with fellow QBs Lamar Jackson and Robert Griffin III during an indoor practice.

Jackson, a 2018 first-round pick, led the Ravens to wins in each of the last two games while filling in for the injured Flacco.

Although coach John Harbaugh hasn't named a starting quarterback for

Sunday's game against the Falcons in Atlanta, it appears likely Jackson will get the call.

Jets' QB call up in air: Jets' starting QB is TBD for Sunday.

Sam Darnold and Josh McCown were both limited at practice for the second straight day, leaving it uncertain who will be under center against the Titans.

Coach Todd Bowles said that Darnold, McCown and Davis Webb each had snaps and ran the offense during drills.

"We'll see who's the healthiest," Bowles said.

It would appear the choice will come down to either Darnold or McCown, especially since Webb hasn't yet taken a regular-season snap in the NFL and was on the practice squad until Darnold was hurt.

Darnold has missed the last two games with a strain in his right foot, while McCown is dealing with a sore hand and back.

Kelly update: The wife of Bills Hall of Fame quarterback Jim Kelly said her husband underwent what is hoped to be his last cancer-related surgery.

On Instagram Wednesday, Jill Kelly posted a picture of the former football player giving a thumbs-up sign from a hospital bed in New York City. Her comment said "all went as planned!"

Kelly, 58, last underwent surgery in March when doctors at removed cancer from is upper jaw and lymph nodes and reconstructed his upper jaw.

A portion of Kelly's jaw was removed in 2013 after Kelly was first diagnosed with squamous cell carcinoma.

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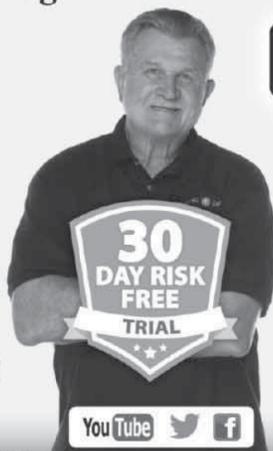


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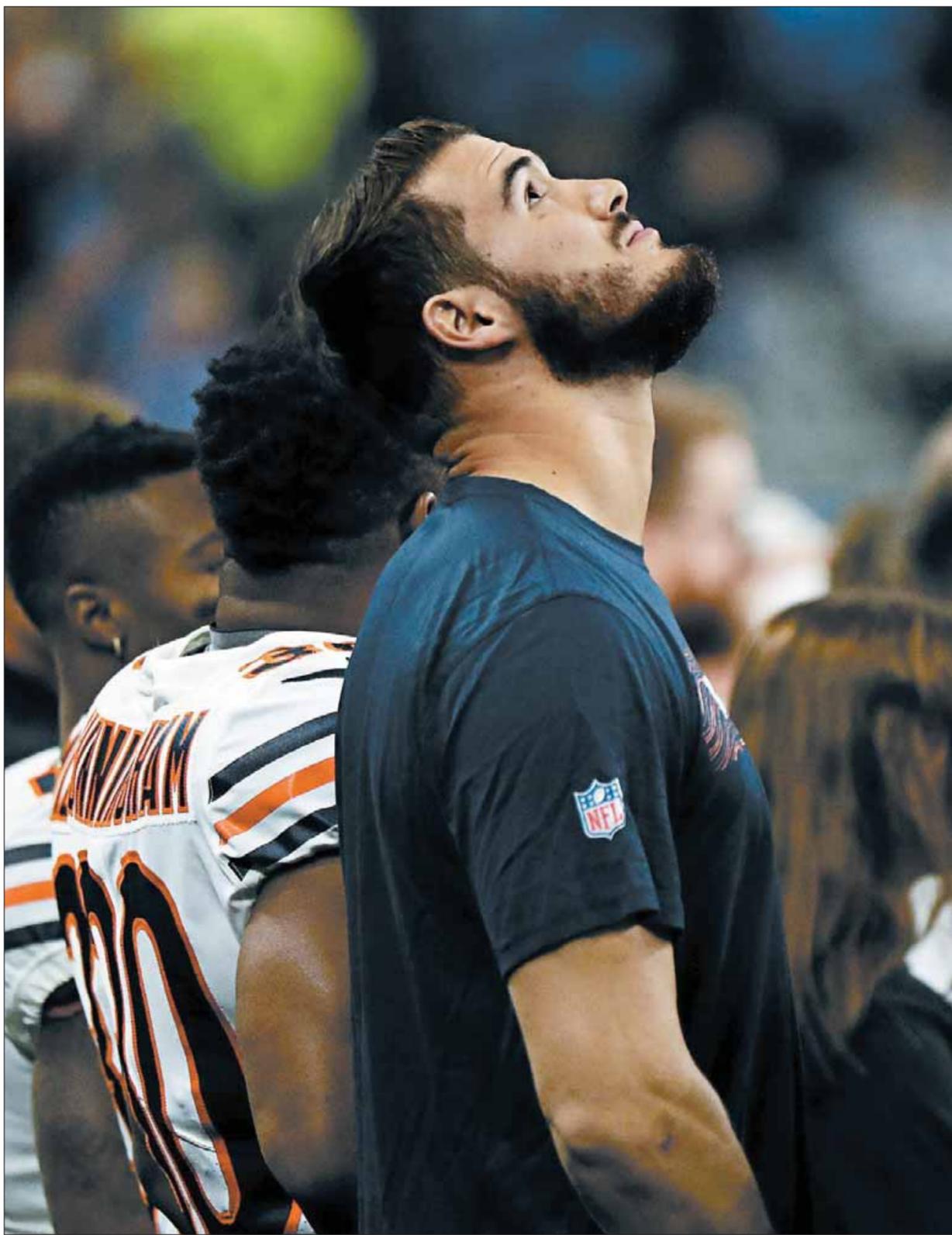
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BEARS



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

As the days go by with him limited in practice, it seems likely Bears quarterback Mitch Trubisky won't be able to play Sunday against the Giants.

It's still up in the air

Trubisky waits for 'all clear' signal but timetable's unclear

BY DAN WIEDERER
Chicago Tribune

When Bears practice began Thursday afternoon in Lake Forest, starting quarterback Mitch Trubisky was in uniform, helmet on, going through the stretching and warm-up routine. As position drills started, Trubisky grabbed a football and moved laterally around a set of pads.

For the second consecutive day, the second-year quarterback was a practice participant the team officially listed as limited. But don't get your hopes up. Trubisky hasn't been given clearance to resume throwing as he's still dealing with a right shoulder injury and increasingly likely to miss his second consecutive game Sunday when the Bears play the Giants in New Jersey.

Chase Daniel is preparing to start this weekend, running the

first-team offense in practice. That will be the setup until further notice.

Trubisky's on-field work Thursday wasn't significant, just more of an opportunity to keep his footwork sharp.

"This is part of the plan," Bears coach Matt Nagy said. "We said we were going to take it day by day, step by step with him. ... For him, I think it's good, more than anything, just mentally knowing you're out there with the guys."

Before Thursday's practice, Trubisky spoke with reporters for the first time since Nov. 18. The quarterback was in good spirits. And while he wouldn't divulge the specifics of his injury or what type of discomfort he's dealing with — "I can't get into specifics just because that's the advice I've been given" — Trubisky did say his shoulder is improving and that he's itching to play as soon as possible.

"I'm feeling good," he said. "I'm just getting closer and closer every day. Just going through this process, trusting the plan they have for me and trying to get

better every day."

Still, with Trubisky a long shot to play Sunday against the Giants, it's fair to wonder whether he will recover fast enough to be ready for a Week 14 prime-time showdown with the Rams. Until Trubisky can resume throwing, projecting out that far is difficult. And it's certainly of some concern that he hasn't been able to throw since injuring the shoulder on a late hit by Vikings safety Harrison Smith in the Bears' Nov. 18 win against the Vikings.

"It was just an awkward landing," Trubisky said. "And then I got hit, and my arm got caught underneath me the wrong way. It was really just a freak play and I didn't know what happened at the time."

For the last week and a half, Trubisky has had to deal with the frustration of his shoulder injury while also reminding himself to be honest with his coaches, doctors and the training staff about how he's feeling on a day-to-day basis.

"It's just making sure we handle this thing the right way,"

Trubisky said. "Staying positive and making sure when I go back out there I'm 100 percent and I can do exactly what this team needs me to do."

Trubisky acknowledged that his competitive side can increase the difficulty of being honest with himself.

"I've played through bumps and bruises and other things before," he said. "You always think you're good enough to go out there and do the job. But you just have to trust the people (around you) — the doctors, the trainers and the people who are a lot smarter than I am ... that they're doing the right thing for me and for this team."

For now, the Bears are confident taking a cautious approach, aware of Trubisky's importance to their big-picture goals. Still, the uncertainty about the quarterback's health lingers. And until he's given the green light to throw the football again, it's difficult to forecast just when he will return.

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BEARS NOTES

Hobbled Hicks sits out last 2 practices

BY COLLEEN KANE
AND RICH CAMPBELL
Chicago Tribune

Bears defensive end Akiem Hicks missed practices Wednesday and Thursday for "precautionary" reasons after an injury to his Achilles tendon popped up midweek, coach Matt Nagy said.

Nagy said he didn't feel like there was reason for concern about Hicks as the Bears prepare to face the Giants on Sunday at MetLife Stadium.

"We just felt like, with where he's at, it would be good to give him a day and help him out there," Nagy said.

However, any ailment to Hicks is worth tracking because of the impact he has had.

Hicks has 39 tackles, four sacks and three forced fumbles in his third season with the Bears. He is a major part of the run defense, which will be tested this week against Giants rookie Saquon Barkley.

Defensive coordinator Vic Fangio said Hicks has been able to fight through injuries in the past but said he doesn't know how much pain Hicks is in now.

"If he's injured to a significant degree, yeah, it will hinder him," Fangio said. "He's got a way to rally about himself and can kind of ignore whatever bumps and bruises he has going. He's a tough guy."

Fangio said he didn't think the Bears run defense was up to par in the second half against the Lions last week, so the Bears will need to clean up their issues before facing Barkley.

Barkley, the No. 2 pick in this year's draft out of Penn State, has 171 carries for 829 yards and eight touchdowns and 71 catches for 581 yards and four touchdowns.

He's 6 feet and weighs 233 pounds, but Fangio said he runs like a much smaller back.

"It's going to take all 11 people to stop him," Fangio said. "This guy will take any handoff that's designed to go anywhere, and the ball could end up anywhere. ... He's as good as advertised. He's got speed, power, elusiveness, so he's everything that he was made out to be."

Running back Benny Cunningham (ankle) and cornerback Sherrick McManis (hamstring) also sat out practice Thursday.

School days: Offensive coordinator Mark Helfrich said explicitly he is not up for any college head coaching jobs. Some media outlets have listed him as a potential candidate for the Colorado vacancy, but those reports seemed more speculative than substantial.

Helfrich is in his first NFL season after a long Division I coaching career that most recently included being head coach at Oregon. He indicated he'll pay no attention to outside speculation about whether he'll remain with the Bears beyond this season — or beyond the next few weeks, for that matter. But he also didn't rule anything out.

"All those things are just rabbit holes to dive down," he said. "It's a great byproduct of being on a good team. The same could be said of a lot of different (coaches). I know that this is the place we are at, and there's no good answer for that that serves anybody other than I'm extremely lucky to be here and excited to get after the Giants."

Wing and a prayer: Fangio had some sharp advice for his players on how to slow Giants receiver Odell Beckham.

"Go to Mass on Saturday night," Fangio deadpanned. "He's really good. The guy is a tremendous athlete and great ball skills, as everybody knows."

Beckham is eighth in the NFL in catches (74) and ninth in receiving yards (1,017).

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BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Defensive end Akiem Hicks didn't practice Wednesday or Thursday for "precautionary" reasons.

Jackson named NFC Defensive Player of Month

Bears, from Page 1

Charles Tillman's franchise record of nine defensive touchdowns. Tillman also had five touchdowns in a two-year span — 2011-12, his two Pro Bowl seasons in 12 with the Bears.

But after Jackson was named NFC Defensive Player of the Week on Wednesday, he said he wasn't surprised at the impact he is making so early in his career.

"To be honest with you, not really," Jackson said. "I wanted to come in here and dominate. One thing I'm very blessed and grateful for is the team and place I ended up landing. I wouldn't want to be anywhere than here with the type of guys and teammates I've got. Being on the same team as them makes me better and makes me step my game up."

Jackson's confidence isn't a surprise given his success at Alabama, where he was a first-

team All-SEC player in his junior season.

In 23 games in 2015-16, before his college career was cut short by a broken leg, he also scored five touchdowns — three on interception returns and two on punt returns. It was that season-ending injury that caused him to drop into the fourth round of the 2017 draft, when general manager Ryan Pace scooped him up.

"God always has a plan," Jackson said. "At the time it was frustrating, but now everything is working out for the best. I'm very excited."

So are Bears players and coaches, who praise Jackson's football instincts. Cornerback Prince Amukamara compared Jackson's ability to read plays and track the ball to former All-Pro defensive backs Ed Reed and Asante Samuel.

"The thing is, it's like a closer for us," Amukamara said. "When

we need a play, when we need to be able to score — you saw it against the Vikings and then you saw it against the Lions — he just always shows up. Big-time players make big-time plays in big-time games, and he's been doing that."

Jackson said the plays come from a mentality of rooting out the ball, and he credited defensive coordinator Vic Fangio and defensive backs coach Ed Donatell for putting him in situations where he can roam with that in mind.

Bears coach Matt Nagy said he believes Jackson's commitment to film study also plays a big role in his game-changing plays.

"He's a student of the game and he recognizes when to take chances," Nagy said. "So he is opportunistic, but he's smart in when to take chances and when not to."

Jackson will continue those

efforts Sunday against the Giants when he'll see former Alabama teammate Landon Collins, a two-time Pro Bowler for the Giants whom Jackson said "is going to come out and try to put on a show."

Jackson will, too, but he also was careful Wednesday to say he has more work to do.

He said he has to continue to improve his tackling. And he said the entire defense is focused on playing a full four quarters and not allowing teams back into games.

"Coach Ed and I talk about it all the time — we don't pay attention to (the accolades) and get a big head," Jackson said. "We want to keep working. The goal is to make the playoffs and Super Bowl, so that's what we're fighting for."

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— eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE —

"It's gonna be a dirty game. It's gonna be a dogfight. But I love it, man. You'll probably see hitting after the whistle. You're probably see a lot of stuff if you keep your eyes open. But that's what we came here for:"

—Texas defensive tackle Chris Nelson

Plenty of bad blood

Oklahoma vs. Texas, one of the country's most bitter border rivalries, goes to next level with Big 12 title on the line

BY JIM VERTUNO
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — The Texas-Oklahoma rivalry is never short on bad blood between the Big 12 border states.

Whether it's "horns down," Darrell Royal accusing Barry Switzer of spying or Brian Bosworth's critique of vomit-inducing burnt orange, a rivalry that dates to 1900 has more than its share of antics and lore. And the 114th meeting Saturday — the second this season — is well on its way to producing its own.

Dial back to Oct. 6, when No. 9 Texas beat No. 4 Oklahoma 48-45, a game that showcased two stellar performances from the opposing quarterbacks. Sam Ehlinger passed for 314 yards, ran for 72 yards and accounted for five touchdowns for the Longhorns while Oklahoma's Kyler Murray passed for 304 yards, ran for 92 and had five total TDs.

It was their meeting on the field after the game that added a chapter to the simmering rivalry and brings a new wrinkle to the rematch. Video clips showed the two players appearing to exchange some unfriendly words, and Ehlinger patted Murray on the top of his helmet.

Oklahoma is undefeated since that game and Murray is a top Heisman Trophy contender. He is also clearly still upset about whatever was said between the two. Asked Monday if he respects Ehlinger's game, Murray said, "I have no comment." A few hours later, Ehlinger tweeted "Ok. Cool. Hook'em."

Ehlinger insisted Tuesday it wasn't a message intended for Murray. But did he tell Murray to "take your loss" after the first game.

"I don't remember what I said," Ehlinger said with a shrug.

As for the "no comment" from Murray, "I'd absolutely love to comment on that. I absolutely respect his game," Ehlinger said.

Some of his Texas teammates were happy to jump in.

"I guess ol' boy don't like losing," defensive end Charles Omenihu said of Murray. "But he lost, so it is what it is."

Omenihu has taken shots at Murray before. After sacking Murray in the first meeting, Omenihu mimicked a baseball swing for a home run. Murray has already signed a professional baseball contract and he's expected to leave football after this season to start his career with the Oakland A's.

Omenihu tweeted a photo of the swing on Monday. "I told y'all when I swung it was 450 feet," he said.

Texas defensive tackle Chris Nelson said packing the rivalry and the Big 12 title into one game is bound to be wild.

"It's gonna be a dirty game. It's gonna be a dogfight. But I love it, man," Nelson said. "You'll probably see hitting after the



NICK WAGNER/AP



COOPER NEILL/AP



COOPER NEILL/AP



COOPER NEILL/AP

Top: Texas quarterback Sam Ehlinger (11) leaps into the end zone to score against Texas during this year's Oct. 6 meeting. **Second from top:** Oklahoma's Marquise Brown gestures "horns down" as he celebrates a touchdown on a 77-yard catch. **Third from top:** Texas kicker Cameron Dicker (17) celebrates after kicking the winning field goal in a 48-45 win. **Bottom:** Oklahoma's Kyler Murray, a leading Heisman Trophy candidate, gives this year's Big 12 title game star power.

whistle. You're probably see a lot of stuff if you keep your eyes open. But that's what we came here for."

So here we go.

Oklahoma coach Lincoln Riley said he is asking for some guidance from the Big 12 whether his players will be penalized if they flash the "horns down" hand signal on Saturday. The gesture drew flags for West Virginia when the Mountaineers played Texas. Telling Oklahoma players they can't do it in the game against Texas might be the same as asking them to play while handcuffed.

"We're working on some clarification," Riley said. "I will make sure it's fully clear to our guys what they can and can't do."

This sort of stuff goes back generations.

Royal was a Sooners player in 1947 when the Longhorns won the Red River Showdown 34-14, the last year in an eight-year Texas winning streak. Sooners fans were so incensed by the officiating they were throwing soda bottles and seat cushions on the field. A car was brought on the field to get the officials safely out of the stadium.

The series was never hotter than the dust-up between Royal and Switzer in '76.

Royal was winding down a national-championship coaching career at Texas and his on-field success was waning while the Sooners were on a tear.

Royal accused Switzer of sending spies to scout the Longhorns, and challenged Switzer, his assistant coach and the alleged spy to take a polygraph test with a \$10,000 reward if they could pass it. Royal also referred to the Sooners as "sorry bastards." That prompted Oklahoma fans to chant the slogan outside Royal's Dallas hotel and during the game, which ended in a tie.

President Gerald Ford was at the game for the coin toss but even he couldn't get the coaches to speak to each other before the game.

Things were still going strong in the 80s when Bosworth came on the scene. He was a freshman who hadn't even played Texas yet when he unleashed on the Longhorns before the 1984 game: "I hate Texas, I hate (Texas coach) Freddie Akers and I hate that burnt orange color. It reminds me of people's vomit."

The Longhorns and Sooners played to a 15-15 tie that left everyone mad.

Two weeks ago, the Big 12 reprimanded Texas senior defensive end Breckyn Hager and made him apologize for disparaging the Sooners with a popular Texas chant in postgame interviews after the Longhorns beat Iowa State for sole position of second place in the conference standings. Hager, whose father also played at Texas, had to swallow his burnt-orange pride.

"I had no ill intentions when I made my comments about Oklahoma, which included a phrase that's used by fans, but I have to realize that it's different coming from me," Hager wrote. "My thought process was that it would put a fun and light-hearted charge into the greatest rivalry in college football that my family has been involved in playing for many years, but I can see now that was not the way to do it."

Just the sort of statement that might make Bosworth vomit.

eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE

A job at the track like no other

Rulings by Del Mar horse racing stewards impact millions of dollars in wagering

BY TOD LEONARD
San Diego Union-Tribune

SAN DIEGO — In separate interviews, in different rooms at Del Mar, the three people who make up the racetrack's board of stewards all came up with the same phrase to describe one of the must-have requirements for their job:

"Thick-skinned."

One of them, Grant Baker, took it a step farther, repeating what he heard years ago from another steward.

"Rhino-thick skin," he said.

From a cramped booth high above the racetrack, the trio of stewards at Del Mar — Baker, Kim Sawyer and Luis Jauregui — are rarely seen, but the deliberations they have and the decisions they make on every race affect thousands of bettors and, ultimately, millions of dollars in wagering.

Talk about your no-win jobs. In whatever decision is made — whether a horse is disqualified or a placing upheld — some will be thrilled and others apoplectic. People don't part easily with their hard-earned cash.

"We do not have a president of our fan club," Sawyer said with a laugh.

With satellite wagering around the country and critics who have an expansive reach on social media, the job of the stewards likely has never been more scrutinized.

They are independent contractors who work for the California Horse Racing Board, can be dismissed at any time, and each call they make will be studied by their bosses on video, as well as in the written reports they are required to file.

Unlike any other sport, the general public can read those reports, on the CHRB website.

"You're not going to be perfect," Jauregui said. "Everybody is going to disagree with your call. You do the best you can. It's a tough job."

The three stewards all share one thing: a love of horses and racing.

Sawyer, 66, is the senior steward, having earned her license in 2000. She has worked at Del Mar since 2005, before that moving through nearly every part of the industry, including being a trainer and rider.

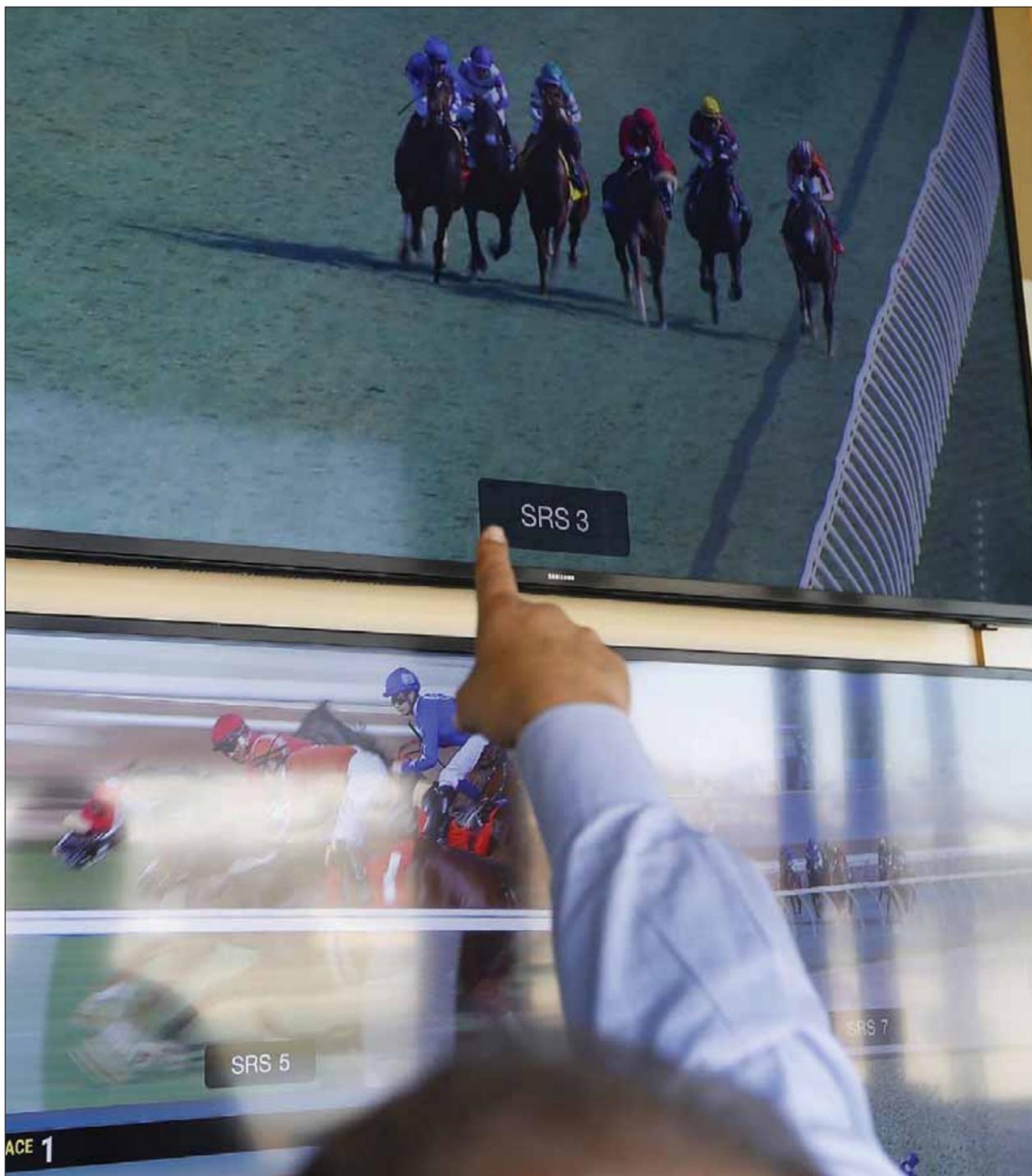
"If I could get paid what I'm getting paid now to be on the backstretch, I'd be back there in the barns," Sawyer said. "I love horses. I love their personalities and how they're individuals. When I'm back there, the smells are good to me."

The 49-year-old Jauregui grew up the son of an exercise rider. He was a jockey for 19 years, amassing nearly 750 wins, but gave up riding after suffering a broken back. In 2009, Jauregui pioneered the position of safety racing steward — a job that has been duplicated at other circuits around the country. He began as a steward at Del Mar in 2014.

As a Spanish speaker, Jauregui has a different relationship with many on the backstretch that has been valuable, and he believes it continues to serve him well as a steward. He is often the translator for various people who come before the board, from grooms to jockeys.

"The feedback that I've gotten from riders is that they're comfortable with someone who has been a jockey for 19 years and who understands them when they speak Spanish," Jauregui said.

Baker, 62, spent most of his career at Northern California tracks, starting first as a parking attendant and groom before ris-



PHOTOS BY K.C. ALFRED/SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

Horse race steward Luis Jauregui reviews a race at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club on Nov. 15. "You're not going to be perfect," Jauregui said.



Horse race stewards Kim Sawyer, left, Grant Baker, back, and Jauregui, right, review a race at the Del Mar Thoroughbred Club.

ing through various administrative positions. He started as a steward at Santa Anita in late 2015 and has worked the Del Mar meets ever since.

"I feel comfortable with the licensees," Baker said. "I believe I'm a good listener. Whether it's a hot walker or somebody who lives in a gated community, I'm going to listen to them and hear them out."

Among officials in sports, there probably isn't a more diverse or complicated job description. Imagine an NFL official working a game and then going to the office to determine fines for players, settle salary disputes, collect money for parking tickets and take calls from disgruntled fans.

That's the nature of a steward's job.

Long before post time, the stewards are in their office in the morning tending to administrative duties. They essentially are the court judges of the racetrack, holding hearings and doling out fines when necessary — anything from \$10 for a backstretch traffic violation to suspensions that can cost trainers and jockeys thousands of dollars.

"I love watching the races and the excitement of making calls," Jauregui said, sitting outside his office. "This, I don't like as much."

No fun at all is the stewards' practice of returning the phone calls of people ripping them.

"We get the comments that 'if so-and-so had trained a horse, you would have left it alone,'" Baker said. "Those comments will

test you because that gets at one's integrity. You take a deep breath. You try to be respectful and factual when that gets thrown at you."

Among the most frequent rulings the stewards make are for how jockeys use their riding crop. The rules prohibit the riders from whipping a mount more than three consecutive times without the horse having the chance to respond, or continuing to whip when a placing can't be gained.

Conversely, not trying enough draws attention. The stewards suspended jockey Kent Desormeaux for three days after an Aug. 25 race at Del Mar for "failure to give his best effort to this mount and the public, costing him a better finish position."

The stewards review film after every race to determine if a jockey rode "carelessly or willfully" in impeding another horse. Not all of those actions become on-track inquiries, but they still are subject to fines.

"If the police didn't give you a ticket for speeding, you wouldn't slow down," Sawyer said. "If you don't set them down and make them think about it, they're going to continue to ride carelessly. It's all about safety, for the horses and the people."

Never is the decision-making more intense than when the horses are running.

In their booth, two stewards watch the race on television monitors that provide eight different views, while the third watches through binoculars. One usually wears a headset to hear

reports from the two patrol judges down on the track.

If they see an incident happen that might have affected the race, they light the inquiry sign. Sometimes, the inquiry is initiated by a jockey's objection. In either case, the stewards review the video together and take a vote.

The biggest criticism the stewards hear these days is about the "inconsistency" in their judgments.

Jon Lindo, a longtime horse owner and bettor whose handicapping appears in the Union-Tribune, said he has become increasingly frustrated with how fouls are determined.

"I just want to have confidence," Lindo said. "I've been playing the races since I got out of a stroller, and I have no clue at this point when the inquiry sign lights up what's going to happen. I used to. I don't now."

"In general, these guys do a good job; it's a job I wouldn't want to do. But right now, they have to work their way back to gain the trust of the horseplayer."

Lindo said he believes in recent years the analysis of races around the country has become over-complicated by a focus on how a horse would have fared if it had not been bumped or cut off. The rule book states a horse can be disqualified and moved down if the horse it interfered with "lost the opportunity for a better placing."

"It's the interpretation of the rule," Lindo said. "Did it cost the horse a better placing? How do

you know? Now we're making them the soothsayers in having to know. You're putting them in a difficult position. I don't know if the rule needs to be rewritten to help them out."

"To me, a foul is a foul," he added, "unless you can tell me with 100 percent certainty that it didn't cost the horse a placing. If there is an inkling of doubt, go back to a foul is a foul. Done! Move on."

Sawyer said she hears that reasoning plenty and admits the rule book creates plenty of gray area for the stewards to decipher.

"Welcome to our world," she said with a smile.

But she likes it that way. "Old-school gamblers want to say a foul is a foul," Sawyer said. "Thankfully, the country has gotten away from that. If a horse gets fouled on the backside and is 30-1, and the 6-5 shot wins by 10 lengths, is it fair to take down the 6-5 shot for bumping him in the backstretch?"

"For gamblers, it's all about the two they bet on. They're only watching the one or two horses and not the whole race."

That's the nature of the game, and the stewards are always in the middle. The next disputed race is just around the corner.

Baker said he doubts NFL referees walk off the field giving each other high-fives, and the same is true for the stewards.

"We don't have good days," he said. "I either go home thinking about a decision, or it was an OK day, and we got through it."



Sawyer, testing radios before a race at the Del Mar, is the senior steward and has worked at the track since 2005.

Chicago Tribune
A+E
 MOVIES



YORGOS LANTHIMOS/TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

Emma Stone plays Abigail, a noblewoman fallen on hard times who quickly rises above servant status to become the queen's new favorite.

'THE FAVOURITE' ★★★

THE JUICIEST PERIOD PICTURE IN YEARS

Emma Stone, Rachel Weisz make ruthless power plays for queen's affection

BY MICHAEL PHILLIPS | Chicago Tribune

The benign flowering plant known as Queen Anne's Lace closely resembles hemlock, which brings us straight away to the pleurably nasty triumph "The Favourite." In this film, vaguely ridiculous extravagance masks court intrigues of a spiky, lethal variety. The result is a splendid black comedy that marks a stylistic leap for its director. Second only this year to the upcoming "Roma," it's a reminder of how the movies can imagine a highly specific yet deeply idiosyncratic vision of the past.

"The Favourite" would be worth seeing if only for the subtle varieties of cutting rejoinder it offers its central trio of performers: Emma Stone,

Rachel Weisz and, as Queen Anne, early 18th century ruler of England, Ireland and Scotland, the heartbreakingly funny Olivia Colman.

The director is Greek native Yorgos Lanthimos, whose taste for corrosive societal disintegration came to global attention with "Dogtooth" and "The Lobster," among others. Rooted in fact, "The Favourite" depicts a romantic triangle ruled by ambition. In 1705, Queen Anne's court wrestles with the question of how to finance a war with France. Lady Sarah (Weisz), the Duchess of Marlborough, uses her wits, her body and the queen's bed to coerce Anne into raising taxes on the citizenry in order to keep the off-screen battle going.

This is good news for Sarah's war-

rior husband. Less good for Sarah: the unexpected arrival of her country cousin, Abigail (Stone), a noblewoman fallen on hard times. A dab hand with medicinal herbs, Abigail quickly rises above servant status to become the queen's new favorite. Game on!

Abigail also stokes the ardor of the icy rake Lord Masham (Joe Alwyn). The men in "The Favourite," including an excellent Nicholas Hoult as the foppish Harley, exist as pawns in the ladies' game. Yet it's more than a game. The script by Deborah Davis and Tony

Turn to *Favourite*, Page 3



MERRICK MORTON/TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX

Veronica's stark, white outfits (worn by Viola Davis) play an important thematic role early on in "Widows."

What the clothes convey about the cast of 'Widows'



NINA METZ
Chicago Close-up

When "Widows" costume designer Jenny Eagan first met the film's director Steve McQueen, it was a few years ago in New Orleans. "He doesn't remember it, but he was finishing '12 Years a Slave' and I was just starting 'True Detective' at the time."

For "Widows," the pair spent

more than is typical taking in the film's Chicago setting. Starring Viola Davis, Elizabeth Debicki and Michelle Rodriguez as a group of widows who reluctantly team up for the heist of their lives, the city is more than just a location. Eagan and McQueen wanted specifics.

"Oftentimes as costume designers we don't go on a locations scout," said Eagan. "But it was very important to Steve that we drive around so I could see, where is (Rodriguez's) Linda from? Where is (Debicki's) Alice living? Where is (Davis') Veronica's apartment? And by doing

Turn to *Metz*, Page 4

Shining a light on the Stones

It's been more than 50 years and band is 'still peaking,' Richards says

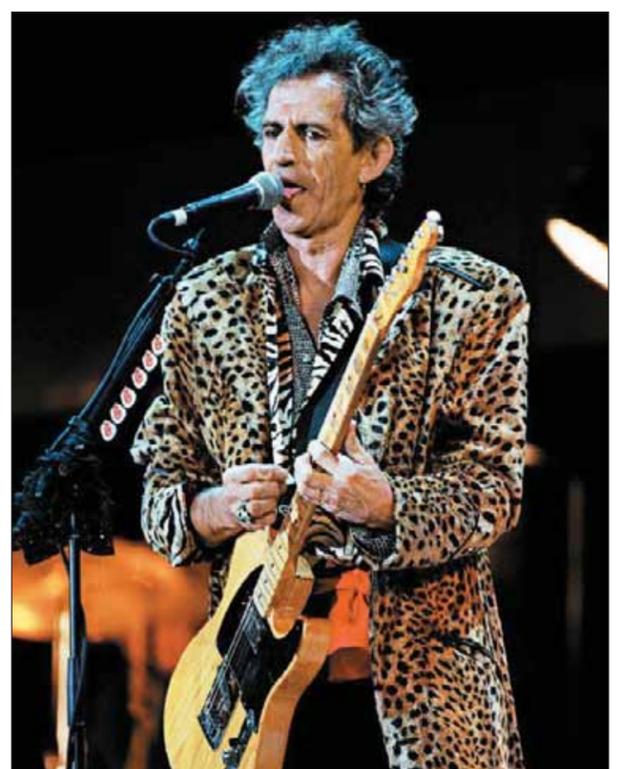
BY GREG KOT
Chicago Tribune

Keith Richards is on the phone talking about one of his favorite subjects.

"The rhythm section ... I love rhythm sections, it all starts there," says the Rolling Stones guitarist as if describing the Book of Genesis. At his most eloquent, as in the passages from his 2010 memoir, "Life," when he reminisces about the days when he'd press his ear to a phonograph speaker to better hear the interplay of the Jimmy Reed or Muddy Waters band, the back-line figured mightily in his understanding of how music moved the soul.

Now he was thinking about his Stones compatriot, drummer Charlie Watts, possibly for a number of reasons. There's no doubt that the ebb-and-flow between Watts and Richards gives the best Stones music its eternal elasticity, and puts some jump in the band's hits-dominated stadium tours. But in an interview earlier this year with the Guardian, Watts cast some doubt on his desire to keep the road show rolling. "It wouldn't bother me if the Rolling Stones said that's it ... enough," the 77-year-old drummer said.

The comment was made several months before the Stones



JEFF HAYNES/GETTY-AFP 1997

Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones performs at Soldier Field.

announced a 2019 tour of America, including concerts on June 21 and 25 at Soldier Field (tickets go on sale at 10 a.m. Friday). Richards wanted to make it clear that one of the biggest reasons the Stones aren't calling it a

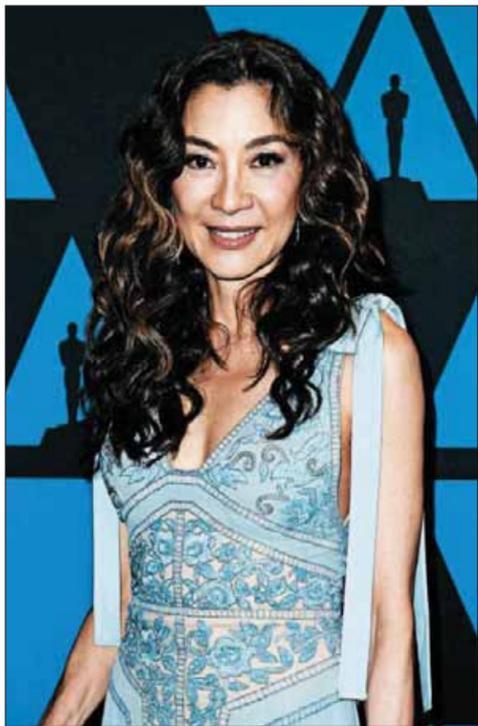
career just yet is because of their drummer's ability to keep swinging.

During the Stones' European tour earlier this year, "Charlie

Turn to *Richards*, Page 5

CELEBRITIES

Tribune news services



VALERIE MACON/GETTY-AFF

Michelle Yeoh attends the 10th annual Governors Awards gala in Los Angeles on Nov. 18.

Yeoh joins Golding for 'Last Christmas'

Michelle Yeoh is set to join the holiday comedy "Last Christmas," re-teaming with her "Crazy Rich Asians" co-star Henry Golding.

Top billing will go to Emilia Clarke. Paul Feig is directing, with Emma Thompson and Bryony Kimmings penning the screenplay. The movie is described as a holiday romance set in London. It follows Kate (played by Clarke), who's notorious for making bad decisions, including opting to work as an elf at a year-round Christmas shop.

Tom (Golding) seems too good to be true when he walks into her life and starts to break through Kate's barriers.

The film hits theaters Nov. 15, 2019. Yeoh was most recently seen in the box office smash hit "Crazy Rich Asians," which was just named best ensemble by the National Board of Review. She also had a recurring arc in the CBS All Access series "Star Trek: Discovery."

The actress is best known for her role in 2000's "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon."

Yeoh is represented by David Unger at Artist International Group. The Hollywood Reporter first reported the news.

— Variety



JORDAN STRAUSS/INVISION

Jackman to tour: Hugh Jackman will launch his first ever world tour next year. The multi-talented entertainer announced his "The Man. The Music. The Show." tour Thursday; it will feature Jackman singing songs from "The Greatest Showman," "Les Miserables" and Broadway musicals, among other selections. He will be accompanied by a live orchestra. The North American leg begins June 18, 2019, in Houston.

Nelson, Henley to honor Parton: Willie Nelson and Don Henley will perform in tribute to Dolly Parton when she's honored as the 2019 MusiCares Person of the Year by the Recording Academy. The academy announced the latest additions to the lineup Thursday for the tribute concert and gala Feb. 8 in Los Angeles. The academy announced in September that Parton will be recognized for her music and support of causes through her Dollywood Foundation.

Grande's YouTube docu-series: Ariana Grande is giving fans an all-access pass into her musical life through a new documentary series on YouTube. Grande will be featured in "Ariana Grande: Dangerous Woman Diaries." The four-part series is set to launch Thursday on the "No Tears Left to Cry" singer's YouTube channel.

Nov. 30 birthdays: Singer Billy Idol is 63. Actor Ben Stiller is 53. Singer Clay Aiken is 40. Actress Elisha Cuthbert is 36. Actress Kaley Cuoco is 33. Model Chrissy Teigen is 33.



ASK AMY

By AMY DICKINSON

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

DNA tests reveal mystery half sibling

Dear Amy: I was curious about my DNA history, so I purchased a kit from one of the major testers. The results indicated that I have a half sibling. This half sibling then contacted me and said he never knew his dad because his mom was artificially inseminated from an anonymous sperm donation.

I asked my parents if it was possible for me to have a half sibling, and they both said no. I know these tests are not perfect, so I agreed to do another test with a different company. The results just came back, and sure enough also conclude I have a half sibling.

Amy, I had already asked my parents about it once and they both said it couldn't be true. I'm not sure how to inquire again. Regardless of the truth, I can honestly say it isn't going to change my view of my parents (I love them dearly). I'm mostly just curious now and feel a bit obligated to help my potential half sibling learn about his family (if it is true we are related).

Your thoughts?
— Confused Brother

Dear Confused: Just today I communicated with a friend who recently learned that he has a biological son through sperm donation he made when he was in college, over 40 years ago. He had forgotten about the donation until he was contacted. Yes, this caused some awkwardness within the family, but everyone has adjusted.

You should speak with your father privately. Tell him that two tests have confirmed this DNA connection and that you believe the results. Assure

him that you love him and know he's done nothing wrong. In fact, this donation enabled a stranger to start a family. Offer to help in communicating with your mother, if he wants.

If your father continues to deny this paternity, there is nothing you can do about it. As an anonymous donor, he has the right to try to remain that way. Don't push.

If you want to, you should contact this half sibling and offer to share family photos and some basic health information. You will also have to decide to what extent you want to be involved with your half sibling.

It will help to think of this experience as a process you'll encounter in stages. You will all make a series of choices, which will lead you to unknown challenges. With advanced DNA testing, this sort of situation is becoming much more common. Resolve to handle it with integrity.

Dear Amy: My 27-year-old son has been with his girlfriend for about 18 months, and while she is always lovely toward me, she often speaks to my son in a belittling, demeaning and sometimes nasty manner. I've noticed this — and I've become aware that several members of my immediate and extended family have also noticed it.

My son is very laid-back and sweet, but not very assertive. Although I dislike the word, he's being "henpecked"! Should I talk to him about this? And, if you think I should address this, what do you think I should say?

— Concerned Mother

Dear Concerned: Yes, let us retire the word "henpecked" and replace it with "bullied."

This is tricky. You don't want to alienate your son and force him toward the person who is mistreating him.

You should speak with your son. Tell him, "While 'Glenda' is always very nice to me, I notice that she often talks to you in a way that I think is demeaning. This worries me. You are my son. You are a wonderful person, and you are worthy of respect by everyone in your life, but especially your partner. I want you to know we are always in your corner, no matter what. I just want you to remember that when you choose a life partner, it's important to be with someone who respects you all the time, even when she disagrees with you."

If you witness this behavior, you should react naturally to it in the moment: "Whoa. Hey, Glenda, that was uncalled for."

Dear Amy: "Holiday Hungry" reported being grossed out by meals at his in-laws' house because their cat seems to have pre-tested all of the food.

Your suggestions were good, but you neglected the most obvious one: Hungry should offer to take the family out for their Thanksgiving dinner.

— Been There

Dear Been There: Expensive, but probably worth it. Thank you.

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'THE WAR AT HOME' ★★★ 1/2

When UW-Madison lit the fires of revolution

By MICHAEL PHILLIPS
Chicago Tribune

Back in a 4k digital restoration, "The War at Home" returns this week to the Gene Siskel Film Center. The legitimate question: What can a nearly 40-year-old documentary, covering a decade (1963-73) of anti-war turbulence at the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus, offer anyone contending with the societal casualties of 2018?

A lot. Seeing the documentary again, after all these years, is virtually guaranteed to stir up emotions, memories, feelings in every direction. The movie remains a nuanced, evocative call to action.

Directors Glenn Silber (scheduled to introduce the Friday and Saturday screenings) and Barry Alexander Brown first released "The War at Home" in 1979, when the Vietnam war's shadow couldn't be escaped. By then the movie screens were full of the war. "The

Deer Hunter" (1978) may have been a gut-wrencher, but it had little to do with what actually went on; that same year "Coming Home," equal parts moving and soapy, told a different fable of the home front. (There was no home front in "Apocalypse Now," a 1979 release, only a mad vision of hell.)

Compare whatever you see in your mind's eye when you those words, apocalypse now, to the opening minutes of "The War at Home." They come from different planets. The documentary opens with excerpts of a Madison civic propaganda spiel shot in 1963. It's "Leave It to Beaver" time. The campus is peaceful and blindingly white. "The all-American town!" says the voiceover narrator.

"The War at Home" then gets down to it. The first, modest campus protest against the war happened in 1963. Things, as they say, escalated quickly. "The War at Home" moves year by



GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER

Spanning 1963 to 1973, the Oscar-nominated documentary "The War at Home" chronicles anti-war activism and institutional response at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

year, from clash to clash, all part of the overwhelming sound of "the machinery of democracy" (as activist Evan Stark puts it), in "high gear."

Directors Silber and Brown accomplish a remarkable amount in 100

minutes, depicting the breadth of the antiwar movement not only in Madison but nationwide. Some protests in Madison took on the campus recruiting efforts of Dow Chemical, makers of napalm. Others targeted UW-Madi-

son's Army Mathematics Research Center. The fatal 1970 campus bombing represented the point at which activism becomes murder.

For some that was more than enough to turn them off the whole movement.

No MPAA rating (some language and violent images)

Running time: 1:40

Playing: Now through Thursday at the Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 N. State St.; www.siskelfilmcenter.org.

But that wasn't the only story of that decade, or that campus, and "The War at Home" remains a key document of those Vietnam war years, wars, bloodshed, noble resistance, reckless endangerment, white, black, male, female, all rolling together. It's the sound and image of democracy in high gear, and at times like our own, the documentary serves as a reminder that pushing back, and speaking out, isn't a luxury; it's a necessity.

Michael Phillips is a Tribune critic.

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'INQUIRING NUNS' ★★★★★

Chicago grapples with query: 'Are you happy?'



MICHAEL PHILLIPS
Talking Pictures

Like "The War at Home," another '60s-focused documentary returning this week to the Gene Siskel Film Center, the early Kartemquin Films project "Inquiring Nuns" captures a specific time and place in American history while speaking directly to you, the viewer, in late 2018.

I doubt "Inquiring

Nuns" will ever lose its fascination for Chicagoans; it's as Chicago a movie as Chicago ever produced. And as verite cinema, blatantly and beautifully ripped off from the 1961 French documentary "Chronicle of a Summer," it gets better and more touching with the decades.

It's back for a weeklong run, and there'll be various guests (co-director and Kartemquin guru Gordon Quinn among them) throughout the Film Center revival. If you haven't seen the film, this will be the sharpest version yet available, a digitally restored clean-up of the original 16



KARTEMQUIN FILMS

Sister Mary Arne and Sister Mary Campion interview visitors to the Art Institute of Chicago in "Inquiring Nuns."

millimeter picture shot in late 1967 by co-directors Quinn and Gerald Temaner.

"Inquiring Nuns" was never intended for general release. Quinn and Temaner made it for \$16,000, financed by Chicago's Catholic Adult Education Center. Out of a group of young Roman Catholic

nuns belonging to St. Denis Parish, the young filmmakers chose Sister Mary Arne and Sister Mary Campion to wield a microphone and ask a random collection of strangers the same question that guided the philosophical interrogations in "Chronicle of a Summer": "Are you happy?"

No MPAA rating

Running time: 1:06

Playing: Now through Thursday at the Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 N. State St.; www.siskelfilmcenter.org.

The answers gathered by the nuns cover every imaginable topic pertinent to American citizens in 1967. The war in Vietnam comes up a great deal; so does dissatisfaction with work and home lives. The conversations take place on Wabash Street under the "L" tracks; in an exhibition room at the Art Institute.

The nuns did not stay nuns. Today, Sister Marie Arne is Kathleen Westling, married to former Tribune sports writer Gary Reinmuth. They live part of the year in New Buffalo, Mich., and part of the year in

Tampa, Fla. They visit Chicago a good deal, she says.

If the same film were made today, Westling says, "I bet we'd get a lot of the same answers. But it'd be harder to get people to answer. People are a little more suspicious today. Cautious."

I ask her why. She points to the current president. Life in Trump's America, she believes, is "more divisive than the country was in 1968. Very discouraging."

That said: In "Inquiring Nuns" one disgruntled Chicagoan calls out then-President Johnson as "a crook." Things change, sometimes radically, and yet the echoes of the past — this film is one of them — remind us where we've been. And who we are.

Michael Phillips is a Tribune critic.

'WEIGHTLESS' ★★ 1/2

Underdeveloped study of single parenthood

Alessandro Nivola's subtle performance hampered by too many aimless subplots

BY DENNIS HARVEY
Variety

Alessandro Nivola looks like a conventionally handsome leading man, but has largely had the career of a character actor so far — something that may factor in his being relatively under-sung for an impressive screen resume stretching back two decades now. That, and the fact that he's often most effective as the quiet, watchful center around which more histrionic characters revolve in indie such as "Junebug" and the recent "Disobedience." They're not the types of performances that typically attract awards, yet those films would lose much of their impact without the subtle gravitas he contributes.

Nivola is just about able to pull off the same trick as the central figure in "Weightless." But Jaron Albertin's U.S.-produced first feature proves unfortunately named — despite the emotional terra firma Nivola and other cast members try to provide, this drama about a taciturn

loner forced into single parenthood drifts into the ozone.

More interested in aesthetic texturing than anything else, the film shows signs of an interesting sensibility, and has some effective, atmospheric moments. Yet it obfuscates a relatively simple tale in ways that aren't enigmatic so much as evidence of a grasp on storytelling somewhere between the unconcerned and oblivious.

Joel (Nivola) works at the county dump in an unspecified rural location (shot around Johnstown in upstate New York). He's not exactly the life of the party, but he does have a good thing going with Janece (Julianne Nicholson), a warmhearted girlfriend of recent vintage who seems able to coax him out of his shell. That pleasant status quo changes when Joel gets a call from an ex-partner's mother, who curtly informs him her daughter has disappeared, and the 10-year-old son he fathered but has never met is now "your responsibility."



Eli Haley, left, and Alessandro Nivola play an uneasy match of loner father and withdrawn son in "Weightless."

Joel is no born conversationalist, but heavy-set, diabetic, 10-year-old Will (Eli Haley) is so withdrawn that nearly 40 minutes pass before we hear him speak. (He was apparently alone in an apartment for three weeks after his mother took off, a situation that like many here is referenced but never explained.) They're an uneasy match: Joel has no idea how to behave around most people, let alone a child, and low-self-esteem case Will appears to expect neglect as his due. Only Janece is appalled when she realizes that Joel simply leaves the kid in the empty house all

day while he's at work. What she takes for callousness, however, is something else. Joel really is trying his best; he just doesn't know any better.

Was he, too, neglected by his parents? Who knows? Though four writers are credited on "Weightless," the script feels like a rough sketch for an as-yet-to-be-worked-out screenplay. Nivola is game to play Joel as a haunted, solitary man. Yet the movie barely probes the present-tense reality of that, leaving whatever past made him that way a near-complete blank.

Nicholson is very good, and Johnny Knoxville

MPPA rating: R (for language and brief sexuality/nudity)

Running time: 1:38

Playing: Now at Facets, 1517 W. Fullerton Ave., www.facets.org

sparks interest as the protagonist's amiable boss, but their characters feel like they've just been introduced before they fade out of the narrative. Subplots — a neighborhood bully targets Will, social workers want to place him in a foster home — likewise introduce promising elements of conflict, then lead nowhere in particular. The film ends with one of those classic "break for freedom" fade-outs that are meant to be liberating, and may indeed feel that way — so long as you don't stop to realize that simply skipping town doesn't solve these characters' problems at all.

"Weightless" treads familiar ground in revolving around an adult hermit of sorts drawn out by the needy child who lands on his doorstep. It's to Albertin's credit that he doesn't milk that for predictable sentimentality or

melodrama. But too often, it seems he'd rather just be shooting the locations without the people for maximum evocative pathos. Some moments of forced visual lyricism aside, the movie has a handsome, thoughtful look in Darren Lew's nuanced color cinematography. Still, the evident care put into its occasionally mannered stylistic aspects only underlines how little affinity Albertin has for basic narrative and psychological concerns.

One suspects he would have preferred to more or less drop those last elements entirely, in favor of an audiovisual tone poem about rural alienation. But "Weightless" hangs awkwardly between that kind of "pure" conceptual abstract, and the straight drama about baggage-laden personalities it refuses to unpack. The result is artful (and well-acted) enough to intrigue, yet underdeveloped enough in the writing to frustrate. Not the least frustrating thing here is that Nivola gives a serious, hardworking performance in a role that nonetheless remains more opaque than many past ones in which he's had a fraction of the screen time.



Friends and uneasy lovers played by Yoo Ah-in, left, and Jeon Jong-seo, center, find their lives disrupted by a mysterious man of means (Steven Yeun) in "Burning."

'BURNING' ★★★ 1/2

Slippery Korean noir a slow-simmering mystery

BY MICHAEL PHILLIPS
Chicago Tribune

Film history, which mutates every week, has given us a sub-species of the mystery genre that knows how to keep a secret, even from itself.

Films in that category resemble riddles with multiple-choice answers, yet none of the choices can be trusted. "The Big Sleep" and "Touch of Evil" don't care about tidy solutions to knotty questions of who killed who. Graver masterworks from "L'Avventura" to "Cache" deal with what happens outside the usual story frame of guilt and innocence. These are wildly different movies, but they're all compelled by how their characters respond to not knowing the answers.

"Burning" is like that too. A languorous, catlike psychological puzzle from one of the essential international masters, Lee Chang-dong, it's set in contemporary South Korea, where college graduates scrounge for employment and class resentments seethe.

The set-up is pure noir. On a street in Seoul, would-be fiction writer Jong-su (Yoo Ah-in) has a chance meeting with Hae-

No MPPA rating (nudity, sex, violence)

Running time: 2:28

mi (Jeon Jong-seo), a childhood friend now working part time as a sidewalk dancer giving away raffle tickets. Their reunion quickly becomes a hook-up, more meaningful to him than to her. Then Hae-mi takes off for a trip to Africa, leaving Jong-su to take care of her elusive cat, who never seems to come out from under the bed.

The slow burn of "Burning" gathers momentum once she returns, with a louche, arrogant lover in tow. This man, Ben (Steven Yeun of "The Walking Dead"), drips with conspicuous wealth. "He's the Great Gatsby," Jong-su says, observing that South Korea, like America, is weirdly full of "mysterious people who are young and rich ... but you don't know what they really do."

At first the writer's sexual jealousy is tempered by his entry into Ben's world, so unlike his own. Jong-su's father, angry and lost, is being sentenced for assault and battery; the family farm, which includes a single cow, offers Jong-su a place to exist but not to live.

Ben and Hae-mi pay an unexpected visit to the rural community where Hae-mi and Jong-su grew up. On the farmhouse patio, the three watch the sunset. Ben drops his little bombshell, regarding his favorite hobby (an act of arson, hinted at in the title).

This comes roughly halfway through the picture. From there, the screenplay by the director and Oh Jung-mi turns more sinister in its possibilities and implications.

Relocated from Japan to South Korea, "Burning" comes from the oblique and superb 1983 short story "Barn Burning" by Haruki Murakami. Director Lee's previous works include the dramas "Secret Sunshine" (2007) and "Poetry" (2010). For me "Burning" comes up a bit short in relation to those masterworks; it's immaculate and beautifully acted, but there are times when you wouldn't mind a rhythmic change-up or two.

That said: The film casts its own kind of spell. In a rich and gratifying way (I hope), you'll start puzzling through what you've seen long before the credits are done rolling

Michael Phillips is a Tribune critic.

'THE POSSESSION OF HANNAH GRACE' ★★

A tedious exorcism story that never fully takes hold

BY KATIE WALSH
Tribune News Service

Perfunctory B-movie "The Possession of Hannah Grace" isn't exactly an earth-shattering entry into the well-worn genre that is the exorcism movie. It doesn't so much as invite attention to itself as it does to the genre itself, allowing viewers to ponder the ways in which it does or does not hew to convention, and what that might mean for the state of the exorcism movie some 45 years after Linda Blair puked pea soup all over our collective frontal lobes in "The Exorcist."

Set in an environment of flickering fluorescent lights and pockmarked poured concrete, "The Possession of Hannah Grace" isn't really about the possession, nor is it even about Hannah Grace. The film, rather, centers on Megan Reed (Shay Mitchell), a newbie overnight intake assistant at the Boston Metro Hospital morgue whose night is rocked by the arrival of Hannah Grace's corpse.

A prologue offers the kind of exorcism content we're familiar with: heavy Catholic iconography, chanting priests, a nubile female body writhing and lashed to a bed. Which is why the most interesting thing about the film, written by Brian Sieve and directed by Diederik Van Rooijen, is it abandons all that gothic familiarity for a night at the morgue. Instead of a patriarchal priest compelling demons to get out, a young woman, riddled with PTSD and clinging to 60 days of sobriety, is just trying to get someone to believe her that something's not right with this body.

One has to wonder just why exorcism films proliferate in the way they do.



Megan (Shay Mitchell) is rocked by the arrival of Hannah Grace's corpse in "The Possession of Hannah Grace."

MPPA rating: R (gruesome images and terror throughout)

Running time: 1:25

It's the landmark success of "The Exorcist," yes, but there's something else that tickles our collective unconscious: the fetishism and ritual, the bondage, the young female bodies, seemingly so permeable, so changing, so susceptible to invasion by demons that sound like black metal frontmen. Anyone who denies the sexual undercurrent here has to answer why there are no exorcism films where young men are possessed (or older women, for that matter).

So that's why when "The Possession of Hannah Grace" zigs where it might historically zag, landing us in the hands of the "smart, resourceful," but down-on-her-luck Megan, in a refrigerated, automated meat locker, we pay attention. Hannah Grace has a bit more agency than Regan MacNeil, and Kirby Johnson gives a wonderfully physically embodied performance as the corpse who won't stay still.

At one point, someone wonders to Megan, "Why hasn't she killed you?" It's an apt question. She's a mentally unstable young woman, struggling with addiction and anxiety and trauma — ripe for possession. But it seems in Megan, Hannah and whatever is inside Hannah (it's never clear) has met its match, and that's the place where we should dive further. It's a bit of a shame the film never draws that out with any clarity.

But for all the pondering "The Possession of Hannah Grace" inspires, it's also true that at a quick 85 minutes, it still manages to feel tedious at times. The dour environment doesn't help, the humor doesn't pop, and disappointingly, the scares just don't land. There are a few jumps and bumps, but there's no real sense of dread or unease or questioning. We simply watch the events unfold with a full understanding of what's going on. It's unfortunate that "The Possession of Hannah Grace" just never fully takes hold.

Katie Walsh is a freelance critic.

Favourite

Continued from Page 1

McNamara percolates with icy wit, blithe obscenities and the occasional droll anachronism. But when the focus shifts to Anne's personal tragedies — the grief she can barely process, amid her own obscenely pampered and lonely existence — Colman gives "The Favourite" the glimmers of heart it needs.

The movie looks and behaves differently from earlier works by Lanthimos, and some of the visual motifs already have proven controversial. With cine-

matographer Robbie Ryan, the director destabilizes our sense of period with brazen fish-eye lenses, wide, slightly warped compositions and sharply angled camera pivots, framing the actors in an attentive but peculiar way.

It's a bit much, but it suits the script's games and stratagems. I don't know if Lanthimos is saying anything especially novel about the machinations of those in power, but he's such an inventive visual thinker, he gives "The Favourite" a bracing momentum. That's not a phrase anyone would use to describe his earlier, often mesmerizing work, even the best of it. (One of



Olivia Colman, right, and Rachel Weisz in "The Favourite."

my favorite sequences here is a duck race, shot in elegantly bizarre slow motion, full of cackling courtiers cheering on the com-

petitors.)

In interviews Lanthimos has noted some reference points for his approach to "The Favourite," including

MPPA rating: R (strong sexual content, nudity and language)

Running time: 2:01

Peter Greenaway's "The Draughtsman's Contract" and, in its psychosexual tensions, Ingmar Bergman's "Cries and Whispers." He takes a cue from Restoration comedies as well, naughty artifacts of the age just prior to Queen Anne's reign. In "The Favourite" a diamond-hard tale of seduction such as "The Country Wife" finds a 21st century equivalent, albeit with rougher language and a refreshing lack of mi-

sogyny. The women in "The Favourite" are creatures of self-interest and ruthless practicality; to the film's benefit, and ours, nobody is a mere fool, not even the often foolish queen Colman brilliantly portrays.

Audiences enticed by the buzz and the trailer may go in expecting something morally enlightening or historically respectful. Wrong movie. Which is to say: It's the right movie for everybody else.

Michael Phillips is a Tribune critic.

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Metz

Continued from Page 1

that, you get a feel of what's comfortable in that neighborhood — socioeconomically and visually?"

The three aforementioned widows live in neighborhoods spread across the city.

According to a publicist for the film: Alice lives on the Northwest Side in the Dunning neighborhood; Linda is based in Humboldt Park on the West Side (with her quinceañera shop located in West Town); and Veronica's apartment is in the Gold Coast in one of the Mies van der Rohe buildings at 860 N. Lake Shore Drive.

"I would talk to people in each neighborhood," Eagan said. "Where do they shop? That's how I like to think about it: If I lived here, what's around? Where would I shop? What can I afford? So the clothes were bought here. I went into all the boutiques, or I would go to the neighborhoods and check out their thrift stores."

I talked with Eagan about key characters and how their wardrobes help to tell the story.

(Note: Mild spoilers follow; if you have yet to see the film, best to save this piece for later.)

For Viola Davis as Veronica

Q: What is Veronica's look?

A: She's the ringleader, so: Practical, powerful, expensive. She's a very confident character on the outside. She used to lobby



MERRICK MORTON/TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX PHOTOS

Viola Davis wears her hair natural in the film, so unusual accent pieces like these gold earrings add a striking touch.

for the teachers union, so she knows how to present herself to others and there's a professional side to how she dresses. Its striking — but not overbearing. Beautiful stuff, and she just wears it so well. If I saw Veronica on the street I'd be like, "Wow, she's got it together."

Viola was coming off her television show ("How to Get Away with Murder") and she plays an attorney on that, which is also power-dressing. She wears a lot of dresses on the show and I just thought, this character does *not*. Women in Veronica's position, they wear a lot of pants these days. It's Stella McCartney

and Michael Kors Collection. I believe one of her coats, the blue coat, is Balenciaga.

Q: The clean, tailored lines of her wardrobe match the clean lines of her apartment.

A: That was purposely done. Once I saw that apartment — you kind of have to match the character to where they live. A lot of us do that anyway, our personal style comes into our living space. For that apartment, Steve really wanted the white and the stark and the clean to convey the money, basically.

Q: How does her look evolve?

A: Initially it's a lot of white, like that white skirt suit. And by the end that shifts to all black. Her arc is about getting down to business. She knows what's going on, so her clothing gets darker.

Q: That shift makes sense for the story — they're in black for the heist — but it also has thematic resonance because she learns some dark truths.

A: In terms of the white, I was thinking: Her hands aren't dirty yet. For all we know, she's clean and she knows nothing about what her husband's business really was. Either that — or she's putting that persona on. Angelic, clean, I have nothing to do with this.

Q: Even her dog is all white!

A: By the way, there's no way I could wear a white suit like that. The way I drink coffee, the way I do anything, there's no way. But I see a woman like that and I think, "Man, she's knows how to handle herself." The skirt suit is Alexander McQueen.

Q: The movie deals with so many different nuanced issues, including race. Before she was widowed, Veronica was married to a white man (Liam Neeson) and she eventually learns information that completely alters what she thought she knew about him and their life together — and some of that is bound up in race. I'm wondering if Veronica's all-black wardrobe is also a symbolic way of showing her embrace her blackness and reject the proximity to whiteness she had through her husband.

A: I think that's a fair interpretation. I love that scene of Brian Tyree Henry in her apartment when he's walking out and just gets in her face and says: "Welcome back." Like, you tried to escape your blackness — but your husband's gone now, this life is over and I'm going to take the money you owe me.

Especially as a white woman, I'm asking myself: Am I going to understand? And I have to hope they (McQueen and Davis) help me through it.

Q: That's interesting — how do you approach any job so that when you're addressing the looks for a black character or a Latina character, say, you don't come with inaccurate preconceptions or inadvertently fall into stereotypes?

A: It's a good question.



Elizabeth Debicki in her staple gold bandage dress.



Michelle Rodriguez's look grows edgier as the film builds.



Daniel Kaluuya, left, sports a signature leather shirt-jacket.

Do we express ourselves differently based on culture? Probably so. Will I understand that? And do I need help in understanding that? I'll ask the actors: "Tell me what you think. What are your feelings?" In any movie you do, you want to hear their voice. And then we work on it together.

Q: Viola Davis wears her hair natural in the film and it's short, so her earrings really stand out. There's a pair of gold stick earrings that are unusual and amazing. They create this illusion that a vertical stick of gold is literally speared through each of her earlobes. I couldn't even figure out how the earrings worked.

A: They look like a tiny tree branch, right? Paula Mendoza is the designer. Normally you put an earring in from the front to the back, and these went from the back to the front. So the post came through from the back — and the stopper, for lack of a better word, was what you saw in the front and it looks like the top of the stick.

For Elizabeth Debicki as Alice

Q: What is Alice's look?

A: Alice isn't dressing for Alice, she's dressing for the men in her life and initially that's her husband. He wanted her to look a certain way: Sexy. So it's all

about the excess. Tacky, for lack of a better word. It's all flash. It's deliberately trying to show the money. And it's the complete opposite of Veronica — so Alice would shop at the mall verses Veronica, who would shop at a high-end designer boutique.

Q: Her centerpiece outfit in the film is a gold bandage Herve Leger dress. That style of dress has become something of a staple, but I get the sense it's become sort of passe or dated to people who really pay attention to fashion.

A: In my mind, it was her mom who went out and bought her that dress thinking: "This is what's sexy to men." Showing her body, that's what is important because it will get her what she wants. Again, it's gold so it's got that flash. The dress is so impractical for everything — when she walks in the warehouse they're like, "What are you wearing?" She looks like walking sex, and that's what we were trying to portray in the beginning. She has no self-confidence whatsoever. And she uses her body — or the way that she looks — as a way to get money.

Q: How does her look evolve?

A: As she starts coming into her own we see her in jeans and a leather jacket. The prints are gone and it's more monochromatic. The

attention goes away from her body and to her face and her mind. She starts to take away all the layers of excess and it becomes simplified.

Veronica's look is pretty steady throughout, aside and the arc of the color change. But for both Alice and Linda, they start becoming grounded and their wardrobe becomes more practical.

And in the final scene, we see Alice in that camel coat. She's more confident and she's doesn't have that need to stand out in quite the same way anymore. She doesn't need that garish, flashy look.

(Earlier this month Debicki told *Vulture*: "I know it sounds really flippant, but when we picked out the outfit, I remember saying to my costume designer, 'It's so nice to think of her going to like Bloomingdales and buying a coat.' She had nothing.")

For Michelle Rodriguez as Linda

Q: What is Linda's look?

A: Confident but also more feminine than we usually see Michelle Rodriguez, so a lot of florals early on. She also wears dresses in the beginning, which is softer. She's a mother and she's running her own business, so she needs clothing that has ease and simplicity on a daily basis. She's the last person you'd see in a white suit, in other words. She doesn't have the time or money to go out and buy expensive clothes. Her wardrobe isn't going to catch your eye and she doesn't need it to.

Q: That softer, feminine look in the beginning matches her quinceañera dress shop, which is a very feminine space.

A: Right, and that was a really interesting thing for Michelle because I don't know if we've ever seen her like that.

Q: How does her look evolve?

A: We start seeing an edge to her. Her look gets harder. These guys took her business! So she starts wearing jeans and jackets.

There's a symmetry to her look and Alice's look — that was something we wanted to show. Towards the middle and into the end, they're becoming a team and kind of mirroring each other in their clothing. And you see people tend to do that with their friends, they all have a similar taste or style.

For Daniel Kaluuya as Jatemme

Q: Jatemme's standout look is a leather shirt-jacket with just the top button fastened.

A: Again, monochromatic. Sleek. Strong. It was almost a uniform. There's power but it's understated. Everything is expensive but he doesn't need to show flash for everyone to know who he is.

His look is cool — obviously he pays attention and he has style — but it's also: I'm all business.

That jacket you mention, that's a jacket in the shape of a shirt. It was like his power suit. It's made by Theory. There was something so simple and striking about it. I didn't want anything with lots of pockets or accoutrements. I didn't want anything to distract from his eyes. So there was a very pale gray one that he's wearing when he's in the cemetery, and then he has a darker one when he's in the gymnasium and the kids are rapping. It's the same jacket just in different colors.

Q: If he had worn the jacket open, it would have been a looser look — and that character is anything but loose.

A: He did that during the fitting — he snapped that top button — and it was like yes, that's it. It gave him Jatemme's confidence and the walk. Sometimes those happy accidents happen and you're like, that's perfect.

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WATCH THIS: FRIDAY



Jaimie Alexander

“Blindspot” (7 p.m., NBC): Remi’s (Jaimie Alexander) insidious schemes just wind up putting her and Weller (Sullivan Stapleton) in dire jeopardy in a new episode called “Case: Sun, Moon, and the Truth.” Elsewhere, Patterson and Rich (Ashley Johnson, Ennis Esmer) manage to find the solution to a real complicated puzzle at the FBI. Rob Brown guest stars; Audrey Esparza also stars.

“Tanked: Unfiltered” (7 p.m., 12 a.m., 3 a.m., ANIM): Washington Redskins running back Adrian Peterson is a guy who knows what he wants, and it involves recruiting the ATM wizards to devise a custom-built aquarium that spares no expense. He directs that the interior is to be “blinded out” with amethyst crystals and replica diamonds, which poses a challenge even these guys never have run into before, in the new episode “Adrian Peterson’s MVP Tank.”

“A Very Nutty Christmas” (7 p.m., 11:01 p.m., Lifetime): An avalanche of seasonal cookie orders already has bakery owner Kate Holiday (Melissa Joan Hart) feeling frazzled, so when her boyfriend abruptly ends their relationship, her Christmas spirit goes right up the chimney. The morning after she goes to bed after hanging a very special ornament on her tree, Kate encounters the surprise of her life in the form of Chip (Barry Watson), a handsome soldier who bears an unnerving resemblance to a famous ballet character. Marissa Jaret Winokur and Conchata Ferrell also star.

“Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives” (8 p.m., 11 p.m., Food): In the new episode “From Sandwiches to Stroganoff,” host Guy Fieri starts his culinary adventure in San Antonio, where an eatery that’s an East Coast-Texas deli mash-up piles up succulent smoked meat sensations. Another funky joint draws a crowd with its big-time empanadas. Later, in Sebastopol, Calif., he stops at a farm-to-table spot, where the kitchen team puts their spin on stroganoff and decadent bacon-gelato-toffee waffles.

TALK SHOWS

“The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon” (10:34 p.m., NBC): Dolly Parton performs; actor Nick Kroll.*

“The Late Show With Stephen Colbert” (10:35 p.m., CBS): Former first lady Michelle Obama.*

“Jimmy Kimmel Live” (10:35 p.m., ABC): Singer Bono; comic Chris Rock; actor Will Ferrell; actress Kristen Bell; actor Channing Tatum; rapper Snoop Dogg; actress Mila Kunis; musician Pharrell; singer-songwriter Brad Paisley; actress Zoe Saldana.*

* Subject to change

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FRIDAY EVENING, NOV. 30

		MOVIES							
		PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS	2	MacGyver: “Specimen 234 & P.A.P.R. & Outbreak.” (N)	Hawaii Five-0: “Mai Ka Po Mai Ka ‘Oia’Po.” (N) ©	Blue Bloods: “Handcuffs.” (N) ©	News (N) ▶			
	NBC	5	Blindspot: “Case: Sun, Moon, and the Truth.” (N)	Midnight, Texas (N) ©	Dateline NBC: “Final Curtain.” (N) ©	NBC 5 News (N) ▶			
	ABC	7	Child Support (N) ©	Child Support ©	(9:01) 20/20 ©	News at 10pm (N) ▶			
	WGN	9	† (6) NBA Basketball: Chicago Bulls at Detroit Pistons. (N) (Live) ©	Last Man Standing ©	WGN News at Nine (N) (Live) ©	WGN News at Ten (N)			
	Antenna	9.2	Alice ©	Alice ©	B. Miller	B. Miller	Coach ©	Coach ©	Murphy
	This TV	9.3	Mixed Nuts (PG-13, '94) **	Steve Martin. ©			12 Days of Christmas Eve (PG, '04) **		
	PBS	11	Chi. Tonight: Washington Review (N)	Washington Week (N)	Rick Steves’ Travel as a Political Act ©		70s Soul Superstars (My Music) ©		
	The U	26.1	7 Eyewitness News (N)	The Game	Engagement	Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©	
	MeTV	26.3	Andy Griffith Andy Griffith	Gomer Pyle	WKRP Cincinnati	Hogan Hero	Hogan Hero	C. Burnett	
	H&I	26.4	Star Trek ©	Star Trek: Next		Star Trek: Deep Space 9	Star Trek ▶		
Bounce	26.5	Scandal: “Defiance.” ©	How Stella Got Her Groove Back (R, '98) **			Why Do ▶			
FOX	32		College Football: Pac-12 Championship -- Utah vs Washington. (N) (Live) ©						
Ion	38	NCIS: Los Angeles ©	NCIS: Los Angeles ©	NCIS: Los Angeles ©	NCIS: Los Angeles ©	NCIS: LA ▶			
TeleM	44	(7:05) La sultana (N) ©	Falsa identidad (N) ©	(9:05) Señora Acero (N)		Chicago (N)			
CW	50	Dynasty (N) ©	Crazy Ex-Girlfriend (N)		CSI: Miami ©	Chicago ▶			
UniMas	60	Reto 4 elementos: Naturaleza extrema			Rosario Tijeras ▶				
WJYS	62	Kenneth Cox Ministries	Joyce Meyer	Robison	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Monument		
Univ	66	Jesús	Mi marido tiene familia		Amar a muerte	Noticias (N)			
CABLE	AE		Live PD: Rewind (N) ©		Live PD: “Live PD -- 11.30.18.” (N) ©				
	AMC		† (6) Jingle All the Way **	Jingle All the Way (PG, '96) **	† Sinbad ©		Holiday ▶		
	ANIM		Tanked: Unfiltered (N) ©	Tanked (N) ©	Scaled (N) ©		Tanked ▶		
	BBCA		† (6) Braveheart (R, '95) **	† Mel Gibson, Sophie Marceau. ©			Norton (N) ▶		
	BET		blackish	blackish	Tyler Perry’s Temptation: Confessions of a Marriage Counselor ▶				
	BIGTEN		College Basketball: Wisconsin at Iowa. (N) (Live) ©		College Basketball (N) ▶				
	BRAVO		Buying It Blind (N) ©	Sweet Home (N) ©		Get a Room w/Carson (N)	Get-Room ▶		
	CLTV		News at 7	News (N)	News at 8	News (N)	Chic.Best	Weekend	
	CNBC		Shark Tank ©	Shark Tank ©		Shark Tank ©	Shark ▶		
	CNN		Anderson Cooper 360 (N)	Cuomo Prime Time (N)		CNN Tonight (N)	Tonight (N) ▶		
	COM		South Park	South Park	The Comedy Central Roast: “Bruce Willis.” ©		Cellar (N)		
	DISC		Gold Rush: Pay Dirt (N)	Gold Rush (N) ©		Master of Arms (N) ©	Reformed (N)		
	DISN		Andi Mack	Coop (N)	Raven (N)	Raven	Coop	Andi Mack	
	DI		Botched ©	Botched: “Super Fupa.”		Botched ©	Botched ▶		
	ESPN		NBA Basketball: Houston Rockets at San Antonio Spurs. (N) (Live) ©		NBA Basketball (N) ▶				
	ESPN2		† College Football: MAC Championship (N)		SportsCenter (N) (Live) ©		SportCtr (N)		
	FNC		Tucker Carlson (N)	Hannity (N) ©		The Ingraham Angle (N)	Fox News		
	FOOD		Diners, Drive Diners, Drive	Diners (N)	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	Diners, Drive	
	FREE		† (5:40) The Santa Clause	(7:50) The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause *			700 Club ▶		
	FX		How to Train Your Dragon 2 (PG, '14) ***	Voices of Jay Baruchel.		Train Dragon 2 ▶			
	HALL		Christmas at the Palace (NR, '18) Merritt Patterson.		Christmas at Graceland (NR, '18) ©				
	HGTV		Dream	Dream	Dream (N)	Dream	Dream	Hunters (N)	
	HIST		Ancient Aliens ©		(8:02) Ancient Aliens ©		(9:05) Ancient Aliens ©	Aliens ▶	
	HLN		Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	
	IFC		Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	
	LIFE		A Very Nutty Christmas (NR, '18) Melissa Joan Hart.				(9:03) Christmas Harmony (NR, '18) ▶		
	MSNBC		All In With Chris Hayes	Rachel Maddow Show (N)		The Last Word (N)	11th Hour (N)		
	MTV		Ridic. (N)	Ridic. (N)	Ridic. (N)	TooStupid	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous. ▶	
	NBCSCH		Chicago Hud	Football	Chicago Bulls Postgame		Poker Night	Heartland (N)	
	NICK		SpongeBob	SpongeBob	The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie (PG, '04) ***		Friends ©		
OVATION		† (6) The Firm (R, '93) ***	Tom Cruise, Jeanne Tripplehorn.		Outbreak (R, '95) ***				
OWN		The Paynes	The Paynes	The Paynes	The Paynes	The Paynes	The Paynes		
ODY		Dateline: Secrets (N)	Killer Couples ©		Killer Couples ©	Killer ▶			
PARMT		† (5:30) Hancock ('08) **	Bellator MMA Live (N) (Live) ©			Indiana J. ▶			
SYFY		† (6) Men in Black II **	Z Nation (N) ©		Van Helsing (N) ©	Z Nation ▶			
TBS		Burgers	Suicide Squad (PG-13, '16) **	Will Smith, Jared Leto. ©		ELEAGUE			
TCM		Executive Action (PG, '73) **	Burt Lancaster. ©		Jeremiah Johnson (PG, '72) ***	©			
TLC		90 Day Fiancé: “Extended: Flirting With Disaster.” (N)		90 Day (N)	Return to Amish (N) ©				
TLN		Camp Meeting		Life Today	Dare	7th Street			
TNT		The Sorcerer’s Apprentice (PG, '10) **	Nicolas Cage. ©		Sorcerer’s Apprentice ▶				
TOON		Gumball	Gumball	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Burgers	Family Guy		
TRAV		Ghost Adventures ©	Ghost Adventures: “Ghosts of the Old West.” (N) ©			Ghost ▶			
TVL		Everybody Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Two Men	Two Men	King		
USA		Law & Order: SVU	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam		
VH1		The Waterboy (PG-13, '98) *	Adam Sandler. ©		The 40-Year-Old Virgin (R, '05) ***				
WE		† (6:45) Love After Lockup	Love After Lockup (N) ©			Love After Lockup ©			
WGN America		† (6) Full Metal Jacket (R, '87) ***		Full Metal Jacket (R, '87) ***	Matthew Modine. ©				
PREMIUM	HBO		REAL Sports Gumbel	Tomb Raider (PG-13, '18) **	Alicia Vikander. ©		VICE ©		
	HBO2		Camping ©	Axios ©	Game Night (R, '18) ***	Jason Bateman.	Surviving Christmas **		
	MAX		† (6:40) The Fate of the Furious (PG-13, '17) **		Judge (N)	Mike Judge	Avatar ***		
	SHO		† Pirates-Worlds		A Bad Moms Christmas (R, '17) **		Escape at Dannemora ▶		
	STARZ		† (6:07) 27 Dresses ***		Outlander ©		(9:01) Showtime (PG-13, '02) * ▶		
STZNC		The Curious Case of Benjamin Button (PG-13, '08) ***	Brad Pitt. ©			Life (R) ***			

Richards

Continued from Page 1

Watts’ playing was so incredible, the band couldn’t go wrong,” Richards says. “He is inspiring to everybody, and I want more of it. A great rhythm section — Charlie and (bassist) Darryl Jones — opens up everything” for Richards and his guitar-playing sidekick, Ronnie Wood.

In a cut-to-the-chase interview this week, Richards opened up about a few things that have been on his mind recently, including the ongoing work on the first Stones album of original material since 2005. Here’s an edited portion of that conversation:

Tribune: There’s always the speculation around every Stones tour that it could be the last one. When you finished the European tour this year, did you always anticipate that you’d be playing more shows in 2019?

Richards: You’re always optimistic. The band was in such good shape, and it felt like we were still peaking so that we all kind of looked around after the last show in Warsaw and were like, “That’s it?” That’s when the idea germinated to do this one. Besides, what else would I be doing?

Q: You’ve suggested in recent interviews that you feel like you have more stamina at age 74 than you did a decade before. Why is that?

A: I don’t attribute it to anything. You hope for the best (laughs). When you play in a band that’s playing well, the energy starts to increase in between tours, and you’re itching to get back out there. I did give up the booze this year, like I’ve given up a lot of other things. The experiment is over (laughs). I’m enjoying it, though. After I quit, I didn’t find things much different, which is why I stopped.

Q: Last winter, you said the Stones would have a new studio album out by the end of the year. How’s that going?

A: Mick (Jagger) and I got together the last few months with (producer) Don Was in the studio, and we’ve been knocking up some ideas. We want to do some more sessions, but not sure when. We might do something in February and March. It’s progressing. All I can say, there are a couple of nice



MARK ALLAN/INVISION

Mick Jagger and Keith Richards of the Rolling Stones perform in London on their 2018 “No Filter” tour. The band is coming to Soldier Field in June.

things happening, with the promise of a lot more, and we’re having fun doing it. We get together, and it’s always, ‘Got anything new?’ ‘Did anything else occur?’ And a couple of songs always pop up.

Q: Is it still clicking quickly for you and Jagger when you get together to write songs?

A: You jump into this familiar spot, even if we’ve been away for months. It’s comfortable kicking around ideas. We’ve been doing this for a while, so it’s not difficult to start up again. Mick is a great rhythm guitar player — I always enjoyed playing guitar with him because we’re both rhythm guys really. We’re writing with two guitars, and I might throw piano or bass on here and there.

Q: Was it a surprise to you that the band was able to knock out the blues album (the 2016 release of blues covers, “Blue & Lonesome”) so quickly?

A: In a way it was a surprise, all of it. When we got back together, we just had the feeling the Stones had to make this album, bring it full circle from where we came, which was to do an entire album of the kind we would’ve recorded when we first played the clubs in London. We would’ve played these same songs back then. We

never made an album of us doing that, and it occurred spontaneously — “now’s the time.” We did it in five days. And then it was, “I wonder if they’ll like it.” It was a great feeling to get the response we did. It may have affected what we’re doing now. Maybe hitting back on the roots for that record affects what you’re going to do later. I’m not saying we’re going to do a Vol. 2 blues record, but the way you record or hear things is affected by that. It gave us great energy going forward.

Q: Have the Stones stopped making new recordings a priority because of how digital has changed the market?

A: The world changes, and what’s the point of complaining about it? You just do your body of work. Stream it, whatever. I do find it encouraging that the vinyl side of things has increased immensely. That’s still the apex of stuff — analog recording is the best sound you’re going to get. Digital does wonderful things, visually and in every other area. But in sound, it ain’t quite the thing — too sanitized. You lose substantial parts of the music. That’s why we always record analog, but unfortunately it comes out digitally (online). We’re stuck with it, so there’s no

point in whining about it.

Q: It’s often said that being in a band is like being married to a bunch of people at the same time. What’s the state of the Stones marriage after 50 years?

A: (Laughs). We’re still deciding who’s Mr. and Mrs.

Q: You’ve been pretty unfiltered when you speak or write about Mick and sometimes it creates headlines. Any regrets about that?

A: It’s better to be honest with each other. The fact is, we’ve been together 50 years, and 99 percent of the time we’re cool with each other. The 1 percent that we ain’t, everybody hears about it. It’s a drop in the bucket.

Q: You put out a solo album (“Crossed Heart”) in 2015. Would those songs have made it on a Stones album if there had been plans for the band to record at that point?

A: It was more about working with (drummer) Steve Jordan. We’ve worked together since recording “Jumpin’ Jack Flash” with Aretha (Franklin) in ‘86. Steve and I enjoyed working together on the “Hail! Hail! Rock ‘n’ Roll” (Chuck Berry concert) movie, and we started thinking

about putting a band together, and made a couple of albums (“Talk is Cheap” in 1988 and “Main Offender” in 1992). We had some free time, and we recorded “Crossed” off and on over two years, without any intention at first of making a record. We pulled in some great players and eventually got it done. It was done apart from anything the Stones might’ve done during that time.

Q: Any plans for the Stones to play some deeper cuts on this tour beyond the hits?

A: First we have to get the machinery well-oiled again, and the shape of the show will come in rehearsals. You always want to try something new. We’re up for it, but it takes time to get the songs in shape to play live. Solomon Burke’s “Cry to Me” (which the Stones covered on their 1965 album “Out of Our Heads”) is something we started to play around with in rehearsals this year, and that was coming along. A few years back, Mick came up with “She’s a Rainbow,” and I wouldn’t have thought of that (laughs).

Greg Kot is a Tribune critic.

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Horoscopes



Today's birthday (Nov. 30): Consider your spirit's path this year. Financial discipline produces satisfying results. Listen to your body and spirit for growing vitality. A winter raining silver inspires an educational shift. Rising shared fortunes this summer come before a financial barrier. Stay true to yourself for highest gain.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 7. Maintain your physical practices and routines despite distraction. There may be an argument about who is in charge.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 7. Family comes first. Work out plans before taking action. A seemingly attractive option may be less so upon inspection. Relax and wait for developments.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 8. Household matters have your attention. Invest in home and family. Make repairs and structural upgrades. Improve the functionality of your space.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 7. Distractions and daydreams could lead to mistakes. Edit your message carefully before hitting "send." Consider potential consequences of your words and actions.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 8. Make financial plans. Income rises with discipline and focus. Dreamy fantasies distract from practical realities. Avoid extra expense and effort by budgeting carefully.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 9. Imagine your vision completed. You can realize a personal passion project with discipline. Review plans and groundwork today, and schedule action for later.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 6. Slow down or risk breakage. An obstacle or barrier requires careful consideration to navigate. Review different options. Make practical plans in private.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 8. Provide a stabilizing influence with a group project. Show leadership without dominating. Delegate and coordinate. Avoid controversy, jealousies or politics. Share diplomacy and common purpose.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 8. Career gains come with steady, consistent actions. Maintain momentum. Plot the steps required, and then advance one by one.

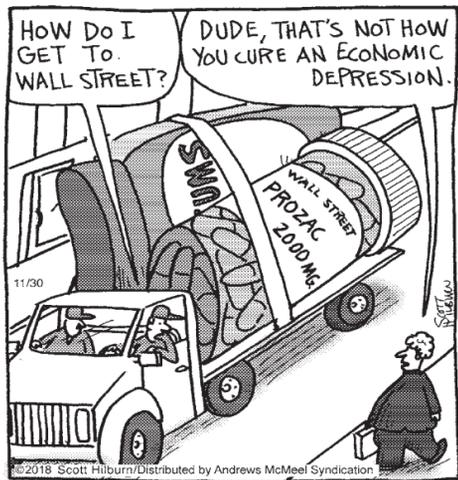
Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 8. Don't hurry down the road. Slow down to avoid accidents. Avoid reckless or spontaneous moves. Advance with eyes wide open. Watch the scenery, and savor beautiful moments.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 8. Old assumptions get challenged. Review financial plans, and plug any leaks. Friends help you make a valuable connection.

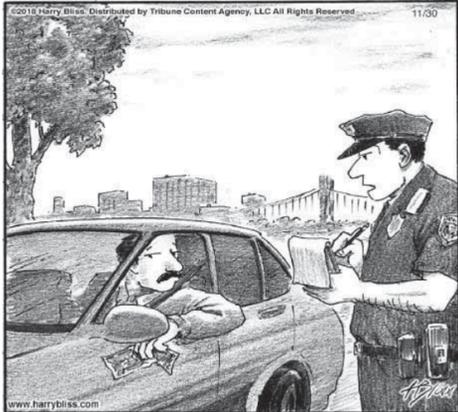
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 7. A structural barrier with a partnership challenges. Slow down, and look around. There may be solutions hidden in plain sight. Reality clashes with fantasy.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater



Bliss



Bridge

Both vulnerable, South deals

North	♠ 3	♥ J42	♦ AQ5	♣ KQ9872
West	♠ J952	♥ K9	♦ J10842	♣ 53
East	♠ KQ1087	♥ Q63	♦ 973	♣ A4
South	♠ A64	♥ A10875	♦ K6	♣ J106

In the early part of this century, not so long ago, the best woman's pair in the world was probably Mildred Breed and Shawn Quinn, both from Texas. They were West and East, respectively, in today's deal.

Breed's four-spade pre-empt exposed her side to a serious penalty, but North didn't know that and felt she had to show her heart support, even at the five level. The road to 11 tricks proved too elusive for South.

Declarer won the opening spade lead with the ace and ruffed a spade. She then cashed three rounds of diamonds to discard her last spade before running the jack of hearts to Breed's king. This was the position:

North	♠ Void	♥ 4	♦ Void	♣ KQ9872
West	♠ J9	♥ 9	♦ J10	♣ 53
East	♠ K108	♥ Q6	♦ Void	♣ A4
South	♠ Void	♥ A1087	♦ Void	♣ J106

The defense was perfect. Breed led a diamond and Quinn discarded her low club. There was now no way for declarer to repeat the heart finesse and she finished down one. Better play by South would have been to cash the king of diamonds at trick two and then lead a diamond to the queen. She can then run the jack of hearts to the king. On any defense from this point, South can ruff one spade, discard her other spade, and have the needed entry to repeat the heart finesse.

— Bob Jones, tcaeditors@tribpub.com

Dilbert



Baby Blues



Zits



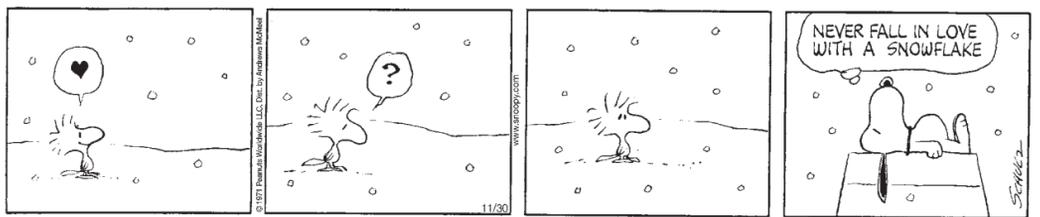
Mr. Boffo



Frazz



Classic Peanuts



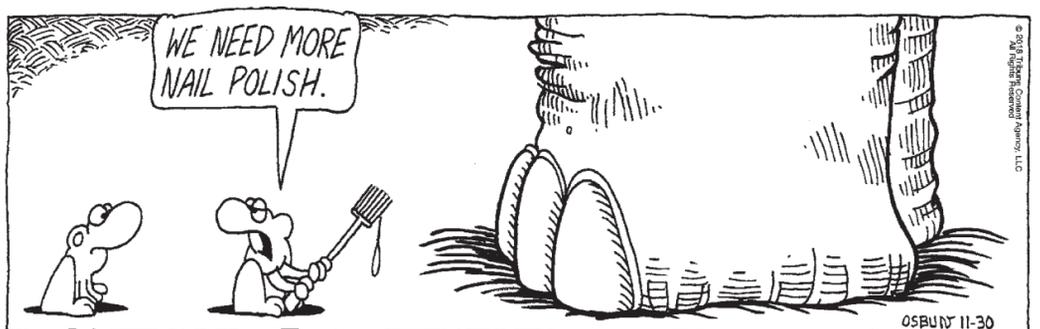
Pickles



Dick Tracy



Animal Crackers



Prickly City



CHICAGO WEATHER CENTER

chicagoweathercenter.com | BY TOM SKILLING AND WGN9



FRIDAY, NOV. 30 NORMAL HIGH: 40° NORMAL LOW: 26° RECORD HIGH: 66° (1962) RECORD LOW: -1° (1947)

Slight warming brings rain, potential flooding

LOCAL FORECAST

HIGH 40 **LOW** 33

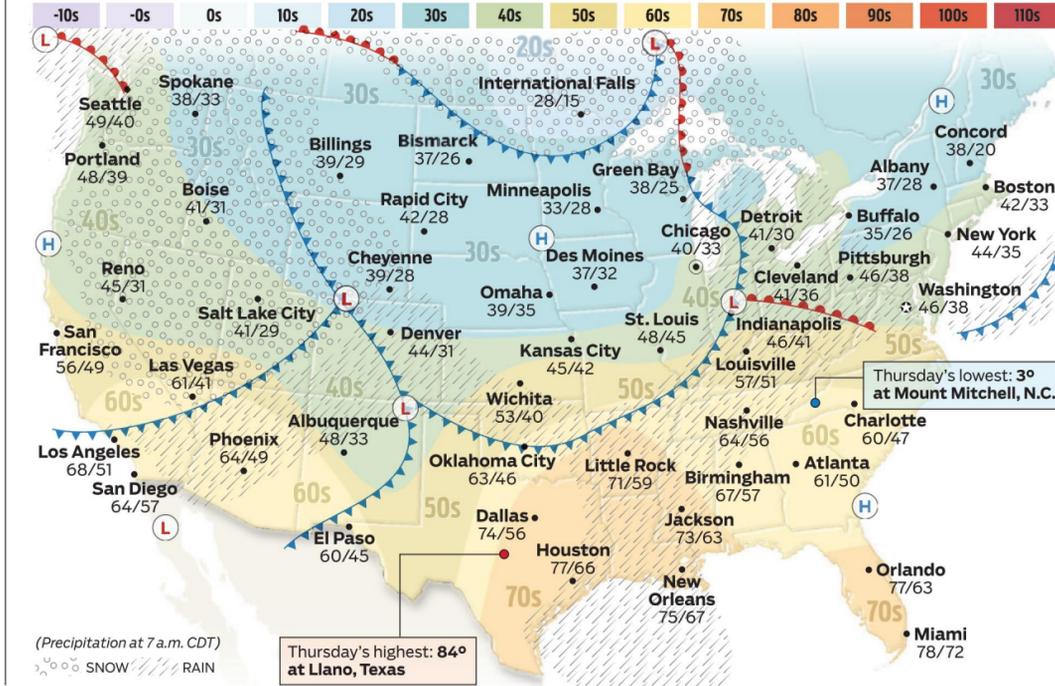
■ Low pressure to south moves out of Illinois into Indiana during predawn hours. A band of light freezing rain or drizzle with it. High pressure overhead Friday will also move east as a low pressure deepens in the Central plains.

■ Clouds thin before noon. A little sunshine midday before cloudiness increases ahead of the next low pressure system.

■ Afternoon highs in the upper 30s to lower 40s.

■ Clouds lower overnight and rain spreads over the area, especially southern portions, toward morning. Light winds.

NATIONAL FORECAST



Early-morning light freezing rain or drizzle moves off to the east, but remnant slick roads may cause problems during the morning commute. The Chicago area could see a little sun in the late morning and early afternoon. But a strengthening low-pressure system in the Plains will approach in the next 24 hours — with first lowering clouds during the afternoon and overnight, then rain and possibly a few embedded thunderstorms spreading over our area from the south and west Saturday.

Temperatures should warm into the 40s Saturday, helping the rain to quickly melt the still waterlogged snow that covers a good portion of our area. With already saturated soils, the runoff will likely produce flooding not only of already swollen rivers and streams, but also low-lying flood-prone areas.

SATURDAY, DEC. 1

HIGH 42 **LOW** 40

Cloudy. East winds over 35 mph. Steady rain, t-storms possible. Highs 40-45. A chance of rain overnight. Runoff from thawing snow. Rains could cause flooding on rivers, low-lying areas. Winds W/N overnight.

SUNDAY, DEC. 2

HIGH 46 **LOW** 32

Fog, drizzle early, cloudy, cooler. Afternoon rain showers could mix with snow NW. Highs in mid 40s early. Temps falling into upper 30s later. Mostly cloudy overnight, chance of a few flurries. North winds.

MONDAY, DEC. 3

HIGH 36 **LOW** 26

Mostly cloudy — snow showers possible especially near Lake Michigan. Highs in the middle 30s. Partly cloudy overnight. North to northeast winds.

TUESDAY, DEC. 4

HIGH 31 **LOW** 22

Mostly cloudy with a few snowflakes, especially northwest Indiana. Afternoon highs in the upper 20s to lower 30s. Partly cloudy overnight. Northwest winds.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 5

HIGH 30 **LOW** 19

Partly sunny and cold — highs in the upper 20s to around 30. Partly cloudy overnight. Westerly winds.

THURSDAY, DEC. 6

HIGH 31 **LOW** 21

Some sun, but clouds on the increase during the day. High temperatures 30-35. Partly cloudy overnight. Westerly winds.

ASK TOM

Dear Tom,
Which storms had higher winds, the 1967 Big Snow or the 2011 Groundhog Day blizzard?

— Todd, Zion

Dear Todd,
We passed your question on to Chicago weather historian Frank Wachowski, who personally measured the snow and wind gusts in both storms. He noted that while the Jan. 26-27, 1967, Big Snow produced a bit more snow than the Jan. 31-Feb. 2, 2011, Groundhog Day blizzard — 23.0 inches compared with 21.2 inches — the 2011 storm produced significantly stronger winds. The official peak gust measured at Midway Airport during the 1967 storm was 53 mph, while in the 2011 storm the official maximum gust at O'Hare was 61 mph. Other wind gusts recorded in that storm included 70 mph at the Chicago lakefront, 67 mph at Burns Harbor and 63 mph at Waukegan Harbor.

Write to: ASK TOM
2501 W. Bradley Place
Chicago, IL 60618
asktomwhy@wgnv.com

WGN-TV meteorologists Steve Kahn, Richard Koehnman, Paul Merzlock and Paul Dailey, plus Bill Snyder, contribute to this page.

Powerhouse winter storm to produce strong winds here

WINDS AND WAVE HEIGHTS TO SOAR SATURDAY

Estimated WAVE HEIGHTS on Chicago's lakeshore

5PM	8PM	11PM	2AM	5AM	8AM	10AM	4PM	10PM	1AM	4AM
2mph	8mph	17mph	21mph	29mph	35mph	25mph	13mph	10mph	13mph	1ft

Chicago precipitation probability:

FRIDAY	FRI. NIGHT	SATURDAY	SAT. NIGHT	SUNDAY	SUN. NIGHT	MONDAY
1%	26%	90%	64%	46%	21%	10%

30-40 mph GUSTS LIKELY—CHICAGO WINDS TO HOWL SATURDAY

A HUGE WIND MACHINE OF A STORM! Saturday weather map snapshot Jet-stream forecast

LAKE MICHIGAN UPDATE—NO CHANGE IN LAKE LEVEL

Water temp at the Chicago shoreline

WAVE AND WIND SNAPSHOT (heights in feet)

Noon Saturday forecast

Arrows depict forecast surface winds

POWERHOUSE WINTER STORM

JET STREAM FORECAST

STRONGEST UPPER WINDS

GULF MOISTURE

SOURCES: Frank Wachowski, National Weather Service archives

TOM SKILLING, BILL SNYDER, LINDSEY PARK AND JENNIFER M. KOHNKE / WGN-TV

CHICAGO DIGEST

THURSDAY TEMPERATURES

LOCATION	HI	LO	LOCATION	HI	LO
Aurora	35	26	Midway	37	28
Gary	39	29	O'Hare	38	27
Kankakee	40	30	Romeoville	38	28
Lakefront	38	26	Valparaiso	41	27
Lansing	37	28	Waukegan	34	26

CHICAGO PRECIPITATION

PERIOD	2018	NORMAL
Thu. (through 7 p.m.)	Trace	0.11"
November to date	3.24"	3.05"
Year to date	45.91"	34.54"

CHICAGO SNOWFALL

PERIOD	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Thu. (through 7 p.m.)	Trace	Trace
Season to date	12.7"	9.2"
Normal to date	1.3"	1.3"

SOURCE: Frank Wachowski

LAKE MICHIGAN CONDITIONS

FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Wind	NE 3-13 kts. E 16-36 kts.
Waves	1-2 feet 7-11 feet
Thu. shore/crib water temps	38°/37°

U.S. SNOW COVER

NOV. 29	2018	2017
Area covered by snow	27.6%	8.3%
Average snow depth	1.4"	0.6"

TRACKING THE COLD

SINCE OCT. 15	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Sub-32° highs	3 days	3 days
Subzero lows	0 days	0 days

CHICAGO AIR QUALITY

Thursday's reading: Moderate
Friday's forecast: Moderate
Critical pollutant: Particles

FRIDAY RISE/SET TIMES

Sun	6:58 a.m.	4:20 p.m.
Moon	6:23 a.m.	1:06 p.m.

FRIDAY PLANET WATCH

PLANET	RISE	SET
Mercury	6:17 a.m.	4:01 p.m.
Venus	3:35 a.m.	2:29 p.m.
Mars	12:28 p.m.	11:27 p.m.
Jupiter	6:40 a.m.	4:09 p.m.
Saturn	9:11 a.m.	6:21 p.m.

BEST VIEWING TIME DIRECTION

Mercury	Not visible	
Venus	5:30 a.m.	19° SE
Mars	6:00 p.m.	39° S
Jupiter	Not visible	
Saturn	5:00 p.m.	11.5° SW

SOURCE: Dan Joyce, Triton College

MIDWEST CITIES

FRI./SAT.	FC	HI	LO	FC	HI	LO
Illinois	sh	53	51	ts	64	46
Carbondale	sh	42	36	ts	61	42
Champaign	pc	42	36	ts	61	42
Decatur	cl	42	37	ts	61	41
Moline	pc	36	31	rn	41	36
Peoria	pc	38	34	ts	55	39
Quincy	cl	42	37	ts	55	38
Rockford	pc	33	29	ts	55	39
Springfield	cl	42	37	ts	60	39
Stirling	pc	35	29	ts	39	35
Indiana	fg	50	44	ts	61	47
Bloomington	sh	55	51	ts	64	48
Evansville	sh	42	33	ts	61	41
Fort Wayne	fg	42	33	ts	49	46
Indianapolis	sh	46	41	ts	58	47
Lafayette	fg	40	35	ts	57	44
South Bend	pc	36	29	ts	43	40
Wisconsin	pc	38	25	rn	37	33
Green Bay	pc	36	31	rn	41	37
Kenosha	pc	38	29	rn	37	34
Madison	pc	38	27	rn	38	34
Milwaukee	pc	39	31	rn	40	36
Wausau	pc	35	23	rs	34	30
Michigan	pc	41	30	rn	42	42
Detroit	pc	36	26	rn	39	38
Grand Rapids	pc	37	25	cl	35	31
Marquette	pc	35	29	cl	35	31
St. Ste. Marie	cl	35	29	rs	36	31
Traverse City	pc	40	27	rs	36	31
Iowa	cl	38	32	rn	38	32
Ames	cl	38	32	rn	38	32
Cedar Rapids	pc	38	31	rn	40	32
Des Moines	cl	37	32	rn	38	32
Dubuque	pc	38	30	rn	40	34

OTHER U.S. CITIES

FRI./SAT.	FC	HI	LO	FC	HI	LO
Abilene	pc	75	51	pc	70	44
Albany	sh	37	28	cl	38	35
Albuquerque	pc	48	33	pc	48	32
Amarillo	pc	63	37	pc	61	30
Anchorage	cl	32	31	sh	42	31
Asheville	cl	64	46	rn	54	53
Aspen	sn	31	20	ss	26	5
Atlanta	sh	61	50	rn	61	60
Atlantic City	sh	49	36	sh	49	47
Austin	sh	77	58	su	77	52
Baltimore	sh	44	37	sh	47	46
Billings	cl	39	29	ss	34	26
Birmingham	sh	67	57	ts	69	63
Bismarck	sh	37	26	sh	31	18
Boise	sh	41	31	rs	39	29
Boston	pc	42	33	pc	42	38
Brownsville	pc	80	67	su	81	60
Burlington	ss	35	26	rn	39	38
Charlottesville	sh	34	26	pc	34	30
Charlotte	cl	60	47	rn	60	57
Charltn SC	pc	66	54	rs	67	63
Charltn WV	sh	53	47	rn	58	54
Chattanooga	sh	60	51	ts	59	54
Cheyenne	pc	39	28	pc	34	20
Cincinnati	fg	52	44	rn	58	49
Cleveland	sh	41	36	rn	49	47
Colo. Spgs	sh	47	30	pc	44	21
Columbia MO	sh	48	43	ts	59	38
Columbia SC	pc	65	47	ts	69	58
Columbus	sh	48	40	rn	54	50
Concord	pc	38	20	pc	38	30
Corps Christi	pc	61	65	su	81	57
Dallas	ts	74	56	su	73	47
Daytona Bch.	pc	75	63	ts	77	67
Denver	sh	44	31	pc	46	23
Des Moines	cl	32	27	pc	34	27
El Paso	pc	60	45	pc	61	44

FRI./SAT. FC HI LO FC HI LO

Fairbanks	pc	7	8	sh	22	17
Fargo	pc	31	24	cl	30	16
Flagstaff	ss	35	24	sh	35	23
Fort Myers	pc	80	65	sh	83	70
Fort Smith	ts	71	54	pc	64	41
Fresno	pc	58	41	sh	51	38
Great Falls	cl	36	25	ss	30	22
Harrisburg	sh	40	32	rn	44	42
Hartford	cl	42	28	cl	41	36
Helena	sh	35	26	sh	32	21
Honolulu	ts	79	69	pc	82	68
Houston	ts	77	66	su	77	54
Int'l Falls	sh	28	15	pc	26	18
Jackson	sh	73	63	ts	75	51
Jacksonville	pc	73	61	ts	73	68
Jamez	pc	35	24	pc	32	25
Kansas City	sh	45	42	rn	50	36
Las Vegas	su	61	41	pc	57	39
Las Vegas NV	su	77	66	su	77	54
Lexington	sh	57	51	rn	60	51
Lincoln	sh	37	33	rs	36	29
Little Rock	ts	71	59	su	68	46
Los Angeles	pc	68	51	pc	66	48
Louisville	sh	57	51	ts	62	51
Lincoln	sh	37	33	rs	36	29
Little Rock	ts	71	59	su	68	46
Los Angeles	pc	68	51	pc	66	48
Louisville	sh	57	51	ts	62	51
Macon	cl	36	25	ss	30	22
Memphis	pc	69	63	ts	70	51
Miami	cl	78	72	cl	81	75
Minneapolis	pc	33	28	rs	35	29
Mobile	pc	73	66	ts	75	59
Montgomery	pc	72	58	ts	74	61
New Orleans	ts	64	56	ts	65	51
New York	cl	44	35	rs	46	43
Norfolk	cl	55	46	sh	60	53
Ola, Okla.	ts	63	46	su	64	37
Oklahoma City	sh	39	35	rs	39	31
Orlando	pc	77	63	ts	80	69

FRI./SAT. FC HI LO FC HI LO

Palm Beach	pc	78	70	cl	81	72
Palm Springs	pc	71	59	pc	67	47
Philadelphia	sh	44	31	sh	48	44
Phoenix	pc	64	49	pc	64	48
Pittsburgh	sh	46	38	rn	47	46

Chicago Tribune

ON THE TOWN



Victoria Jaiani, Amanda Assucena and the cast of "The Nutcracker," set during the Chicago Columbian Exposition in 1893.

CHERYL MANN

How the Joffrey's new 'Nutcracker' chose the Chicago World's Fair for its setting

BY LAUREN WARNECKE | Chicago Tribune

It was a nearly impossible feat, a glorious White City, the size and scale of which is almost unimaginable, glistening at the heart of a city that, 20 years earlier, burned almost entirely to the ground in the Great Chicago Fire.

"The thing that always boggles my mind is how big it was," said Mark Alvey of the Field Museum in a phone interview. The White City of the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition, currently celebrating the tail end of its 125th anniversary year, extended the full width of Jackson Park, east to west from the lake to Stony Island Avenue. Alvey, who served as a content adviser on the Field's 2013-14 exhibit called "Opening the Vaults: Wonders of the 1893 World's Fair," created maps of

Turn to *Dancers*, Page 5

TAKE 10

BY JESSI ROTI | Chicago Tribune

1. Winter Wonderland: Navy Pier's annual wintry amusement park returns with over 170,000 square feet of carnival rides, giant slides, holiday-themed activities, an indoor ice skating rink and Arctic Express train. \$20-\$28, \$10-\$13 for visitors 36 to 42 inches tall, free for kids under 36 inches. Through Jan. 6. Navy Pier, 600 E. Grand Ave. navypier.org/winter-wonderfest

2. An Immersive Art Experience: Visual artist Jen Stark built a psychedelic funhouse that will include live performances from electronic artist Empress Of and Injury Reserve. Free with RSVP. 7:30 p.m. Friday. House of Vans, 113 N. Elizabeth St. tinyurl.com/y6v6l2af

3. Chanukah Wonderland: Jump inside a giant dreidel bounce house, decorate jelly doughnuts, craft menorahs and snow globes to celebrate the Jewish holiday of lights. \$10 per child. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday and Monday. Northbrook Court (lower level), 1515 Lake Cook Road, Northbrook. tinyurl.com/y8zjxbgv

4. Ugly Holiday Pajama Brunch: Every Saturday through Dec. 22, head to AceBounce for a bottomless brunch — you don't even have to get out of your PJs! Price includes bottomless mimosas, bloody mary bar, holiday-inspired food, ping pong and a cookie-decorating station. \$39. 12-3 p.m. 230 N. Clark St. tinyurl.com/y8jghca9

5. Santa Hustle 5K: This 5K comes complete with swag — including a Santa beard and hat. Kids can join in on the 1-mile run kicking off at 8:30 a.m. \$10 to \$45. Official start time is 9 a.m. Saturday. Soldier Field, 1410 Museum Campus Drive. tinyurl.com/ya55q463

6. Chicago Botanic Garden Holiday Market: The Holiday Market in Burnstein Hall will feature seasonal produce, herbs, roasted nuts, soaps, candles, honey and confections. Free; parking \$25. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road. tinyurl.com/y79b559d

7. 'Cendrillon': The Midwest premiere of Massenet's "Cinderella," "Cendrillon" is the opera's first-ever performance on the Lyric stage. \$69-\$280. 7:30 p.m. Saturday (with additional performances Dec. 5 and 8). Lyric Opera, 20 N. Wacker Drive. tinyurl.com/yatjklrt

8. Dance-Along 'Nutcracker': For four hours, members of Ballet Chicago will teach attendees of all abilities basic ballet positions and movements before a fun group performance. Free. 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday. Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St. tinyurl.com/yewfjbgz

9. Helltrap Nightmare: Chicago's best underground comedy show boasts a packed lineup Sunday with Sarah Squirm, the Shrimp Boys and Scott Egleston, plus a musical performance by Itsi. \$10. 9 p.m. Sunday. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. tinyurl.com/ydgalffy

10. Chicago Podcast Festival: Live podcasting takes center stage during this last weekend of events celebrating the third annual festival. Headliners include "Off-Book," "The Dollop" and "Yo, Is This Racist?" 8 p.m. Friday to 6 p.m. Visit chicagopodcastfestival.org.

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TURN IT UP

BY GREG KOT



Conviction defines Parquet Courts

Parquet Courts' Andrew Savage knows the risks of writing songs with political themes. But that didn't deter him as he dove into sessions for what would become one of the year's best albums, "Wide Awake!"

The opening song, "Total Football," alludes to a style of European soccer that foregrounds the value of teamwork over individual stars. It's also something of a blue-collar manifesto that fires verbal volleys over a furious bass line, right up until the punch-line, an explicit diss of New England Patriots quarterback Tom Brady.

"I was really worried when we played (the song) in Boston," Savage says. "But people were into it. It's not a line about him so much as what he represents, this idea of American individuality versus the idea of the collective, the idea of working together. I have no personal issues with Tom myself."

The guitarist was aware that not everyone would take that idea away from the song, at least initially. "I thought the (Beatles) song 'Revolution' was about revolution when I first heard it," he says. "There are lots of songs I didn't get the first time. That's not always how it works. Sometimes it can take years to become clear. But that's OK. It's more important that you're coming from a place of genuine conviction."

For Savage and his bandmates -- guitarist Austin Brown, drummer Max Savage and bassist Sean Yeaton -- the notion of taking on thorny subjects with a mixture of nuance and passion was deeply ingrained as they grew up with punk and post-punk. After focusing on side projects in 2017, the band came together later in the year with songs that flashed a sharper edge than the quartet's more introspective 2016 album, "Human Performance."

As the "Wake Up!" sessions began, the band members "were all thinking about expressing discontent in a nonviolent way, to make something that was both critical and constructive," Savage says. "You don't want to come off Pollyanna-ish or sanctimonious" when writing topical songs. "But you can't worry how people will take it. I think about bands I grew up listening to -- Crass, the Dead Kennedys -- that have really explicit, political ideology in their lyrics, and they never came off as preachy. To me, it came off as urgent, honest."



Sean Yeaton, Austin Brown, Max Savage, Andrew Savage of Parquet Courts.

When: 7:30 p.m. Monday
Where: Vic Theatre, 3145 N. Sheffield Ave.
Tickets: \$28.50 www.jamusa.com

The band had the songs ready to go when Brian "Danger Mouse" Burton offered to produce. Burton's resume (Black Keys, Gnarl Barkley) made the band suspicious of how much he wanted to shape the album, but they hit it off personally and their new collaborator ended up playing an unassuming but valuable role.

"My expectations, which made me wary about working with any producer, were at worst that he'd want to do things his way, but he was definitely coming into our process," Savage says. "He was willing to work with what we were already doing instead of making us bend to what he wanted. He encouraged us to push songs further, write

more parts, like add two more bass lines for 'Violence' so we could have a three-part song."

"Freebird II," in many ways the album's emotional centerpiece, provided another example of Burton's light touch. He suggested that the song's key line become a coda, an anthemic punctuation point rather than a refrain. The song obliquely describes Savage's difficult childhood and his mother's personal struggles with drugs. Yet the song finds some empathy and redemption: "I feel free like you promised I'd be," he and his bandmates sing.

"The idea was to turn that bitterness into empathy and not let your past define you, to liberate yourself from a chaotic past," he says. It also explains why the album, though at times bleak in its outlook, often feels uplifting, particularly with the band's renewed emphasis on

punk-funk rhythms and high-energy guitars. Amid the boisterous arrangements, there are moments of hope. "Tenderness" closes the album with a modest plea at a time when we feel "outdone by nihilism."

"We didn't want to be pessimistic because that's too easy to pull off, that vague sort of existential anxiety," Savage says. "I wanted to be more site specific to the when and where of making this record, and I didn't want to make someone feel worse after listening to it. I wanted to write lyrics that people could hang onto."

Greg Kot co-hosts "Sound Opinions" at 8 p.m. Friday, 7 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday on WBEZ-FM 91.5.

Greg Kot is a Tribune critic.

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LOCAL SOUNDS

A busy sideman finds time for his own music

BY BRITT JULIOUS
 Chicago Tribune

"I recognize I still have the spark and I want to use it while I still have it," said Cole DeGenova, the multi-hyphenate artist about his new album, "Really Human." His effort is scheduled for release early next year and has been a long work in progress for more than two years, but not all that time was spent actually creating.

DeGenova is a musician's musician, performing up to five or six times per week at gigs around the city. Making a living as a full-time artist is difficult for most players, especially in a city like Chicago, which has a considerably smaller music scene than Los Angeles or New York. But DeGenova, who was trained in jazz and blues from a young age, has found success in Chicago, a city he's called home for most of his life.

Life as a full-time artist often means spending a considerable amount of time working for other people, something DeGenova has gotten used to over the last handful of years. Most recently, he's worked with his friend Gallant, the Grammy-nominated electro-R&B musician out in Los Angeles. His work with Gallant was set to culminate in a month and a half-long tour with the artist. However, a last-minute cancellation gave DeGenova the opportunity to come back to his own music.

"We were all like, well, what do we do now? Which was actually a blessing in disguise for me because I've been working on this music of my own for the last two years and now I don't have an excuse not to finish it," DeGenova said.

Since then, DeGenova has been able to truly refine the sound on his new album, which he said is a departure from his past work. Inspired by the electro-funk he currently favors (like Little Dragon, Unknown Mortal Orchestra, or Flying Lotus), DeGenova embarked on a creative journey that found him at least temporarily abandoning the tried and true "analog" sound of his past. "It became limiting because you've got a fixed structure. You've got keyboard, guitar, drum, bass, and you've got to arrange these songs to fit that," DeGenova began. "I've done it forever, and I still do it, but I don't want to feel boxed in by this antiquated musical format."

Part of challenging himself meant working with other artists, such as the critically-acclaimed singer-songwriter, producer, and multi-instrumentalist Georgia Ann Muldrow. DeGenova reached out to her out of the blue and Muldrow ended up producing some tracks on his new album. Muldrow's songs, he said, set the tone for the rest of the album, which DeGenova



CHRIS FREE

Chicago musician Cole DeGenova keeps busy with gigs around the city, but is finally finding time for his own sound.

When: 9 p.m. Thursday
Where: Martyr's, 3855 N. Lincoln Ave.
Tickets: \$10-\$12 (21+); www.martyrslive.com

mostly worked on himself. "I'm sort of just funneling my ideas directly into the music," he said. "When it comes to recorded music, it's fun to explore the possibilities within the computer or synthesizers."

His next single, "Full Grown," is a Muldrow production scheduled to drop next year. A video for the track is also in the works. But more than anything, DeGenova, it seems, is more excited to unleash the completed album into the world. If an album represents certain mile markers in a musician's life, DeGenova said, then his latest album should be a triumphant creative return for an artist who put his own pursuits aside temporarily. "Even more than the lyrical content, the journey of reasserting myself as an artist is almost just as important to me. This is what the mile marker will be for me," began DeGenova. "This project is reasserting the magic in being an artist."

Britt Julious is a freelance writer.

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McCann swings into the holidays



HOWARD REICH
On Music

If you're wondering why you haven't seen a lot of Chicago singer Tammy McCann lately, there's a very good reason: She has been jetting around the planet.

Performances in Bangkok, across Europe and at Jazz at Lincoln Center and other New York venues indicate that the world is beginning to discover what savvy Chicagoans have understood for years: McCann not only owns one of the most luxuriant voices in jazz but knows what to do with it.

Says McCann: "2018 has been a time of building for me."

As in establishing a global audience for an uncommonly plush instrument and a steeped-in-the-South-Side sensibility.

This weekend, McCann will play her last public dates of the year in her hometown, with a two-night run in one of the city's most intimate listening rooms, Winter's.

"I love that space, and I really love Scott," says McCann, of the downtown club Scott Stegman opened two years ago.

From the outset, Stegman was determined to establish his venue as a serious listening room — one in which the audience is encouraged to cut the chatter and focus on the music.

"He's really trying to

build something," says McCann. "I love the Jazz Showcase and the Green Mill — I've played all those places. But to build something new like Winter's — I really want to support that place."

She'll be doing so by bringing her "Merry Christmas, Baby" show to the club on Friday and Saturday evenings, its lineup of upbeat, holiday fare likely to reach beyond the core jazz audience. McCann plans to sing standards such as the title song and "Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow," as well as lesser-known fare, such as Billy Strayhorn's "A Christmas Surprise."

But isn't it a little early for Christmas songs?

"No!" says McCann. "Sometime I really want to do a show called 'Christmas in July.' I love coming back to these tunes."

Having established herself as one of Chicago's more commanding jazz vocalists, McCann these days also sees herself as a teacher-advocate. She's involved in creating a jazz camp that will launch next year in Nebraska; she remains an artist-in-residence at the Music Institute of Chicago, where she'll team with vibraphonists Joe Locke and Thaddeus Tukes in a "Lionel Hampton Birthday Celebration!" on April 20; and she's touring her homage to Mahalia Jackson, one Chicago singer honoring the enormous legacy of another.

Along those lines, McCann says she's deeply at work on a musical about the relationship between Jackson, the pre-eminent gospel singer, and author-



NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Tammy McCann performs at the Pritzker Pavilion during the Chicago Jazz Festival last summer.

When: 7:30 and 9:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday

Where: Winter's Jazz Club, 465 N. McClurg Court

Tickets: \$20-\$25; 312-344-1270 or www.wintersjazzclub.com

raconteur Studs Terkel.

"They had a friendship that many people don't know about," says McCann.

"I was inspired to do this by the uncertain race-relation times that we find ourselves in right now. I was doing some research about Mahalia, and what I realized was: Come on, everybody, we've done this already, we've come together. We've weathered these racial storms.

"And what better example than the friendship between Studs and Mahalia? I'll tell you the exact name of the musical: It's called 'Studs and Mahalia:

The Revolutionary Aspects of Love."

McCann says she has written several songs for the show, which she's creating with jazz-blues pianist-composer Eli Yamin.

"The power dynamic" between Terkel and Jackson, says McCann, "was one of equity, and that's why the relationship and the friendship are so important."

McCann's message in the show will be that "we've done this work already," she explains, referring to racial healing.

"Let's learn again. Let's see this process again, laid out in Studs and Mahalia."

Few contemporary singers have the vocal wherewithal to address an instrument as enormous as Jackson's. McCann stands as one of the few, which is why at least one listener enthusiastically awaits the project.

Until then, McCann's holiday show will suffice.

Jazzmeia Horn

The singer has been winning accolades during the past several years, including the top prize at the Thelonious Monk International Vocal Jazz Competition in 2015. She makes her belated Chicago debut on the Jazz at the Logan series, where she'll be joined by pianist Victor Gould, bassist Barry Stephenson and drummer Harry Conerway III. 7:30 p.m. Friday at the University of Chicago's Logan Center for the Arts, 915 E. 60th St.; \$38 general; \$20 under 35; \$10 students; 773-702-2787 or chicagopresents.uchicago.edu.

ICE

The International Contemporary Ensemble continues to break down barriers in classical music, this time bringing new compositions selected from its ICEcommons project to an avant-garde/jazz nexus. 8:30 p.m. Sunday at Constellation, 3111 N. Western Ave.; free; www.constellation-chicago.com.

Holiday Baroque 2018

The Rembrandt Chamber Musicians will celebrate the season with J.S. Bach's Brandenburg Concertos Nos. 2 and 6, plus Boccherini's Cello Concerto in G Major. 3 p.m. Sunday at Northwestern University's Alice Millar Chapel, 1870 Sheridan Rd., Evanston; \$10-\$38; 872-395-1754 or www.rembrandtchamberplayers.org.

Howard Reich is a Tribune critic.

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'Nutcracker' at Chicago World's Fair

Dancers, from Page 1

the Fair superimposed over a current one of Jackson Park, showing the fairgrounds encompassing an area far greater than that of Disney's Magic Kingdom and Epcot Center, combined.

In 2016, the Joffrey Ballet sought to introduce its own feat of wonder, with an ambitious new "Nutcracker" ballet set at the 1893 World's Fair. With all the guts and glory of the real-life event that inspired it, artistic director Ashley Wheater and Tony Award-winning choreographer Christopher Wheeldon recruited an all-star team to bring their vision of a "Nutcracker" for and about Chicago to life.

That new "Nutcracker," now in its third season, runs Saturday through Dec. 30 at the Auditorium Theatre.

"The Nutcracker" premiered on Dec. 18, 1892 in St. Petersburg, while across the Pacific, Chicagoans worked through the winter to prepare for the World's Fair. Like many ballets created in the classical period, "Nutcracker" leans on a kind of problematic exoticism in its second act with the Kingdom of the Sweets diversifications that are often riddled with appropriation and culturally insensitive stereotypes. Yet, the ballet remains a cherished tradition, and a uniquely American phenomenon which, for all its flaws, I happen to love.

Wheater, Wheeldon and Brian Selznick, the author and illustrator of such books as "The Invention of Hugo Cabret," imagined a different sort of "Nutcracker" which focused on a poor family who'd come to Chicago that winter to work on the fair. And there's an abundance of iconic images of the fair, in Ben Peary's projection designs during the overture, to a snow scene with a view of the fairgrounds and Chicago's 19th century skyline from Lake Michigan's frigid winter waters.

But what Wheater and Wheel- don didn't know when they approached Selznick to create the storyline of a "Nutcracker" set at the Columbian Exposition, is that Selznick's husband, David Serlin, is a cultural historian with expertise in the world's fairs. So the learning curve for Selznick was more about understanding the ins and outs of the ballet.

Selznick's libretto takes from the complicated history of America's favorite ballet and an equally complex real-life World's Fair. The creative team moves the traditional setting — a high-brow living room belonging to the upper-class Stahlbaum family — to a shanty house on the fairgrounds in the winter of 1892.



CHERYL MANN

Marie, the daughter of a single mother who immigrates to America to work as a sculptress on the fairgrounds, dreams about the opening of the fair, replacing the troubled Kingdom of the Sweets with visions of the White City, in lieu of sugar plums. The Sugar Plum Fairy's fluffy pink tutu is replaced by a shimmering gold dress, the character transformed into the Statue of the Republic, a figure which was emblematic of the fair and is danced by the same performer who plays the mother.

"Part of my job was finding a new narrative that would track with things that we love from the original 'Nutcracker,' and that we knew we couldn't do without," said Selznick in a phone interview. "You have to have a tree that grows, you have to have the battle, you have to have a nutcracker — but then it was a matter of how this new world we're setting it in could overlap and depart from the original story while still letting the audience feel safe and secure, knowing that they are still inside a 'Nutcracker' that they can relate to and understand."

In the opening scene, a group of aristocrats pass the fairgrounds, excitedly anticipating its opening. In a conventional "Nutcracker," we'd continue to follow their story, but Selznick highlights an alternative narrative of working class immigrants con-

structing the fair.

Like "The Nutcracker," Chicago's 1893 World's Fair occurred at the height of European and American imperialism, in conjunction with the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' discovery of the "New World."

"The whole point of the Fair was to show American progress since the time of Columbus," said Chicago History Museum senior curator Olivia Mahoney. "So they bring in other cultures that they really don't understand, and don't show a lot of cultural sensitivity. The prevailing attitude was what you saw at the World's Fair, but we still, of course, can find fault with it."

Jutting to the west of the White City was the Midway Plaisance, a series of pavilions dedicated to showcasing non-Western cultures and, in the middle, the first Ferris Wheel, which stood 68 feet taller than the current wheel on Navy Pier. While the World's Fair was, indeed, an indelible triumph for Chicago, many now point to Midway as voyeuristic and exploitative, a place outside the pristine promenades of the White City where otherness was put on display.

Serlin, an associate professor in the communications department at the University of California at San Diego studies how world's fairs serve as "flashpoints" for

understanding cultural attitudes at a given point in time. "World's fairs were put forward as the embodiment of a city, in this case Chicago, and its way of engaging with the future and the present," he said in a phone interview.

"The White City becomes this convergence point for thinking about electricity and industrial modernization, for various forms of popular culture, new kinds of architecture, and the racial and ethnic politics that's happening in the 1890s," said Serlin. He further connects the Fair with a certain level of resistance against changing demographics in Chicago, which included an influx of immigrants and northern migration of emancipated African-Americans from the South.

"Very often people will associate the '93 fair with the histories of colonialism, the exhibition of difference of various kinds," said Serlin, "but it's really important to remember that the discourse of the modern world is being imagined and fantasized about by the people who are designing and administering over the Fair."

So, perhaps the most interesting parallel between Joffrey's "Nutcracker" and the World's Fair is the transformation of the Kingdom of the Sweets into the Midway, trading the Russian Trepak and Waltz of the Flowers for Buffalo Bill and fairgoers in gondolas atop the Ferris Wheel.

"The most popular part of the fair was the Midway," said Mahoney. "However, the most popular attraction on the Midway was the Ferris Wheel. That's really what captivated people. It didn't have any of the troublesome representation, it just showed American progress in glorious, living technicolor. That was the crowning piece de resistance."

In a statement to the Tribune, Wheater added, "Much of our cultural heritage was created at a different time. ... When we present historic ballets or work within historic settings, we navigate between respect for 'classics' such as 'Nutcracker' and sensitivity to modern values. In our 'Nutcracker,' Marie and her family have more in common with the people of the Midway than they do with the folks strolling on the promenade. They are part of a community of workers who create the magical world which others will enjoy."

As an aside, the ballet's current home is at the Auditorium Theatre, a Chicago jewel built in 1889 by Dankmar Adler and Louis Sullivan, who also designed the White City's transportation building. The Auditorium makes its way into Julian Crouch's scenic designs, too, and the theater itself comes alive in the ballet's final tableau. (If you haven't seen it, I won't spoil it, but go at least once before the Joffrey moves to the Civic Opera House in 2020.)

The Joffrey Ballet presents "The Nutcracker" Dec. 1-30 at the Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Ida B Wells Drive; tickets are \$35-\$199 at 312-386-8905 and www.joffrey.org.

ALSO OF NOTE

A&A Ballet premiered its "Nutcracker" last season, a glitzy production of top notch student dancers and professional guest artists from American Ballet Theatre and BalletMet. The ballet is set in America during the roaring '20s, in a lovingly restored theater at the Fine Arts Building. Friday through Sunday at the Studebaker Theatre, 410 S. Michigan Ave.; tickets \$30-\$50 at www.aacenterfordance.org.

The Parlor: The drawing room of an Edgewater mansion home is the idyllic setting for this quirky cabaret, which features delicious small bites, signature cocktails, and guests in their best finery. Dec. 7 at the Colvin House, 5940 N. Sheridan Rd.; tickets \$50 at www.fierce-productions.com.

Lauren Warnecke is a freelance critic.

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POP MUSIC PREVIEW

Jane Lynch gets tuneful for the holiday season

BY ALLISON STEWART
Chicago Tribune

Long before she played Sue Sylvester on "Glee," actress Jane Lynch was a kid growing up in the South Side village of Dolton who really, really loved Christmas.

Lynch went on to land career-changing roles in films like "Best in Show" and the "40-Year-Old Virgin" before "Glee" came along in 2009. It wasn't until 2016 that Lynch teamed with longtime friend Kate Flannery (who played Meredith on "The Office"), a quintet led by jazz trumpeter Tony Guerrero, and Tim Davis, the vocal arranger on "Glee," to record "A Swingin' Little Christmas," a retro collection of new and classic holiday songs inspired by Lynch's longtime affection for Christmas music.

Much to everyone's surprise, it landed in Billboard's Top 10, and has spawned an annual tour that arrives at City Winery for two shows on Friday night (the early show is sold out).

Post-"Glee," Lynch has worked without pause, doing voiceovers for animated films like "Ralph Breaks the Internet," singing in cabaret shows, guest-starring on Amazon's "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," and hosting the series "Hollywood Game Night" (she was nominated for Emmys for the latter two). "I really enjoy the immersion in a project," Lynch says in a phone interview, at home on a break from her Christmas tour. "Every part of me being used."

The following is an edited version of that conversation:

When: 7 and 10 p.m. Friday

Where: City Winery, 1200 W. Randolph St.

Tickets: \$55-\$75; 312-733-9463 or www.citywinery.com (7 p.m. show sold out; waitlist available)

Q: Are you a big Christmas person?

A: Yes. I grew up in Chicago, and nobody does Christmas like Chicago. We would play the same albums over and over every Christmas. They were those beautiful late fifties, early sixties arrangements that Bing Crosby and Rosemary Clooney and the Andrews Sisters would do. Our album and our show is right in the pocket in terms of style of music. It's reminiscent of those sentimental Christmas songs.

Q: You and Kate Flannery met in Chicago, when you were both starting out.

A: We were at Second City at about the same time, but we really cemented our friendship and our working relationship when we were at the Annoyance Theatre. We got to know each other a little better there, and started singing together there. We both moved to L.A. with the stage show "The Real Live Brady Bunch," and continued doing sketch comedy together, and Kate and I would always find a way to do a song. Around 2014, when I was offered four nights at (a cabaret space), I called her and said, "We have to do this together."

Q: When you're on tour and



CHRIS HASTON

Actress and Chicagoland native Jane Lynch brings her retro classic holiday show to City Winery (from left: Tim Davis, Jane Lynch and Kate Flannery).

hanging out in a city together, do people go, "Wait, that's Sue Sylvester from 'Glee,' and Meredith from 'The Office'?"

A: It happens all the time, absolutely, because our shows were popular at the same time, so people recognize us a lot. We have fun in airports, that's for sure. ... I get recognized all the time. "Glee" was a pretty popular show when it was on, and it's only been off a couple years.

Q: Are there still a lot of people who'll say, "I didn't know she could sing"?"

A: It's funny, when you get up in front of people and you do what you do, they just accept it right away. Nobody says, "Oh, I didn't know you could sing."

Q: There haven't been any new classic Christmas songs in such a long time. Why do you think that is?

A: I think it's the whole idea of Christmas, and the whole feeling

of Christmas summed up in those songs that were recorded in the '50s and '60s. That cemented Christmas sentiment in our heart. Some new songs have come along, but rock 'n' roll never really lent itself to Christmas music. We really do like those lush orchestral arrangements of Christmas carols. That whole idea of Christmas albums and playing Christmas music didn't even start 'til the fifties and sixties, and it kind of stopped there, too.

Q: It must be constant good vibes to go out there and do Christmas songs every night. Everybody's feeling sentimental, and happy to see you.

A: That's exactly what it is. Everybody comes in their Christmas sweaters, so happy to be celebrating the season. We started last week, and it's not even Thanksgiving and people were showing in up in their Christmas sweaters. Everybody comes ready to bask in the glow.

Q: In LA, is there a fraternity of actors from Chicago who gravitate towards each other?

A: Yeah, especially when you first move out here. I hung out with nobody but Chicago people, we lived in the same neighborhood, we performed together (doing sketch comedy). I started to meet people from the Groundlings — Will Ferrell, Chris Kattan, Molly Shannon joined us — so we stretched our tentacles out and started hanging out with other people. We started out together, and we still get together from time to time, but everybody's married now and has kids, except for Kate and I, being two barren women. We thought that might be the name for our next show, but we decided to call it "Two Lost Souls" instead.

Allison Stewart is a freelance writer.

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WEEKEND DINING

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GARRETT SWEET PHOTOS

The Swill Inn's burger features two thin Angus brisket patties seasoned with garlic, onion and Aleppo pepper on a brioche bun.

Chicago's next great burger?

BY GRACE WONG | Chicago Tribune

When you walk into The Swill Inn, a sense of familiarity washes over you, the kind that you get when you see a friend or walk into an old-school Chicago bar. And in many ways, that's what it aims to be — a place where regulars stop in for a couple of beers and a burger before heading home. But what makes it different is the team of industry veterans behind it, most of them tired of “concepts” and more interested in simplicity done right.

The Swill Inn is a collaboration of Dustin Drankiewicz (Moneygun, Punch House, Pink Squirrel), his partner Roy Appukuttan (contractor for House of Blues, Aragon Ballroom, Pink Squirrel, Deadbolt) and chef Lamar Moore (formerly Hotel Chicago, Currency Exchange Cafe).

At the street level, The Swill Inn will serve coffee, beer, wings, burgers and other tasty bar treats to people in suits and bikers stopping by to catch the game, Drankiewicz predicts.

Downstairs, Chit Chat Lounge is “going to get weird,” Drankiewicz said. The bar and



the DJ booth are built into each other, and he hopes the space will take patrons back to what a bar experience is supposed to be like — not an Instagrammable destination, but a social experience.”

The Swill Inn's walls are decorated with photos from Chicago's history, old bar memorabilia and even Appukuttan's junior varsity basketball photo. When you enter, a photo of Elvis in all his pompadoured splendor greets you.

Moore grew up eating fried fish and

spaghetti, and Drankiewicz grew up eating fish fry in Wisconsin, so every Friday will be fish fry Friday.

Also expect a wedge salad, complete with smoked bacon lardons and blue cheese green goddess dressing. Drankiewicz bounces from leg to leg when he starts talking about Moore's Swill Burger, made with two thin Angus brisket patties seasoned with garlic, onion and Aleppo pepper, topped with cheddar cheese, Moore's pimento cheese, and house-made pickles on a brioche bun.

For cocktails, you'll find a few familiar options, but Drankiewicz said The Swill Inn is a coffee- and beer-focused establishment.

“There's no set experience here,” Drankiewicz said. “We just want people who want to chill out, have good food, have good drink, game's on, music is good. I think that could be anybody.”

The Swill Inn and Chit Chat Lounge, 415 N. Milwaukee Ave., 312-624-9962, swillinn.com

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Chop Shop's deli/butcher area.

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— Grace Wong

WHERE TO EAT NOW

Restaurant reviews and profiles from Tribune food critic Phil Vettel, staff reporters and freelance writers. Reviewers make every effort to remain anonymous. Meals are paid for by the Tribune.

Bad Hunter Greens and grains rule at this almost-vegetarian restaurant, though skewers of chicken thigh or charred sirloin will keep any carnivore companions happy. The drink list is notable for its clever cocktails and painstakingly sourced wines. Open: Lunch and dinner daily; brunch weekends. Prices: Main courses \$14-\$20. 802 W. Randolph St., 312-265-1745. — Phil Vettel

Band of Bohemia Band of Bohemia describes itself as the country's “first Michelin-rated brewpub,” and the restaurant indeed makes various beers on the premises. But “brewpub” is a mighty weak descriptor for the sophisticated, unique synthesis of this Ravenswood destination. Executive chef Ian Davis is creating visually stunning yet highly approachable dishes that work hand-in-glove with head brewer Michael Carroll's creative urges. Open: Dinner Tuesday-Saturday. 4710 N. Ravenswood Ave., 773-271-4710. — Phil Vettel

Bar Biscay Simply put, Bar Biscay is a party — with all the noise that term suggests — with straightforward, delicious, ingredient-driven pintxos. Executive chef Johnny Anderes cooks unaffected, simple food from the Spanish coast, centered on the Basque region and spreading north and south. The menu is dotted with bites from land and sea. Open: Dinner Tuesday-Saturday. Prices: Small plates \$9-\$16; entrees \$18-\$30. 1450 W. Chicago Ave., 312-455-8900. — Phil Vettel

Bar Siena This West Loop sibling to Siena Tavern is a hybrid of semi-serious dining and sports bar. Options include burrata salad and grilled octopus, but pizzas, created in a massive wood-fueled oven, are the must-try items. A

“Bombobar” window serves filled Italian doughnuts to the morning and late-night walk-up crowds. Open: Dinner daily, lunch Monday-Friday, brunch Saturday-Sunday. Prices: Entrees \$14-\$26. 832 W. Randolph St., 312-492-7775. — Phil Vettel

The Barn Amy Morton of Found Kitchen has opened her second Evanston restaurant, a throwback spot with plenty of meaty dishes, a classic cocktail list and not a share plate in sight. Built into a circa-1880s horse barn, The Barn offers rusticity and comfort in equal doses. Open: Dinner Tuesday-Saturday. Prices: Entrees \$19-\$35; steaks \$47-\$49. 1016 Church St., Evanston, 847-868-8041. — Phil Vettel

Beacon Tavern This project by Billy Lawless (The Gage, The Dawson) is tucked into a plaza just west of the Wrigley Building. Seafood is a focus, but there's also a towering burger. Don't skip the cheddar bay biscuits, a tongue-in-cheek homage to Red Lobster. Open: Lunch and dinner daily. Prices: \$12-\$40. 405 N. Wabash Ave., 312-955-4226. — Phil Vettel

Beatnik From the exuberantly ornate dining room to the best dishes on the menu, the West Town restaurant delights in serving up layers upon layers of style. Kick off your meal with beet hummus that sparks of citrus zest and dusky notes of clove, offset by the crunch of fried chickpeas and the salty tang of blue cheese. Open: Dinner and late night, Tuesday-Sunday. Prices: \$9 to \$30 for shareables; \$35 to \$95 for large format dishes. 1604 W. Chicago Ave., 312-929-4945. — Jennifer Day

Bellemore Sitting in Bellemore is like visiting a once-grand manor that's halfway through a major restoration, where modern and nostalgic elements mix happily. Chef Jimmy Papadopoulos' food echoes the theme of restored elegance, beginning with his oyster pie. It's a \$68 indulgence that presents two small slices of oyster



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bar Ramone The menu at this cozy wine bar by Lettuce Entertain You is a straightforward collection of Spanish tapas and Basque pintxos from Doug Psaltis and Hisanobu Osaka, and most of the usual suspects are present and accounted for. There are cheese and ham boards; crudo and vegetable dishes; and other plates divided among “classic” and “modern” tapas. Crispy artichoke pieces make for a fine pintxo, and Osaka manages a clever play on angulas a la Bilbaina, subbing Japanese icefish for baby eels in a dashi broth fortified with garlic oil and chile de arbol. Among heavier options, crisp pork belly, above, is a textural delight. Team members' enthusiasm for the wines is apparent, and they know off the top of their heads what is drinking well and, almost oracelike, what you may like that evening. Open: Dinner daily. Prices: Small plates \$5.95-\$19.95. 441 N. Clark St., 312-985-6909. — Phil Vettel and Joseph Hernandez

custard pie, elaborately topped with osetra caviar, a pristine Beaulois oyster and diced apple. It's rich, creamy and briny all at once. Open: Dinner daily. Prices: Entrees \$28-\$39. 564 W. Randolph St., 312-667-0104. — Phil Vettel

Blackbird Paul Kahan's masterpiece offers both an a la carte menu and a tasting menu. The latter offers the best insight into the chef's art. Pastry chef Nicole Guini's sweets follow seamlessly. Open: Dinner daily, lunch Monday-Friday. Prices: Entrees \$30-\$42, tasting menu about \$135. 619 W. Randolph St., 312-715-0708. — Phil Vettel

Blue Door Kitchen Art Smith's

Table Fifty-Two has been transformed with a revamped decor and a remade menu under chef Rey Villalobos. You'll still find such T52 staples as fried chicken and hummingbird cake, but new dishes, including an excellent Brussels-kale salad, reflect a Midwestern slant (and are a little more health-focused). Open: Lunch and dinner daily. Prices: Entrees \$16-\$44. 52 W. Elm St., 312-573-4000. — Phil Vettel

BLVD Executive chef Johnny Besch, who cooked for Laurent Gras at L20 (and had been chef at Bistro Bordeaux before landing here), captures the feeling of golden-age luxury dining without taking the style too literally. The

menu offers oversized steaks, a shellfish-rich seafood tower and caviar service — all capably rendered, albeit at star-struck prices. The cauliflower dish was a revelation, with Thai-inspired broth, a yogurt-honey base and pickled Fresno chiles. Open: Dinner daily. Prices: Entrees \$24-\$39, steaks \$39-\$98. 817 W. Lake St., 312-526-3116. — Phil Vettel

Boka Chef Lee Wolen brings an exciting menu to a restaurant that's been a Chicago mainstay for more than a decade. While the ingredients he uses are familiar, the execution is beautifully complex. Cocktails are first-rate, too. Open: Dinner daily. Prices: Entrees \$22-\$33. 1729 N. Halsted St., 312-337-6070. — Phil Vettel

Boltwood Bryan Huston, longtime chef de cuisine at The Publican, is the kitchen force behind this contemporary American restaurant, which is significantly more civilized with the installation of sound panels throughout the dining room (early reports complained of excessive noise). All the better to enjoy Huston's food, which evinces a comfort-food rusticity that turns even simple dishes into treasures. A food-friendly wine list and impressive cocktails are pluses. Open: Dinner Tuesday-Sunday. Prices: Entrees \$18-\$36. 804 Davis St., Evanston, 847-859-2880. — Phil Vettel

Booth One Helmed by veteran chef Doug Psaltis, Booth One is something of a resurrection of the famed Pump Room. Scan through the menu, and you'll find several nods to the past. But you'll also spot dishes the old Pump Room never would have touched — snapper ceviche and tuna sashimi, for instance — and modern updates (the crab Louie salad is now a lobster Louie and comes with jalapeno crema) that might have been viewed as sacrilege years ago. Open: Dinner daily, lunch Monday-Friday. Prices: Entrees \$22-\$49. 1301 N. State Parkway, 312-649-0535. — Phil Vettel

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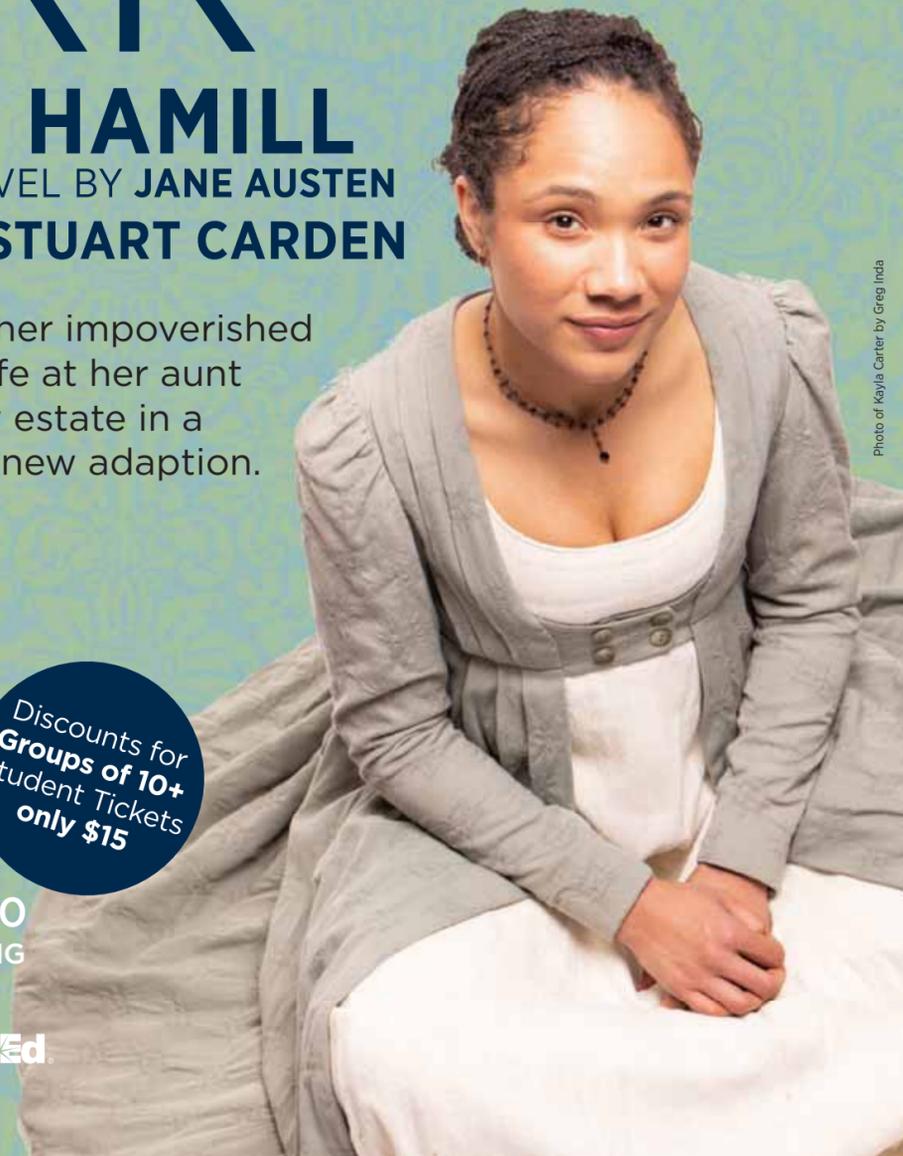


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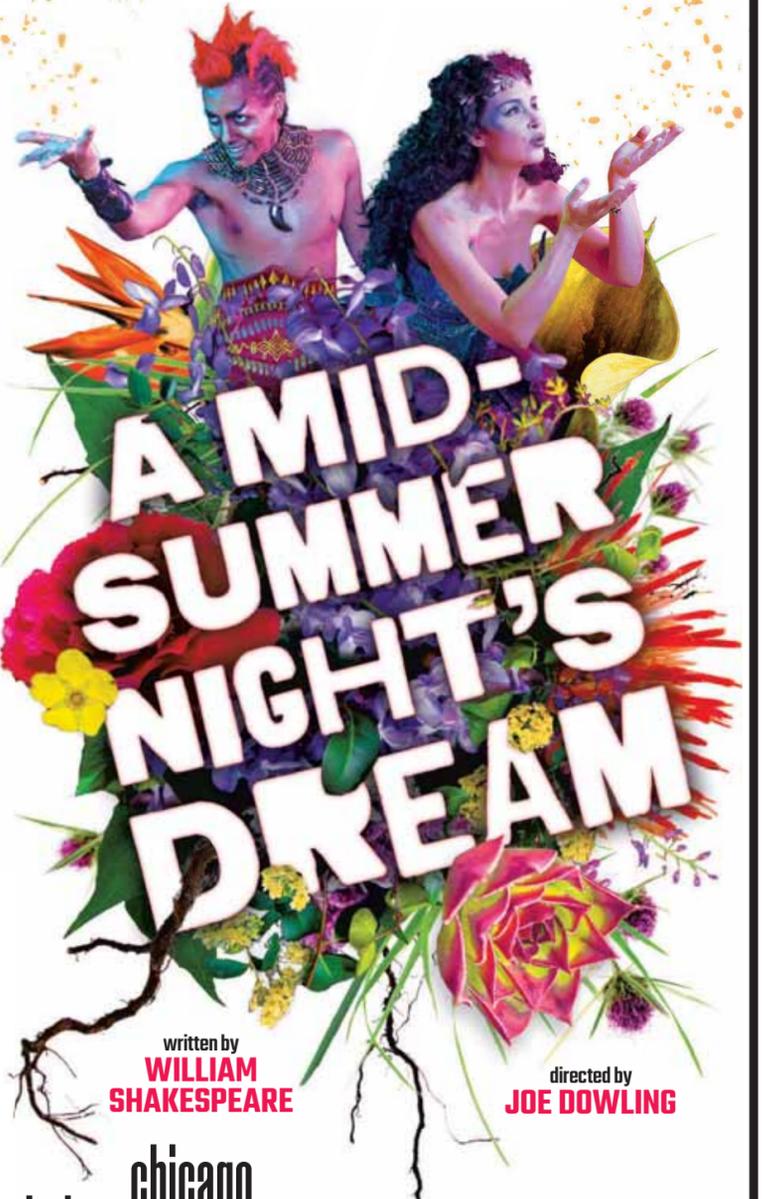
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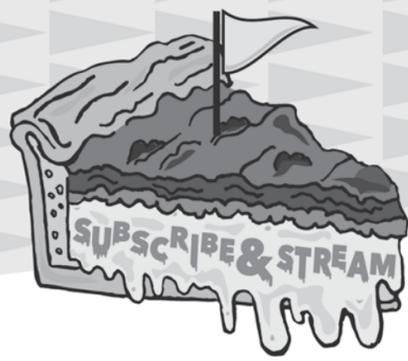
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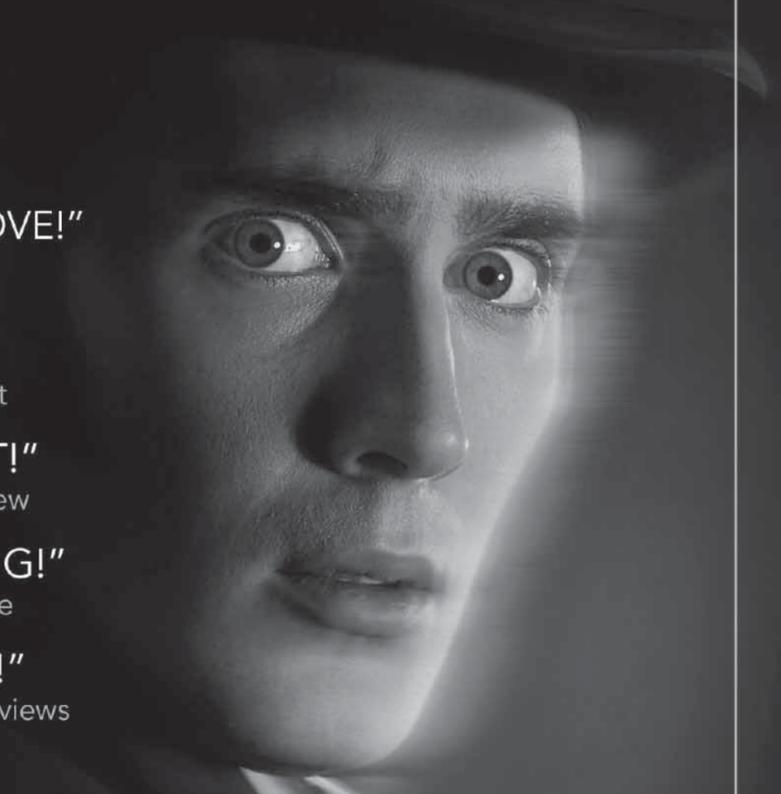
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THE THEATER LOOP

BY CHRIS JONES



Ricky Jay and Chicago magic

Ricky Jay, who died last Saturday, was the most genial, smart and loquacious magician you ever could hope to meet.

Looking back on all the magic shows I've reviewed over the years in Chicago — including Dennis Watkins' stellar ongoing attraction, "The Magic Parlor," at the Palmer House Hilton Hotel — I realized this week that Jay was my constant touchstone. If I liked the show, if the magician seemed fun and warm and highly skilled, I'd usually work in a comparison to Jay.

Frankly, it became a repetitive trope.

Hopefully a forgivable one. Jay was important to Chicago, the city that could reasonably claim to have invented close-up magic in its numerous bars and saloons dedicated to the ancient craft. In 2009, Jay came to town to perform a memorable solo show ("A Rogue's Gallery" at the Royal George Theatre) which claimed to have David Mamet as its director, although I never checked the veracity of that claim. It was an autobiographical performance, offering the full arc of Jay's career, but with a beautiful suite of mostly card tricks woven into the fabric of what he was doing.

It was not unlike "Ricky Jay and his 52 Assistants," a widely seen show that had a run at the Steppenwolf Theatre in 1995. Mamet, who had used Jay as a technical advisor on such movies as "House of Games," and also used him as an actor, also directed that piece. I remember it mostly for the very dignified tug-of-war that ensued between Jay and the long-time Tribune critic Richard



Ricky Jay in 2008.

Christiansen, who was as determined not to go up on stage as a volunteer as Jay was to get him there.

Jay worked all over the world, of course, but he always seemed to me to be very much a Chicago-style magician — scruffy and nebbish of demeanor, brilliantly intelligent, fascinating by windy conversation, obsessed with intimate persuasion, mostly uninterested in the grand illusion, compelled by the history of magic itself and the colorful characters who oscillated around the art form, especially in Chicago, the city of crooks and tricksters that provided Mamet with so much material.

I know Jay was thrilled by the renaissance of the form in Chicago. Aside from Watkins' aforementioned show (which Trip-

Advisor consistently ranks as the top show in Chicago) and the nightly entertainment on offer at the thriving Magic Lounge in Andersonville (you should check it out if you're never been), there are local magicians like Ricardo Rosenkranz, another fine performer who prefers tricks to unspool as part of larger narratives.

Indeed, the holiday attraction at the Harris Theater is a new magic show — starring the British illusionist Jamie Allan. When I talked to Allan on his visit to town earlier this fall, Jay was still alive. But he came up in conversation.

In the United Kingdom, Allan is pretty well known as an up-and-comer capable of updating the field — he often is referred to a techno-magician, an illu-

sionist interested in the growing difficulty of getting audience members to put away their screens and concentrate on old-school tricks. He uses social-media channels as part of his act and he has been known to cause some invasive chaos on whatever electronic devices audience members might have brought to the theater.

But when you actually talk to Allan, whose roots are in close-up tricks and decades of intimate work with those famous 52 assistants, he talks just like Jay. He is obsessed with the history of magic, and its ability to transport, in all the fullness of that term.

"We rev everybody up about technology in our show," Allan said to me, waving off the Las Vegas-style illusionists and all of the fancy, pretentious stuff,

while still promising a show big enough for the Harris, "but that's really just to prove that none of it matters."

So what does matter? "Magic is always better when you let it take you to somewhere," Allan said. "It's not about fooling anybody. Not really. I will show you things that you have never seen before. But magic can only ever exist in a moment in your mind. And magic is always the most impressive when it uses objects that most people use and understand."

It sounds like Allan, whose new show is called "iMagician," will fit right into Ricky Jay's Chicago.

Chris Jones is a Tribune critic.

cjones5@chicagotribune.com

OPENINGS

Friday

"Twelfth Night, Or What You Will": Viola poses as a man and causes much romantic confusion, while a servant, Malvolio, imagines he can become a nobleman. *Through Dec. 16 at Lincoln Park Conservatory, 2391 N. Stockton Drive; midsommerflight.ticketspice.com/twelfth-night*

"EL Stories: Holiday Train": Based on interviews with Chicago citizens from various backgrounds and neighborhoods, the show tells harrowing and hilarious stories from the city's buses and trains. *Through Dec. 22 at the Greenhouse Theater Center, 2257 N. Lincoln Ave.; 773-404-7336 and www.greenhousetheater.org*

Saturday

"The Nutcracker": From the Joffrey, this two-act ballet opens in Chicago on Christmas Eve 1892, months before the opening of the World's Columbian Exposition of 1893. *Through Dec. 30 at Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Ida B Wells Drive; 800-775-2000 and www.joffrey.com*

"The Book of Merman": Two Mormon missionaries ring Ethel Merman's doorbell and hilarity ensues. *Through Jan. 6 at Stage 773, 225 W. Belmont Ave.; 773-327-5252 and www.stage773.com*

Sunday

"Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins": Based on a beloved children's book, this production tells the fantastical story of Hershel of Ostropol defeating a series of goblins over the eight days of Hanukkah. *Through Jan. 5 at Strawdog Theatre, 1802 W. Berenice Ave.; 773-528-9696 and www.strawdog.org*

Wednesday

"The Play That Goes Wrong": The opening night of "The Murder at Haversham Manor" is an utter disaster: an unconscious leading lady, a corpse that can't play dead and actors who trip over everything. *Through Dec. 16 at Oriental Theatre, 24 W. Randolph St.; 800-775-2000 and www.ticketmaster.com*

Thursday

"Stomp": An eight-member troupe uses everything but conventional percussion instruments — matchboxes, wooden poles, brooms, garbage cans, Ziploc lighters, hubcaps — to fill the stage with magnificent rhythms. *Through Dec. 30 at Broadway Playhouse, 175 E. Chestnut St.; www.ticketmaster.com*

"Hellcab": It's Christmas 1992, when a young cab driver journeys through Chicago picking up a variety of bizarre and mysterious characters. *Through Dec. 30 at Raven Theatre, 6157 N. Clark St.; 773-338-2177 and www.weartheagency.org*

"The Second City's 107th Mainstage Revue": With a fresh cast, the iconic comedy show features new material every night. *Through Second City, 1616 N. Wells St.; 312-337-3992 and www.secondcity.com*

"The Woman in Black"

"The Woman in Black" now at the Royal George Theatre, is an old-school gothic ghost story adapted by Stephen Mallatratt from the novel by Susan Hill about a young lawyer sent to a remote English house to deal with a dead woman's affairs. With low levels of lighting and no digital trickery, this is most certainly the scariest show in town. *Through Feb. 17 at the Royal George Theatre, 1641 N. Halsted St.; \$49-\$69 at theroyalgeorgetheatre.com*

CHRIS JONES RECOMMENDS

"A Shayna Maidel"

★★★★
Barbara Lebow's 1980s play "A Shayna Maidel" is a much richer work than I ever realized, especially in director Vanessa Stalling's exquisitely acted production at TimeLine Theatre. On its face, this is a simple story of the reconciliation of a father and his two Jewish, Polish-born sisters, one of whom survived a concentration camp, the other who escaped the Holocaust and came to America. *Through Dec. 16 at TimeLine Theatre, 615 W. Wellington Ave.; \$40-\$54 at timelinetheatre.com*

"Avenue Q"

★★★★½
"Avenue Q" is once again a long-running hit in Chicago. *Open run at Mercury Theater Chicago, 3745 N. Southport Ave.; \$35-\$65 at www.mercurytheaterchicago.com*

"Blue Man Group"

★★★★½
"Blue Man Group" has been playing at Briar Street since 1997, a remarkable run of 20-plus years. If you've never had the pleasure, go. *Open run at the Briar Street Theatre, 3133 N. Halsted St.; \$49-\$69 at www.ticketmaster.com*

"Frankenstein"

★★★★
"Frankenstein" is Court Theatre's collaboration with Manual Cinema, the remarkable Chicago company that creates silent movies before your eyes. If you've not seen Manual Cinema before, you'll likely be blown away by the artistry. *Through Dec. 2 at Court Theatre, 5535 S. Ellis Ave.; \$50-\$74 at www.courttheatre.org*

"Gaslight District"

★★★★
I wouldn't say new director Anneliese Toft's revue is fully secure in its own skin, but it's funny and knows how to hit hard against soft targets. *Open run on the Second City e.t.c. Stage, 1608 N. Wells St. in Piper's Alley; \$21-\$48 at 312-337-3992 and www.secondcity.com*

"Gypsy"

★★★★
If you doubt that the passion of one gifted performer can raise the game of an entire young cast, you have not seen E. Faye Butler as Rose in the fabulous new Porchlight Music Theatre production of "Gypsy." *Through Dec. 29 at Ruth Page Center for the Arts, 1016 N. Dearborn St.; \$34-\$61 at or www.porchlightmusictheatre.org*

"Hamilton"

★★★★
This heartland "Hamilton" is more in touch with the fundamental scrappiness of the early years of a rebel colony turned into a spectacular democratic experiment. *Open run at CIBC Theatre, 18 W. Monroe St.; \$65-\$400 at www.broadwayinchicago.com*

"The Last Session"

★★★★
"The Last Session" is surely the only gospel-infused musical that deals with the AIDS crisis. The music and lyrics were penned around 1997 by Steve Schaalchlin, who was himself diagnosed with AIDS. As staged by Refuge Theatre Project, it is as moving a time capsule as you are ever likely to see. *Through Dec. 2 at the Atlas Arts Studio, 4809 N. Ravenswood Ave.; \$30 at www.refuge theatre.com*

"Miss Saigon"

★★★★½
Some 26 years after its signature chopper first descended on the Auditorium Theatre, "Miss Saigon" is back in Chicago. Under the supervision of the original producer Cameron Mackintosh, it still delivers a spectacular experience. If you love "Miss Saigon," this tour will not disappoint. *Through Dec. 8 at the Cadillac Palace Theatre, 151 W. Randolph St.; \$35-\$120 at www.broadwayinchicago.com*

"Rightlynd"

★★★★
"Rightlynd," a very promising new play by Ike Holter at the Victory Gardens Theater under the direction of Lisa Portes, is a work about Chicago. Set in



Monica L. Patton, from left, Kevin Clay and Conner Peirson in the touring production of "The Book of Mormon" in Chicago at the Oriental Theatre.

HOT TICKET

"The Book of Mormon"

★★★★½
On Thanksgiving Eve at the Oriental Theatre, several hundred of us took time to give thanks for an all-American freedom of expression — the precious right to make fun of our elders, spoof religion and generally laugh at anything that a collection of artists finds funny. To sit in Chicago's Oriental Theatre and watch "The Book of Mormon," one of the best satires ever seen on Broadway and still touring around in tiptop condition, is now to wonder if the show would ever have been made today. And the current cast — led by Kevin Clay, Conner Peirson and Kayla Pecchioni — is all you could reasonably ask. *Through Sunday at the Oriental Theatre, 24 W. Randolph St.; \$40-\$150 at 800-775-2000 or www.broadwayinchicago.com*

the fictional 51st Ward of the city, it follows alderman Nina Esposito (Monica Orozco) in her struggle against gentrification. *Through Dec. 23 at Victory Gardens Theatre, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave.; \$27-\$60 at www.victorygardens.org*

"Southern Gothic"

★★★★
You and your 27 fellow audience members join four couples during a fraught dinner party in Ashford, Ga., in 1961. Thanks to this truthful cast, it all works spectacularly well. *Through Dec. 9 at the Windy City Playhouse, 3014 W. Irving Park Road; \$65-\$85 at 773-891-8985 and www.windy cityplayhouse.com*

"The Steadfast Tin Soldier"

★★★★
The hero of the gorgeous new show at Lookingglass Theatre is tormented by a big baby, swallowed by a storm drain, chased by a rat and incinerated. Mary

Zimmerman's new adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's "The Steadfast Tin Soldier" is barely more than an hour long and does not use a lick of human speech. But this is a major new work, with the message that we don't die, we merely change shape. It's one holiday show you don't want to miss. *Through Jan. 13 at Lookingglass Theatre in the Water Tower Water Works, 821 N. Michigan Ave.; \$35-\$85 at 312-337-0665 or www.lookingglass theatre.org*

"This Bitter Earth"

★★★★
In the most powerful moment in "This Bitter Earth," a new two-character play by Harrison David Rivers, we see a young white man berating his African-American lover for what he sees as shameful political inaction, especially when it comes to matters of race. *Through Dec. 8 at Theater Wit, 1229 W. Belmont Ave.; \$20-\$38 at 773-975-8150 or www.aboutface.org*

"Twelfth Night" **★★★★**
William Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night, Or What You Will" takes its name from the coming of the Feast of the Epiphany — and director Michael Halberstam's warm-centered new production of the comedy has invested heavily in that. Many of Chicago's classical heavy-hitters are here and they make the comic scenes of merriment particularly strong. *Through Dec. 16 at Writers Theatre, 325 Tudor Court, Glencoe; \$35-\$80 at www.writers theatre.org*

"Witch"

★★★★
The Faustian myth — wherein some ambitious dude sells his soul to the devil — is one of literature's most popular themes. How does the equation change when the Faustian bargain must be made by a woman? *Through Dec. 16 at Writers Theatre, 325 Tudor Court, Glencoe; \$35-\$80 at 847-242-6000 and www.writers theatre.org*

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Fiat hopes to improve its standing in the subcompact crossover SUV segment

For 2019, Fiat hopes to improve its standing in the subcompact crossover SUV segment, making a handful of improvements to the 500X for the new model year.

Going on sale in spring of 2019, Fiat offers the new 500X in Pop, Trekking, and Trekking Plus trims. All 500X models now features a new, turbocharged, 1.3-liter 4-cylinder engine that makes 177 horsepower and 210 lb.-ft. of torque. The engine mates to a 9-speed automatic transmission and a standard all-wheel-drive (AWD) system with a disconnecting rear axle, which only distributes power to the rear wheels in order to achieve better fuel efficiency.



With the discontinuation of several options, Fiat consolidates the 500X's drivetrain offerings. Both the turbocharged, 1.4-liter 4-cylinder engine and the naturally aspirated, 2.4-liter 4-cylinder engine are no longer available, nor is front-wheel drive (FWD). The 6-speed manual transmission found in base FWD models with the turbocharged 1.4-liter engine is also nixed for 2019.

In addition to giving it a new engine, Fiat also refreshes the exterior design of the 2019 500X with the inclusion of new front and rear bumper covers, as well as standard LED daytime running lights and taillights. LED headlights are also available for the first time ever on 500X models and are standard on the range-topping Trekking Plus trim. The new LED headlights provide 20% greater lighting ability than the previous design, while also consuming five times less energy, according to Fiat.

New wheel designs and exterior paint colors also help provide the 2019 Fiat 500X with a touch of personalization. The Trekking trim has a new option for 17-inch silver aluminum wheels, while the Trekking Plus is now available with 17-inch matte black machined wheels; both trims also offer an optional 18-inch matte anthracite (dark grey) aluminum wheel design. There are also three new paint colors to choose from: Italia Blue, Vibrante Green, and Milano Ivory.

Minor changes are made inside the cabin of the 2019 Fiat 500X. The automaker incorporates a new instrument cluster that places a 3.5-inch reconfigurable thin-film transistor (TFT) display between an analog speedometer and tachometer. New driver-assistive technology is also available, with adaptive cruise control and front park-assist sensors joining the equipment list as first-time options.

The interior of the 2019 500X also features a new, leatherette-wrapped steering wheel design with radio controls. Speaking of the radio, Fiat provides the crossover with a standard 7-inch touchscreen infotainment display that includes Apple CarPlay and Android Auto smartphone projection technology. There are new interior upholstery options, with Black Denim cloth available for the Pop trim and Premium Quilted cloth for the Trekking trim level.

When factoring in the \$1,295 destination fee, pricing for the 2019 Fiat 500X begins at \$25,785 for an entry-level Pop trim, while the mid-range Trekking begins at \$27,290 and the top-tier Trekking Plus begins at \$30,490.

Although the 2019 500X benefits from changes, they come with added expense. With the same destination fees included, pricing for the 2018 500X began at \$21,290 for a base Pop trim, while the new 500X starts at \$25,785, resulting in a price jump of \$4,495 between model years.

When comparing the 2018 500X AWD to new model, the price difference is a bit less glaring. A base 2018 500X AWD cost a whopping \$3,895 more than its FWD counterpart, resulting in a \$25,185 price tag, meaning that a new 500X model is only \$600 more than a comparable 2018 one.

With the inclusion of a standard AWD system and various other enhancements, it is undeniable that the 2019 Fiat 500X is an improved vehicle.

— Kevin Barr, *New York Daily News*
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LOT OF 50 TIES ITALIAN SILK. 90% NEW. AS SEEN ON A WALL STREET MOVIES. \$1000 FIRM-TEXT FOR PICTURES. **6239107254**

DISCLAIMER OF DEBTS

ITEM
Kathleen Ann Porada(Gniech) is NOT responsible for payment of anyones debt other than my own personally made debt

ASSUMED NAMES

Notice is hereby given, Pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State" as amended, that a Certification was filed by the Undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County File No. **D18155970** on the Date: **November 20, 2018** Under the Assumed Name of: **TU MADRE CLOTHING** with the business located at: **3307 N MONTICELLO AVE UNIT G CHICAGO, IL, 60618** The true name and residence Address of the owner is: **URIEL VELASCO 3307 N MONTICELLO AVE UNIT G CHICAGO, IL, 60618**

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

LEGAL NOTICE
Toni Preckwinkle, President of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, has directed me to call a Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County on Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at the hour of 9:00 A.M. in the County Board Room, Room 569, County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois. At said meeting, the Board will establish by Ordinance the new Board Rules of Organization and Procedure; appoint by Resolution the President Pro Tempore and the Chair and Vice Chair of each standing committee and standing subcommittee; appoint by Resolution the members of each standing committee and standing subcommittee of the Board of Commissioners; and to appoint an individual to fill the Recorder of Deeds vacancy in accordance with 10 ILCS 5/25-11.

Very truly yours,
DAVID ORR, Cook County Clerk and Clerk of the Board of the Commissioners of Cook County, Illinois

COOK COUNTY BOARD OF REVIEW
NOTICE OF MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2018
8:30AM

The Commissioners of the Cook County Board of Review will conduct a Public meeting on Monday, December 3, 2018 in the Board of Review Hearing Room, 118 North Clark Street, County Building Room 601, for the purpose of conducting any business which may properly come before it.

MICHAEL M. CABONARGI
COMMISSIONER

DAN PATLAK
COMMISSIONER

LARRY R. ROGERS, JR.
COMMISSIONER

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION
IN THE INTEREST OF Robert Anthony
MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Roberta Anthony (Mother)**
JUVENILE NO.: **18JA01041**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Mike "Unknown Last Name" (Father), Unknown (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **October 24, 2018**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXK** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Bernard Sarley** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, **ON 12/20/2018, at 10:30 AM** in CALENDAR 9 COURTROOM 1, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
November 30, 2018

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF Robert Muehler
MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Yvonne Muehler (Mother) AKA Yvonne Mulcher**
JUVENILE NO.: **18JA00518**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Yvonne Muehler AKA Yvonne Mulcher (Mother)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **June 5, 2018**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOXK** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Richard Stevens** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, **ON 12/20/2018, at 9:30 AM** in CALENDAR 6 COURTROOM F, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
November 30, 2018

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

LEGAL NOTICE
Toni Preckwinkle, President of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County, has directed me to call a Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County on Monday, December 3, 2018 at the hour of 9:30 A.M. in the County Board Room, Room 569, County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois. At said meeting, the Oaths of Office for the President and Commissioners of Cook County will be administered. Very truly yours, **DAVID ORR**, Cook County Clerk and Clerk of the Board of the Commissioners of Cook County, Illinois

LEGAL NOTICES

TO ALL CREDITORS OF AND CLAIMANTS AGAINST

Pawn King of Pekin LLC
On November 14, 2018, **Pawn King of Pekin LLC**, an Illinois limited liability company (hereinafter the "Company"), filed its Statement of Termination with the Illinois Secretary of State. Company requests that all persons and organizations who have claims against it present them immediately by letter to: 13002 Butler Crest Dr, Saint Louis, MO 63128. All claims must include the following information: name, address and phone number of the claimant; amount claimed; date on which the claim arose; basis for the claim; and any documentation in support of the claim. **ALL CLAIMS AGAINST THE COMPANY WILL BE BARRED UNLESS A PROCEEDING TO ENFORCE THE CLAIM IS COMMENCED WITHIN FIVE (5) YEARS AFTER COMPLETION OF ONE PUBLICATIONS OF THIS NOTICE PURSUANT TO 805 ILCS 180/25-50).**

PUBLIC SALE

In accordance with IL State Chapter 770 ILCS 50/3 pursuant of mechanic's lien on 2006 Volkswagen Passat, VIN# : WVWU73C36P151861 Lien Holder: Car Max, Owner : Darius Richardson is Being auctioned by sealed bid from 10:00 am to 11:30 am on January 30 2019, 6161 Joliet Road, CountrySide II 60525. Owed amount is \$2,979.85

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Master Rodding
Looking to start your own business? Sewer and drain cleaning company for sale, \$25000 all equip. And customers included. Makes about \$2000 pr wk, 1 tech fully trained, call 4 more int.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Northwood Park 7734671410
Group Home Day Care
Looking for an assistant.

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

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Arco Roofing Rubber roofs, shingle roofs, tear offs, chimney repair, top painting, senior discounts, all work guaranteed, 40 years experience, FREE estimates! **847-447-3007**

New Garage Doors & Openers Repairs springs, cables, panels 24/7. Free estimates. Se habla espanol. Tuck pointing available. **312-513-5118**

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New Car Dealer Directory

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Audi Exchange
2490 Skokie Valley Road
Highland Park, IL 60035
888-453-7195
www.audiexchange.com

mercedes
Mercedes-Benz Of Westmont*
200 E. Ogden Ave.
888-415-8182
www.mbofwestmont.com

chrysler
Sherman Dodge Jeep Chrysler Ram
7601 N. Skokie Blvd.
Skokie, IL 60077
888-481-1777
ShermanTrib.com

dodge
Sherman Dodge Jeep Chrysler Ram
7601 N. Skokie Blvd.
Skokie, IL 60077
888-481-1777
ShermanTrib.com

honda
Muller Honda*
550 Skokie Valley Road,
Highland Park
847-831-4200
www.muller-honda.com

Schaumburg Honda Automobiles*
750 E. Golf Rd.
847-88-Honda
www.schaumburghondaautos.com

jeep
Sherman Dodge Jeep Chrysler Ram
7601 N. Skokie Blvd.
Skokie, IL 60077
888-481-1777
ShermanTrib.com

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Northbrook
847-272-7900
www.autohausonedens.com

Mercedes-Benz Of St. Charles*
225 North Randall Road
St. Charles, IL
888-742-6095
www.mercedesbenzofstcharles.com

mitsubishi
Biggers Mitsubishi*
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888-612-8400
www.biggersmitsubishi.com

Schaumburg Mitsubishi*
660 E. Golf Road
Schaumburg
866-670-8000
www.schaumburgmitsubishi.com

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Skokie, IL 60077
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st-charles.smartdealersites.com

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Rebecca Bleggi
at 312-545-6075

Crossword

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By Jacqueline E. Mathews. © 2018 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved. **11/30/18**

ACROSS
1 Chocolate ___ cookies
5 Many an East European
9 ___ the fool; behaves stupidly
13 Solitary
15 Sharpen
16 Cowboy's shoe
17 Subside
18 ___ of; next to
20 Physician, familiarly
21 Coolidge, to friends
23 Prior to today
24 Discontinue
26 Galloped
27 Business declines
29 Ploy
32 Accepted standards
33 Line of travel
35 Short sleep
37 ___ in a Manger"
38 Sudden forward rush
39 Office note
40 Acquire
41 Old Roman robes
42 Make merry
43 Passes on, as a message
45 In one's dotage
46 "I ___ poor wayfaring stranger..."

DOWN
47 Counter an argument
48 Digger's tool
51 Thirsty Frenchman's need
52 IM pioneer
55 "The Pelican State"
58 Fictional tale
60 Linkletter & others
61 Small store
62 Uses an emery board
63 TV series for Mike Farrell
64 Bugle song
65 Late July babies

Solutions

S	O	E	T		S	P	V	I		H	S	V	W				
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STOCK #M240*

MSRP	\$91,345
Dealer Discount.....	\$13,555
TOTAL AFTER DISCOUNTS	\$77,790



2018 MASERATI LEVANTE GRAN LUSSO

STOCK #M249**

MSRP	\$86,075
Dealer Discount.....	\$7,000
TOTAL AFTER DISCOUNTS	\$79,075

*Offer is valid on specific vehicle in stock, while supplies last, 7,500 miles per year, \$7,500 down plus tax, title, license, fees, must lease with Maserati Capital, not all buyers will qualify, with approved credit, offer expires 11-30-18. **Offer is valid on specific vehicle in stock, while supplies last, 7,500 miles per year, \$10,000 down plus tax, title, license, fees, must lease with Maserati Capital, not all buyers will qualify, with approved credit, offer expires 11-30-18.



MASERATI

FIELDS MASERATI

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1998 OLDS CUTLASS	\$995	2004 VW PASSAT	\$3,985	2007 MASERATI QUATROPORTE.....	\$5,874
2000 LEXUS GS 300.....	\$1,495	2004 VW JETTA.....	\$3,985	2007 CHRYSLER TOWN AND COUNTRY ...	\$5,985
2001 DODGE RAM 1500	\$2,495	2004 BMW X 5	\$3,985	2008 ACURA TL.....	\$5,985
2003 TOYOTA COROLLA	\$2,985	2004 HONDA PILOT	\$4,385	2008 LAND ROVER LR 2.....	\$7,785
2003 ACURA MDX	\$2,985	2004 TOYOTA SEQUOIA	\$4,895	2008 SATURN OUTLOOK	\$9,885
2003 DODGE CARAVAN	\$2,985	2005 ACURA MDX	\$4,985	2011 GMC ACADIA.....	\$13,995
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All prices plus title, tax, license and \$175.94 doc. fee. Offers end 11/30/18.



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2018 ALFA ROMEO STELVIO

STOCK #A005

Starting at.....	\$48,590
Dealer Incentive	\$6,950
Manufacturer's Rebate.....	\$4,000
TOTAL AFTER INCENTIVES	\$37,640



2018 ALFA ROMEO GIULIA AWD

STOCK #A018

Starting at.....	\$46,535
Dealer Incentive	\$5,975
Manufacturer's Rebate.....	\$3,750
TOTAL AFTER INCENTIVES	\$36,810

Offer is valid on specific vehicle in stock, while supplies last, 10,000 miles per year, \$5,000 down plus tax, title, license, fees, must lease with Chrysler Capital, not all buyers will qualify, with approved credit, offer expires 12/10/18



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