



Charter school contract reached

In Acero milestone, tentative agreement ends teachers strike

By ELYSSA CHERNEY
Chicago Tribune

Hundreds of elated Acero charter school educators decked out in union red cheered, chanted and danced at a Sunday afternoon rally to celebrate their historic victory: a tentative contract agreement with management that ended the nation's first charter school strike.

More than 500 teachers and support staff will return to 15 Acero campuses across the city Monday after walking off the job and missing four days of school last week. The workers will vote in the coming weeks to approve the contract, which promises better pay and hours for teachers as well as smaller class sizes and sanctuary school protections for the majority Latino student body.

"Today, our students and our families have won — bottom line," Andy Crooks, an Acero staffer and one of the bargaining unit's lead negotiators, told a jubilant crowd that filed into the Chicago Teachers Union headquarters Sunday.

The tentative agreement was reached about 5 a.m. Sunday after nearly a week of staff picketing. Acero management has also dropped a complaint it filed against the union with the Illinois Educational Labor Relations Board, a spokeswoman said.

In a statement Sunday, Acero School CEO Richard Rodriguez thanked students and parents for their patience during a difficult week of negotiations.

"Thanks to hard work and very long hours from both bargaining teams, we were able to reach an agreement that values teachers and staff for the important work they do, while still maintaining the attributes of our network that help produce strong education outcomes for our students," the statement said.

For the union, the victory seemed to extend beyond Chicago, acting as a warning to all charter school operators. The strike garnered national headlines and came at a time when the movement in Chicago seems

Turn to **Teachers, Page 9**



CHICAGO TRIBUNE 1986

Baines, Smith voted into Hall of Fame

Former White Sox outfielder Harold Baines, above, and Cubs closer Lee Smith were named the newest members of the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Results of voting by the Today's Game Era Committee were announced at the winter meetings. **Chicago Sports**

BEARS 15, RAMS 6



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Bears celebrate an interception by rookie linebacker Roquan Smith in the second quarter Sunday night against the Rams at Soldier Field.

BEARS FLATTEN HEAVYWEIGHT

The Bears (9-4) showed Sunday night they could handle one of the top offenses in the NFL when they smothered the Los Angeles Rams 15-6. Quarterback Mitch Trubisky returned after missing two games because of a shoulder injury, but the defense was the real star. **Chicago Sports**

Muslim chaplain finds path in CPD

Veteran officer delved deeper into faith, now has new way to serve

By ANNA SPOERRE
Chicago Tribune

Hysni Selenica's path to becoming the first Muslim chaplain with the Chicago Police Department began at a storied Catholic high school he attended across the street from police headquarters.

A born-and-raised Southwest Sider, Selenica attended De La Salle Institute, which counts at least five Chicago mayors among its alumni. One day a religious brother asked about his roots.

Selenica explained that his



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Hysni Selenica prays at a downtown mosque last month. He is in his first year as a CPD chaplain after 18 years as a police officer.

father was from Albania, a communist country at the time where practicing your faith was forbidden. His father kept his faith private even after fleeing to the United States.

"You're Muslim," the brother said matter-of-factly. Selenica, now 43, still remembers the brother's thick drawl.

"I guess?" Selenica replied. The first Iraq war was raging at the time.

Despite the brother's insistence that Selenica did not have to attend Mass anymore, Selenica said he chose to keep going. He was curious about the Christian concept of the Trinity.

It would take years to get back to the faith of his ancestors. But he believes he was destined to make that journey.

"I just felt it's constantly been

Turn to **Chaplain, Page 4**

Jane Byrne project: 4 years to go

IDOT says work on former Circle Interchange to have big challenge in 2020 and finish in '22



MARY WISNIEWSKI
Getting Around

Drivers, be patient, and find alternate routes if you can. Work on the Jane Byrne Interchange will go on for another four years.

That's the word from the Illinois Department of Trans-

portation, which has been rebuilding what used to be known as the Circle Interchange or, informally, the "spaghetti bowl," since 2014. The finish date for the project had originally been projected at 2019. IDOT now expects it to be complete in 2022.

IDOT engineers warn that the biggest impact to traffic is coming in the summer of 2020, when a major ramp will need to be closed. This is the ramp from the inbound Eisenhower Expressway to the northbound

Kennedy Expressway, which sees 26,000 cars a day.

Why is the project taking so long? It involves three different interstates, a constricted urban area, working around the CTA Blue Line, multiple bridges, a city water pumping station and the need to keep traffic flowing in a spot that sees 400,000 vehicles every day, said Steve Travia, engineer for project implementation at IDOT.

"It's a jigsaw puzzle out here," Travia said. "One thing that's very difficult to manage is that it's a very tight location. ... We're trying to take one of the

Turn to **Wisniewski, Page 6**

14 links between Trump, Russia

New reports show more outreach than previously known

By ROSALIND S. HELDERMAN, TOM HAMBURGER AND CAROL D. LEONNIG
The Washington Post

The Russian ambassador. A deputy prime minister. A pop star, a weightlifter, a lawyer, a Soviet army veteran with alleged intelligence ties.

Again and again, over the course of Donald Trump's 18-month campaign for the presidency, Russian citizens made contact with his closest family and friends, as well as figures on the periphery of his orbit.

Some offered to help his campaign and his real estate business. Some offered dirt on his Democratic opponent. Repeatedly, Russian nationals suggested Trump should hold a peacemaking sit-down with Vladimir Putin — and offered to broker such a summit.

In all, Russians interacted with at least 14 Trump associates during the campaign and presidential transition, public records and interviews show.

"It is extremely unusual," said Michael McFaul, who served as ambassador to Russia under President Barack Obama. "Both the number of contacts and the nature of the contacts are extraordinary."

As special counsel Robert

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Tom Skilling's forecast High 37 Low 25

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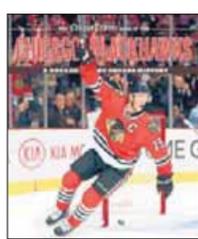
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The Blackhawks, one of the NHL's "Original Six," have been building a storied legacy since their founding in 1926. The Hawks have produced dozens of standout stars, from Hall of Fame goaltender Mike Karakas in the '30s to Bobby "The Golden Jet" Hull in the '60s to current team captain Jonathan Toews, who has led the team to a remarkable three

championships since 2010. This comprehensive collection includes archival photos, original reporting, player profiles, timelines, statistics, and more—all curated by the Tribune's sports department from the newspaper's vast archives. Available at chicagotribune.com/hawkshistory, and wherever books are sold.

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LOGAN CYRUS/GETTY-AFP

Residents of Charlotte, N.C., arrive at a polling station to vote on Nov. 6.

Ballot mess in North Carolina is updated version of Jim Crow



DAHLEEN GLANTON

North Carolina officials are looking into whether hundreds of absentee ballots were illegally collected from unsuspecting voters in the midterm congressional election and either destroyed or altered to benefit the Republican candidate.

Some say this is a clear case of voter fraud. But why not call it what it really is? If the allegations of ballot tampering are true, this is voter suppression, pure and simple.

Let's just admit it. Jim Crow is back to claim what the Voting Rights Act took away from him in 1965. And this time, he's fiercer, more cunning and a whole lot smarter.

When it comes to concerted efforts by Republicans to disenfranchise voters anywhere in the country, the victims always are minorities. So it is no surprise that the majority of the affected ballots in North Carolina's 9th Congressional District — the race in question — belong to African-Americans and Native Americans.

We don't like to talk about voter suppression so much in America. It's one of those so-called race-baiting issues that force us to re-examine our nation's history and pull out dirty laundry we thought we'd

washed a half-century ago.

The 1960s-era voting laws were supposed to take care of America's shameful disenfranchisement problem by banning obvious barriers like literacy tests, poll taxes and other segregationist laws that denied racial minorities — particularly African-Americans — the opportunity to exercise their 15th Amendment rights.

But the truth is that voter suppression never really went away at all. It transformed into something more deceptively legal and perhaps even more pervasive.

This latest voting scandal in North Carolina comes just two years after a federal appeals court struck down a state law restricting early voting and imposing new voter identification requirements. The panel called it "the most restrictive voting law North Carolina has seen since the era of Jim Crow."

Just last week, state legislators advanced a new voter ID law in the Republican-led General Assembly. And it's not just happening in North Carolina, either. Seven states have strict laws that require voters to show a picture ID at the polls.

At the same time, states are purging thousands of voters, many of them minorities, from voting rolls. And rather than make it easier for people to vote, officials are cutting back on early voting times, and generally making it as inconvenient as possible for people to cast a ballot.

Technically, what allegedly happened in North Carolina during the recent midterm election doesn't fit into any of these categories.

They resorted to an old form of trickery — getting minorities to trustingly hand over their ballots and saying, "Don't worry about filling it out. We'll choose the best candidate for you."

The scheme was designed to take advantage of people who might not be as knowledgeable of the laws, people who perhaps don't always vote and who tend to feel they have little, if any, recourse if their rights are trampled on.

Often these people are low-income. Sometimes, they are uneducated. Often, they are elderly. And some are too scared to say anything even if they realize they're being duped.

In other words, vote suppressors love to prey on the weakest among us. But don't think for a moment that everyone, regardless of income and social standing, isn't susceptible to getting caught in one of their traps.

It's easy to see why Democrats are so anxious to place all of the attention on alleged voter fraud. The case perfectly shows the hypocrisy of Donald Trump and other Republicans, who are quick to allege voter fraud when their party is on the losing end but seem content to let it slide when it works in their favor.

The stakes for both parties are high in North Carolina. With its changing demographics, the once solidly red state went blue

in 2008 and increasingly is being looked upon as a swing state in presidential elections. Some folks are hell-bent on stopping that, regardless of what it takes.

Every time there's an election, somebody somewhere in America is turned away at the polls or otherwise kept from voting. Black people have been complaining about it for years, holding hearings and filing complaints. But no one would listen.

Voter suppression doesn't just hurt minorities, though. It harms everyone in America because it is an attack on our democracy and shows a blatant disregard for our Constitution.

Each of us should demand an end to it. But let's not stop there.

Let's demand that voting rights restoration for convicted felons be part of any prison reform bill passed by Congress. Let's fight for Election Day registration in every state.

Better yet, let's sign people up to vote automatically when they get their driver's license. Let's follow the lead of Colorado, Michigan and Missouri and create independent redistricting commissions, eliminating partisan gerrymandering. Let's stop treating voters as though they are the ones trying to cheat the system and acknowledge that it's the system that is cheating them.

Only then can we lock Jim Crow up for good and throw away the key.

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MIKE ROYKO TELLS IT LIKE IT IS IN "THE BEST OF ROYKO"

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Chicago Tribune CHICAGOLAND

SEIU to give Preckwinkle's campaign \$1M

BY JOHN BYRNE
Chicago Tribune

The Service Employees International Union state council will put its money where its mouth is in the race for mayor, following its endorsement of Toni Preckwinkle with a \$1 million contribution to her campaign.

The seven-figure donation ratchets up the fundraising arms race among the mayoral contenders, and shows why the backing of a union such as SEIU can be important as the candidates try to find the money to pay for advertising to get their messages out and separate themselves from the crowded field. There are 21 candidates for mayor trying to get on the Feb. 26 ballot.

The SEIU state council is the political arm of the union in

Illinois, and includes SEIU locals 1 and 73 and SEIU Healthcare Illinois & Indiana.

SEIU Local 1 spokeswoman Izabela Miltko-Ivkovich said the union would make the contribution Monday.

"The janitors, home care providers, public employees and thousands of working families united in the SEIU Illinois State Council are committed to do whatever it takes to elect the first African-American woman mayor of Chicago, the only true progressive in the race, and that starts with making sure Toni Preckwinkle has the adequate resources to compete and win," Miltko-Ivkovich said in a statement.

In a statement, Preckwinkle thanked union members for the money.

"I am thankful for the thou-



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, a candidate for Chicago mayor, hugs supporters following the endorsement of SEIU Healthcare Illinois and Local 73 last week in Chicago.

sands of hard-working janitors, security officers, home care providers, public employees united in the SEIU Illinois State Council, who have contributed to my campaign and shared commitment for an inclusive and compassionate Mayor's office," she said.

Miltko-Ivkovich said the SEIU spent about \$3 million between direct contributions, in-kind contributions and its own independent expenditure TV ad buys on Jesus "Chuy" Garcia's failed 2015 run for mayor against Rahm Emanuel. She would not

estimate how much the union plans to spend to back Preckwinkle this time. "The working families of Chicago made it clear at the endorsement that they will do whatever it takes to make sure she has the resources to compete," she said.

SEIU Healthcare and Local 73 endorsed Preckwinkle last week, the same day the Chicago Teachers Union threw its weight behind her bid. SEIU Local 1 had previously endorsed her.

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Party bus crackdown gears up for holidays

BY MORGAN GREENE
AND ELYSSA CHERNEY
Chicago Tribune

As the holiday season goes into full swing, and Chicagoans and tourists alike may board a party bus for a celebratory night out, the city is ramping up its ongoing battle against illegal operators.

On Sunday, Mayor Rahm Emanuel, Business Affairs and Consumer Protection Commissioner Rosa Escareno and Chicago police Superintendent Eddie Johnson announced progress in curbing crimes committed in relation to illegal party buses and said last year's ordinance yielded positive results.

"The party is over for illegal party bus operators and the parties are safer for people using licensed operators," Emanuel said in a news release. "I'm proud of the progress we have made to keep communities safe."

In June 2017, the city implemented an ordinance that required all chartered vehicles with more than 15 riders — including trolleys, limousines and buses — to tell passengers about prohibited acts on buses and display clearer signage on vehicles to help identify illegal operators. The most controversial action required operators to have a camera and security guard on board if alcohol was brought inside or sold at interim stops.

Some operators pushed back against the expanding rules and regulations for party buses.

"If I drove two dozen 14-year-olds with an adult chaperone — let's say someone's grandma — to last week's Taylor Swift concert in a bus, I still will need security because Soldier Field serves alcohol," said Chris Vecchio, operations manager for Chitown Party Bus, in a June Tribune report.

But city officials credit the ordinance with a reduction in party bus-related crime. Since 2016, when there were six shootings associated with the buses, shooting incidents have decreased by 50 percent, according to the news release.

There were three shootings on party buses in Chicago in 2017. This year, there have been three shootings and two illegal weapons recovered that were associated with party buses, according to the news release.

In the latest instance of violence connected to the party bus industry, the Tribune reported in November that two men aboard a bus were shot by a man in a passing vehicle on the Bishop Ford Freeway near south suburban Dolton.

Three men in their 20s also were killed on a party bus in Rockford in April of this year; a suspect was indicted on more than 120 counts.

In 2015 and 2016, 10 shootings, including one homicide, were connected to party buses, according to police spokesman Frank Giancamilli. Arrests were made in two incidents in 2015 and 2016 in which patrons discharged weapons but no one was hurt, and a 19-year-old was killed on the way back to a party bus in 2012.

The business affairs department's enforcement bureau created a multi-agency task force in 2018 to target illegal operators. This year, the department's enforcement teams have issued 385 tickets and 22 cease-and-desist orders to noncompliant operators for violations that include weapons, drugs and drunken driving, according to the news release. The city has hit operators in violation of the ordinance with more than \$300,000 in penalties.

Companies with enforcement action taken against them include Pink Transportation LLC, Millennium Chicago Limousine, DBA: Integrity Chauffeurs, Chicago Transport and Limo Inc., and Second City Trolley.

The new enforcement actions announced Sunday also involve a permanent team that will work on nights and weekends — when the most complaints are made — to investigate problem buses. A pilot version of the team has already issued more than 500 tickets and 50 cease-and-desist orders. A partnership with the secretary of state's office will allow the business affairs department and CPD to access registration information after business hours, according to the news release.

"We are sending a message: if you do business in Chicago, you had better be serious about ensuring the safety of our communities and the safety of patrons," Escareno said in the news release.

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ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Catherine Hehmeyer, left, and co-worker Nicole Williams look at letters to Santa at the Cardiss Collins main post office in Chicago.

Letter 'adoption' program lets Chicagoans play Santa by mail

BY KATHERINE
ROSENBERG-DOUGLAS
Chicago Tribune

If your holiday wish is to play Santa Claus, don't be deterred by the absence of a long, white beard or a little round belly that shakes when you laugh. The U.S. Postal Service has just the gig for those hoping to make a child smile this Christmas season.

Operation Santa, a tradition more than 100 years old, lets volunteers answer letters written to St. Nick by purchasing an item for area kids who have mailed their Christmas wish lists to the North Pole. With technology protecting kids' names and addresses, anyone who wants to make the holidays merry for a stranger can select a letter, get to shopping and send a gift.

This year a letter came in from an out-of-work single mother of five children, said Janice Hall, a customer service manager for the Postal Service who oversees the Operation Santa program for Chicago. The letter asked for warm clothes and socks for her children: "I haven't been able to buy them anything yet. I'm sure the Lord will guide me through this situation," Hall quoted the letter saying.

"As the letters come in, we open them and we read them and some of them touch your heart to the point that they make you cry," Hall said. "You want to just help everybody. You can't, but you find yourself wanting to help everybody."

Letters are collected at the Cardiss Collins main post office, 433 W. Harrison St., and will be available for donors to read

through Dec. 21, said Tim Norman, a postal spokesman. Last year, about 4,000 letters were adopted from the facility.

Of the roughly 20 states that participate, Chicago has one of the largest Operation Santa programs in the country, organizers said.

"There's a few tables set up if they want to look through them carefully. I know there's a lot of people who spend a lot of time going through them to find one that is just the right fit," Norman said.

The program began in 1912, when Postmaster General Frank Hitchcock authorized mail carriers to open and answer letters to Santa, Hall said. Volunteers used to deliver the gifts in person, but now there are no names or address visible on the letters, Hall said. Postal employees assign each letter a code that corresponds with the letter writer's address. Once a gift card or presents are selected, the purchaser takes the items to a post office and pays for postage, all without the address ever being shared.

Norman said that while the act of giving might make you feel like a million bucks, this kind of directed philanthropy is not reserved for the wealthy. It shouldn't be too hard to find a letter that matches what someone is able to spend, he said. "And no matter how much you give, it makes you feel like Santa to help out a child in need."

For Hall, applying for her dream job four years ago as "Chief Elf" for Chicago's Operation Santa was the opportunity of a lifetime. One Thanksgiving



when she was young, her mother had her volunteer feeding homeless people, and the experience transformed her from a "selfish teen," she said. That's why it warms her heart when she sees a family come in to read letters, allowing the children to choose which one to adopt.

"It leaves a lasting impression on that child, that they've done something for children that are in need," she said.

Many letters come from seniors who have no family to visit them, Hall said. If the letters aren't adopted, post office employees may pitch in to buy a gift card or something to read. One wrote that all she wanted was a good cup of coffee. The simplicity of the requests quickly puts life in perspective, Hall said.

In the past, entire day care or nursery classrooms have written letters, but only a handful of the wishes would be fulfilled, making other children wonder what they had done wrong.

Hall got in touch with a group

of day care directors, and now they may write in with a request for something for the classroom such as building blocks or books, Hall said. A few corporations have adopted entire classes and made donations that way, she said.

Not every attempt at gift-giving ends in success, unfortunately. Hall said last year that officials tried hard to get a gift to a little boy, only to learn he gave the wrong address. The address was his mother's house and she had since died, Hall said. She felt defeated when they couldn't locate the child.

Many ask for gifts for someone else — a mom, dad or sibling, Hall said. "Imagine that: When they sit down to write what they want, they don't want to get a gift, they want to give one. That's the importance of this program. Well, that's the importance of Christmas."

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Fallen officer hailed as 'extraordinary'

Street named in honor of man killed in line of duty

BY MIKE NOLAN
Daily Southtown

Standing beneath a sign designating a section of a street in Chicago's Beverly community in honor of her late husband, Chicago Police Officer Michael Flisk, Nora Flisk described him as "an extraordinary police officer."

She stood with family members, including the couple's four children, as dozens of police officers and firefighters clustered around the intersection of Artesian Avenue and 100th Street, steps from the Flisk family home, for Sunday's unveiling of a street sign designating part of Artesian as honorary "Officer Michael Flisk Avenue."

An evidence technician, the 46-year-old was killed in the line of duty Nov. 26, 2010, while processing the scene of a vehicle burglary in the South Chicago community. He and the vehicle's owner, Stephen Peters, were shot and killed by a man who at the time had recently been paroled for armed robbery, and was subsequently sentenced to life in prison for the murders.

Joe Ahern, chief executive of the 100 Club of Chicago and friend of the Flisk family, called the officer's death a "senseless act of violence," and said that "our entire city mourned" his loss. The organization provides financial and other assistance for the families of first-responders who die in the line of duty.

"Mike was a good man," Ahern said.

A 20-year veteran of the force, Flisk became the fifth Chicago Police officer killed in the line of duty that year, which was the depart-



GARY MIDDENDORF/DAILY SOUTHTOWN PHOTOS

Michael Flisk's family stands on the corner of 100 Street and Artesian Avenue for a street dedication in his honor.



A portion of Artesian Avenue on the Southwest Side has been named in honor of slain police Officer Michael Flisk.

ment's deadliest since 1984. A sixth officer in 2010 was killed while off-duty.

Phil Cline, former Chicago Police Superintendent and now executive director of the Chicago Police Memorial Foundation, said that Flisk "died doing a job

he loved," and that he was a "remarkable person."

"Mike, we will never forget you or your family," he said.

Nora Flisk recalled that on her second date with Michael he announced to her his plans to be a Chicago

police officer. He asked whether that was OK with her, but she suggested to those in attendance Sunday, it was asked in a way that had she had a problem with his career path, they might not get past the second date.

Three of Michael Flisk's siblings have served on the Chicago police force for more than 20 years, according to the family. One of Flisk's sisters, Maureen, is a patrol officer, while another sister Margaret, and a brother, Timothy, are sergeants with the department.

Michael Flisk's oldest son is a Chicago firefighter while another, Brian, recently entered the police academy. A daughter, Margaret "Peg" Flisk, is a prosecutor with the Cook County State's Attorney's Office and another son, Tim, is a union engineer.

After the unveiling of the honorary street sign and before Nora Flisk spoke, the Flisk family held and comforted one another as the Bagpipes & Drums of the Emerald Society performed "Amazing Grace."

Flisk's star, No. 6962, was retired in August 2011 during a ceremony at Chicago Police headquarters, and, two years after his death, his family dedicated a shrine in his honor for police officers and firefighters at St. Rita of Cascia Shrine Chapel, where Flisk's funeral had taken place.

In August 2012, Flisk was posthumously awarded the Illinois Law Enforcement Medal of Honor by the Illinois State Police.

On the day he and Flisk were killed, Peters, 44, a former Chicago Housing Authority police officer,

called police after his Mustang GT had been stripped of its stereo.

A 19-year-old who was on parole after an armed robbery conviction, Timothy Herring Jr., was convicted of the murders and, in June 2015, sentenced to life in prison. Prosecutors said Herring gunned down Flisk and Peters — shooting both twice in the head — to avoid going back to prison for burglarizing the vehicle.

Peters was a U.S. Army veteran who at the time of his death worked as a line-man for AT&T.

Peters found missing items from the car, including a speaker, in garbage bins outside the garage behind his mother's home in the 8100 block of South Burnham Avenue, according to evidence presented at Herring's trial.

He told his mother and a neighbor he would wait for the burglar to return for the stolen items, and brought his handgun with him, evidence showed.

Flisk arrived in his marked squad car a short time later and began dusting the car for prints. Herring, who lived nearby, returned to the alley garage where the officer and Peters were and said he could help identify the thief, but Peters told him it didn't matter, because Flisk had recovered a good print.

Herring then turned as if to walk away, but then spun around and shot each man in the head, prosecutors said during the trial. When he saw one of the men moving, he shot both in the head a second time.

Herring was wearing an electronic ankle monitor at the time after serving half of a six-year prison sentence for the 2007 armed robbery of a liquor store, according to authorities.

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Muslim chaplain on a new path

Chaplain, from Page 1

beating at my door, that it's truly a calling from (God) and I really don't have the knowledge or expertise," he said. "But I can't deny his wisdom."

He spoke while volunteering at a chili dinner at the Calumet District police station on the Far South Side. The district lost two officers to suicide, among four in the department this year. In his brief time as chaplain, Selenica has also seen two officers die in the line of duty. After an officer was gunned down at a Near South Side hospital, he and the department's other chaplains prayed with other officers at the morgue.

"Our faith anchors us to be able to handle these situations," he said after a Thanksgiving interfaith prayer service.

A sense of belonging

Selenica is a veteran police officer, sworn in about 18 years ago after graduating from Columbia College in the South Loop.

But he's a rookie chaplain, having taken the job about 10 months ago. He joined three full-time Christian chaplains who are also sworn officers and a rabbi. They are supervised by the Rev. Dan Brandt.

Like the others, Selenica ministers to the needs of officers of all backgrounds. But he acknowledges that his role is an important step forward for the city's Muslim community. Officers of his faith now have someone they can approach for spiritual advice from their perspective. "It's not only just the Muslim police officers, but also within the community it's made (Muslims) feel more a part of the society, that they are part of this city, are part of this department," he said.

After the 9/11 terrorist attacks, many Muslim Americans struggled with the onslaught of suspicion and hate. "We need representation," Selenica thought. He toyed with the idea of becoming a chaplain

then, but it would be years before he took that step. First, he had a lot to learn about his own recently discovered faith.

Finding his father's Quran

Selenica's father left Albania for a better life in America, but he mostly kept his faith to himself. Selenica was 16 when he found his father's Quran.

After spending years hearing negative descriptions of Islam, he was intrigued to find verses calling for peace, compassion and service. Selenica decided to learn more about the faith.

A few years later, as a photojournalism student at Columbia College, he began to fast and pray and, for the first time, go to a mosque.

After praying one day in the Islamic Center downtown, someone handed Selenica an application for the Chicago Police Department. "I don't want to be the police," he remembers replying. "No, no, I think you'd make a good police officer," the friend insisted. "We need Muslims in the police force."

He was close to graduating when he found himself hailed as a hero after a fire broke out in a Red Line subway tunnel. It was a Sunday and he was in the front car of a train when he heard a boom and saw flames. People panicked and pushed at the doors. Selenica remembers thinking he might die. He stood up, got everyone's attention and directed them off the cars, according to news accounts. He led the riders through the tunnel toward the light of an exit and safety. Eleven people were hospitalized for smoke inhalation. "I was the blind leading the blind," he said.

Months later, just out of college, he became a Chicago police officer.

One day, Selenica and his partner were called to a domestic argument. "Something inclined me to speak, and when I spoke to them, it was as if I was ministering to them," he recalled.

"You have chaplaincy



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Hysni Selenica, center, greets a visitor at a Thanksgiving interfaith prayer service.

written all over you," his partner said when they got back in the car. It was something he'd been hearing a lot. "I'm telling you, this is you, you've got it, and you should really seek this."

It was the first of what would become steady suggestions from his supervisors and peers that he consider a life devoted to ministry. When Brandt approached and asked for a resume, Selenica said he needed time to think about it. He didn't feel worthy.

"What really kind of convinced me was his hesitation," Brandt said. "I thought, that's the exact person we want in this office. ... That's true humility — that's what God calls us to." Selenica accepted the job, trusting God for guidance. "I just have to accept that he knows what he's doing and let him guide me through it," he said.

'I immediately felt the weight'

The tests came quickly. The days were long, sometimes upward of 20 hours. It takes time to minister to his community, he explained, and he feels the need to lay the groundwork for Muslim chaplains to come.

Armed with a now-unshakable faith and a bag of Wrigley Doublemint gum, Selenica has been everywhere from shooting scenes to roll calls. He tries to become a familiar face, someone to be trusted. He calls it proactive ministry.

"I immediately felt the

weight on my shoulders," he said. "It's very fulfilling and gratifying work, but at the same time it's difficult to take on other people's problems."

Selenica is sitting in his office tucked away in a back hallway of the department's training academy. The room is small but homey, and the couch often occupied.

He is quick to offer guests tea and biscuits, emphasizing the importance of hospitality in his culture. Some officers or recruits might come to chat, but he's also there to administer what he calls pastoral, or spiritual care, though people don't have to be religious to come to him.

Small bookshelves above his desk display copies of the Quran and a book about Mother Teresa. A photo of the Dome of the Rock hangs nearby. Selenica and his wife of 18 years hope to make the customary pilgrimage to the Islamic shrine in Jerusalem in the next few years.

"We as police officers see a lot of negativity, and there's a lot of things we can't make sense of," he acknowledged.

He's more aware now than ever of the evil in the world, he said, but believes it's made him stronger in his faith.

"I think even people who have hatred still have humanity in them," he said. "It's just a matter of redirecting that and pulling that out, and that's a struggle, but it starts with yourself."

That's why self-care is

crucial, he said.

Every day, Selenica reads select prayers that protect from evil and two pages of the Quran in Arabic. No more, no less. Consistency in spirituality is important, he said.

But he has less time for karate, which he has been practicing for more than 10 years. He finds a spirituality in martial arts. "It's not so much about fighting, but it's to not fight. You strengthen yourself physically, mentally, spiritually, so that way you can deflect any harm that comes at you."

A few months ago, Selenica started holding Jumu'ah, the Friday afternoon prayer, in the police training facility. Each week he reserves a classroom and arranges rugs so they face toward Mecca. Then he lines up chairs for any curious non-Muslim officers. He gives a brief sermon, then everyone gets back to their day. Nothing like this existed when he was training in the same halls two decades ago.

Part of Selenica's ministry includes being a presence outside of the Police Department. He frequents mosques in the city, often attending prayers in uniform.

While at a South Side mosque earlier this year, a group of black teenagers came up to him. "I want to be the police," Selenica recalled hearing. "And I said, 'That's a good thing and I'll tell ya why.'" He told them first about the full-time pay, health insurance

"It's not only just the Muslim police officers, but also within the community it's made (Muslims) feel more a part of the society, that they are part of this city, are part of this department."

— Hysni Selenica, of his role as the first Muslim chaplain with the CPD

and tuition reimbursement program before emphasizing the most important aspect: an opportunity to serve the community.

More young men gathered around, and the questions kept coming. "It was really an awe moment for me," he said.

'Spiritual high'

Selenica said it's not his job to convert anyone.

"We're processing towards a path of God together, and that to me is a very beautiful thing," Selenica said, calling his conversations with officers and others his "spiritual high."

"My neighbor is Catholic, but we deal with the same issues. We deal with gangs; we hear shootings at night. It has nothing to do with religion. We should work together to fix this problem that's happening."

As Selenica left his office sporting a white uniform shirt, the crescent symbol of Islam pinned to each collar, he was greeted by a few dozen police academy students in blue training uniforms.

They each directed a sharp "Good morning, sir" toward him. He greeted them back before cracking a joke and drawing smiles.

A call went off on his cellphone, marking one of five times of daily prayer. Selenica ducked into a back hallway. He had just enough time to pray before his next appointment.

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— George R.

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Today we live in an age with tremendous technology advances, and that's what Joint Relief Institute doctors use to put new life and energy into failing knee joints.

Using precise, advanced imaging, they gently place an all natural joint lubricant directly inside your knee to replace the lost fluid that's causing your pain. This treatment has proven to have a very high rate of success.

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A recent study examined trained



Advanced Digital technology is used to eliminate a HUGE percentage of treatment failures. Every treatment at Joint Relief Institute is pin-pointed to the damaged area inside the knee. The doctors see the medication live as it goes to help the troubled joint.

doctors and surgeons who attempted these injections without using advanced imaging. Instead, they simply felt the knee with their fingers and BLINDLY delivered the replacement fluid.

The study revealed that these doctors missed the target most of the time . . . In fact, 30% of the time, they didn't even



Alternative to the knife for your knee pain? Non-Surgical treatment success rate soars after using new digital technology

place the treatment inside the joint. Yes THIRTY percent. It is not a typo.

Even after missing the target, they had no way of knowing they missed, because they are not SEEING it with advanced imaging.

That means these patients went away thinking they had received a life-changing treatment, and, in fact, did not get any benefit at all. Even worse, many of them went on to have surgery they didn't need.

How did Joint Relief Institute find the Antidote to this MISERABLE failure . . .

The doctors at the Joint Relief Institute are trained in using cutting-edge low dose motion digital imaging. These highly skilled, Board Certified doctors are able to see into the knee joint. They actually watch the medicine, live, as it goes where it needs to be. This technology is so precise, so advanced, and so forefront that it was able to make a whole difference in Non-surgical treatments.

"We've had so many patients tell us they RECEIVED treatments like Synvisc or Orthovisc in the past, and it didn't work. So they were considering surgery, and some even had surgery scheduled. Luckily, we were able to save many of those people from the knife." Said Dr Mike Hana at the Joint Relief Institute.

Joint Relief Institute's proven accuracy and effective treatment is why people are traveling hundreds of miles to get knee pain treatment from their Doctors.

Why did Knee treatments from Joint Relief Institute become the talk of the town?

Many seniors walk out feeling better than they have in years! So as you might imagine, when their friends see them move easier, walk further, sleep better and are happier, they want it also.

Only days after this treatment, people usually notice a decrease in: Pain... Stiffness...Muscle weakness... Swelling... Locked joints... Reduced range of motion... and Cracking sounds.

Most patients who receive the treatment are able to live pain free for up to 6 months, and some even get relief for 3-5 years with NO additional treatments.

How does the treatment help relieve your joint pain...

It's pretty simple, really. You see, when you're young, you have a thick, fluid protein inside your knee joints to lubricate them as you move.

This fluid also acts as a cushion and shock absorber inside your knee. It's called synovial fluid, and it works much like the oil in a car's engine to keep all the parts moving freely, without friction.

However, as you age, this fluid dries out, leaving your bones to painfully rub and grind against each other with every step. And unfortunately, there's no way for the joint to make more.

After years of trusted service in moving you everywhere you need to go, you start to feel a subtle ache in your knees with certain activities like kneeling down, or getting out of the car. With time, it becomes a constant ache. If left

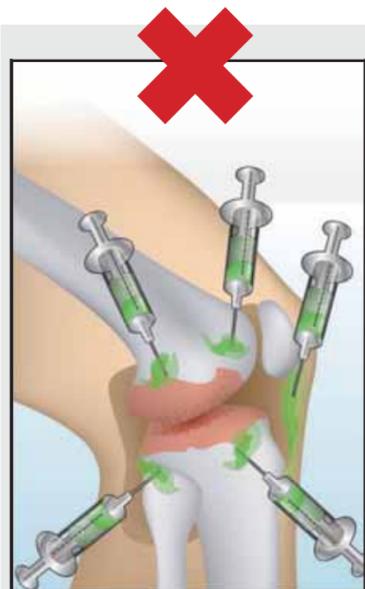
untreated, it can keep you awake at night, and hurt with every step.

The good news is, researchers discovered an almost identical, all natural lubricating fluid called Hyaluronic acid. It has been proven in numerous clinical studies to act as a natural lubricant in your joints.

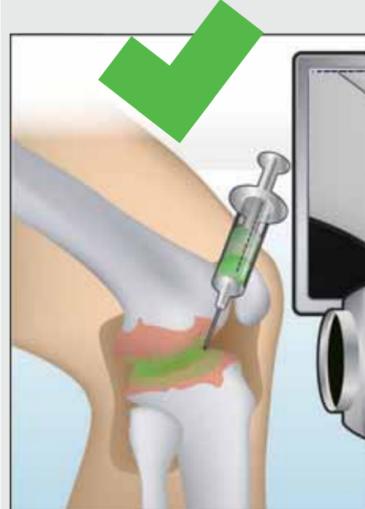
It's FDA approved and is a perfect cushion and shock absorber for your joints. Once it's correctly placed inside your knee, it can make them feel just like new again, eliminate any rubbing and friction, and make your joints glide smoothly.

Are there any side effects to this treatment? Is the treatment painful?

After numbing the skin with a special spray, Joint Relief's imaging technology makes this treatment virtually painless. And because you are getting a supplement for a protein we are all born having, there are NO known after effects.



If you received this kind of treatment in the past, and it didn't relieve your pain, there is a BIG chance the medication landed somewhere around, but not INSIDE, the joint where it can't help you.



JRI Doctors see live into the knee joint. Even you will be able to tell the medicine went where it needs to be. No guess work, no poking around, the medicine cushion lubricate and help heal the damaged knee.

That is right, this is a quick, natural long-lasting, non-invasive, non-surgical treatment with NO known side effects...

Is it true this natural treatment costs NOTHING?...

Yes, more good news, besides the pain relief, is that because this non-surgical program has already proven to help thousands of seniors, Medicare and other insurance plans DO cover the full cost of the treatment.

So there is very likely NO COST to you for this life-changing treatment.

Here is what you need to do if you or a loved one is suffering with knee pain...

Call now for a free screening...

If you or a loved one is suffering with knee pain, this could be the blessed relief you're looking for. You are personally invited to a FREE knee pain screening from the Joint Relief Institute doctors to see if you are a good candidate for this all-natural, highly-precise treatment.

Due to high demand, they can only offer a limited number of FREE screens every month. So if you're interested, Call now (708) 963-0064.

Waiting will not help you feel better...

This ache in your knees could be a sign of serious damage and people who choose to simply "tough it out" will definitely see their knees deteriorate further over time. The one thing we know is: The damage will NEVER undo itself without some help.

Your screening will only take about 20-30 minutes of your time, as one of their doctors sits down with you and answers all the questions you have about your knees.

On the day of your treatment, you'll be able to come in on your own, and be done within 30 minutes or less. No pain. No problem driving yourself home. ■

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Jane Byrne Interchange to take 4 more years

Wisniewski, from Page 1

most congested locations in the nation and keep it open to traffic as much as possible while we're rebuilding it."

The challenge is to put up new construction in about the same spot as old construction without closing down too many lanes, ramps and bridges to traffic, Travia explained. The interchange is in a box bordered by Des Plaines, Harrison, Van Buren and Halsted streets.

Another challenge is the timing and staging of different projects, IDOT engineers said.

IDOT also needed to move up the rebuilding of the Interstate 55 and Lake Shore Drive interchange, because of structural problems that needed immediate attention. That meant that some of the Eisenhower work on the Jane Byrne was delayed so that the state would not have two critical access points into the city under construction at the same time, IDOT spokesman Guy Tridgell said. The I-55 work ended late last year.

The total cost of the Byrne project is \$600 million. The junction has been rated as the biggest freight bottleneck in the nation by the Federal Highway Administration.

"It's a massive undertaking," said Paul Gregoire, IDOT's bureau chief of construction.

The interchange, which was renamed for former Chicago Mayor Jane Byrne in 2014, was originally finished in the early 1960s, at the same time as the completion of the Kennedy, then called the Northwest Expressway. In Chicago, expressway construction in the late '50s and early '60s tore out buildings and divided neighborhoods.

Improvements to the junction are expected to reduce traffic delays by more than 50 percent, according to IDOT.

One way it will do that is



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Construction continues on the Jane Byrne Interchange in downtown Chicago this month.

by widening ramps and creating better shoulders, so that disabled vehicles don't get stuck and tie up traffic behind them, Travia said.

For example, the original northbound Ryan to out-bound Eisenhower ramp was steep and curvy with just one lane and narrow shoulders. Trucks would get stuck on it in icy winter weather and have to be extracted by IDOT Minutemen.

The new ramp is open, but at this point still has just one lane. That's because paving work needs to be finished on the Eisenhower before both lanes can be open — an example of how staging of different projects can affect the overall job, Gregoire explained.

The eastbound Eisenhower to northbound Kennedy ramp will get two lanes as well, Travia said.

IDOT is also adding "collector and distributor" lanes on the northbound and southbound Kennedy

and Ryan approaching the interchange to make merging and exiting easier and safer, Gregoire said.

Bridges across the expressways also are being widened to accommodate more lanes of traffic — there will be four lanes on the Ryan and the Kennedy through the interchange in each direction, Travia explained.

Travia said next year will be "more of the same" kind of construction traffic as what drivers have seen this year. He said the state credits motorists for adjusting their commutes to avoid traffic, or taking CTA or Metra when possible. He recommends that drivers traveling through Chicago from, say, Indiana to Wisconsin take Interstate 294 instead, if possible.

"Chicago is open for business, please come visit," Travia said. "But if you just want to drive by and see the skyline, maybe this isn't the location to do it from."

In the summer of 2020, during the approximately

three-month-long closure of the ramp from the Eisenhower to the northbound Kennedy, traffic will be directed south to Taylor Street. Then vehicles will loop around on Taylor to go north again. Taylor Street also will be closed.

There also is some good news for drivers. By next fall, the ramp going from the northbound Dan Ryan onto Congress Parkway should be open, Gregoire said.

The ramp from the southbound Kennedy to eastbound Congress will continue to be closed all of 2019, and reopen in 2020. A ramp westbound on Congress to the northbound Kennedy will be closed next summer. The ramp from Congress west to the southbound Ryan is already closed and will remain closed through 2020.

All the "spaghetti bowl" ramps will be done in 2021. All Kennedy-Ryan work, including bridge widening and repairs, landscaping, new green space and noise-

reduction walls, will be done by 2022, Gregoire said.

Gregoire noted that a lot of the work on the project is being done underground and at night, which is why it sometimes looks like there are not a lot of workers. IDOT gets many complaints about noise, with bridges being rebuilt at night.

"We have no choice — the only time we can close some lanes is late at night," Travia said.

Andrew Plummer, a transportation historian, said that the Byrne Interchange also was a complicated job at the time of its original construction, since there was not a lot of room and it was built within an existing street system. It would have been easier out in a wide-open area in the suburbs.

"It was shoehorned in, in the first place, so I'm not surprised this is taking a long time," Plummer said.

IDOT seeks input on transportation

If you have a gripe about the state's transportation system, now is the time to express it outside of the confines of your stuck-in-traffic car.

The Illinois Department of Transportation is conducting its annual Illinois Traveler Opinion Survey, available through Dec. 31. It can be found online at idot.illinois.gov or go.iuis.edu/travelersurvey.

The survey, done in partnership with the University of Illinois at Springfield, wants feedback on topics ranging from road conditions and snow removal to driving behaviors and rest areas. The survey also asks about public transportation and Amtrak.

The survey has been conducted annually since 2001. Nearly 1,800 travelers participated last year.

"We look forward to the public's input each year as an opportunity to improve and grow our transportation system," IDOT Secretary Randy Blankenhorn said in a statement. "Your opinion matters," he added.

— Mary Wisniewski

Transportation song quiz

■ In last week's song, a road trip starts with the hero cutting a blackthorn stick to keep off ghosts. But it gets used against Liverpoolians. The 1964 song is "Rocky Road to Dublin." Cheryl Barbera, of Lindenhurst, was the winner.

■ This week's song is about trying to win someone's love. But at 5 o'clock, the way is much too crowded. What's the song, and who did the original version? The winner gets a Tribune bookmark, and glory.

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Woman seriously injured in tollbooth incident

BY MICHELLE L. QUINN
Post-Tribune

The Indiana State Police are lauding one of their own for bringing back to life a Michigan woman who got pinned between her sport utility vehicle and a tollbooth Saturday night.

ISP spokeswoman Sgt. Ann Wojas said in a Sunday release that Trooper Alaa Hamed responded to an accident at the Indiana Toll Road's Indiana/Illinois border around 9:10 p.m. where he found an unconscious woman trapped between a tollbooth and the driver's side of her vehicle.

Hamed first asked a bystander and a toll attendant to hold on to the woman while he moved the vehicle to free her, Wojas said. Once freed, Hamed determined she had no pulse, so

he grabbed his automated external defibrillator and applied it to her.

Hamed then started CPR on the woman while waiting for Hammond paramedics to arrive, the release said. After they arrived, the AED activated twice and resuscitated the woman, Wojas said.

Hammond first-responders took the woman, a 40-year-old from Otsego, Mich., to Franciscan Health Hospital in Hammond. She was later airlifted to Christ Advocate Medical Center in Illinois with serious injuries. Her condition was not available Sunday.

A witness told investigators that they saw the woman open her vehicle door to try to retrieve her debit card as she tried to pay at a self-pay kiosk, according to Wojas. The

witness said she put her leg out between the SUV and the booth as she continued looking on the ground when the vehicle lurched forward, and she got wedged between it and the box on which the toll gate is mounted, officials said.

Another witness pushed the toll gate's help button and tried to open the passenger door, but it was locked. The woman was still awake and talking, but the SUV moved forward twice more, entrapping her further, Wojas said. That witness and another man were able to get the passenger window down and place the Buick in park shortly before Hamed and a toll attendant arrived, according to the release.

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

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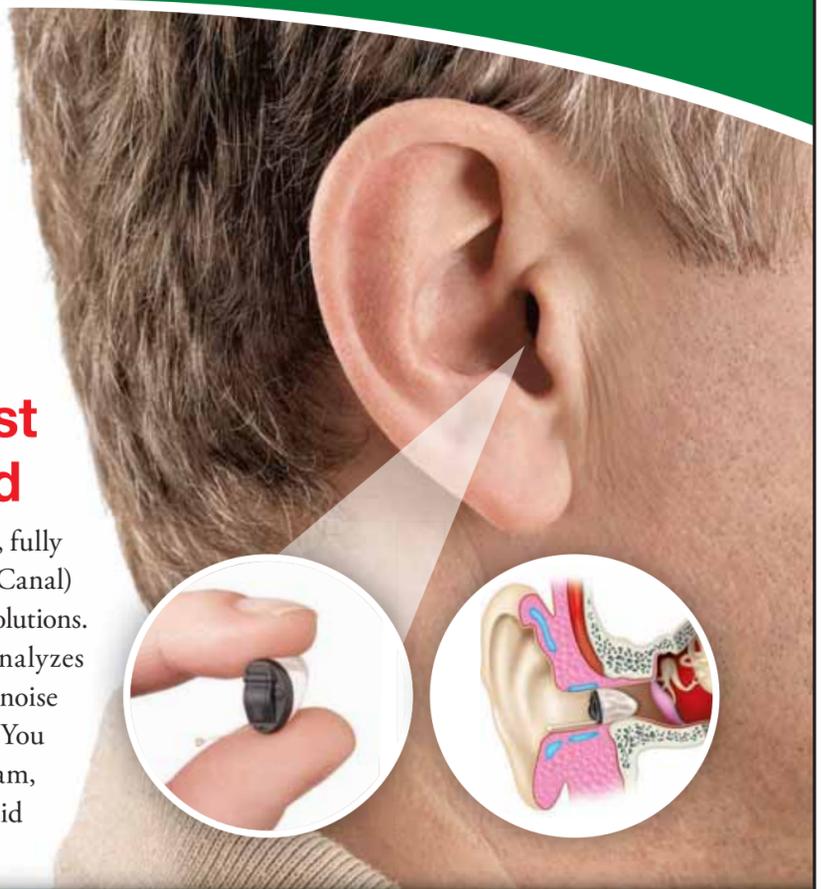
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ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Andy Crooks, a negotiator for Acero school teachers, gets a hug Sunday at Chicago Teachers Union headquarters.

Charter school contract reached

Teachers, from Page 1

to stalling. At last week's Chicago Board of Education meeting, members voted to close two non-Acero charter schools at the end of the school year and deny three pending applications to open new elementary and high school charter campuses.

"What we've learned is that ... working in a charter school poses some particular problems. Our employers have business interests, and sometimes those are in conflict with our students' interests," said Chris Baehrend, the CTU charter division chair.

"We are going to push back and change the charter school industry so they stop exploiting our students, and we are going to defend public education, and our students are going to have better lives."

The Illinois Network of Charter Schools criticized the involvement of the Chicago Teachers Union, which represents Acero and other city charters.

CTU represents Acero and other city charters, which are funded with public money, following changes to the labor group's constitution and bylaws in January.

Acero charter schools, the rebranded name of a 15-school network previously known as the UNO Charter School Network, narrowly avoided a strike in 2016.

Sunday's rally also drew droves of Acero parents, labor activists and politicians, including Cook County Board President

Toni Preckwinkle, the Chicago mayoral candidate who just won an endorsement from the CTU.

Preckwinkle, a former high school teacher, reiterated her plan to put a freeze on charter school expansion if she wins the election, a position met by applause. "Let's be clear. This strike was a testimony to the failed policies of Rahm Emanuel and Acero's management," she said.

Not everyone, however, was cheering the outcome.

The Illinois Network of Charter Schools criticized

the involvement of the CTU, which it said has its own political interests and motives. "While the CTU attempts to stifle charter growth and limit innovation and flexibility in the classroom, INCS will continue working to preserve these values and partner with charter public schools to enable students to succeed in the classroom and in life," spokeswoman Melissa Ramirez Cooper said in a statement.

But teacher Brad Staples, a bargaining committee member, said the contract will improve learning conditions for students.

"It's going to keep good teachers in our network and attract good teachers to our network," he said. "All in all, it's a huge win. I'm very happy with it."

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Trial in death of U. of I. student moved to Peoria

The Associated Press

URBANA, ILL. — The trial of a man charged in the 2017 kidnapping and slaying of a University of Illinois student from China will be held in Peoria instead of Urbana, a federal judge has ruled.

The News-Gazette reports that Peoria-based U.S. District Judge James Shadid last week approved a request from attorneys for Brendt Christensen to move the case, citing the convenience to parties in

the case, more courthouse space and his ability to manage filings in the case.

Christensen is charged in the kidnapping and slaying of Yingying Zhang, who went missing on June 9, 2017.

Her body has not been found.

Government attorneys have said they plan to seek the death penalty, alleging Christensen tortured Zhang before killing her.

Jury selection for the trial is scheduled to begin in April.

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Tossed cases could cost \$10.5M

BY JOHN BYRNE
Chicago Tribune

Two men who spent nearly 15 years in prison for their alleged roles as lookouts in a 1992 North Side double murder are set to collect a \$10.5 million settlement from the city of Chicago after their convictions were vacated amid evidence they falsely confessed.

The deal for Lewis Gardner and Paul Phillips is on Monday's City Council Finance Committee agenda, part of \$11.7 million in Police Department settlements aldermen will consider.

Gardner was 15 and Phillips was 17 when they were arrested in connection with the November 1992 murders of Jeffrey Lassiter and Sharon Haugabook in an apartment near Clarendon Park. Police said four men went into the apartment and committed the crime while four others, Gardner and Phillips among them, acted as lookouts outside.

The Tribune investigated the case in 2001 as part of its series "Cops and Confessions" and found evidence



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Lewis Gardner, left, and Paul Phillips in their attorney's office in Chicago in 2014.

one of the eight men charged in the shootings was in a police lockup when the murders occurred.

The paper continued to investigate the case and found that what at first appeared to be its strength — eight confessions in which each suspect implicated each of the others — in fact undermined it.

The case suggests police and prosecutors obtained seven false confessions.

Ultimately, then-Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez's Conviction Integrity Unit, which she set up to investigate innocence claims, agreed to

throw out the convictions.

In addition, an \$800,000 settlement is set to go to Catherine Brown, a South Side woman who was charged with attempted murder of a police officer for a May 2013 incident in which she allegedly dragged a police officer down an alley in her SUV.

And a man is in line for a \$400,000 settlement.

If the settlements are approved by the Finance Committee on Monday, the full City Council will take them up Wednesday.

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Gary council ends EMS fund probe

BY GREGORY TEJEDA
Post-Tribune

The Gary Common Council has voted without opposition to bring an end to any investigation into why a Fire Department fund intended to cover expenses for emergency medical services came up with a shortfall of monies.

Council members, who earlier this year had said they wanted to do their own investigation into the status of Fund 224 and why it had come up with roughly \$8.1 million less than city records, went along Tuesday with a motion by council member Herb Smith, D-at large, to end any review.

Smith said he believes a recently released audit of Gary government finances for 2017 by the Indiana State Board of Accounts

uncovered the reasons for the financial discrepancies and says there is nothing more that city officials would be able to discover.

Mayor Karen Freeman-Wilson said she is satisfied that the state audit concluded that the money in Fund 224 was all accounted for and that all of the funds were spent on legitimate municipal government expenses — even if some of those expenses were for things such as government payroll or demolition of decrepit buildings.

No one voted against ending the investigation, although council member Rebecca Wyatt, D-1st, said she is not convinced that the state audit went far enough in terms of accounting for just how EMS fund money managed to be spent for other government purposes

without the council knowing in advance.

The vote to end the investigation was 8-0, with council member LaVetta Sparks-Wade, D-6th, absent. Sparks-Wade, who has been among the most vocal critics on this issue, said she "disagreed" with the decision to close a city investigation.

"This is a nine-member council, and my opinion is only one of the nine," she said. "I can't make unilateral decisions for Gary government."

An ordinance meant to replace the rules by which the EMS fund is operated was introduced on Tuesday and assigned for review to the council's Finance Committee.

Gregory Tejada is a freelancer for the Post-Tribune.

Chicago Tribune
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Chicago Tribune

NATION & WORLD

China summons U.S. envoy in protest

Official demands Huawei exec's arrest order be dropped

BY CHRISTOPHER BODEEN
Associated Press

BEIJING — China summoned the U.S. ambassador to Beijing on Sunday to protest the detention of an executive of Chinese electronics giant Huawei in Canada at Washington's behest and demanded Washington cancel an order for her arrest.

The official Xinhua News Agency said Vice Foreign Minister Le Yucheng "lodged solemn representations and strong protests" with Ambassador Terry Branstad against the detention of Huawei's chief financial officer, Meng Wanzhou. Meng, who is reportedly suspected of trying to evade U.S. trade curbs on Iran, was detained on Dec. 1 while changing planes in Vancouver, Canada.

The Xinhua report quoted Le as calling Meng's detention "extremely egregious" and demanded the U.S. vacate an order for her arrest. It quoted Le as calling for the U.S. to "immediately correct its wrong actions" and said it would take further steps based on Washington's response.

The move followed the summoning of Canadian Ambassador John McCallum on Saturday over Meng's detention and a similar protest warning of "grave consequences" if she is not released.

Huawei is the biggest global supplier of network gear for phone and internet companies and has been the target of deepening U.S.



DON MACKINNON/GETTY-AFP

Media and the public line up outside court Friday for Meng Wanzhou's hearing in Vancouver, where she had been detained at the airport Dec. 1.



Branstad

Meng

security concerns over its ties to the Chinese government. The U.S. has pressured European countries and other allies to limit use of its technology, warning they could be opening themselves up to surveillance and theft of information.

Meng's arrest has threatened to increase U.S.-China trade tensions and shook stock markets globally last week. But U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, speaking on CBS' "Face the Nation," downplayed the

impact of the arrest on trade talks between the two countries aimed at defusing the tensions.

"It's my view that it shouldn't really have much of an impact," he said.

Roland Paris, a former foreign policy adviser to Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, said that Chinese pressure on Canada's government won't work.

"Perhaps because the Chinese state controls its judicial system, Beijing sometimes has difficulty understanding or believing that courts can be independent in a rule-of-law country. There's no point in pressuring the Canadian government. Judges will decide," Paris tweeted in response to the comments from Beijing.

A Canadian prosecutor urged a Vancouver court to

deny bail to Meng, whose case is shaking up U.S.-China relations and spooking global financial markets.

Meng, also the daughter of Huawei's founder, was detained at the request of the U.S. during a layover at the Vancouver airport on the same day that President Donald Trump and his Chinese counterpart, Xi Jinping, agreed over dinner to a 90-day cease-fire in a trade dispute that threatens to disrupt global commerce.

The U.S. alleges that Huawei used a Hong Kong shell company to sell equipment in Iran in violation of U.S. sanctions. It also says that Meng and Huawei misled American banks about its business dealings in Iran.

The surprise arrest raises doubts about whether the trade truce will hold and whether the world's two

biggest economies can resolve the complicated issues that divide them.

Canadian prosecutor John Gibb-Carsley said in a court hearing Friday that a warrant had been issued for Meng's arrest in New York on Aug. 22. He said Meng, arrested en route to Mexico from Hong Kong, was aware of the investigation and had been avoiding the United States for months, even though her teenage son goes to school in Boston.

Gibb-Carsley alleged that Huawei had done business in Iran through a Hong Kong company called Skycom. Meng, he said, had misled U.S. banks into thinking that Huawei and Skycom were separate when, in fact, "Skycom was Huawei." Meng has contended that Huawei sold

Skycom in 2009.

In urging the court to reject Meng's bail request, Gibb-Carsley said the Huawei executive had vast resources and a strong incentive to bolt: She's facing fraud charges in the United States that could put her in prison for 30 years.

The hearing will resume Monday.

Huawei, in a brief statement emailed to The Associated Press, said that "we have every confidence that the Canadian and U.S. legal systems will reach the right conclusion."

Minister of Foreign Affairs Chrystia Freeland said Canada "has assured China that due process is absolutely being followed in Canada, that consular access for China to Ms. Meng will absolutely be provided."



STEVE APPS/WISCONSIN STATE JOURNAL

Gov.-elect Tony Evers said he called Gov. Scott Walker to urge him to veto the bills.

Evers not optimistic Walker will veto lame-duck proposals

Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. — Wisconsin's Democratic Gov.-elect Tony Evers said Sunday he's not optimistic that outgoing governor Scott Walker will veto bills approved by the Republican-dominated Legislature that would limit the new governor's power.

Speaking on NBC's "Meet the Press," Evers said he talked by telephone with Walker recently and appealed to him to veto the legislation, but that Walker was noncommittal.

Evers, who will be sworn in Jan. 7 after narrowly defeating the two-term Republican last month, said Wisconsin voters did not elect him to fight over administrative powers with the GOP legislative majority. He said the lame-duck legislation approved by lawmakers after an all-night session last week "gets us off to a bad start. And I think that's a mistake."

"But we'll continue working to get the people of Wisconsin to convince Scott Walker to think about his legacy and make sure that he vetoes this language," Evers said.

Walker has indicated that he generally supports

"I need to stand up for the people of Wisconsin."

— Wisconsin Gov.-elect Tony Evers

the legislation, though his office late last week said only that he was reviewing it. Walker has six days after the bills are delivered to him to either sign them into law, allow them to become law without his signature or veto them. He may also be able to line-item veto portions of them, depending on how they are drafted and whether they spend money.

If Walker signs the bills, lawmakers can decide when the state can withdraw from lawsuits, and Evers would have to request permission to adjust programs that are run jointly with the federal government, such as Medicaid.

The GOP measures also would empower legislators, not new Democratic Attorney General Josh Kaul, to decide whether to withdraw Wisconsin from a lawsuit challenging the Affordable Care act. The bills also could make it

harder for Evers to renegotiate a \$3 billion subsidy spearheaded by Walker for a Foxconn Technology manufacturing facility in southeastern Wisconsin.

In neighboring Michigan, where a Democrat also won the governor's office this year, Republicans are considering proposals to strip campaign-finance oversight from the new Democratic secretary of state. Lawmakers also want to have authority to intervene in lawsuits, with a Democrat poised to take control of the attorney general's office.

Evers said Sunday that if Walker had won in Wisconsin, "we wouldn't be sitting here talking about this today." The incoming governor said the GOP moves are "directly related" to a Democrat's win. Though Evers has said he might have to sue unless Walker vetoes the legislation, he said Sunday that "all issues are on the table" and that he is "not making any promises one way or the other."

"I need to stand up for the people of Wisconsin," Evers said.

A Walker spokeswoman did not immediately respond to a request for comment Sunday.

Arsonists burn two Jehovah's Witness halls in Wash. state

BY CLEVE R. WOOTSON JR.
The Washington Post

At the center of the investigation into crimes against Jehovah's Witnesses — including two fires that destroyed worship centers — is a question that has vexed Washington state investigators, the governor and pretty much anyone who has come into contact with the religious denomination:

Who could muster this much destructive rage against a religion full of pacifists?

On Friday morning, Thurston County authorities responded to a pre-dawn fire in the city of Lacey, Wash. But by the time firefighters arrived, it was too late. The blaze had caused the roof to collapse and destroyed the kingdom hall, the name Jehovah's Witnesses give to their worship centers.

The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives ruled that the fire was intentionally set, saying it fit the pattern of the other kingdom hall attacks in Thurston County over the past nine months that have rocked the Jehovah's Witness community.

No one has been arrested, and the only image of a suspect is surveillance video of a person in a hoodie and coveralls pouring gasoline on the side of a kingdom hall, then sparking a bloom of fire. Authorities don't know whether that person is the only perpetrator, and a motive continues to elude investigators.

"Why is this specific religion being targeted?" Thurston County Sheriff John Snaza told KOMO, the ABC affiliate in Seattle. "Why are these churches being targeted? What are they doing that is so wrong and oppressive?"

The attacks began March 19, with intentionally set fires starting min-



THURSTON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Authorities say the fire last week at a Jehovah's Witness prayer center in Washington state was intentionally set.

utes apart, sending fire crews racing from a kingdom hall in Olympia to one in Tumwater, according to Seattle-area NBC affiliate KING. A July 3 fire also targeted the Olympia kingdom hall, this time destroying it. And Aug. 8, someone set a minor fire at a kingdom hall in Yelm. Authorities also recovered what they described as a dummy bomb at the scene.

In the midst of those attacks, on May 15, someone fired a volley of rifle rounds at the Yelm kingdom hall, causing about \$10,000 in damage. Police collected nearly three dozen bullets.

All the attacks have occurred early in the morning, and there are no reports of injuries.

Still, Jehovah's Witness leaders in the area say the attacks are a blow to their community.

"It's devastating for the whole congregation," Dan Woollett, one of the ministers who helped build the hall in Lacey in 1976, told KING. "It does make you sad, but it's just a building. No matter who we are, no matter what our religious persuasion is, we have to cope with the problems we face."

Washington Gov. Jay Inslee tweeted a photo of the destruction in Lacey on

Friday, calling the attacks "abhorrent."

"The freedom to worship is a right that should be protected for every person in our country," the Democratic governor said. "Our thoughts are with the members of our community affected by this abhorrent act."

Jehovah's Witnesses are known mostly for their door-to-door proselytizing, rejection of traditional holidays and refusal to accept blood transfusions even in the face of death. They reject subservience to the state, believing God to be the only true ruler. They do not serve in the military or vote.

Historically, attacks against Jehovah's Witnesses have threatened the group as a whole, not specific congregations.

Adolf Hitler's Nazi regime put Jehovah's Witnesses in concentration camps because they were apolitical and wouldn't join party organizations or let their children join Hitler Youth.

And last year, the Supreme Court in Russia declared Jehovah's Witnesses an extremist group, banning it from operating in the country after declaring its members a threat to "public order and public security."

14 Trump-Russia connections

Russia, from Page 1

Mueller unveils the evidence he has gathered since his appointment in May 2017, he has not yet shown that any of the dozens of interactions between people in Trump's orbit and Russians resulted in any specific coordination between his presidential campaign and Russia.

But the mounting number of communications that have been revealed occurred against the backdrop of "sustained efforts by the Russian government to interfere with the U.S. presidential election," as Mueller's prosecutors wrote in a court filing last week.

The special counsel's filings have also revealed moments when Russia appeared to be taking cues from Trump. In July 2016, the then-GOP candidate said at a news conference, "Russia, if you're listening, I hope you're able to find the 30,000 emails that are missing," referring to messages Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton had deleted from a private account. That day, the Russians made their first effort to break into servers used by Clinton's personal office, according to court documents.

Two days after Trump was elected president, a top Kremlin official caused a stir by asserting that Trump's associates were in contact with the Russian government before the election.

"I don't say that all of them, but a whole array of them supported contacts with Russian representatives," Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov told the Interfax news agency on Nov. 10, 2016.

The claim was met with a hail of denials. Hope Hicks, then Trump's top spokeswoman, responded, "It never happened. There was no communication between the campaign and any foreign entity during the campaign."

After Trump took office, in February 2017, he re-



BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI/GETTY

Since President Donald Trump took office in 2017, he has reiterated the denial that he had no contact with Russia during his campaign, frequently tweeting "NO COLLUSION."

iterated the denial. "No. Nobody that I know of," the president told reporters when asked whether anyone who advised his campaign had contact with Russia. "I have nothing to do with Russia. To the best of my knowledge, no person that I deal with does."

It is now clear that wasn't true.

Trump's oldest children, Donald Trump Jr. and Ivanka Trump, interacted with Russians who were offering to help the candidate.

Ivanka's husband, top campaign adviser Jared Kushner, as well as Trump's campaign chairman Paul Manafort, his personal lawyer Michael Cohen and his longest-serving political adviser, Roger Stone, also had contact with Russian nationals.

Veterans of past White House bids said that so much interplay with representatives of a foreign adversary is highly unusual.

"This is different in kind than anything I have ever heard of before," said Trevor Potter, who served as general counsel to Sen. John McCain's presidential campaign in 2008. McCain, he noted, traveled the globe as a member of the Senate, but his contacts with foreign government officials generally occurred in con-

sultation with the State Department and involved questions of policy — not personal business or his own electoral concerns.

The number of known interactions has grown since last year, when The Washington Post tallied that at least nine Trump associates had contacts with Russians during the campaign or presidential transition.

At the time, then-White House lawyer Ty Cobb said, "I think the American public can fully appreciate that those are isolated, obviously disconnected events, quite small in number for a presidential campaign."

Trump attorney Jay Sekulow declined to comment Sunday.

The president has repeatedly denied that people close to him coordinated with Russia, tweeting frequently, "NO COLLUSION!"

New court documents filed by Mueller's prosecutors in the past two weeks revealed the Russian outreach was more extensive than previously known.

In November 2015, Cohen spoke with a Russian national who claimed to be a "trusted person" in the Russian Federation offering the campaign "political synergy" and "synergy on a government level," according to a memo filed by the

special counsel Friday.

The Russian national repeatedly proposed a meeting between Trump and Putin, prosecutors wrote, saying that a sit-down between the two men could have a "phenomenal" impact because there is "no bigger warranty in any project" than Putin's backing.

The details of the episode matches descriptions of an interaction Cohen had at the time with Dmitry Klokov, a well-connected Russian athlete, which was first reported by BuzzFeed News.

Asked on Saturday via a message to his Instagram account about his reported communications with Cohen, Klokov responded with three laughing-in-tears emoji and the words: "This is someone's nonsense."

Klokov's wife reached out to Ivanka Trump in October 2015, saying she had connections in the Russian government and could help her father build a Trump Tower in Moscow, a project he had long sought, according to a person familiar with the interaction.

Ivanka Trump did not know the woman but forwarded her contact information to Cohen, who later connected with Klokov, the people familiar with the exchanges said.

Newtown school killer wrote about his 'scorn for humanity'

Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. — Documents from the investigation into the massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Connecticut are shedding light on the gunman's anger, scorn for other people, and deep social isolation in the years leading up to the shooting.

The documents that a court ordered Connecticut State Police to release include several writings by Adam Lanza, who gunned down 20 children and six educators on Dec. 14, 2012. He fatally shot his mother before driving to the school and ultimately killed himself.

Lanza wrote in what appears to be an online communication with a fellow gamer: "I incessantly have nothing other than scorn for humanity," the Hartford Courant reported. "I have been desperate to feel anything positive for someone for my entire life," he wrote.

The criminal investigation ended a year after the massacre without determining a motive. Thousands of pages of documents were released at the time, but in a lawsuit brought by the Courant, the Connecticut Supreme Court ruled in October that personal belongings of the shooter that had been withheld, including journals, also had to be made public because they were not exempt from open record laws.

A report by the Connecticut child advocate said Lanza's severe and deteriorating mental health problems, his preoccupation with violence and access to his mother's weapons "proved a recipe for mass murder."

From the 10th grade, Lanza's mother kept him at home, where he was surrounded by an arsenal of firearms and spent long hours playing violent video games. His medical and school records included references to diagnoses of autism spectrum disorder, anxiety and obsessive compulsive disorder.

The newly released documents were seized by authorities during a search of Lanza's home.

They include writings that had been described or summarized by previous investigative reports such as the "Big Book Of Granny," a book describing violence against children that he

wrote with another boy in the fifth grade, and a spreadsheet listing mass killings dating back to 1786.

On one handwritten list titled "Problems," Lanza details grievances including lights that are too bright and his hair touching his brother's towel.

"I am unable to distinguish between my problems because I have too many," Lanza wrote.

In other writings, he rages against "fat people," doctors who touched him during physical examinations as a child, and writes about pedophilia as a form of love.

In the document where he described his scorn for other people, he also indicated a desire for some form of companionship.

"Most of my social contact was through those players," he wrote to the other gamer. "All of them are typical detestable human beings, and it bred an aura of innumerable negative emotions for me. You were a respite from that."



Lanza

NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

Pence aide declines Trump's offer to be his chief of staff

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's top pick to be his next chief of staff, Nick Ayers, will not take the job and instead leave the White House at the end of the year.

Four other candidates are now believed to be in the running to direct Trump's White House, administration officials said Sunday. Ayers, a longtime operative who is currently Vice President Mike Pence's chief of staff, said

in a tweet that after departing he "will work with the #MAGA team to advance the cause."

Trump's new list of potential chiefs includes Office of Management and Budget Director Mick Mulvaney and Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., a leader of the House Freedom Caucus, a White House official said.

Sources said Ayers would work with the super PAC set up to assist the president's re-election.

N.C. voting rights activist dies at 97; fought Jim Crow laws

LOUISBURG, N.C. — African-American North Carolina voting rights activist Rosanell Eaton has died at age 97.

Eaton's daughter, Armenta Eaton, says her mother died Saturday at home in Louisburg.

Rosanell Eaton was a poll worker or precinct judge for decades who registered to vote as a young woman in rural Franklin County despite Jim Crow restrictions.

Her daughter says white men told her she had to recite the preamble to the U.S. Constitution before she could register to vote, which she did from memory.

In her 90s, Rosanell was a lead plaintiff in a lawsuit successfully challenging voting restrictions supported by North Carolina Republicans.

Eaton was honored at the White House by President Obama in 2016.

British man poisoned by nerve agent fears he'll die in 10 years

LONDON — A British man who was exposed to the deadly nerve agent Novichok says he is struggling with his eyesight and mobility, and fears the poison will kill him within a decade.

Charlie Rowley, 45, fell ill in June near Salisbury, England, after coming into contact with the nerve agent that was used months earlier to attack former Russian spy Sergei Skripal and his daughter.

Rowley, Skripal and his daughter survived, but Rowley's partner Dawn Sturgess, who was also exposed, died in the hospital.

Rowley told the Sunday Mirror newspaper that he was back in the hospital for treatment because he was going blind and unable to use one arm. He added: "I'm still worried the Novichok could kill me if I get any sort of virus again."



CHUCK LIDDY/THE NEWS & OBSERVER

A Duke Energy lineman uses a bucket truck Sunday to approach a transformer in Durham, N.C. Power is out in many areas after a late fall snowstorm hit North Carolina.

Storm dumps snow, freezing rain on wide swath of South

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — A massive storm brought snow, sleet, and freezing rain across a wide swath of the South on Sunday — causing dangerously icy roads, immobilizing snowfalls and power losses to hundreds of thousands of people.

Accidents on snow-covered interstates caused major delays, hundreds of flights were canceled and drivers in North Carolina and Virginia got stuck in snow or lost control on icy patches. Meanwhile, kids and the young at heart took advantage of the early winter snow with snowball fights, sledding and snowmen.

Police in North Carolina and Virginia said they'd responded to hundreds of snow-related traffic accidents as of Sunday afternoon, as cars, trucks and tractor-trailers struggled with the snow and ice.

North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper strongly urged residents to stay off the roads Sunday, asking drivers not to put lives of first responders needlessly at risk. Cooper said emergency crews, including the National Guard, worked overnight to clear traffic accidents on major roadways.

A dive team searched the Neuse River in Kinston, N.C., for a missing truck

driver Sunday after a tractor-trailer ran off a road and into the river.

Governors and local officials in several states declared emergencies ahead of the storm crossing several Southern states, which hit portions of North Carolina and Virginia particularly hard.

The National Weather Service said a "prolonged period of snow" began late Saturday and would last until Monday in the region.

More than 300,000 power outages were reported across the region. Parts of Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia also saw outages.

Dozens turn out for funeral of Baby Jane Doe

CORONA, Calif. — Dozens of people bearing flowers or stuffed animals attended a funeral for a newborn girl found dead last summer along a Southern California highway.

Authorities in Riverside County continue to investigate the death of the baby whose identity remains a

mystery.

The service on Thursday was organized in part by police officers and firefighters, the Press-Enterprise reported.

Jon Castillo, a Corona police chaplain, led about 70 people in prayer near the tiny, flower-draped casket.

The girl known as "Baby Jane Doe" was discovered on July 27 in a cardboard box near Interstate 15 in Corona, about 50 miles southeast of Los Angeles. She was wrapped in a t-shirt.

Officials said detectives are asking for the public's help

Polish leader, Jews light menorah at Warsaw palace

WARSAW, Poland — Polish President Andrzej Duda and Jewish community members have lit a menorah at the Presidential Palace to jointly mark Hanukkah.

A part of democratic Poland's tradition is highlighting the long history and role of the Jewish nation in Poland. Hanukkah candles are lit each year at the palace in Warsaw.

Duda, former Israeli ambassador to Poland, Shevah Weiss, along with the leaders and young members of Warsaw's Jewish community lit the marble-and-crystal menorah.

Accompanied by first lady Agata Kornhauser-Duda, the president told the gathering of a few dozen people that he was happy at the joint meeting of a "community of people who jointly build up the Polish society, who want to be together."

In Mexico: Mexico's Human Rights Commission is calling on the state of Veracruz to improve security after masked gunmen killed a Guatemalan migrant and injured three others. Reports said one of the injured is a 3-year-old boy and the group was traveling to the U.S. in a truck used to haul livestock.

In Yemen: A leader of Yemen's Houthi rebels has called for an investigation after the AP found evidence of torture in Houthi-run lockups. Thousands have been held. An AP investigation found some detainees were scorched with acid, forced to hang from their wrists or had their faces smashed with batons.

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EDITORIALS

Preserving choices for low-income students in a hostile Springfield

Paul Walker is a truck driver and father of three from south suburban Riverdale. His wife receives disability compensation due to a heart condition. They live in a bungalow with a market value of about \$47,000, according to the Cook County assessor. That's if they could sell. Or move. Which they cannot.

They live on a fixed income, pay their property taxes and don't take vacations or drive new cars or splurge on Christmas gifts.

While exploring high school options for their youngest daughter, Najah Terrell-Walker, they researched their neighborhood school, Thornton Township High School in Harvey, and several others. They liked the college preparatory curriculum at Marian Catholic High School in Chicago Heights, a campus affiliated with the Dominican Sisters of Springfield and located about 16 miles from their home.

As parents of an honor roll student, they weren't worried about the entrance exam at Marian. But tuition of around \$11,000 annually might have been a deal breaker. Because of a state program that's now imperiled in Springfield, the Walkers could afford the school that best suits Najah.

Empower Illinois scholarships

So when Walker learned of the new Empower Illinois scholarship program, which provides tuition assistance to mostly low- and middle-income families, he attended a sign-up session at Marian Catholic. He is not computer savvy. But a woman seated next to him, also hoping to get a scholarship for her child, helped him navigate the online process.

It worked. Walker qualified for the extra help. His daughter is now a Marian Catholic freshman interested in broadcast journalism.

Empower Illinois is a tuition tax credit program the legislature approved in 2017 as part of a state education funding overhaul. The program encourages donations to private schools by offering donors a 75-cents-on-the-dollar tax credit on their Illinois income taxes.

Critics of the program have excoriated it as a diversion of tax money from public schools (not true) and an exclusive tax write-off for rich people (also not true).

Thousands of families

What is true is that thousands of families like the Walkers are now relying on the program for tuition assistance. Empower Illinois awarded 5,005 scholarships for the current school year. Empower's numbers show the average scholarship was about \$6,300. Recipients had a median household income of \$43,305 for a family of four, although families with incomes up to \$73,800 are eligible.

Priority, though, goes to families with household incomes below 185 percent of the federal poverty level — that works out to about \$45,510 for a family of four — and to students from low-income households who reside in communities with low-performing public schools.

More than 32,000 students statewide



MARY COMPTON/DAILY SOUTHTOWN

The Empower Illinois scholarship program offers tuition help to high school students from mostly low- and middle-income families.

applied for the program. Demand has far exceeded the supply of scholarship money.

Critics of the program say it hurts public schools by diverting resources. But that's a twist on reality. Homeowners like the Walkers still pay property taxes that fund local public schools. In addition, lawmakers in Springfield shape the state education budget every year. They can appropriate more or less money toward public schools, irrespective of the tax credit program.

Should Illinois get rid of every tax break?

Critics are correct that the tax credit given to donors means less money from them gets sent to state coffers. Donors get a break on their taxes.

But the same criticism could be leveled at all tax credits and breaks that reduce a corporation's or an individual's tax burden. The tax code allows tax breaks for certain property developers, military veterans, television and production companies, college savings account holders and corporations that relocate their headquarters, to name a few. The state also offers dozens of sales tax breaks to companies and industries. If the loss of tax revenue is the argument against the scholarship program, why not get rid of all tax breaks?

But that's not really the heart of the opposition's case. This is about teachers unions eager to protect their turf, whether public schools are the right fit for certain kids or not.

High-end college prep in a blue-collar neighborhood

Marian Catholic is a high-performing college prep school in Chicago Heights, a city of 30,000 with aging housing stock.

Industry on the east side of town props up the local tax base. But property owners in the Heights pay among the highest composite property tax rates in the Chicago area — roughly \$18 per \$100 of equalized assessed valuation. That's roughly triple the rate in wealthier communities to the west and north.

About 60 percent of Marian's students identify as Catholic. The rest are Jewish, Muslim or Baptist or have no religious affiliation. Roughly 35 percent of the student body is white, 43 percent black and the remainder Asian and Hispanic. Thirty-one students this year are relying on the Empower Illinois scholarship program. Roughly 300 of the 985 young people at the school, however, are income-eligible.

More than 95 percent of Marian's graduating seniors go to college. The school's president, Vince Krydinski, is an alum who put aside his law practice a few years ago to lead the school.

Donations vs. scholarship needs

Marian Catholic has a generous alumni network. But private donations aren't nearly enough to meet scholarship needs.

One Marian parent, Cherita Durham, lost her full-time job recently with the Chicago Public Schools system. She could "barely keep gas in the car" and worried her son, a junior, would have to leave the school he loves.

"Every parent wants better for their kids than they had," she wrote in a letter. "When the time came to pick a high school for my son, Meshach, we looked for an environment where he would feel comfortable being smart and a place to grow, learn, and excel. Eventually, we decided that Marian Catholic High School would be the best fit for him." With help from Empower Illinois and

an anonymous donor, she was able to make her tuition payment this fall.

Will legislators stick to their 2017 deal?

More than 100 members of the Illinois House and Senate voted to create the new scholarship program. But some of them did so mostly to advance the public education funding portion of the legislation. That part, they want to keep in place.

Gov.-elect J.B. Pritzker does not support the tax credit program. On the campaign trail he said he would "immediately" move to repeal it. He believes the tax credits hurt public education by diverting dollars that could be earmarked for those schools. Yet he exerts school choice, and that's fine: His own children attend one of the nation's premiere private schools, Francis W. Parker in Lincoln Park, not their neighborhood CPS school.

We urge the incoming governor and members of the General Assembly to think less about public-private rivalries and more about students who have different needs and should have different choices. Illinois lags most states in offering options outside the public school system. Affluent families have school choice. It's the low-income families trapped by their ZIP codes in marginal public districts who do not. And they don't have years to wait for their public schools to improve.

"The political process is slow as molasses," says Paul Walker, the Marian Catholic father. "When government tells me they're working on it, I appreciate you're working on it, but I have an issue right now."

Thousands of Illinois parents have the same issue right now: Empower Illinois scholarships are their children's only ticket to enter the schools that serve them best.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

These are odd times for Joe Biden. He gets dismissed as too old, or he gets held up as the only adult who can actually come in to lead the Democrats to beat Trump in 2020. He is to many in his party the perfect answer to how to win back the white working-class voters that he helped bring in for Barack Obama, but to others he's a relic of a Democratic Party of the past.

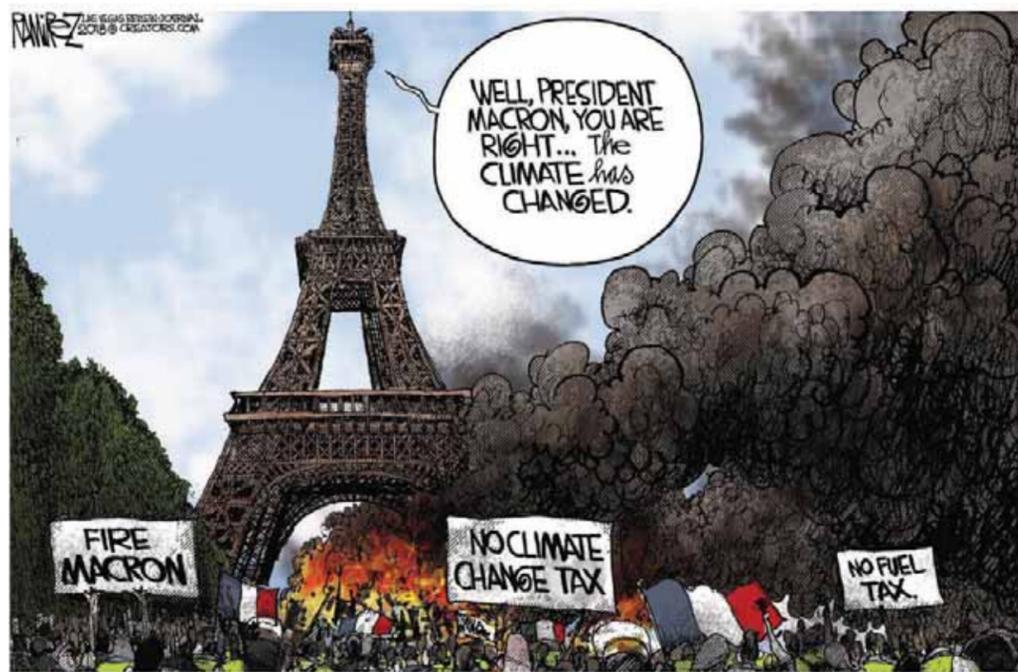
For many older voters, he embodies the nostalgia of what politics used to be, and for many younger voters who came of age during the Obama years, he's a powerful psychological bridge to simpler, easier times.

When his August eulogy at one of John McCain's funeral services went viral, the inbox of every address people could find for him was flooded with emails telling him how much the country needed him now. However, of the day's worth of videos and robocalls Biden recorded for midterm candidates, many weren't used, with several of the campaigns deciding that he came off as too tired and worn-out, according to people familiar with the decisions to keep them on the shelf.

By 2020, it'll be 48 years since Biden was first elected to the Senate, and almost immediately had people talking about him running for president one day. And with his 78th birthday two weeks after Election Day, he knows it'll also be his last possible chance to run.

Edward-Isaac Dove, *The Atlantic*

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MICHAEL RAMIREZ, LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

Chicago Tribune

PERSPECTIVE



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Pediatrician Jasmine Saavedra, center, says her parents, Alicia and Gustavo Saavedra, likely wouldn't have attained their U.S. citizenship in today's political climate.

The path to legal immigration — and the risk of being a 'public charge'

BY JASMINE SAAVEDRA

I am a pediatrician in an area of Chicago with a large immigrant population. I take care of the children of immigrant families, and I have witnessed firsthand the health consequences of the stresses put on these families because of their immigration status.

Now the Trump administration has proposed a new rule that would add to that stress by allowing the government to deny immigration for those who use public benefits. If my own parents' immigration story had gone differently, and the proposed rule had been in place then, I might not be in the United States or be a pediatrician today.

My family's story is a common one but one that has shaped who we are over decades. My mother's father was a worker from Mexico who was able to get a green card through the Bracero program, a set of immigration laws that allowed manual workers to stay in the U.S., and my mother was granted a green card through him. My father, however, was not as fortunate. He married my mother in 1982 and, desperate for better job opportunities, came to the United States. Undocumented and unable to speak English, he found work as a manual laborer, earning less than minimum wage.

To help my father become documented, my mother began the process

of obtaining her own citizenship. While my mom was in Mexico visiting family, my father was picked up by Immigration and Customs Enforcement while he was at work. He was taken to jail and told that he could return to Mexico and give up any chance of becoming documented or he could remain in jail. He decided to remain in jail rather than risk separation from his family and was released after my mom returned from Mexico.

Eventually my mom gained citizenship and my father was granted citizenship through my mother, but it was a difficult process. My family qualified for benefits and used them for a short time. However, my mom stopped using them because people told her that she was a burden on the government and that's why people didn't want us coming to this country.

Thirty years ago, my mother stopped using the benefits we were entitled to, out of shame. Today, immigrant families in similar circumstances are dropping out of programs designed to help them, out of fear. This fear is being deliberately spread by the U.S. government through methods

such as separating families at the border, tear-gassing fleeing mothers and children who are seeking asylum and proposing policy changes — such as the proposed tightening of the “public charge” rule — to make it as difficult as possible for people like my parents to seek permanent resident status.

As a physician, I worry that my patients may feel that seeking medical care for themselves or their children is too big a risk to take.

“Public charge” is a term used in immigration law to refer to a person who is primarily dependent on the government to meet his or her basic needs. It is applied to people seeking to enter this country or to obtain permanent resident status. Historically, the public charge test focused on whether applicants were receiving cash assistance for income maintenance or would need to be institutionalized for long-term care at government expense. Under the new proposal (public comments are open through midnight Monday), use of programs such as Medicaid, food and housing assistance, and potentially even the Children's Health Insurance Program will be part of the assessment. Additionally, income counts toward this determination: Applications could be de-

nied if the official does not think the person makes enough money to support himself or herself or their family.

This is devastating for many in the immigrant population, who are already dropping out of programs that they fear may jeopardize their chances of obtaining permanent resident status. As a physician, I worry that my patients may feel that seeking medical care for themselves or their children is too big a risk to take.

I think about my own family, whose members were afforded a chance to become citizens even after my father was detained. I think about how my mother turned down benefits because of shame, and how scared she would have been if she thought that even applying for them or having had them at one time would be used as an excuse to keep my family from becoming citizens.

Today I am a pediatrician, a chief resident at a large teaching hospital. My parents were fortunate enough to find a path to citizenship that would likely not be open to them today. I cannot imagine what my parents went through and the immense strength it took to overcome the obstacles they faced.

Dr. Jasmine Saavedra is a pediatrician in Chicago. She is a member of the Refugee and Immigrant Child Health Initiative and the Illinois Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Millennials are ruining everything ... or maybe they're just broke

BY CATHERINE RAMPPELL

Millennials are a murderous bunch, a generation of homicidal maniacs.

At least that's the impression you get from reading news stories about my generation.

According to the headlines, we've wreaked carnage across the economy with our fickle, selfish tastes. So far we have “killed” or are “killing” dinner dates, hotels, credit cards, grocery stores, cinemas, Home Depot, diamonds, banks, gyms, department stores, vacations, cruises and casinos, the car industry, homeownership and even Buffalo Wild Wings.

The explanations for our butchery are manifold, and sometimes contradictory.

Sometimes we're a bunch of hipster brats who don't appreciate the tried-and-true cultural milestones of middle-class adulthood. We spend all of our time snapping selfies in our parents' basements. That means we don't need cars to get around, nor do we want them. To today's youngsters, “driving simply doesn't seem as cool as it once was,” one

Fortune magazine article proclaimed.

Or maybe we are venturing out, but when we do, we make more frivolous purchasing decisions than did our forebears. We fritter away our paychecks on avocado toast instead of saving to buy a home.

Alternatively, we're socially conscious, admirably deaf to the siren song of commercialism. Unlike those Material Girls (and Boys) of the 1980s, we think ownership is soul-sucking and pointless. Sharing is caring, bro.

Well, a research paper published last month by economists at the Federal Reserve comes to a different conclusion: Millennials aren't choosing to break economic traditions. Instead, we're just broke. “Are Millennials Different?” looks at financial and cultural milestones for the cohort born between 1981 and 1997, and how it compares with earlier generations at a similar life stage.

Contrary to stereotypes that kids these days have sharply different tastes and aspirations than did kids of yore, the report concludes that “millennials do not appear to have preferences

for consumption that differ significantly from those of earlier generations.”

We simply lack the earnings or assets to make those same consumption preferences happen.

It's true, for instance, that we're much less likely to own homes. Homeownership rates among young households were close to 50 percent for Gen Xers in 2001 and baby boomers in 1989, the report finds, but only 34 percent for comparably aged millennials in 2016.

Have the scars of the housing bust turned us away from the American dream of homeownership? Survey data suggest otherwise. More likely we're just still scarred by the Great Recession itself: We simply can't afford to pursue that dream right now.

Many of us entered the job market when employment opportunities were few and far between, and we got stuck on lower-paying career trajectories. The Fed paper finds that millennials, working full time, generally have less income than did either Gen Xers or baby boomers at similar ages.

We also have more student

debt than those earlier generations did. Young adults today are more expected to attend college if they want a decent job — and moreover, to fund that education themselves, given successive rounds of cuts in public dollars to state colleges and universities. Student loan debt in turn can crowd out our ability to borrow for other purchases, such as a house.

After controlling for income, economic and other demographic factors, the researchers found little to no difference between millennials and earlier generational cohorts in their spending on housing, cars and food. In fact, millennials appear to spend more on housing than demographically similar boomers did. The researchers note that it's possible our preferences could eventually change, just as the “Great Depression left a lasting impression on the Greatest Generation.” But there's little evidence that's happened yet.

For now, what's odd — and especially unfair — is that millennials are blamed and shamed for “killing” industries that we've been effectively shut out of.

We're not the ones, after all, who bought houses we couldn't afford and then destroyed the global economy a decade ago.

We're not the ones who orchestrated a massive disinvestment in public higher education, after the generations before us enrolled for a pittance.

And going forward, we're not the ones who will benefit from the new \$1.9 trillion deficit-financed tax cut, which was effectively an enormous inter-generational transfer of wealth. In case you're wondering who's going to pay that back, the answer is millennials, and the generations who come after us — through higher taxes, lower benefits or both. Which is yet another reason for us to pinch every penny we can.

If you're really concerned about the supposed economic carnage being visited upon carmakers or Buffalo Wild Wings, blame the real villain here: our elders.

The Washington Post

Catherine Rampell is a Washington Post columnist.

PERSPECTIVE



DREAMTIME

'Porch pirates' are trying to steal Christmas

By PETULA DVORAK

The porch pirates are in overdrive. Their crimes are unfolding on doorsteps across the nation as Christmas presents, ordered from online retailers, arrive by the hundreds of millions. And plenty of those packages disappear.

They're using booby traps, secret cameras, geo-trackers and bait boxes. The scenes of Good vs. Evil being posted online make for days of great comic-book reading, complete with shaming doorbell video clips of sneaky pirates, clumsy pirates, grandma pirates in flowery tunics, at least one pirate in a bra — even regretful pirates who've returned to the scene of the crime to leave an apology note.

And paid crime fighters are now in on the action, with police chiefs calling porch pirates the scourge of the holiday season and investigators setting up sting operations like the Fort Worth (Texas) Police Department's "Operation Grinch Pinch" or the police in Wheeling, W.Va., leaving snarky notes wishing the duped bad guys "Merry Christmas."

But the doorstep vigilantes are the most entertaining. There's even a guy in Tacoma, Wash., who is marketing a device that sets off a 12-gauge blank the moment a pirate lifts the bait

package.

One Washington, D.C., woman, fed up with having nearly \$1,000 worth of packages stolen from her porch, left a pretty awesome present for her pirates — a box heavy with her two dogs' poop.

"It didn't stop them, though," Andrea Hutzler reported.

What did stop them was a Nancy Drew combination of sleuthing and teamwork after a porch camera spotted a white truck driving away, and a neighborhood email discussion group identified the truck and got the license plate number. Police used the license plate to track down the driver, who ultimately turned on the partner, Hutzler said.

That didn't stop other porch pirates from swooping in.

How did she finally stop the thefts? "We moved. We're in Northern Virginia now," Hutzler said. "I've lived in Illinois, Houston, New Orleans, overseas. It never happened anywhere but D.C."

My husband and I have been fighting this for years. The first time it happened was with an internet router we ordered online.

It was snowing, and the thief left footprints. We followed them, only to find the bubble wrap, the receipt, the empty box, then the road, where the prints ended.

The second time we thought we would thwart this by requiring a signature. The person who intercepted the package signed for it as "Cathy Lanier," then Washington's police chief.

So we stopped having anything valuable sent to the house. Then the thefts became annoying. When a 5-pound tub of purple fondant I or-

dered to make a princess cake for a daughter's friend went missing, I snooped around the neighborhood, found the box, found the tub, found the wad of purple fondant in the bushes. I learned how to make my own fondant that year.

Porch pirating is not an easy crime to track because not everyone reports it. If you just look at the Google search for "Amazon package stolen," as the folks at Schorr Packaging did, you'll see San Francisco at the top of the list, with Seattle, Minneapolis, Boston, Portland and Washington close behind.

But another survey suggested that big cities aren't the only place where the thieves operate. A survey done last year by video security company Blink found that rural residents in North Dakota, Vermont, Maine, New Mexico, Mississippi and Arkansas reported the highest numbers of folks who have had packages swiped. That map also looks a little like the opioid crisis map from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Packages in less-populated, rural neighborhoods are targets for addicts-turned-thieves.

Of course, not all the packages swiped are from Amazon. But as consumer habits shift toward e-commerce and Amazon packages are plastered with Amazon logos, Porch pirates would probably opt for the Amazon package over the one with Santa stickers, a return address starting with "Grandma" and "Fragile! Cookies inside!" written all over it.

And Amazon is anything but transparent about how many packages are stolen.

I parried for a while with one of its PR guys, who said everything is "on

background, no direct quotes" and didn't provide me with a number of packages reported stolen, the monetary damage these thefts do to Amazon or what, exactly, Amazon's policy is on replacing anything reported stolen. It's a case-by-case basis, he said, which was my own personal experience. Sometimes they sent me a replacement, no problem. Other times I got stiffed.

The Amazon guy pointed to Amazon lockers as a theft-prevention option. (Sure, but they aren't always as convenient as they sound.) And he explained the package tracking that Amazon does.

It even has new features where you actually let the driver into your home or car to leave the package there. Gee, thanks.

Porch pirates are basically shoplifters. When shoplifters go to bricks-and-mortar shops, they cost retailers about \$42 billion annually. Stores have security guards and cameras, and they take the hit when something is stolen.

In the e-commerce version of shoplifting, theft prevention is now on us, David, while Goliath just shrugs.

And it's not vigilante citizens out there — it's cash-strapped police departments setting up sting operations and following leads from home camera clips, doing the legwork that big box stores used to be responsible for.

Pretty slick, eh?

Happy shopping. Don't forget the booby trap.

The Washington Post

Petula Dvorak is a Washington Post columnist.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Memo to lawmakers: Don't shortchange veterans

Message to Illinois lawmakers regarding the bill to award up to \$2 million to survivors of those who died in the Legionnaires' disease flare-up at the Illinois Veterans Home in Quincy. Save the millions to care for the veterans in need of care.

My brother-in-law was a Vietnam War veteran who spent over 10 years in a wheelchair in the Quincy home after being in several facilities where his condition worsened. The care and treatment at Quincy were excellent and we are grateful for his veterans benefits.

Now that the bill has passed, veterans and taxpayers lose.

— *Mary Thennes, Crystal Lake*

End the bailouts

The real takeaway from the recent announcement of General Motors layoffs is not getting much press. All the hand-wringing about the collapse of the U.S. auto industry led to corporate welfare —

bailouts in the billions of dollars. But bailouts don't work. Companies, like individuals, won't become productive unless they are weaned off welfare.

It's a lesson lost on no one except the politicians, corporate officers and union workers favored by selective bailouts. If they'd had the collective clout they enjoy today at the turn of the century, we would still be riding horses as they made the argument that we must do what is necessary to save the blacksmith from the evils of the emerging auto industry.

— *Matthew Korzeniowski, Tinley Park*

The Jonestown horror

I sat in numbed disbelief as I read Rebecca Moore's commentary ("The promise of Jonestown — before the final day," Nov. 25). She urges us not to focus on its leader, Jim Jones, but instead to cherish "the basic decency and genuine idealism" of Jones' Peoples Temple movement, a journey that ended in 1978, thousands of miles from home, with the murder/suicide of nearly a thousand human beings, with numerous children among

the victims.

Ms. Moore's suggestion is akin to asking us not to focus on Adolf Hitler but rather on the "the basic decency and genuine idealism" of Nazi Germany's long tradition of Christianity. Yeah, sure. Well, a movement must be judged not on its origins, but rather on its conclusion. And Jonestown's finality was horrific.

There is a classic literary telling of such a narrative — George Orwell's "Animal Farm." As with Jones' experiment, that farm began with a dream of joy and peace and equality for all the farm animals, and ended with an iron dictatorship quashing the hopes and dreams of all but a few of its inhabitants.

— *Patrick Riley, Chicago*

The Blue Wave

The recent national and local elections support the view of a Blue Wave, with major victories across a broader political and ideological spectrum than ultra-right adherents anticipated.

This election conclusively demonstrates that educated, more financially affluent individuals and young people repudiate speech of hatred and demagoguery instead of finding palpable solutions to current vexing problems confronting the country.

It is our theoretical ideals and commit-

ment to them which unite us as a people and nation, concomitant with our resolve to seek a more perfect Union for all American inhabitants, despite demographics.

Diversity isn't a weakness, but a resounding strength for perpetual economic betterment and social progress.

— *Ballard J. Powell, Chicago*

Is 18 adulthood or not?

The arguments for raising the smoking age in Illinois all sound appealing. It will decrease the number of teen smokers and spur better public health ("A great way to push cigarettes out of teens' reach," Nov. 26).

Yet there is a key point here that is often overlooked: At 18 you can be criminally charged as an adult, buy a house, join or be drafted into the military, enter into legal contracts, run for office and drive a car.

We cannot have it both ways. Either those of us between 18 and 21 are adults or we're still kids.

If Illinois wants to raise the smoking age to 21, fine, but then also raise the age to do everything else that means being an adult. It is a gross humiliation of the freedom our country is known for to say some adults have some rights while others have the rest. We 18-to-21-year-olds are either adults or kids. There is no in between.

— *Benjamin Polony, Glenview*



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Chicago Tribune BUSINESS

SUCCESS

Your Monday guide to managing money, work and the business of life



JILL SCHLESINGER
Jill on Money

Prepare yourself for less-robust 2019

Thanksgiving week provided investors with a healthy reminder: When the bear reveals his teeth, the results can be nasty.

A bear market is defined as a 20 percent decline from an asset's 52-week high. In this case, the bear mauled some of the recent market darlings, including the technology sector's stars: the FAANGs (Facebook, Apple, Amazon, Netflix and Google parent, Alphabet), which together have erased about \$1 trillion in market capitalization from their recent highs.

While some of the selling was profit taking after years of amazing performance, there are signs that some of these companies, like Facebook and Google, could face more regulatory scrutiny. That increased oversight could mean that companies have to spend a lot more money to operate and/or they may be prohibited from doing business as usual.

The bottom line: Some of the FAANGs could be less profitable in the future, which is why investors are selling.

Zoom out and there is something else going on.

Since the end of September, there has been a growing concern that the U.S. economy is unlikely to maintain its current growth trajectory. Yes, 2018 will likely see the strongest Gross Domestic Product (GDP is estimated to come in at 3 to 3.2 percent for the calendar year) since 2005, when it was 3.5 percent.

But 2019 is not expected to be as strong, according to Diane Swonk, chief economist at Grant Thornton. She credits corporate tax cuts and government spending as the main catalysts behind this year's shining economy.

But Swonk believes that "the corrosive impact" of tariffs is likely to push up consumer prices. "Almost 20 percent of importers will pass on tariffs to consumers," which will force the Federal Reserve's hand as it tries to keep a lid on inflation.

There is a general consensus that the central bank will raise by a quarter of a percentage point the interest rate at the last policy meeting of the year in December. Swonk believes they may have to raise four times in 2019 (the Fed itself has penciled in three quarter-point increases). Rising interest rates, combined with the diminishing effect of fiscal stimulus will mean that growth will slow down in 2019, leading to a recession in 2020, according to her analysis.

No conversation about the wall of worry that investors face would be complete without noting the following concerns: a further escalation of U.S.-China trade disputes, a rocky and/or prolonged Brexit and an abundance of debt among corporations, all of which have put investors on high alert for the last five weeks of the year.

Speaking of bear markets, a year ago I wrote about the soaring price of bitcoin, the largest of the dizzying array of peer-to-peer digital currencies.

A year later, the party is over in crypto world. Year to date, bitcoin, XRP and Ethereum are all down 75 to 80 percent. During Thanksgiving week alone, bitcoin shed more than two-thirds of its value.

Last year, I noted that bitcoin returns were tantalizing, but only "if you're the type of person who likes to gamble, can take extreme price fluctuations and can afford to lose what you invest." But for everyone else, "Until there is more regulatory oversight and consumer protections, stick to your diversified portfolio."

I stand by that advice whether the price of crypto zooms back up or drops further. While there has been increased regulatory scrutiny (the SEC levied its first civil penalties and the Justice Department is investigating whether last year's run up was actually a result of market manipulation), crypto has not grown up yet and should be avoided for the vast majority of investors.

Jill Schlesinger, CFP, is a CBS News business analyst. A former options trader and CIO of an investment advisory firm, she welcomes comments and questions at askjill@jillonmoney.com.



RAWPIXELIMAGES/DREAMSTIME

Employees RISING

Companies navigating how to respect
and reflect their workers' values

BY MICHELLE CHENG | Inc.

At Boxed's SoHo office, in New York, you'll find some employees still wearing Hillary Clinton 2016 T-shirts.

The online wholesale grocer's CEO and founder, Chieh Huang, recalled his employees taking to Slack to air their feelings about the results of the presidential election. Huang said he had to remind his New York employees that the company has a lot of employees based in Texas and they likely see things differently.

When the midterm election came around, he did the same thing: Encourage employees to go out and vote, but avoid bringing up politics at work.

"My No. 1 job when I walk into the door is to create an atmosphere in which people don't feel like they're judged based on what they feel politically," Huang said recently at the 92Y in New York.

Huang took the stage with Jennifer Fitzgerald, co-founder of online insurance marketplace Policygenius, Jon Stein, founder of investment management service Betterment, and Jill Schlesinger, a CBS News business columnist. The topic was how to operate a mission-driven company in a politically charged environment.

The past year has seen a rise in employee activism, with workers calling out some of the country's biggest tech companies on a range of issues.

In November, thousands of Google

employees around the world walked out to protest their employer's handling of sexual harassment claims. A week later, the company said it would end its forced arbitration policy (Facebook, Airbnb and eBay quickly followed suit).

In June, a group of Amazon employees asked its CEO to cancel a contract for its Rekognition facial-recognition software for companies that work with U.S. immigration authorities. And more than 100 politically conservative Facebook employees formed an internal group to vent that the company is intolerant of opposing political thought, The New York Times reported in August.

At the same time, startups are taking increasingly bold stances on political issues when they directly affect their employees. During the turmoil around the Affordable Care Act, Fitzgerald said that Policygenius wrote op-eds about the importance of the ACA.

Some Boxed female employees recently testified before Nevada legislators on why they should eliminate the "tampon tax," a 6.85 percent tax imposed specifically on feminine products.

Voters agreed and approved a measure to abolish the tax. While still obligated to collect sales taxes on these products in more than 30 states, Boxed is rebating the money to customers, at a cost of \$1 million a month, Huang said.

The founder said he's willing to take the hit to his bottom line because it

affects employee retention; employees want to work for companies that take a stand on issues they care about.

"Keeping morale high and subsidizing things people care about is really smart in the long run," he said.

While private companies have more leeway when it comes to mingling their missions with politics, the ones that do this successfully establish a set of clear, consistent corporate values early on.

"As a startup company, one of the levers that you have and advantages that you have over the JPMorgans of the world is that you can be intentional about culture and values and mission as a way to attract people from companies that out-pay you," said Fitzgerald.

Stein added that as mission-driven companies grow, their values and the way founders communicate them must evolve. When his company was still small, Stein spoke with customers frequently until his company started to scale in 2014.

While he can no longer personally interact with customers, he leans on his 240-person team to schedule periodic coffee meetings to get feedback with customers. This only works, Stein said, if you "hire people who perpetuate (your) values."

On that subject, each founder had a go-to interview tactic to suss out the true character of job candidates.

Fitzgerald, for instance, uses the "chucklehead test" asking the hardest thing the applicant has had to overcome, which helps reveal a person's integrity and self-awareness.

Beyond how you hire, being mindful of small details in the day-to-day operations of a company is key, the founders said. Huang recently visited a fulfillment center in Las Vegas where he learned that the biggest concern for his fulfillment workers was very different from that of his staff members — not having a toilet paper holder.

To help create a more empathetic workplace, he makes sure that all employees experience working in fulfillment centers. At Policygenius, Fitzgerald said that because customer support employees start their calls at 9 a.m., everyone else comes in at that time to create a fair environment.

"Very thoughtful things can make a big difference," she said.

Chicago Tribune

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Reader RMD questions

What to know about timing, multiple accounts



BY ELLIOT RAPHAELSON
The Savings Game

I've received several questions from readers about required minimum distributions from IRAs and 401(k) plans, so I'm taking this space to address them.

Q: I am 72, and I expect to retire in 2019. When will I have to take required minimum distributions?

A: The answer depends on the retirement account type. If the account is a 401(k) plan sponsored by your current employer, your first RMD must be taken by April 1 the year after you retire. Accordingly, if you retire in 2019, you will have to take an RMD distribution by April 1, 2020. However, in subsequent years your RMD distribution would be required by year-end; so your second RMD in that 401(k) plan must be taken by Dec. 31 2021.

If you have an IRA, your first RMD should have been taken by April 1 of the year following the year you reached age 70½.

Q: I have multiple 401(k)s and also a traditional IRA. Can I take one RMD covering all of the RMD requirements?

A: No. For each separate 401(k), you must take separate RMDs. You must also take a separate RMD for your traditional IRA. Those who have multiple traditional IRA accounts may determine what the total RMD is for all of the IRA accounts and take an RMD from one of the IRA accounts to cover all the IRA RMD requirements.

The bottom line is that if you have two 401(k)s and one IRA account, you must make three separate RMDs.

Q: I have both 403(b) accounts and traditional IRA accounts. Can I take an RMD withdrawal from my IRA to satisfy my RMD requirements for my



ARTURSZCZYBYLO/DREAMSTIME

403(b) accounts?

A: No. RMD requirements to satisfy 403(b) RMD withdrawals must be made from the 403(b) accounts. If you have more than one 403(b) account, you can make one withdrawal from one of the 403(b) accounts to satisfy all of the RMD requirements for the 403(b) accounts. However, you must make the RMD withdrawal from the traditional IRA account separately.

Q: I am 69, and I have a 401(k) account. I intend to keep working until age 73 or so. Will I have to make RMD withdrawals from my 401(k) when I reach 70½? If so, will I be able to postpone RMDs on my IRA accounts also?

A: As long as you are still working for the employer offering you the 401(k), you can postpone your RMD for the 401(k) until the year after you stop working for that employer. However, the RMD requirements for your traditional IRA are independent. As soon as you reach 70½, you must plan to start taking RMD distributions required of your IRA accounts.

Q: I am planning to name my spouse as the sole beneficiary of my IRA. He is more than 10 years younger, so I intend to use the table which allows a slower withdrawal. Where is this information

specified in IRS publications?

A: On page 7 of the IRS publication 590-B, there is a discussion of this option. You could go to the Internet and search for "IRA Required Minimum Worksheet" for more information.

If you have additional questions about the regulations regarding RMDs, I recommend that you Google "Retirement Plan and IRA Required Minimum Distribution FAQs." The IRS answers many questions about RMDs and refers readers to other IRS publications that can answer their questions.

Many believe it's in their best interest to wait until December to take their RMDs. This approach does allow you more time to earn income on your investments. However, there is a potential downside, as investors have seen in 2018. By waiting until year's end, you run the risk of having to make withdrawals at a time when your portfolio has fallen in value.

I have had to take RMDs for several years. I make it a habit of taking throughout the year, especially when specific investments are doing well. I would rather sacrifice some income than run the risk of being forced to take distributions when the markets are falling.

Elliot Raphaelson welcomes your questions and comments at raphelliot@gmail.com.



TERRY SAVAGE
The Savage Truth

Things to do now before tax season

Thinking about income taxes is different this year because of the tax law changes.

For some people, tax time will be easier and less costly. They will get a \$12,000 standard deduction for an individual return or a \$24,000 standard deduction on a joint return. If their charitable contributions and state income taxes and property taxes are low, they can simply take the standard deduction and save time and accountant's fees in April by not itemizing.

But many people will need to do some year-end calculations revolving around lost deductions and the need to keep careful records for those deductions that remain. You are limited to a \$10,000 deduction for combined state income taxes and property taxes this year, whether filing a single or joint return.

Those living in states with high income and property taxes may lose a significant portion of their prior year's tax deductions. You will only want to itemize if the sum of medical expenses (which are deductible only in excess of 7.5 percent of your adjusted gross income), charitable contributions, mortgage interest and state and local taxes (up to \$10,000) exceed your standard deduction.

Large middle-income families may be big losers under the new tax bill. No longer will they get the personal exemption (most recently \$4,050) for themselves and each of their children. Instead, on a joint return they'll be limited to that \$24,000 standard deduction. No longer will the tax code create an incentive for having more children, but there will be higher child tax credits for 2018.

Another lost deduction: interest on home equity loans taken out in 2018 (but not on those taken out in prior years) unless it was used to improve the property (and only in principal amounts up to \$750,000). If you used the proceeds of the 2018 loan to pay down credit card debt or take a vacation, that interest is no longer a deduction.

Here are a few things you can do now:

Reduce your income: If you qualify for a bonus, but are near the top of your current tax bracket, see if you can receive it next year. Or consider an extra year-end contribution to your 401(k) plan if you haven't maxed it out. That contribution will reduce your income and maybe put you in a lower bracket, while letting more money grow for your retirement. Similarly, self-employed people can create an individual 401(k) plan for self-employment income and contribute a significant amount of money before year-end to reduce income.

Manage your contributions: You may want to bunch your charitable contributions in one year, making it worthwhile to itemize in the year you have excess deductions. A special deal exists for retirees taking required minimum distributions from their IRA accounts. If the trustee of the account follows your instructions to make a direct contribution to a recognized charity, your income from the distribution will be reduced by that amount, lowering your tax liability.

Give to family: It's not a deduction, but every year each person can give away \$15,000 to anyone. It's a great way for grandparents to distribute wealth to a younger generation. It is not a tax deduction, but the money does pass tax-free to the recipient, and reduces the value of the giver's estate in case of future estate tax liability.

Next spring, you'll be reduced to slim pickings for tax deductions, mainly a pre-April 15 contribution to a tax-deductible IRA if you qualify. And that's The Savage Truth.

Terry Savage is a registered investment adviser and the author of four best-selling books. She responds to questions on her blog at TerrySavage.com.

On-the-road retirees

Couple walks dogs, picks grapes in exchange for free places to stay abroad

BY PATRICIA MERTZ ESSWEIN
Kiplinger

Greg and Betsy Ball, 55-year-old retired teachers who volunteer abroad in exchange for free room and board, discuss how they make it work — and how others can do the same.

Q: Did you have a plan to do what you're doing?

Betsy: Not exactly. When we retired in May 2017 as teachers at Tarleton State University, in Texas, we wanted to figure out how we could afford to travel a lot. When I heard about volunteering our labor in exchange for room and board abroad, I thought, "We can do that." We love meeting people, and we want to be immersed in the culture of the places we visit.

Q: Where did you go your first year?

Greg: Between September 2017 and May 2018, we went to Denmark, Montenegro, Croatia, Slovenia, Latvia, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Germany, Poland, Hungary and three times to Italy. We spent last summer at a family cottage in Quebec.

Q: What kind of work have you done?

Greg: House-sitting, pet-sitting, dog walking and handyman jobs in wonderful places. We've run a gin bar in England and taught English in Poland. For house-sitting, it helps that we're a couple in our 50s.



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Q: Where do you find the gigs?

Betsy: We look for postings on websites including www.wwoof.net, www.workaway.com, www.trustedhousesitters.com and www.helpx.net. We don't have work permits, so we can't be paid. As Americans with passports, we're allowed to be in most European countries for 90 days without a visa.

Q: Do you have a favorite stay so far?

Greg: We love wine, so we wanted to be in wine country for the fall harvest. We've twice picked grapes for the same winery in Dogliani, in northwestern Italy. We love the owners, and this fall, we saw some of the same people we worked with last year. It's amazing to sit at the dinner table with people speaking four different languages.

Q: How have the accommodations been?

Betsy: Most have been nice, and some better than others, but you judge them by the bed and the shower.

Greg: We often ask each other, "How many of our friends would do this?" At a

certain age, people may expect certain niceties. You sort out a lot of it beforehand by email and Skype, so you have an idea of what you're getting into. We are going to help with building and gardening on a farm in Kilkenny, Ireland, next; we'll stay in the owners' Airbnb.

Q: How are your finances?

Betsy: We spend about three-fourths of what we did living in Stephenville, Texas. When we sold our house in Texas, we took a chunk of equity to live on and invested the rest. We haven't tapped our retirement accounts. Last year, I taught online for the university for pay. This year, we're focused on expanding our business, Euro Travel Coach (www.euro-travelcoach.com). We create custom itineraries for clients and lead small-group tours, and we have some income from that. We have health insurance through Greg's retirement plan.

Patricia Mertz Esswein is an associate editor at Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine. Send your questions and comments to moneypower@kiplinger.com.

Trusting travel reviews

Travel isn't cheap, so you want to feel confident about the hotel you're planning to book or the tour you're eyeing. Other travelers' opinions can help you decide, but scrolling through online comments from strangers has its downsides. You might have to wade through dozens of overblown complaints or suspiciously effusive reviews that could be a plant by the business owner, a friend or a hired promoter. Here are a few tips to help you out.



Look for verified reviews

Airbnb, Booking.com, Expedia, HomeAway, Hotels.com, Priceline and Viator allow only "verified" reviews, meaning the writers must have reserved through the site and completed their stay or activity. You still will have to endure the people who make ridiculously fussy complaints, but at least you know they have stayed there.



Keep it fresh

Sort reviews by date because things in the hospitality industry change frequently, says Ulrike Gretzel, of the University of Southern California's Center for Public Relations. Also, focus on reviewers whose travel style is similar to yours, she says. On Booking.com, TripAdvisor and other sites, you can filter by reviewers who traveled as a family, a couple, solo or for business.



Check several places

Your best bet is to check the same hotel, activity or tour on multiple sites and look for consistent observations. If, for instance, several people note how noisy the hotel is, you may want to pass. A few lesser-known reviews are worth a look as well. Oyster.com sends professionals to review hotels in 76 countries and cruises on about 100 ships.

SOURCE: Kiplinger

SUCCESS

You may want to sit down for this

Standing desks' health benefits likely overblown

BY BETSY MIKEL | Inc.

By now you likely are sick of hearing that sitting is the new smoking. Many companies have jumped on the standing-desk bandwagon. It certainly seems to be a smart way to fight the horrors of sitting disease, but a growing body of research suggests that many of the benefits claimed by standing-desk evangelists are overblown. Simply put, there's no substitute for good old-fashioned movement.

According to a 2017 survey from the Society for Human Resource Management, standing desks are the fastest-growing benefits trend. About 13 percent of employers provided or subsidized them in 2013; 44 percent did so in 2017, according to U.S. News & World Report.

A 2014 study in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health found that giving people adjustable desks reduced their sedentary time by more than three hours each week.

It's true that people spend a lot of time sitting, and fighting that is admirable. Whether sitting behind a computer all day at work or loafing around on the couch at home, we seem to be moving less.

As housing prices skyrocket in urban areas, many workers are having to move farther out to find more affordable housing, which extends their commutes. In especially pricey areas, such as San Francisco, it's not uncommon for people to spend three hours or more per day commuting. And that typically means sitting in a car or on the train or bus.

We have less time to move our bodies. But is standing most of the day really giving us a big health boost?

Standing all the time isn't the answer

The New York Times Upshot column examined some of the health claims of standing desks. Health columnist Aaron E. Carroll pointed out a few misleading studies. Multiple studies have shown that sitting all day is poor for one's health, but there's no definitive research that standing counteracts it.

Alan Hedge, a professor in the Department of Design and Environment Analysis at Cornell University, notes: "If what



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you're doing is replacing sitting with standing, you're not actually doing your body any favors. In fact, you're introducing a whole variety of new risk factors."

For example, standing too much can compress the spine and lead to lower back problems over time. It can also boost the risk for varicose veins, deep vein thrombosis and other cardiovascular problems because the heart has to work against gravity to keep blood flowing up from the toes, Hedge told U.S. News & World Report.

A 2017 study in the American Journal of Epidemiology that looked at more than 7,000 people in various professions found that workers who primarily stood had double the risk of heart disease over about a 12-year period than people who mostly sat down.

It's also true that certain tasks, especially those requiring fine motor skills, are more accurately performed while seated, a blog post in Harvard Health Publishing

points out. So, a standing desk may not be an ideal choice for everyone at work.

The calorie-burning myth

But isn't standing supposed to burn more calories than sitting? Technically yes, but not much.

The Journal of Physical Activity and Health reported that researchers fitted 74 healthy people with masks that measured oxygen consumption as a reflection of how many calories they burned while doing computer work, watching TV, standing or walking on a treadmill.

They found that the use of a standing desk for three hours burns an extra 24 calories, about the same number of calories as a carrot. But walking for just a half hour during your lunch break could burn an extra 100 calories each day, Harvard Health Publishing notes.

Prior reports of the calories burned by standing versus sitting suggested a much

higher calorie burn rate for standing, but this new study measured energy expenditure and likely represents a more accurate assessment, Harvard reports.

Walk it out

If you like your standing desk, keep it. Just realize that it is not a substitute for exercise. What matters most is that you get moving and don't stay in one spot all day long.

A walking break two or three times per work day is a great habit to get into. Take the stairs, walk to the drinking fountain that is farthest from your desk, schedule walking meetings and make a point to get outside at least once a day.

Twenty minutes of walking a day has brain-boosting benefits as well, which could lead to a breakthrough at work.

Betsy Mikel is the owner of Aveck, a content consultancy.

Crossword

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Turn over
 - 5 "Get lost!"
 - 9 Defect
 - 13 Ocean __; Titanic or Queen Mary
 - 15 "It's all Greek __"
 - 16 Churchill Downs event
 - 17 Flabbergast
 - 18 Deserted
 - 20 Wynken, Blynken and __
 - 21 1995-2005 TV crime drama series
 - 23 Actor James
 - 24 Wed without fanfare
 - 26 Scoundrel
 - 27 Declare innocent, as a defendant
 - 29 Messy home
 - 32 Make butter
 - 33 Dories & dinghies
 - 35 Curtain holder
 - 37 Yellowish-brown wood
 - 38 Child's bear
 - 39 __ one's time; wait
 - 40 Start of the weekend: abbr.
 - 41 Baseball's Barry __
 - 42 Very early bedtime
 - 43 Pavarotti & Caruso
 - 45 Truly
 - 46 Up in the __; not yet settled
- DOWN**
- 1 Caramel-topped custard
 - 2 Long car
 - 3 Insufficient
 - 4 Classic candy in a dispenser
 - 5 Put on, as a play
 - 6 Corn on the __
 - 7 "I __ Rock"; Simon & Garfunkel hit
 - 8 Determination; grit
 - 9 Palm leaves
 - 10 Walkway
 - 11 King toppers
 - 12 Gives up the single life
 - 14 Register to be a member once again
 - 19 Hauls along behind

Solutions

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N	E	N	I	O	P	I	N	E	G	N	O	S	
B	O	T		I	L	A		E	S	N	O	S	
				V	A	N	S		A	I	R		
A	T	I	R	E	A		S	R	O	N	E		
N	E	A	S		S	E	N	O	B		I	V	S
E	D	I	B		A	D	D	E	L	K	X	E	T
R	O	D		S	T		O	B	A	N		C	H
A	T	S	G	I	P		L	I	U	O	C	A	V
				C	A	D			L	O	P	E	
S	S	E		A	R	V		G	A	V	E	D	O
E	N	O	D	N	A	V		A	B	A	Z	E	V
C	E		R	A	C	E		T	O	M	E	R	I
L	A		F	L	A			S	C	A	T		F

22 Is __ to; probably will

25 Prowl about stealthily

27 Performs

28 Unsavory game opponent

29 Lily __; floating leaves

30 Make light of

31 Alpine goatherd's song

33 Uncle __ Rice

34 Bizarre

36 Declare untrue

38 Tumultuous streams of water

39 "Sesame Street" fellow

41 U.S. state capital

42 Medicare recipient, usually

44 For __; to no avail

45 Actor Kilmer

47 Dinner course

48 Illegal way to make money

49 __ over; study intently

50 A single time

53 Dollar bills

54 Pieces of furniture

56 Part of a vowel list

57 Years lived

59 Crony

BEST REVIEWS

gift guide

Looking for the perfect gift?
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We spent all year testing products so you can get the best for everyone on your list.

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BestReviews.com

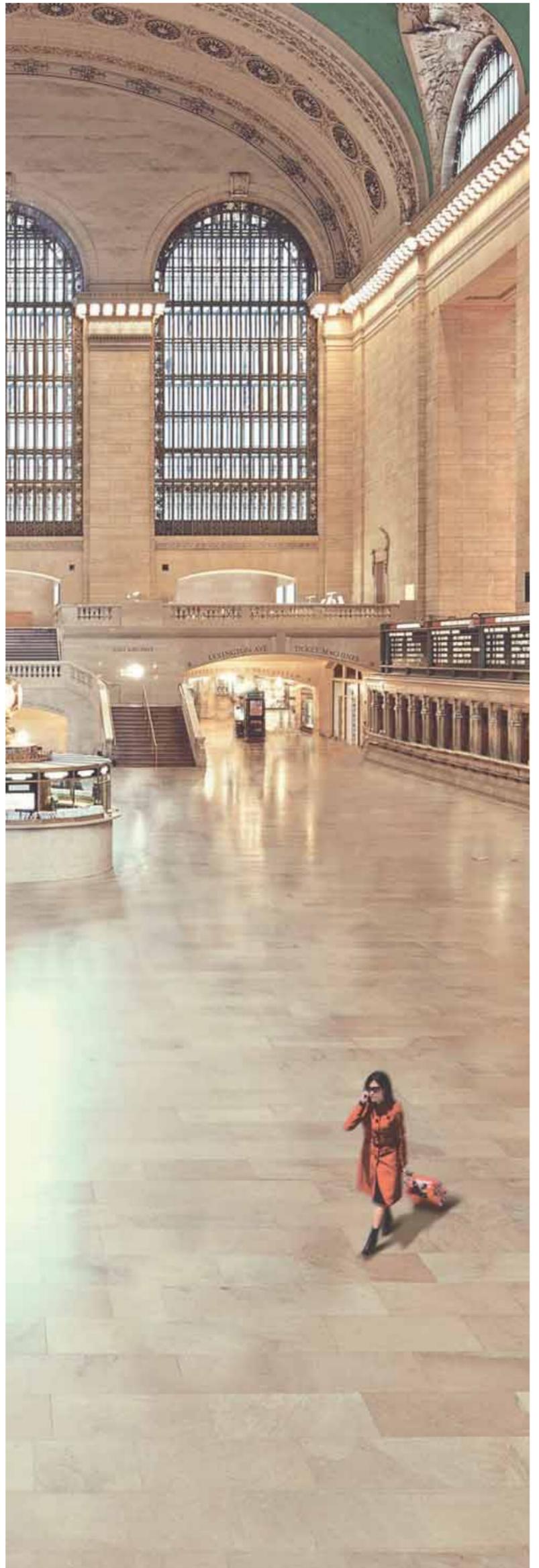
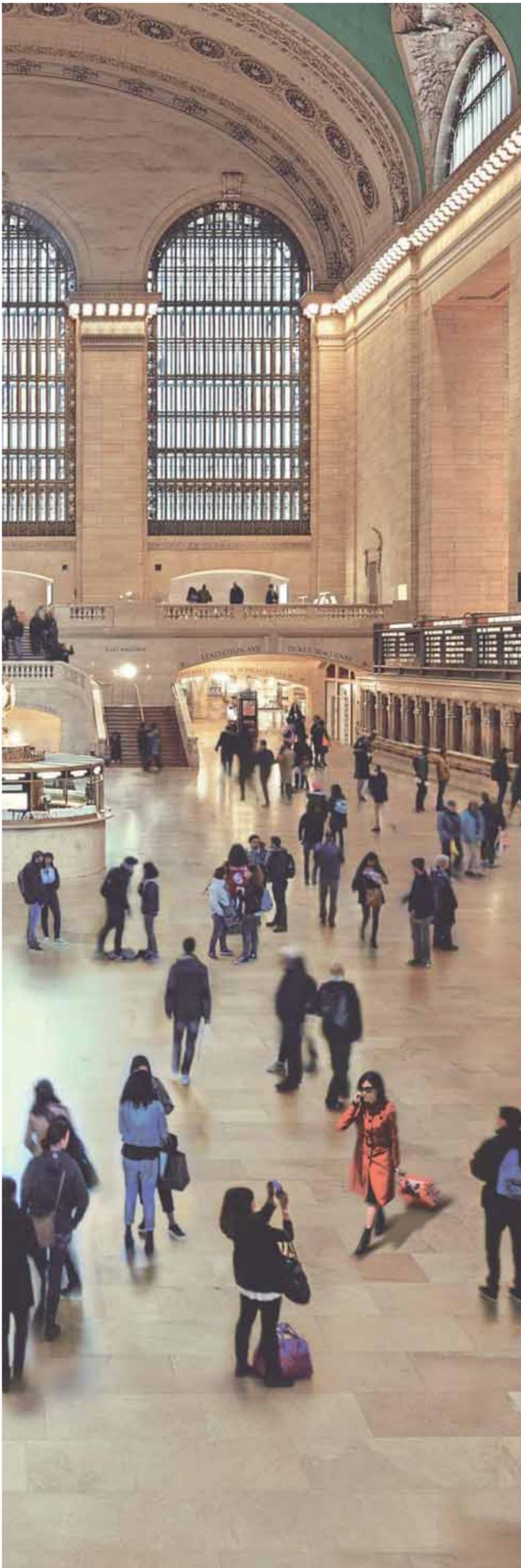


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OBITUARIES

LESTER KINSOLVING 1927-2018

White House gadfly, conservative radio host

BY MATT SCHUDEL
The Washington Post

The Rev. Lester Kinsolving always knew how to attract attention. He began his career in advertising and public relations before turning to other forms of persuasion: He was, at various times, an Episcopal priest, an investigative reporter, a nationally syndicated religion columnist, a gadfly White House correspondent and a longtime conservative radio talk-show host.

Kinsolving, who was perhaps best known in Washington for his pesky, outlandish questions at White House news conferences and for voicing his ultraconservative views for 28 years on Baltimore's WCBM-AM 680, died Dec. 4 at his home in Vienna, Va. He was 90.

He had heart ailments and complications from dementia, members of his family said.

Kinsolving was a pesky presence at the White House for 40 years, getting under the skin of press secretaries dating to the administration of President Richard Nixon. Before he was defrocked by the Episcopal Church, he wore a clerical collar to White House briefings and was dubbed the "Mad Monk." He later switched to a red blazer, but in any outfit he was loud, tall and persistent. "If you live in south Georgia, you got gnats," President Jimmy Carter's press secretary Jody Powell once said. "If you work in the White House press office, you got Lester."

Under the credentials of a variety of small news organizations — a group of newspapers in Idaho and Wyoming, obscure magazines, news syndicates, local radio stations — Kinsolving became one of the back-of-the-room regulars at White House briefings, along with Sarah McClendon, Connie Lawn and Naomi Nover. His questions were provocative, offbeat and vaguely suggestive.

"They are uniformly bizarre, wild, off-the-wall, and utterly entertaining," Mike McCurry, White House press secretary under President Bill Clinton, once said.

"How does the president stand on polygamy?" Kinsolving shouted at Jay Carney, President Barack Obama's press secretary.

Kinsolving's questions were dodged by Republicans and Democrats alike, yet at times he brought up issues ignored by others. He was no friend of the gay rights movement, but in



CHARLES DHARAPAK/AP 2010

Lester Kinsolving also was an Episcopal priest before he was defrocked.

1982 he was the first journalist to ask how the Reagan White House planned to respond to the AIDS epidemic.

"Lester, by his mannerisms, can be an irritant," Ron Nessen, President Gerald Ford's press secretary, told The Washington Post in 1981, "but in my experience he often asked important questions on important issues long before other people realized they were important."

At times, Kinsolving's opinion columns were carried by as many as 200 newspapers and 50 magazines. He began to appear on talk radio in the 1970s, first on WAVA-AM in Arlington, Va., and he invariably described his free-wheeling shows as "uninhibited radio."

"I love this so much," he told The Post in 1986, "that I almost feel sinful for taking money for it."

Kinsolving's once-liberal views — he had marched in the South with the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. — hardened into knee-jerk conservatism, with a few notable exceptions: He opposed the death penalty and was a staunch supporter of abortion rights.

Talkers magazine, which covers the talk-radio business, once named Kinsolving one of the 100 "most important radio talk show hosts in America" — out of more than 4,000. He was a fixture on Baltimore's WCBM from 1990 until he retired in April.

"You cannot survive two years or 10 years or 18 years, let alone 28 years, on a radio station if you are not attracting an audience," Bob Newman, a public relations executive and longtime talk-radio observer, said in an interview. "In addition to being a journalist, he was one of the first who understood that talk radio was an entertainment medium."

Kinsolving believed his questions at the White House, his opinions on the

air and his impertinence served a higher purpose. "Journalism is my ministry," he told The Post in 1981. "I'm going to ask the questions I think are important and anybody who doesn't like it can take a long walk off a short pier."

Charles Lester Kinsolving was born Dec. 18, 1927, in New York City. His family was said to have produced more Episcopal clergymen than any other in the country. His father, a onetime chaplain at the U.S. Military Academy, was later the Episcopal bishop of Arizona. His grandfather, a cousin and a great-uncle also were bishops.

Young Lester attended Episcopal High School in Alexandria, Va., and joined the Army during World War II at age 17. He later worked in advertising and public relations and, despite lacking a college degree, graduated from the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in Berkeley, Calif. He was ordained in 1955. One of his mentors was James Pike, a liberal bishop who was charged with heresy by the church.

Kinsolving served as chaplain at San Quentin Prison in California and at parishes in several states. In 1957, he delivered a sermon in which he called the concept of hell a "damnable doctrine — responsible for a large measure of the world's hatred." He was denounced by Episcopal officials, and his church in Pasco, Wash., was torched. He soon grew disillusioned by a growing liberalism in society and the Episcopal Church, and he lost his priestly privileges after joining a breakaway conservative group.

In 1966, Kinsolving began writing for the San Francisco Chronicle, and his syndicated religion column reached 250 papers. At the San Francisco Examiner in 1972, he was among the first journalists to expose the Peoples Temple cult of Jim Jones, who died with more than 900 of his followers in a mass suicide in Guayana in 1978.

In 2002, Kinsolving asked White House spokesman Ari Fleischer to comment on a website on which 18 women called themselves "Fleischer's Floozies."

"Surely you would not be so unchivalrous as to dismiss these adoring ladies with either a 'no comment' or an evasion, would you, Ari?" he said.

Fleischer replied, "All I can tell you, Les, is if it's a website for 18 women, you should not be on it."

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

Ida Levinson

In loving memory of our beautiful mother who was born 100 years ago today. (1918-2012) Her work ethics, business acumen & generosity were only surpassed by her love of family, and her compassion and ability to lighten people less fortunate. She's in heaven helping others. We were blessed to have her as our mom.
Karla, Lloyd, Blake
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Death Notices

Beuink, Carole M.

Carole M. Beuink, nee Jones. Beloved Wife of the late John H. Dear Mother of John Jr., Julie and Diane (John) Damme. Loving Grandmother of Danielle and Johnny, Dear Sister of Janet (Dick) Halford. Fond Aunt of many nieces and nephews. Funeral Wednesday 10:45 a.m. from **Beverly Ridge Funeral Home**, 10415 S. Kedzie Ave to Our Lady of the Ridge Church Mass 11:30 a.m. Interment St. Mary Cemetery. Visitation Tuesday 3:00 - 9:00 p.m. 773-779-4411

Beverly Ridge
Funeral HomeSign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Bowman, Ronald S. 'Ron'

It is with great sadness that the family of Ronald S. Bowman announces his passing on Tuesday, December 4th, 2018, at the age of 79 years. Ron was the devoted and loving son of Harriette, and nephew to Mildred Berchtold, Anne & Frank Richard and Al Adomaitis. Ron is lovingly remembered by his sisters and their spouses: Sandra & Donald Norwick and Carole & James Campbell. Ron is also fondly remembered by his nephews and nieces: Michael, Jeffrey, Mark, Patricia, Laurie, Matthew, Peggy, and Robert.

In keeping with Ron's wishes, no funeral or memorial services will be scheduled. Memorial donations in Ron's memory may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, TN.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Cohn, Violet 'Vi'

Violet "Vi", Cohn, nee Kaplan, beloved wife of the late Irving "Murph" for 71 years. She met Murphy, the love of her life, when he was her crossing guard at just 12yrs old, loving mother of Judith (John) Post and Dr. Arnold (Darlene Dudeck) Cohn; sister of late Selwyn (Joyce) Kaplan; adoring grandmother of her 8 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren. Vi, an accomplished cook and baker, loved entertaining and laughing with friends. She enjoyed crossword puzzles, created oil paintings and composed numerous poems, which she gladly recited to all. She and Murphy loved bridge and were Life Masters, traveling to tournaments and collecting trophies. Private services are being held at **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the charity of your choice. For information or to leave condolences: (847) 255-3520 or www.shalom2.com

Shalom
Memorial Funeral HomeSign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Dietrich, William F.

William F. Dietrich age 75 of Prospect Heights. Son of the late Raymond and Marguerite Dietrich; brother of Juel Lea Stull; uncle of Ken Stull, Scott (Carrie) Stull and Todd Stull; great uncle of five. Visitation Wednesday December 12, 10:30 a.m. until time of Funeral Service 12:30 p.m. at **Friedrichs Funeral Home**, 320 W. Central Rd., (at Northwest Highway) Mt. Prospect, IL 60056. Interment Memory Gardens Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to American Heart Association. Funeral information, (847) 255-7800 or www.friedrichsfh.com.

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Gaughan Healy Jeffers

See Joanne T. McPhillips notice.

Gulyban Sr., Henry Louis

Henry Louis Gulyban Sr, 87, passed away on November 28, 2018 in Las Vegas, NV. He goes to join late wife of forty years, Beverly. He leaves behind his beloved children Laura and Henry (CFD), his brother William and his nieces and nephew. He spent most of his life in Chicago. He was a Navy veteran before he became a sheet metal worker for Local No. 73 for over thirty years. He retired to Las Vegas over twenty years ago. He enjoyed bowling. Visitation to be held on Wednesday December 12, 2018 from 4-9PM at **Drake and Son Funeral Home**, 5303 N Western Ave, Chicago IL 60625. Funeral Service will be held at the funeral home on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 10AM. Interment at St. Luke Cemetery, Chicago. For more information please call 773-561-6874.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Jaffe, Donald S.

Donald S. Jaffe, 86, beloved husband of Naomi nee Witz for 50 years, loving father of Debbie Jaffe, Marc Jaffe (Naomi Jordan), Scott Pollak, M.D. and Dale (Nancy) Pollak; cherished Papa of Jackson and Evan Jaffe, Austin (Erica), Alex, Samson, Brett and Amy Pollak; dear brother of Paul (Myrna) Jaffe. Chapel service, Tuesday 12:15 PM at **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. Interment Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research. For information or condolences, (847) 255-3520 or www.shalom2.com.

Shalom
Memorial Funeral HomeSign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Kazanecki, Robert C.

Robert C. Kazanecki, 88, of Elmhurst. Devoted husband of Irene for 61 years; loving father of Nadine (William) Watts and Claudine (Patrick) Modlin; cherished grandfather of Carys, Scarlett and Penelope; brother of the late William Kazanecki and Norbert Kazanecki; uncle of many nieces and nephews. Robert was a Korean War Army Veteran, a member of the Forest Park V.F.W. and a lifelong Chicago sports fan. Visitation at **Ahlgim Funeral Home**, 567 S. Spring Rd., Elmhurst from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 11, 2018. Prayers 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at the funeral home going to Visitation Church. Mass at 11:00 a.m. Private interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Memorials will be appreciated. Info 630-834-3515 or www.ahlgim.com.

Ahlgim
Funeral HomeSign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Klatt, Thomas E.

Thomas E. Klatt, age 79 of Bristol, IL passed away surrounded by his loving family on Friday, December 7, 2018 at Edwards Hospital in Naperville, IL. He was born on August 5, 1939 in Sandwich, IL the son of Herbert E. and Frances (McInturf) Klatt. Tom was united in marriage on November 5, 1965 to Miss Karen Burns and they spent the next 53 happy years



together. Thomas proudly served his country as a member of the United States Marine Corp. He was a longtime member of the Trinity Church United Methodist in Yorkville, IL. Tom was a Bristol Township Trustee since 1991. He was a former board member of several banks and was currently on the Board of Trustee's at the Pioneer Bank. Tom was the owner and operator of both Today Cartage in Plano, IL and the Bechstein-Klatt Excavating Company in Tinley Park, IL. Tom was a loving husband, father, grandfather, brother and uncle who will be deeply missed by his family and many friends. Everyone knew Tom as a smart, successful businessman whose door was always open. It would take a whole page to list all of the people that he knew and cared for throughout the years.

Tom is survived by his wife, Karen Klatt of Bristol, IL; his children, Shawna (Brian) Watkins of Yorkville, IL and Thomas E. (Jennifer) Klatt II of Plano, IL; his grandchildren, Evelyn and Mary Watkins, and Nathan and Brody Klatt; his brothers, Robert (DonnaLee) Klatt of DeKalb, IL, Gerald (Barbara) Klatt of Mendota and Terry (Susan) Klatt of Bolingbrook, IL; as well as many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Herbert E and Frances Klatt; his brother, Richard Klatt and his sister, Mary Ann Ackley.

A Funeral Service will be held at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at the Trinity Church United Methodist, 2505 Boomer Lane in Yorkville, IL with Pastor Michael Stoner, officiating. Interment with Military Honors will follow in the Oak Grove Cemetery in Bristol, IL.

Friends may visit from 3:00 until 8:00 PM on Monday, December 10, 2018 at the **Nelson Funeral Home**, 1617 North Bridge Street in Yorkville, IL.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be directed to the Trinity Church United Methodist Building Fund.

Arrangements by **Nelson Funeral Homes & Crematory**, www.NelsonFuneralHomes.com or (630) 553-7611.

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Kluth, June C.

June C. Kluth, nee Schoen, 98, formerly of Streamwood and Chicago; wife of the late Walter; mother of Wendy (Rick) Masino and Jill (late Bob) Banger; grandmother of 4; great grandmother of 9. Visitation Wednesday 3pm - 9pm at the **Countryside Funeral Home and Crematory** 950 South Bartlett Rd. (at Stearns Rd.) Bartlett. Funeral service Thursday, 10:30 am at Ridgewood Cemetery 9900 N. Milwaukee Ave. DesPlaines. Interment Ridgewood Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations to Alzheimer's Association 225 N. Michigan Ave. Floor 17 Chicago, IL 60601 would be appreciated. Info (630)289-7575 or www.countrysidefuneralhomes.com

Countryside
Funeral Homes & CrematorySign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Kuligowski-Meyer, Loretta S.

Loretta S. Kuligowski-Meyer (nee Cienny), age 95. Beloved wife of the late Joseph Kuligowski and the late Herman Meyer. Loving mother of Joan (Joseph) Giorgetti, Sharon (the late Werner) Duerr, Wayne (Judy) Meyer and the late Ronald (the late Phyllis) Kuligowski. Dear grandmother of 12, great-grandmother of many and great-great-grandmother. Funeral Wednesday 9:15am from **RICHARD J. MODELL FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES**, 12641 W. 143rd St, Homer Glen to St. Francis of Assisi Church, Mass 10am. Interment Resurrection Cemetery. Visitation Tuesday 3-9pm. 708-301-3595 or rjmodellfh.com.

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Landsberg

See Charlene Landsberg Smith notice.

McPhillip, Joanne T.

Best friend and beloved wife of Thomas ("T1") (Retired CFD) McPhillips. Best mom ever of Paddy (Steve) Jacobsmeyer, Maribeth (Gerald) Healy, Thomas ("T2") (CFD) (Jacqui) McPhillips, and Michael (CFD) McPhillips. Proud Grandma/Nana of Sarah and Gerald Healy, Thomas ("T3") (Maggie), Taylor, Sydney, Michael, Maggie, Lauren, Allison, and Brendan McPhillips. Much loved great-grandma of Thomas ("T4") McPhillips. Cherished daughter of the late Thomas and the late Anna (Jeffers) Gaughan. Devoted sister of the late Patsy Lynch and the late Madeline Gaughan. Fond sister-in-law of Lou McPhillips and Jimmy (Retired CFD) (Judy) McPhillips. Loving aunt, cousin, and friend to many. Visitation Tuesday 3-9 PM Funeral Wednesday from the Robert J. Sheehy and Sons Funeral Home, 4950 W. 79th Street, Burbank, IL to St. Bede the Venerable Church mass time pending interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. In lieu of flowers donations to Misericordia Heart of Mercy, 6300 North Ridge Ave, Chicago, IL 60660 would be appreciated. www.sheehyfh.com 708-857-7878

Robert J.
Sheehy & SonsSign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Reynolds, Penny

Penny Reynolds 92, born and raised in Chicago. At rest Saturday, December 8, 2018. Her son Bruce Parafiniuk and her husband Glenn Reynolds preceded her in death. Visitation Wednesday from 3:00 to 9:00 P.M. at Cumberland Chapels (**FRIEL FUNERAL DIRECTORS**) 8300 W. Lawrence Ave., Norridge. Funeral Services Begin: Thursday 11:00 A.M. at the Funeral Home and will proceed to St. Edward Church 4355 W. Sunnyside Ave. Chicago. Funeral Mass 12 Noon Interment to follow at the Rosehill Cemetery. www.cumberlandchapels.com or 708/456-8300

FRIEL
Funeral DirectorsSign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON DECEMBER 10 ...

In 1520 Martin Luther publicly burned the papal edict demanding that he recant or face excommunication.

In 1851 Melvil Dewey, inventor of the Dewey Decimal System of library classification, was born in Adams Center, NY.

In 1898 a treaty was signed in Paris officially ending the Spanish-American War.

In 1906 President Theodore Roosevelt became the first American to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, for helping to medi-

ate an end to the Russo-Japanese War.

In 1931 Jane Addams became a co-recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize, the first American woman so honored.

In 1948 the U.N. General Assembly adopted its Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

In 1964 Martin Luther King Jr. received the Nobel Peace Prize during ceremonies in Oslo.

In 1967 singer Otis Redding died in the crash of his

private plane in Wisconsin.

In 1984 South African Bishop Desmond Tutu received the Nobel Peace Prize.

In 1994 Yasser Arafat, Shimon Peres and Yitzhak Rabin received the Nobel Peace Prize, pledging to pursue their mission of healing the anguished Middle East. Also in 1994 advertising executive Thomas Mosser of North Caldwell, N.J., was killed by a mail bomb blamed on the Unabomber.

In 2002 former President Jimmy Carter accepted the Nobel Peace Prize for his diplomacy in the Middle East in the 1970s.

In 2013 critics accused sign language interpreter Thamsanqa Jantjie, 34, of making gestures that made no sense during the memorial service of Nelson Mandela in Johannesburg. He blamed the gibberish on a schizophrenic episode.

In 2014 Judy Baar Topinka, 70, colorful Illinois Republican who spent more than three decades in the public eye as a state lawmaker, treasurer, comptroller and candidate for governor, died.

WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

ILLINOIS
Dec. 9
Pick 3 midday 642 / 8
Pick 4 midday 8997 / 4
Lucky Day Lotto midday
11 12 17 25 26
Pick 3 evening 474 / 9
Pick 4 evening 1214 / 5
Lucky Day Lotto evening
04 15 22 28 41

INDIANA
Dec. 9
Daily 3 midday 094 / 5
Daily 4 midday 2266 / 5
Daily 3 evening 768 / 6
Daily 4 evening 4990 / 6
Cash 5 01 08 16 22 29

MICHIGAN
Dec. 9
Daily 3 midday 575
Daily 4 midday 6368
Daily 3 evening 870
Daily 4 evening 1876
Fantasy 5 02 10 11 27 34
Keno 02 07 12 14 17 34
36 37 40 42 45 49 51 54
55 56 57 58 73 76 77 79

More winning numbers at
chicagotribune.com/lottery

WISCONSIN
Dec. 9
Pick 3 435
Pick 4 6642
Badger 5 02 07 20 23 24
SuperCash 02 09 14 21 34 37

Chicago Tribune Death Notices

Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Rodriguez, Jose Mucio

Rodriguez, Jose Mucio
Age 91 passed away Thursday December 6, 2018 at Lakeview Rehabilitation Center in Chicago. Survived by his loving siblings Manuel (Laura) Rodriguez, Most Reverend Bishop Placido Rodriguez, Edmundo (Maria Elena) Rodriguez, Roman (Lourdes) Rodriguez, Concepcion, Eutimio, Antonio, Victor and Guadalupe also 37 nieces, nephews and many grand nieces and nephews. Preceded in death by his parents Eutimio and Maria Concepcion Rodriguez; siblings Trinidad, Antonia, Eutimio (Ascencion), Diego, Simon (Marceia), Jesus, Carmen and Jose. Visitation Tuesday December 11, 2018 where he will lie in state beginning 9 am followed by Mass of Christian Burial, 11 am at Queen of Heaven Mausoleum, 1400 S. Wolf Rd., Hillside, IL 60162. Interment to follow Mass. Services entrusted to **Anderson Memorial Home**, Crest Hill, IL. (www.andersonmemorial-homes.com) (815) 577-5250

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Rukin, Melvin Lawrence

Melvin Lawrence Rukin, 87. Beloved husband of Marion nee Greenberg. Loving father of Gary (Sherry Keller) Rukin and Barbara (Ronald) Dickstein. Proud grandfather of Rachel (Ricky) Gross, Sam and Zach Dickstein. Dear brother of Robert (Leslie) Rukin. Beloved uncle and cousin to many. Service Wednesday 10 AM at **Chicago Jewish Funerals**, 195 N. Buffalo Grove Road (one block north of Lake Cook Road) Buffalo Grove. Interment Shalom. Memorials in his name to Friends of the Library, Winnetka/Northfield, PO Box 8146, Northfield, IL 60093, www.winnetkcalibrary.org/library-info/friends-of-the-library. Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** - Buffalo Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

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Saraceno, Dominic

Dominic Saraceno, 87, passed away December 6, 2018 of Bartlett, IL. Arrangements by Countryside Funeral Home and Crematory-Bartlett. www.countrysidefuneralhomes.com

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Smith, Charlene Landsberg

Charlene Landsberg Smith, died December 8, 2018; adoring wife of the late Thomas R. Smith; treasured "mother" of the late "Pumpkin"; devoted daughter of the late Dan and Fay (nee Krompfer) Landsberg; loving sister of Carole (Marshall) Auerbach; special aunt of Keith Auerbach and Michael (Nicole) Auerbach; honored great aunt of Maxwell, Zachary, and Simon Auerbach; dear "adopted aunt" of Barbara (Thomas) Venn and Marilyn (Michael) Tarasievich; cousin of Edna Hoffman, Laura (Eddie) McLaughlan, Wanda (James) Hollensteiner, Lois Lipka, and the late Lorraine Lasser, and respective families of each; with cousins in Washington, Pennsylvania, and Scotland; many special friends in America and Scotland. Charlene was an award-winning Advertising Executive for Carson Pirie Scott from 1961-1989. Best known by her professional name "Landsberg", she was a pioneer in women's roles at the executive level in Advertising, long before the feminist movement. At age 20, after graduating cum laude with a Marketing Degree from the University of Illinois' School of Commerce in Champaign-Urbana, she joined a major art studio and helped convert it into a full-service advertising agency. She remained there for several years in the roles of Copy Chief/Writer, Marketing Strategist, Market Research Director, Media Director, P.R. Director, and Account Executive. She would later start at Carson Pirie Scott to head the Home Division Advertising/Sales Promotion Department. For the next thirty years, she assumed creative leadership over the entire company's retail advertising. She also developed the largest direct mail program of any department store in the country. In her husband's memory, Mrs. Smith launched the annual Chicago Yacht Club Thomas R. Smith Sea Scout Regatta. Mrs. Smith, an animal lover, arranged to have a room dedicated to their 19-year feline companion, Pumpkin, at APA's Harmony House for Cats. Service Wednesday 2 PM in the chapel of Westlawn Cemetery and Mausoleum, 7801 W. Montrose Avenue, Norridge, where interment will follow. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to any animal-related charity. Arrangements entrusted to Lakeshore Jewish Funerals, 773-625-8621

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Veenstra, Andrew

Rock Hill, SC - Andrew W. Veenstra passed away Monday, 11/12/2018 at his home in Rock Hill, SC. He was born in Chicago Heights, IL and was a member of Grace Church in Lansing, IL. A memorial service will be held 11:00 am, Saturday, 12/15/2018 at Grace Church, 2740 Indiana Ave., Lansing, IL, 60438.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Vitale, Vito

Vito Vitale, age 93, at rest on December 8, 2018. Beloved husband of the late Marie (nee Muscarello). Loving father Phyllis (Jeff) Ifkovitis, Vince (Kathy) and Tony (Reenee) Vitale. Fond grandfather of Tracie (Eric) Krawczyk, Lisa (Bob) Reed, Nicole (Kevin) Bergquist, Michael, Natalie, Gabrielle and Vito. Great grandfather of Charlotte Reed. Dear brother of Tomazzi (the late Ida) Vitale and other late brothers and sisters and fond uncle of many. Vito was a member of the St. Mary of Sambuca Club. Visitation Wednesday, December 12, 2018 from 4:00 until 8:00 p.m. at **Cumberland Chapels** 8300 W. Lawrence Ave. Norridge. Funeral Thursday, beginning at the funeral home at 9:30 a.m. and then proceed to Our Lady Mother of the Church for 10:30 a.m. Mass. Entombment will follow at All Saints Cemetery in Des Plaines. Info www.cumberlandchapels.com or 708-456-8300

CUMBERLAND CHAPELS

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Wigoda, Rose "Wallie"

Rose "Wallie" Wigoda nee Woloshin, age 94; beloved daughter of the late Jacob and the late Dora Woloshin; beloved wife and college sweetheart of the late Paul; mother of William (Linda Jakubs), Gary (Barbara Gressel), and Robert (Ellen) Wigoda; grandmother of Jennifer (Jesse) Marzouk, Lauren (Kenny) Hartog, Jacob, James (Beth), David, Andrew, Nicholas, Kathryn, Elizabeth, Rachel (Mike) D' Onofrio, Sam (Lori) Gressel and Jaron (Amanda) Gressel; loving Gigi to 14 great grandchildren; sister of the late Sheldon Woloshin, the late Evelyn (the late Gerald) Harter, the late Morris Woloshin; sister-in-law of Miriam (the late David) Porte; aunt, cousin, and friend to many; special friend of the Fitzpatrick family; and devoted to the Make-A-Wish family which was devoted to her. Graveside service Monday, December 10th, at 1:30 PM at Westlawn Cemetery (Orchid Section), 7801 W. Montrose, Norridge. In lieu of flowers, remembrances may be made to Jewish National Fund (UNF.org) or Make-A-Wish Illinois (Illinois.wish.org). Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** - Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

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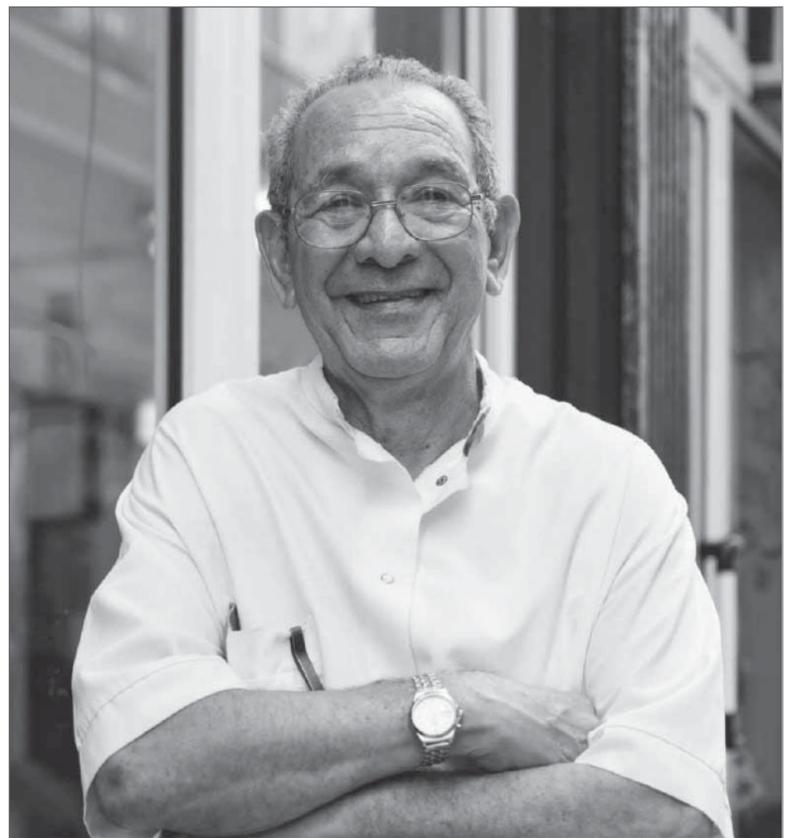
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DOGS

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German Shepherd 765-385-0463 Oxford, IN 800 Male & Female AKC Long coated Christmas puppies All colors

Mixed Breed 618-554-5988 Flat Rock, IL 2,275 2M, 1 F ***** MINI BERNE DOG PUPPIES ***** Well socialized, 6 weeks old, shots & wormers to date. Call for photos.

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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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LEGAL SERVICES NEED LEGAL HELP? Get a FREE referral to an attorney! Call the Illinois State Bar Association Illinois Lawyer Finder. The advice you need <https://www.isba.org/public/illinoislawyerfinder> or 877-270-3855

REAL ESTATE COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE AUCTION December 15th 1-2PM @ Gateway Dr., Collinsville, IL 6 15+/- Acres, 14.26357 Entertainment Complex Easy access from Interstate 55, 70, 255, 64, IL State Hwy 157 www.anthonysauctons.com 618-224-9800

Tell us your story! We are looking for individuals who have overcome bullying - or are yet now being bullied and are looking for a way out. We are asking individuals to tell their stories on camera with one of our video journalists. Please contact us: 312-866-3461 or email: info@thecourageoflittiemam.com 312-866-3461

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Bears PSL Marketplace Buy/Sell PSLs & Tickets! PSLsource.com - 800-252-8055

Inventive 18/8 Stainless Steel Broiler Pan Cleans in a Minute! Never Needs Scrubbing! www.WaterBroiler.com 1-800-227-7066

ASSUMED NAMES

Notice is hereby given, Pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct of 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.
Y18000044 on the
Date: 12/6/2018
Under the Assumed Name of **LOCO TOWING AND ROADSIDE SERVICE**
with the business located at:
3047 N. MAJOR
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, 60634
The true name and residence Address of the owner is: **DANNY MARTINEZ, SR**
3047 N. MAJOR
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, 60634

LEGAL NOTICES
GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

PUBLIC COMMENT NOTICE

Draft 2017 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) The Cook County Department of Planning and Development within the Bureau of Economic Development currently receives Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Enterprise Community Grants (ESG), and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funding on an annual entitlement basis from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The County is required by HUD to report annually on program performance. The county is accepting public comments regarding its Draft 2017 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) which outlines program performance during Program Year 2017 covering October 1, 2017 through September 30, 2018. Applicable Public Comment Period: 15 Days - December 11 through December 26, 2018. Public Comment Opportunities

An important part of the process of developing the Draft 2017 Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) is to promote citizen participation and solicit input. The Draft may be reviewed at the Cook County Bureau of Economic Development offices at 69 West Washington Street, Suite 2900, Chicago, IL 60602, or online at the Cook County website: <https://www.cookcountyll.gov/agency/planning-and-development> during the applicable public comment period specified above.

All interested parties are encouraged to provide written comments. Written comments for the Draft are being accepted during the applicable public comment period specified above and must be received by 4:00 p.m. on December 26th, 2018 in order to receive consideration. Written comments should be directed to Dominic Tocci, Deputy Director of Community Development, Cook County Bureau of Economic Development, 69 West Washington, Suite 2900, Chicago, IL 60602, dominic.tocci@cookcountyll.gov. 6024761 12/10/2018

COUNTY OF COOK

Toni Preckwinkle, President

Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, Raffi Sarrafian.

ADVERTISEMENT DATE: Monday, December 10, 2018

DESCRIPTION: Invitation for Bids for Johnson Control Parts And Accessories

CONTRACT NO.: 1845-17621

MBE/WBE GOALS: Twenty- Five (25%) MBE and Ten (10%) WBE of the overall estimated expenditures for this procurement

BID DOCUMENTS: Solicitation Document available for download at: <http://legacy.cookcountyll.gov/purchasing/bids/listalibids.php>

BID DUE DATE: Friday, January 04, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.

CONTACT: Daniel Gizzi, Specification Engineer III (312) 603-6825 (office) or dan.gizzi@cookcountyll.gov (email)

Local MBE/WBE firms are encouraged to submit bids. The County has set contract specific goals based on the requested service. The MBE/WBE goals are listed above and in the Contract document. Inquiries regarding MBE/WBE participation should be directed to the Office of Contract Compliance at (312) 603-5502.

The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

COUNTY OF COOK

TONI PRECKWINKLE, PRESIDENT
Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, Raffi Sarrafian.

ADVERTISEMENT DATE: Monday, December 10, 2018

DESCRIPTION: Invitation for Bids for Floor Mats

CONTRACT NO.: 1845-17633

MBE/WBE GOALS: None of the overall estimated expenditures for this procurement

BID DOCUMENTS: Solicitation Document available for download at: <http://legacy.cookcountyll.gov/purchasing/bids/listalibids.php>

PRE-BID CONFERENCE DATE: Monday, January 7, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.

PRE-BID CONFERENCE LOCATION: 118 N. Clark Street Room #1018, Chicago, IL, 60602

Attendance at the Pre-Bid Conference is not mandatory

BID DUE DATE: Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.

CONTACT: Daniel Gizzi, Specification Engineer III (312) 603-6825 (office) or dan.gizzi@cookcountyll.gov (email)

Local MBE/WBE firms are encouraged to submit bids. The County has set contract specific goals based on the requested service. The MBE/WBE goals are listed above and in the Contract document. Inquiries regarding MBE/WBE participation should be directed to the Office of Contract Compliance at (312) 603-5502.

The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

LEGAL NOTICES

COUNTY OF COOK TONI PRECKWINKLE, PRESIDENT OFFICE OF THE CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER RAFFI SARRAFIAN, CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER

ADVERTISEMENT DATE: Monday, December 10, 2018

DESCRIPTION: Invitation for Bids for Well Pumps and Accessories

CONTRACT NO.: 1845-17602

MBE/WBE GOALS: None of the overall estimated expenditures for this procurement

BID DOCUMENTS: Solicitation Document available for download at: <http://legacy.cookcountyll.gov/purchasing/bids/listalibids.php>

BID DUE DATE: Friday, December 21, 2018 at 10:00 A.M.

CONTACT: Daniel Gizzi, Specification Engineer III (312) 603-6825 (office) or dan.gizzi@cookcountyll.gov (email)

Local MBE/WBE firms are encouraged to submit bids. The County has set contract specific goals based on the requested service. The MBE/WBE goals are listed above and in the Contract document. Inquiries regarding MBE/WBE participation should be directed to the Office of Contract Compliance at (312) 603-5502.

The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

NOTICE

Anyone knowing the whereabouts of Antoine Swearingne, Robert Swearingne, Luvenia Swearingne, or Ronald Swearingne, please contact attorney Vincent LoCoco at 504-483-2332. Property rights are involved relative to property on Annette St., New Orleans, LA.

FORECLOSURES

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR BEAR STEARNS ARM TRUST, MORTGAGE PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-2 PLAINTIFF, -VS- LORI KORWEK-THOMAS A/K/A LORI KORWEK THOMAS A/K/A LORI A. KORWEK THOMAS; JOHN THOMAS; ALFRED N. KOPLIN; MARY ANN KORWEK; ONE ONE ONE MORGAN CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS DEFENDANTS.

No. 2017 CH 11924

Calendar 36

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 111 SOUTH MORGAN STREET UNIT 906 CHICAGO, IL 60607

ALFRED N. KOPLIN COUNTER-PLAINTIFF, -VS- LORI KORWEK-THOMAS A/K/A LORI KORWEK THOMAS A/K/A LORI A. KORWEK THOMAS; JOHN THOMAS; MARY ANN KORWEK; ONE ONE ONE MORGAN CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; UNKNOWN OCCUPANTS COUNTER-DEFENDANTS.

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE PUBLICATION NOTICE

The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given to you, "Unknown Owners" and "Nonrecord Claimants," Counter-Defendants in the above entitled suit:

1) that the said counter-suit has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois, County Department, Chancery Division, by the Counter-Plaintiff against you and other Counter-Defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Second Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to-wit:

PARCEL 1:
UNIT NO. 906 TOGETHER WITH ITS UNDIVIDED PERCENTAGE INTEREST IN THE COMMON ELEMENTS, AS DEFINED AND DELINEATED IN THE DECLARATION OF CONDOMINIUM RECORDED AS DOCUMENT NUMBER 0030258832, AS AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME, IN SECTION 17, TOWNSHIP 39 NORTH, RANGE 14, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS. COMMONLY KNOWN AS 111 South Morgan Street, Unit 906, Chicago, IL. PERMANENT INDEX NOS.: 17-17-212-002; 17-17-212-003; 17-17-212-004; 17-17-212-005; 17-17-212-006; 17-17-212-015; 17-17-212-016-1156 ORIGINAL MORTGAGEE: Alfred N. Koplin.

RECORD MORTGAGEE: Alfred N. Koplin.

MORTGAGOR: John Thomas and Lori Korwek Thomas.

DATE AND PLACE OF RECORDING: Recorded in the Office of the Cook County Recorder of Deeds on March 22, 2006 as Document No. 0608154007.

2) that summons was duly issued out of the said Cook County Circuit Court against you as provided by law; and

3) that the said suit is now pending.

NOW, THEREFORE, UNLESS YOU, the said Counter-Defendants, file your answer to the counterclaim in this case or otherwise file your appearance electronically visit: www.cookcountyclerkofcourt.org for information; kiosks with internet access are available at the Clerk's office with the Office of the Circuit Court Clerk, located at 50 West Washington, Chicago, Illinois 60602 on or before December 26, 2018, a default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a decree entered in accordance with the prayer of said counterclaim. YOU ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT THE TIME IN WHICH THE SUBJECT REAL ESTATE MAY BE REDEEMED FROM FORECLOSURE, PURSUANT TO LAW, COMMENCES TO RUN WITH THE FIRST DATE OF PUBLICATION OF THIS NOTICE.

This is an attempt to collect a debt, and any information obtained will be used for that purpose.

Yasmin N. Oloomi
111 E. Firm ID No. 39225
131 S. Dearborn Street, Suite 1700
Chicago, IL 60603-5559
Tel: (312) 324-8400
Fax: (312) 324-9400
Email: ylooomi@perkincosole.com
Pub: 11/26, 12/3 & 12/10/2018 5998860

TAKE NOTICES

TO: Zofia Kokot; HSBC Mortgage Services Inc.; Occupant, 115 E. GREGORY ST., MT. PROSPECT, IL; Occupant, 107 E. GREGORY ST., MT. PROSPECT, IL; Taxpayer of 111 E. GREGORY ST., MT. PROSPECT, IL; David D. Orr, County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2018COTD007693. FILED: 11/15/2018. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 7/18/2017. Certificate No. 175-0004754. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2017 Scavenger (2006-2015 included). Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 111 E. GREGORY ST., MT. PROSPECT, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 03-36-208-036-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 3/15/2019. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 3/15/2019. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois at 9:30 a.m., on 4/17/2019. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before 3/15/2019 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. GOOGLE INC., Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: 12/3/2018. Pub: 12/7, 10 & 11/2018 60181706

TO: Castletown Homes, Inc.; Krystyna Inc.; Occupant, 1190 128th St., LEMONT, IL; Occupant, 15064 128TH ST., LEMONT, IL; David D. Orr, County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2018COTD007692. FILED: 11/15/2018. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 7/13/2017. Certificate No. 175-0002234. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2017 Scavenger (2006-2015 included). Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: an irregularly shaped parcel within the City of Daley Center, 50 West subject parcel is located at a point 138.35' West of Krystyna Crossing and 607.13' South of 128th St., commonly known as 15064 128TH ST., LEMONT, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 22-33-118-008-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 4/11/2019. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 4/11/2019. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois at 9:30 a.m., on 4/17/2019. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before 4/11/2019 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. GOOGLE INC., Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 3, 2018. Pub: 12/7, 10 & 11/2018 6019043

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Chicago Tribune

TAKE NOTICES

TO: George A. Amend, Inc.; Ken's Antiques and Collectibles; 1771 S. 71st St.; Museum; Auto Image; Schmidt Custom Cabinet; Glen West Corporation; Kenneth Lantz; Barbara Lantz; Occupant, 2018-2040 Lehigh Ave., Glenview, IL; David D. Orr, County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2018COTD007156. FILED: 10/18/2018. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 6/3/2016. Certificate No. 14-0002839. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2014. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 2018-2040 Lehigh Ave., Glenview, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 04-27-201-028-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 3/15/2019. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 3/15/2019. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois at 9:30 a.m., on 3/27/2019. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before 3/15/2019 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. LONGSTREET CAPITAL FUNDING LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: 12/3/2018. Pub: 12/7, 10 & 11/2018 60181714

TO: BB Development LLC; Fay's Point Boat Slip Condominium Association; South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority; Fay's Point Master Association; Pan American Bank & Trust; Mack Investments 1, LLC; Gregory Dimit; ST. CHARLES BANK; James H. McClelland, Manager, GAN C LLC; Occupant, Unit 55 at 1443 W. Broadway Ave., Blue Island, IL; David D. Orr, County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2018COTD007688. FILED: 11/15/2018. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 7/12/2017. Certificate No. 175-0000008. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2017 Scavenger (2006-2015 included). Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 1307 HARVEY AVE., BERWYN, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 16-20-110-003-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 4/11/2019. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 3/29/2019. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois at 9:30 a.m., on 4/17/2019. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before 4/11/2019 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. 5959 LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 3, 2018. Pub: 12/7, 10 & 11/2018 6018990

TO: Meshal F L G H Almutairi; American Real Estate Investment Group, LLC; Shorewood Properties Construction and Management Corporation; Real Estate Solutions 240 Inc.; Justus Collins; City of Chicago; Occupant, 6814 S. Champlain Ave., Chicago, IL; David D. Orr, County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2018COTD007699. FILED: 10/18/2018. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 6/6/2016. Certificate No. 14-0006916. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2014. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 6814 S. Champlain Ave., Chicago, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 20-22-410-031-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 3/15/2019. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 3/15/2019. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois at 9:30 a.m., on 4/17/2019. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before 3/15/2019 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. South Suburban Holdings Land Trust, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: 12/3/2018. Pub: 12/7, 10 & 11/2018 60181822

TO: BB Development LLC; Fay's Point Boat Slip Condominium Association; South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority; Fay's Point Master Association; Pan American Bank & Trust; Mack Investments 1, LLC; James H. McClelland, manager, GAN C LLC; Occupant, Unit 61 at 1443 W. Broadway Ave., Blue Island, IL; David D. Orr, County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2018COTD007697. FILED: 11/17/2018. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 5/4/2018. Certificate No. 16-0001029. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2016 (including 2013 2nd). Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: Unit 61 at 1443 W. Broadway Ave., Blue Island, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 25-32-308-016-1005. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 3/29/2019. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 3/29/2019. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois at 9:30 a.m., on 4/17/2019. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before 3/29/2019 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. South Suburban Holdings Land Trust, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: 12/3/2018. Pub: 12/7, 10 & 11/2018 6018933

TAKE NOTICES

TO: City of Chicago; Raphael Mitchell; San Antonio; 1771 S. 71st St.; CHARLES ST., CHICAGO, IL; Occupant, 9701 S. CHARLES ST., CHICAGO, IL; David D. Orr, County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2018COTD007694. FILED: 11/15/2018. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 7/21/2017. Certificate No. 175-0009186. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2017 Scavenger (2007-2015 included). Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 9707 S. CHARLES ST., CHICAGO, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 25-07-220-002-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 4/11/2019. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 4/11/2019. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois at 9:30 a.m., on 4/17/2019. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before 4/11/2019 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. 5959 LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 3, 2018. Pub: 12/7, 10 & 11/2018 6019053

TO: BB Development LLC; Fay's Point Boat Slip Condominium Association; South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority; Fay's Point Master Association; Pan American Bank & Trust; Mack Investments 1, LLC; Gregory Dimit; ST. CHARLES BANK; James H. McClelland, manager, GAN C LLC; Occupant, Unit 55 at 1443 W. Broadway Ave., Blue Island, IL; David D. Orr, County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2018COTD007568. FILED: 11/15/2018. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 5/4/2018. Certificate No. 16-0001022. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2016 (including 2013 2nd, 2015 1st & 2nd). Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: Unit 55 at 1443 W. Broadway Ave., Blue Island, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 25-32-308-016-1003. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 3/29/2019. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 3/29/2019. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois at 9:30 a.m., on 4/17/2019. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before 3/29/2019 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. South Suburban Holdings Land Trust, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: 12/3/2018. Pub: 12/7, 10 & 11/2018 6018811

TO: BB Development LLC; Fay's Point Boat Slip Condominium Association; South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority; Fay's Point Master Association; Pan American Bank & Trust; Mack Investments 1, LLC; James H. McClelland, manager, GAN C LLC; Occupant, Unit 56 at 1443 W. Broadway Ave., Blue Island, IL; David D. Orr, County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2018COTD007699. FILED: 11/17/2018. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 5/4/2018. Certificate No. 16-0001028. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2016 (including 2013 2nd). Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: Unit 56 at 1443 W. Broadway Ave., Blue Island, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 25-32-308-016-1006. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 3/29/2019. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 3/29/2019. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois at 9:30 a.m., on 4/17/2019. You may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before 3/29/2019 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. South Suburban Holdings Land Trust, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: 12/3/2018. Pub: 12/7, 10 & 11/2018 6018822



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BEARS 15, RAMS 6

Smash and grab

Bears make emphatic statement in suffocating Goff, pinning 2nd loss on Rams



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bears outside linebacker Khalil Mack forces a fumble with a sack of Rams quarterback Jared Goff (16) in the third quarter of the Bears' 15-6 victory Sunday night.

Bears' staunch effort bodes well for lengthy run in postseason

With the NFL on pace to shatter scoring records this season, it's good to know defense can still rule the day.

With the Bears playing a schedule that hasn't served up a lot of tough draws in recent weeks, the Sunday night showdown with the Rams at Soldier Field had been anticipated for much of the Bears season. It was just the third time since 2000 that the Bears played at home in December with both teams at least four games above .500.

Eyebrows were raised three weeks ago when the Rams in a



BRAD BIGGS
On the Bears

"Monday Night Football" shootout with the Chiefs scored a victory in the first regulation game in league history in which both teams eclipsed 50 points.

"The score isn't what I'd like to see as a connoisseur," Bears defensive coordinator Vic Fangio quipped at the time.

Well, Fangio and his defense went out and did something about it, leading the Bears to a 15-6 victory over the Rams. Yes, six points allowed is much more appealing to Fangio and happens

Turn to **Biggs, Page 5**



Kyle Fuller smiles after his interception in the third quarter of Sunday night's Bears win.

UP NEXT
 **Packers at Bears**
Noon Sunday, FOX-32

Bears defense flexes its muscles, puts clamps on high-flying Rams

Eddie Goldman flexed his biceps as Soldier Field went wild. Come to think of it, that's what this entire night was, wasn't it? One massive flex by the Bears defense.

Heck, it has been that way for most of this season. And on a wonderfully cold Sunday night on the lakefront, the uprising by defensive coordinator Vic Fangio's men reached a new fervor with a 15-6 lockdown of the high-powered Rams.

When Goldman hauled down Rams quarterback Jared Goff in the end zone to break a 6-6 tie in



RICH CAMPBELL
On the Bears

the third quarter, he got up and first brushed himself off. Then the big, quiet man in the middle of the defensive line had his turn to celebrate.

The flex. A classic. Straightforward. Effective.

Just like the Bears defense was Sunday night. And by intercepting Goff four times, they took a grown man's step toward securing their first playoff berth since 2010. They'd get in the tournament with one win in any of their three remaining games.

Turn to **Campbell, Page 5**

BULLS

A daytime drama: No boycott or practice

Day after historic loss, Boylen and his players huddle to build trust

BY **K.C. JOHNSON**
Chicago Tribune

A dizzying Sunday at the Advocate Center ended with this undeniable fact: The Bulls didn't practice.

The previous night, coach Jim Boylen didn't reinsert his twice-benched starters over the final 21 minutes, 2 seconds of a franchise record 56-point loss. He called it a "premeditated" move because he felt the benefits of a Sunday practice would be greater than

UP NEXT
 **Kings at Bulls**
7 p.m. Monday, NBCSCH

playing time in a blowout.

That practice didn't happen. Instead, some players raised the possibility of a boycott but ended up holding a players-only meeting, which was followed by a team meeting with coaches and management. After two hours of meetings, select players took the court for individual work.

"I think it was a collective thing," rookie Wendell Carter Jr.

Turn to **Bulls, Page 7**



Baines

HALL OF FAME

A Chicago daily double: Smith, Baines make Hall

BY **MARK GONZALES** | Chicago Tribune

Chicago baseball fans celebrated collectively Sunday night, when former Cubs closer Lee Smith and White Sox outfielder Harold Baines were named the newest members of the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

They were selected by the 16-member Today's Game Era committee, which requires 12 votes for induction and included Sox Chairman Jerry Reinsdorf and former Sox manager Tony La Russa.

"You can bet Jerry was working the room," one Sox source said of his Reinsdorf's efforts to get Baines the necessary votes.

Smith received all 16 votes, Baines earned the minimum 12, and former Cubs manager Lou Piniella was one vote short of induction at 11.

Turn to **Fame, Page 8**



Smith
CHICAGO TRIBUNE
PHOTOS

TOP OF THE SECOND

COMMENTARY

Dolphins' season has been a miracle

By GREG COTE | Miami Herald

MIAMI GARDENS, Fla. — That final impossible play that could never happen but did was nothing short of a Miami Miracle, the word that tries to explain divine intervention, or something inexplicably divine.

But this whole season has been one of those unexpected gifts for the Dolphins, who were made fun of and pigeonholed for awfulness this season but find themselves above .500 at 7-6 and clawing for the NFL playoffs with three games left in the regular season.

None of this should be happening. Start with the splendid last-second chaos that ended the Dolphins' 34-33 triumph over the nemesis Patriots on Sunday at Hard Rock Stadium.

"We had 'em right where we wanted them," joked quarterback Ryan Tannehill.

Miami, down 30-27. Own 31-yard line. Seven seconds left. No timeouts.

The Pats were defending for a deep Hail Mary pass. That's why 6-foot-6 Rob Gronkowski was back there. Tannehill threw quickly to Kenny Stills, who ran 14 yards and pitched back to DeVante Parker, who ran 5 yards more and pitched back to Kenyan Drake. He weaved 50 yards into the end zone — Gronk that last defender he ran past.

The crowd of 66,087 has been half-filled with Pats fans, but as Drake ran toward the miracle finish the crowd sounded as if it was all Dolphins. And that they were cheering a Super Bowl win.

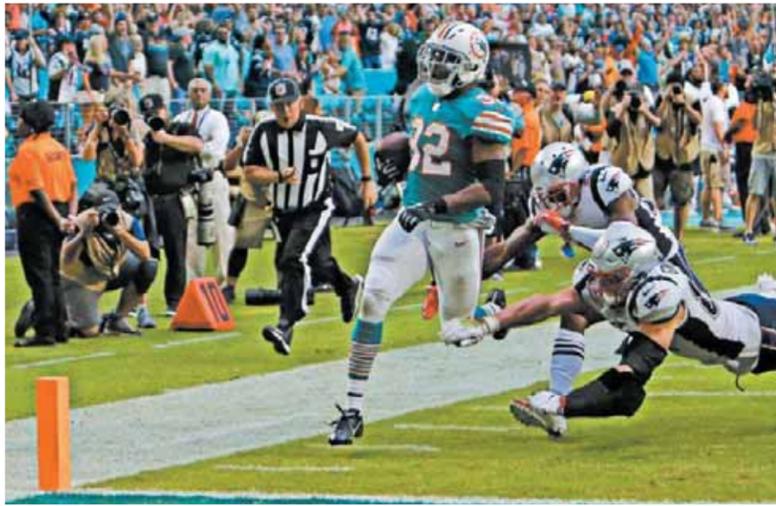
"I got into the locker room and felt like collapsing almost from all the emotion," Tannehill admitted. "The elation, from knowing you don't have much of a shot to winning the game."

The so called "hook-and-lateral" play is a storied part of Dolphins lore. The team practices it occasionally.

Sometimes you think, "Why are we doing this?" Stills admitted. "Now we know."

The hook-and-lateral is practiced "on air," meaning without defenders. So you never know it will play live, or where the laterals will go, or when, or to whom.

"That play doesn't exist, as sackman Cam Wake said — meaning exactly how it unfolded. "We gave the fans their money's worth for sure."



DAVID SANTIAGO/MIAMI HERALD

Dolphins running back Kenyan Drake evades two Patriots to score the winning touchdown.

The Dolphins have played 53 franchises seasons. This was one of the very best, biggest, most memorable and astonishing plays and finished ever for this club. Ever.

It also was one of the most pulse-pounding games in Dolphins history, setting a club record with nine lead changes.

This too: It was a game that made you believe in Tannehill. He completed 14 of 19 passes for 265 yards, three TDs and a near-perfect 155.1 passer rating. He stood face-mask-to-face-mask with the G.O.A.T. Tom Brady and did everything right. He got into the shootout nobody thought the Dolphins could win, and made it happen.

Tannehill was limping noticeably in the jubilant postgame locker room, after toughing through an ankle injury suffered late in the first half. His left guard, Ted Larsen, had thrown a key block on that final, winning miracle-play.

"Ted! Ted! Ted! Ted!" teammates chanted in the merry din.

Tannehill, limping, raised both fists above his head, smiling, as he moved toward the showers.

See, this was more than that one final play. It was more than winning. It was the opponent that has had you in a stranglehold seemingly forever and was a huge

9 1/2-point favorite Sunday. It was the triumph that was the difference between playoff hopes fizzling in disappointment or rising like helium balloons. Party balloons.

It also is special because it marks the zenith thus far of a season that was supposed to amount to nothing but has far exceeded all expectations.

By most any measure, the Dolphins are the biggest surprise of this NFL season — and deserve the credit for that, at last, no matter what happens in the final three regular-season games from here.

This was the team with the worst points-differential by far (minus-56) of any team in playoff contention. The one with the fourth-worst third-down conversion rate in the league, ahead only of three teams with a combined 10-26 record. The team that allowed almost 100 yards per game more than it gained. The team second-to-last in total offensive plays and fourth-worst in time of possession.

How on earth is this team 7-6? "With all of the injuries and everything else that's happened to us this season," said the veteran Cam Wake, "today was one of the days when you just keep swinging and keep fighting and keep hoping for something good."

NFC NORTH ROUNDUP

Packers prevail in Philbin's debut

A tough week for the Packers ended with a sorely needed win that relied on a familiar formula.

They beat a warm-weather team on a chilly afternoon at Lambeau Field by building a big lead and winning the turnover margin.

Aaron Rodgers threw two touchdown passes and set an NFL record for interception-free football, and the Packers beat the Falcons 34-20 on Sunday to win their first game under interim head coach Joe Philbin.

Aaron Jones ran for a 29-yard score in the third quarter. The defense forced two turnovers — their first takeaways in three games — and limited quarterback Matt Ryan after a game-opening touchdown drive to hand the Falcons (4-9) their fifth straight loss.

The Packers (5-7-1) regained some swagger with Philbin taking over for the fired Mike McCarthy. They've still got work to do to avoid a losing record, but at least they snapped a three-game losing streak.

"It was an emotional week, we all know that," Philbin said. "I feel very happy for the organization, players and staff that work so hard to make this a unique place. I told the team I was very proud to be their head coach today."

In return, the team gave the game ball to Philbin.

"He's a great man. I love Joe. I love everything that he's about, and it was a lot of fun," said receiver Randall Cobb, who caught a 24-yard touchdown pass.

That pass also turned out to be momentous for other reasons for Rodgers, giving him 359 consecutive attempts without an interception to break the league record previously held by Tom Brady (358 in 2010-11).

"You need a little bit of good fortune when you have a streak like that," Rodgers said.

Rodgers finished 21 of 32 for 196 yards and two scores.

Lions 17, Cardinals 3: Darius Slay returned an interception 67 yards for a touchdown and the Lions beat the punchless Cardinals for their first win in Arizona since 1993.

— Associated Press

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BEARS

Sept. 9 @GB Lost 24-23	Sept. 17 SEA Won 24-17	Sept. 23 @ARI Won 16-14	Sept. 30 TB Won 48-10	Oct. 7 OPEN DATE	Oct. 14 @MIA Lost 31-28 OT	Oct. 21 NE Lost 38-31	Oct. 28 NYJ Won 24-10	Nov. 4 @BUF Won 41-9	Nov. 11 DET Won 34-22	Nov. 18 MIN Won 25-20	Nov. 22 @DET Won 23-16	Dec. 2 @NYG Lost 30-27 OT	Dec. 9 LAR Won 15-6	Dec. 16 GB Noon FOX-32	Dec. 23 @SF 3:05 FOX-32	Dec. 30 @MIN Noon FOX-32
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BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Nose tackle Eddie Goldman pressures Rams quarterback Jared Goff in the fourth quarter. In the third quarter, Goldman beat Rams center John Sullivan and sacked Goff for a safety.

For Goldman, it's safety 1st

Nose tackle comes up with crucial play, conjures thoughts of shot at Super Bowl

BY DAN WIEDERER
Chicago Tribune

Rams center John Sullivan didn't have a chance. And by extension, neither did his quarterback, Jared Goff.

The second half was only one play old Sunday night, and it was a 6-6 field-goal affair when Sullivan fired a shotgun snap to Goff. Suddenly, here came Bears nose tackle Eddie Goldman.

With a quick jump, Goldman barreled into Sullivan, knocked him off balance, then used both arms to get an even greater push. Sullivan was backedpedaling and helpless. Goff, surveying the field, ran out of time just as quickly.

Goldman flung the quarterback to the crispy grass in Soldier Field's north end zone. Had he not gotten there, fellow defensive lineman Akiem Hicks would have. Safety, Bears.

It was yet another big play from the defense on another dominant night, sparking a 15-6 victory that gives Chicago every reason to believe the Bears can be playing in the Super Bowl eight weeks from now.

With this defense? Why not? "You never know how things are going to shake out," Hicks said. "But did we play dominant defense? Do we feel we should be respected and feared by most of the league? Yes."

The Rams came in averaging 439.9 yards and 34.9 points per



Bears defensive end Akiem Hicks gets ready to sack Rams quarterback Jared Goff late in the fourth quarter Sunday at Soldier Field.

game. On Sunday, they managed 214 yards and six points. Both were season lows. By a mile.

Goldman's safety in the first minute of the second half sent a charge through Soldier Field.

"I just got off the ball," Goldman said. "I had a really quick get-off. And then I just saw the quarterback."

"When you hear that sound from the crowd, it's definitely energizing. That was big. ... And beating a good team like this is definitely a huge confidence boost."

The Bears offense responded to Goldman's safety as well, taking the ensuing drive 81 yards and scoring the night's only touchdown: a 2-yard pass from Mitch Trubisky to reserve offensive lineman Bradley Sowell. Of course.

Still, this was another defensive masterpiece. Four more interceptions increased the team's total to 25, best in the NFL. The first, by rookie linebacker Roquan Smith, allowed the Bears to kick a short field goal despite an offensive possession that went backward. The second came from Kyle

Fuller, his seventh of the season and a huge pick-me-up one snap after Trubisky's third interception of the night set up the Rams in Bears territory.

That's just what this Bears defense does. Eleven players have an interception this season. Five have produced defensive points, with Goldman joining that club Sunday night.

Credit coordinator Vic Fangio for consistently putting his players in position to succeed. On Sunday, Fangio gave the defense a blueprint to suffocate the NFL's lead-

ing rusher. Todd Gurley came into the game with 1,649 yards from scrimmage and 19 touchdowns.

The Bears, however, held him to 58 total yards — 28 rushing, 30 receiving — and kept him out of the end zone.

The high-powered Rams, who just two weeks ago lit up the Chiefs for 54 points, didn't score a touchdown for the first time. On six of their 13 possessions, they didn't pick up a single first down. That included that first series after halftime when Goldman mauled both Sullivan and Goff.

"I think everyone in Chicago is going to be thrilled with this one," NBC analyst Collinsworth said. "Eddie Goldman, who does so much of the first work inside, rarely gets credit. All the coaches love him, though. And he is the guy who comes up with the big play."

It was a big play in a huge win. The Bears not only improved to 9-4 and increased their lead in the NFC North — at least temporarily — they offered proof that they can beat one of the league's best teams.

After missing the playoffs for seven straight seasons, the Bears almost certainly will rejoin the postseason party next month. Sunday's win offered plenty of reason to believe that even the grandest of January dreams shouldn't be discounted either.

With this defense? Why not? So much talent. So many contributors. An abundance of swagger.

Like Goldman on that play early in the second half, the momentum the Bears are building will be difficult to stop.

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THREE KEYS

The Bears defense came through with its most impressive performance of the season to pull off a 15-6 victory against the Rams on Sunday night at Soldier Field. The Bears took a step closer to a playoff berth by handing the Rams just their second loss this season. Here's a look at our three keys for Sunday's game with postgame insight.

1. Inside job.
Postgame recap: Controlling Rams defensive tackles Aaron Donald and Ndamukong Suh was a major key coming in. Bears quarterback Mitch Trubisky was sacked only once all game, though it was a costly play. On third-and-5 from the Rams 11-yard line in the first quarter, defensive lineman John Franklin-Myers took down Trubisky for a loss of 10 yards. The Bears settled for Cody Parkey's 39-yard field goal and a 3-3 tie instead of taking a lead. But the offensive line held up fairly well after that. Donald and Suh didn't record a sack, though Donald was credited with a quarterback hit.

2. Get after Gurley.
Postgame recap: The Bears completely shut down Rams running back Todd Gurley through the first three quarters, allowing him to gain just 6 yards on six carries. He finally broke off a couple of longer runs in the fourth quarter, including a 12-yarder and 11-yarder. But after the Rams got to the Bears 22-yard line, they stuffed him for no gain before Jared Goff threw incomplete on third down. That forced the Rams to attempt a 40-yard field goal, which Greg Zuerlein missed. Gurley finished with a season-low 28 yards on 11 carries. He was averaging 5 yards per carry and the Bears held him to half that.

3. Rust and running.
Postgame recap: Trubisky showed right away he wouldn't be hesitant to run, taking off for a 9-yard gain on his first play. But his arm looked more than a little rusty to open the game. In the first half, he had a 12.5 passer rating after completing 9 of 25 passes for 59 yards. Marcus Peters got to Trubisky first, returning his pick 48 yards. Nickell Robey-Coleman came up with the second pick late in the second quarter, and John Johnson III added a third interception late in the third quarter. Trubisky hit lineman Bradley Sowell for a 2-yard TD.

— Colleen Kane

NFL WEEK 14

NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

NORTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	3-0	7-2-0	2-2-0	3-1-0
Bears	9	4	0	.692	359	247	6-1-0	2-3-0	3-3-0	7-2-0	2-2-0	3-1-0
Minnesota	6	5	1	.542	275	270	4-2-0	2-3-1	5-3-1	1-2-0	1-2-0	2-1-1
Green Bay	5	7	1	.423	315	307	5-1-1	0-6-0	3-6-1	2-1-0	1-2-1	1-2-1
Detroit	5	8	0	.385	271	319	3-4-0	2-4-0	3-7-0	2-1-0	1-3-0	

EAST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	NFC	AFC	DIV
Dallas	8	5	0	.615	276	246	6-1-0	2-4-0	7-3-0	1-2-0	4-1-0
Philadelphia	6	7	0	.462	281	295	4-3-0	2-4-0	4-6-0	2-1-0	3-2-0
Washington	6	7	0	.462	249	297	3-4-0	3-3-0	6-5-0	0-2-0	2-3-0
N.Y. Giants	5	8	0	.385	307	331	2-4-0	3-4-0	4-7-0	1-1-0	1-4-0

SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	NFC	AFC	DIV
y-New Orleans	11	2	0	.846	447	283	5-1-0	6-1-0	8-2-0	3-0-0	3-1-0
Carolina	6	7	0	.462	324	332	5-1-0	1-6-0	4-5-0	2-2-0	1-2-0
Tampa Bay	5	8	0	.385	332	383	4-3-0	1-5-0	4-6-0	1-2-0	2-3-0
Atlanta	4	9	0	.308	316	367	3-4-0	1-5-0	4-5-0	0-4-0	2-2-0

WEST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	NFC	AFC	DIV
y-L.A. Rams	11	2	0	.846	425	313	6-0-0	5-2-0	7-2-0	4-0-0	4-0-0
Seattle	7	5	0	.583	319	259	3-2-0	4-3-0	6-3-0	1-2-0	2-2-0
Arizona	3	10	0	.231	178	327	1-6-0	2-4-0	3-6-0	0-4-0	2-2-0
San Francisco	3	10	0	.231	275	350	3-3-0	0-7-0	1-8-0	2-2-0	0-4-0

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

EAST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV
New England	9	4	0	.692	364	293	6-0-0	3-4-0	6-3-0	3-1-0	3-1-0
Miami	7	6	0	.538	278	333	6-1-0	1-5-0	6-4-0	1-2-0	4-1-0
Buffalo	4	9	0	.308	201	320	2-4-0	2-5-0	3-7-0	1-2-0	1-3-0
N.Y. Jets	4	9	0	.308	270	330	2-4-0	2-5-0	3-7-0	1-2-0	1-4-0

SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV
Houston	9	4	0	.692	323	259	5-2-0	4-2-0	7-3-0	2-1-0	3-2-0
Indianapolis	7	6	0	.538	349	300	4-2-0	3-4-0	6-5-0	1-1-0	3-2-0
Tennessee	7	6	0	.538	251	254	5-1-0	2-5-0	5-6-0	2-0-0	3-2-0
Jacksonville	4	9	0	.308	212	273	3-4-0	1-5-0	3-7-0	1-2-0	1-4-0

NORTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV
Pittsburgh	7	5	1	.577	367	306	3-3-0	4-2-1	4-5-1	3-0-0	3-1-1
Baltimore	7	6	0	.538	321	241	4-2-0	3-4-0	6-4-0	1-2-0	2-3-0
Cleveland	5	7	1	.423	292	322	4-2-1	1-5-0	3-5-1	2-2-0	2-1-1
Cincinnati	5	8	0	.385	307	397	3-4-0	2-4-0	3-6-0	2-2-0	1-3-0

WEST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV
x-Kansas City	11	2	0	.846	471	351	6-0-0	5-2-0	9-1-0	2-1-0	4-0-0
L.A. Chargers	10	3	0	.769	366	270	5-2-0	5-1-0	7-2-0	3-1-0	2-2-0
Denver	6	7	0	.462	290	282	3-3-0	3-4-0	4-5-0	2-2-0	2-2-0
Oakland	3	10	0	.231	244	388	2-5-0	1-5-0	2-7-0	1-3-0	0-4-0

x-clinched playoff spot; y-clinched division through Sunday

WEEK 14 RESULTS

SUNDAY'S RESULTS
Bears 15, L.A. Rams 6
 N.Y. Giants 40, Washington 13
 Miami 34, New England 33
 Cleveland 26, Carolina 20
 Indianapolis 24, Houston 21
 Green Bay 34, Atlanta 20
 N.Y. Jets 27, Buffalo 23
 New Orleans 28, Tampa Bay 14
 Kansas City 27, Baltimore 24, OT
 L.A. Chargers 26, Cincinnati 21
 San Francisco 20, Denver 14
 Detroit 17, Arizona 3
 Oakland 24, Pittsburgh 21
 Dallas 29, Philadelphia 23, OT

MONDAY'S SCHEDULE
 Minnesota at Seattle, 7:15
THURSDAY'S RESULT
 Tennessee 30, Jacksonville 9

WEEK 15 SCHEDULE

THURSDAY'S SCHEDULE
 L.A. Chargers at Kansas City, 7:20
SATURDAY'S SCHEDULE
 Houston at N.Y. Jets, 3:30
 Cleveland at Denver, 7:20
SUNDAY, DEC. 16
 Green Bay at Bears, noon
 Tennessee at N.Y. Giants, noon
 Detroit at Buffalo, noon
 Tampa Bay at Baltimore, noon
 Arizona at Atlanta, noon
 Oakland at Cincinnati, noon
 Dallas at Indianapolis, noon
 Miami at Minnesota, noon
 Washington at Jacksonville, noon
 Seattle at San Francisco, 3:05
 New England at Pittsburgh, 3:25
 Philadelphia at L.A. Rams, 7:20
MONDAY, DEC. 17
 New Orleans at Carolina, 7:15

ROUNDUP

Chiefs bounce back, clinch playoff spot

Harrison Butker atoned for a 43-yard miss as time expired in regulation with a 36-yard field goal in overtime, and the Chiefs stopped the Ravens on fourth down to clinch a playoff spot with a 27-24 victory Sunday in Kansas City, Mo.

The Chiefs (10-2) twice converted on fourth down before Patrick Mahomes threw a tying touchdown pass to Damien Williams with 53 seconds left. Moments later, Justin Houston strip-sacked Lamar Jackson to give Butker a chance to win it in regulation.

He missed that one. He didn't miss his second chance.

The Ravens (7-6) tried to answer in overtime, but Jackson was sacked by Houston and Dee Ford — and wound up leaving the game — and Robert Griffin III threw two incompletions to end it.

Dolphins 34, Patriots 33: Kenyan Drake ran the last 52 yards as the Dolphins scored on a pass and double lateral on the wild 69-yard final play to beat the Patriots. It was the longest touchdown to win a game with no time remaining since the 1970 merger.

Colts 24, Texans 21: Andrew Luck threw for 399 yards and two touchdowns, and T.Y. Hilton had 199 receiving yards as the Colts snapped the Texans' nine-game winning streak.

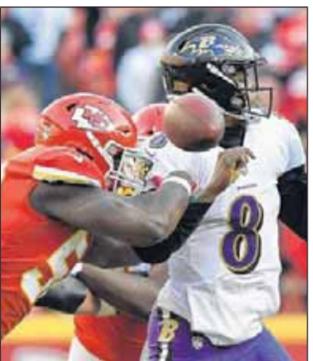
AROUND THE NFL

Chiefs: Team Chairman Clark Hunt said the organization was aware of three separate off-field incidents that led to the release of RB Kareem Hunt, including the alleged assault in a Cleveland hotel that was captured on a security camera. The NFL was made aware of each of the cases. One of the incidents occurred in January at a Kansas City nightclub, and the other happened in June at a resort in Ohio. No charges were filed in any of the three cases. Kareem Hunt was released nine days ago after TMZ Sports posted video of him shoving and kicking a woman in Cleveland.

Patriots: Tom Brady broke the NFL record for career touchdown passes including postseason and now has 582, three more than Peyton Manning. His scores covered 2 yards to Julian Edelman, 37 to Cordarrelle Patterson and 16 to Rob Gronkowski.

Ravens: In a statement before Sunday's game, the Ravens condemned racist and homophobic tweets made by FB-DL Patrick Ricard six years ago as "totally unacceptable." Ricard, who was a healthy scratch, has appeared in 10 games with four tackles on defense and 90 snaps on offense. Ricard said he had not had a chance to talk to his teammates or explain the tweets.

49ers: LT Joe Staley celebrated a rare catch, the third of his 12-year career, when he got his hands on a tipped



JOHN SLEEZER/KANSAS CITY STAR

Chiefs linebacker Justin Houston separates Ravens quarterback Lamar Jackson from the ball.

Raiders 24, Steelers 21: Derek Carr threw a 6-yard go-ahead touchdown pass to Derek Carrier with 21 seconds left, and Chris Boswell slipped on a potential game-tying 40-yard field goal attempt on the final play. Ben Roethlisberger connected on a 48-yard hook-and-lateral that gave Boswell his chance, but he lost his footing and sent the kick into the line.

Saints 28, Buccaneers 14: Drew Brees threw for one touchdown and ran for another to help the Saints rally from an 11-point halftime deficit to clinch their second straight NFC South title.

Bears 15, Rams 6: Eddie Goldman led a dominant effort by the defense to shut down the Rams' high-powered offense. Jared Goff threw a career-high four interceptions.

Packers 34, Falcons 20: Aaron Rodgers threw two touchdown passes as the Packers won their first game under interim coach Joe Philbin, snapping a three-game losing streak.

Browns 26, Panthers 20: Jarvis Landry caught a touchdown and ran for one as the Browns handed the Panthers their fifth straight loss.

Giants 40, Redskins 16: Saquon Barkley rushed for 170 yards, including a 78-yard touchdown to surpass 1,000 yards for the season.

Cowboys 29, Eagles 23: Dak Prescott threw his third touchdown pass to Amari Cooper on the first possession of overtime.

Lions 17, Cardinals 3: Darius Slay returned an interception 67 yards for a touchdown in the Lions' first win in Arizona since 1993.

49ers 20, Broncos 14: George Kittle caught an 85-yard touchdown pass on the way to 210 yards receiving for the 49ers.

Chargers 26, Bengals 21: Philip Rivers threw for 220 yards and Michael Badgley kicked four field goals, including a 59-yarder.

Jets 27, Bills 23: Elijah McGuire scored on a fourth-and-goal run from the 1 with 1:17 remaining as the Jets ended a six-game losing streak.

pass by a defender for a 5-yard loss late in the first half against the Broncos. He will be fined for it, coach Kyle Shanahan insisted. Because of the chance of injury on such plays, trying for the ball isn't advised. Staley called it a "dumb decision" but explained it like this: "It's like telling me, 'Hey, there's pizza here, don't have a slice.' I'm going to have a slice." Said Shanahan: "Joe refuses to believe he's an O-line-man. It was not a smart play."

Cardinals: WR Larry Fitzgerald caught five passes, all in the second half, to move ahead of Jerry Rice for most receptions by a player for one team at 1,286. Fitzgerald, who entered the game with at least one catch in 223 consecutive games, was targeted only once and didn't have a catch in the first half. Finally, with 5:48 left in the third quarter, a 14-yard reception kept the streak alive and moved him ahead of Rice.

Browns: Playing the spoiler role down the stretch, the Browns (5-7-1) improved to 3-2 under interim coach Gregg Williams, who needed just five games to match Hue Jackson's win total over two-plus seasons. The Browns improved to 4-2-1 at FirstEnergy Stadium, clinching their first winning home season since going 7-1 under coach Romeo Crennel in 2007. "That's pretty cool because the Dome Pound has always been loyal to us," guard Joel Bitonio said.

SUMMARIES

SAINTS 28, BUCCANEERS 14

New Orleans 30, Tampa Bay 14
First quarter: NO: 53,495.
NO: Brate 11 pass from Winston (Santos kick), 12:19.
Second quarter: NO: FG Lutuz 30, 7:06.
NO: Brate 1 pass from Winston (Santos), :26.
Third quarter: NO: Line 1 pass from Brees (Kamara run), 4:43.
Fourth quarter: NO: Brees 1 run (Lutz), 11:46.
NO: Ingram 17 run (Lutz), 7:26.
NO: FG Lutuz 36, 1:12.

GIANTS 40, REDSKINS 16

N.Y. Giants 40, Washington 16
First quarter: NYG: Riley 9 interception return (Rosas kick), 2:45.
Second quarter: NYG: FG Rosas 35, 10:38.
NYG: Barkley 78 run (Rosas), 8:42.
NYG: S.Shepard 3 pass from Manning (Rosas), 6:21.
NYG: Fowler 6 pass from Manning (Rosas), 1:48.
NYG: FG Rosas 23, :00.
Third quarter: NYG: R.Shepard 11 pass from Manning (kick failed), 5:38.
Fourth quarter: NYG: R.Shepard 11 pass from Manning (kick failed), 5:38.
Was: Johnson 79 run (V.Davis pass from Johnson), 11:56.
Was: Crowder 8 pass from Johnson (Floyd pass, Johnson), 8:48.

PACKERS 34, FALCONS 20

Atlanta 20, Green Bay 34
First quarter: GB: 77,329.
NYG: Allen 6 run (Fairbairn kick), 2:26.
Second quarter: GB: D.Adams 7 pass from Rodgers (Crosby), 7:11.
NYG: Barkley 50, 7:45.
Ind: FG Vinatieri 54, :00.
Third quarter: GB: Miller 1 run (Fairbairn), 7:38.
Ind: Pascal 12 pass from Luck (Vinatieri), 3:51.
Fourth quarter: GB: Hopkins 12 pass from Watson (Fairbairn), 2:37.

COLTS 24, TEXANS 21

Indianapolis 24, Houston 21
First quarter: A: 71,814.
HOU: Allen 6 run (Hauschka kick), 9:12.
Buf: FG Myers 47, 4:34.
Buf: McKenzie 15 run (Hauschka), 1:07.
Second quarter: GB: FG Myers 21, 11:10.
Buf: FG Hauschka 31, 7:14.
NYG: Cannon 4 run (Myers), 6:31.
Third quarter: Buf: FG Hauschka 29, 13:22.
Fourth quarter: NYG: R.Anderson 7 pass from Carroll (Myers), 12:00.
Buf: FG Hauschka 36, 2:31.
NYG: McGuire 1 run (Myers), 1:17.

JETS 27, BILLS 23

N.Y. Jets 27, Buffalo 23
First quarter: A: 59,392.
Car: McCaffrey 4 run (Joseph kick), 9:17.
Cle: Landry 3 run (Catozhar), 7:41.
Second quarter: Car: McCaffrey 1 run (Catozhar), 14:13.
Cle: Landry 51 pass from Mayfield (Joseph), 8:27.
Car: FG Catozhar 30, 4:03.
Cle: FG Joseph 49, 5:59.
Third quarter: Car: FG Catozhar 34, 7:11.
Fourth quarter: Car: Chubb 4 run (kick failed), 13:05.
Cle: FG Joseph 41, 8:46.

BROWNS 26, PANTHERS 20

Carolina 26, Cleveland 20
First quarter: A: 59,392.
Car: McCaffrey 4 run (Joseph kick), 9:17.
Cle: Landry 3 run (Catozhar), 7:41.
Second quarter: Car: McCaffrey 1 run (Catozhar), 14:13.
Cle: Landry 51 pass from Mayfield (Joseph), 8:27.
Car: FG Catozhar 30, 4:03.
Cle: FG Joseph 49, 5:59.
Third quarter: Car: FG Catozhar 34, 7:11.
Fourth quarter: Car: Chubb 4 run (kick failed), 13:05.
Cle: FG Joseph 41, 8:46.

DOLPHINS 34, PATRIOTS 33

New England 34, Miami 33
First quarter: A: 66,087.
KC: Develin 2 run (kick failed), 8:13.
Mia: Stills 7 pass from Tannehill (Sanders kick), 5:32.
Second quarter: KC: Kelce 15 pass from Mahomes (Butker), 2:37.
KC: FG Butker 24, :00.
Third quarter: Bal: M.Williams 10 pass from Jackson (Tucker), 3:10.
Fourth quarter: Bal: J.Brown 9 pass from Jackson (Tucker), 4:04.
KC: Dam.Williams 5 pass from Mahomes (Butker), 5:3.
Overtime: KC: FG Butker 35, 4:42.

CHIEFS 27, RAVENS 24, OT

Baltimore 24, Kansas City 27
First quarter: A: 74,736.
KC: Dam.Williams 1 run (Butker kick), 3:03.
Second quarter: Bal: Dixon 3 run (Tucker), 14:17.
NYG: Barkley 78 run (Rosas), 8:42.
KC: Kelce 15 pass from Mahomes (Butker), 2:37.
KC: FG Butker 24, :00.
Third quarter: Bal: M.Williams 10 pass from Jackson (Tucker), 3:10.
Fourth quarter: Bal: J.Brown 9 pass from Jackson (Tucker), 4:04.
KC: Dam.Williams 5 pass from Mahomes (Butker), 5:3.
Overtime: KC: FG Butker 35, 4:42.

CHARGERS 26, BENGALS 21

Cincinnati 26, L.A. Chargers 21
First quarter: A: 25,358.
LAC: Allen 14 pass from Rivers (Badgley kick), 11:39.
Cin: FG Bullock 47, 6:23.
Second quarter: LAC: Ekeler 5 run (Badgley), 14:51.
Cin: FG Bullock 23, 5:01.
Cin: Ross 6 pass from Driskel (pass failed), :20.
Third quarter: LAC: FG Badgley 59, :00.
Fourth quarter: LAC: FG Badgley 31, 7:38.
Den: Driskel 18-27-0-170.
L.A. Chargers: 19-29-0-220.
Receiving: Cin, Mixon 5-27, Boyd 3-52, Uzomah 3-37, Core 3-30, Bernard 2-13, Ross 2-11, La, Allen 5-78, M.Williams 3-45, Ty-Williams 3-14, Ekeler 2-18, Jackson 2-23, Gates 2-19, Benjamin 1-11, Watt 2-2.
Kickoff returns: Cin, Erickson 6-121, LAC, King 2-66, Benjamin 1-17.
Tackles-assists-sacks: Cin, Bates 4-3-0, Dunlap 4-0-1.
LAC: Adiae 6-2-0, Bosa 6-0-1.

49ERS 20, BRONCOS 14

Denver 20, San Francisco 14
First quarter: A: 69,449.
SF: FG Gould 40, 10:23.
Second quarter: SF: FG Gould 29, 13:01.
Den: Davis 5-3-0, Wolfe 5-1-0, Miller 3-0-1, Chubb 2-2-0, Sherman 5-0-0, Blair 3-0-1.
Interceptions: Den, Stewart 1-0.

LIONS 17, CARDINALS 3

Detroit 17, Arizona 3
Second quarter: A: 62,014.
Det: FG Prater 47, 9:35.
Third quarter: Det: Slay 67 interception return (Prater kick), 3:03.
Fourth quarter: Ari: FG Gonzalez 22, 8:14.
Det: Zenger 1 run (Prater kick), 4:05.

COWBOYS 29, EAGLES 23

BEARS

BEARS NOTES

Scoop: Smith gets 1st pick

BY COLLEEN KANE
Chicago Tribune

Bears rookie linebacker Roquan Smith simply had to bend down and scoop the ball out of the air to record his first NFL interception Sunday night at Soldier Field.

Rams quarterback Jared Goff severely underthrew wide receiver Robert Woods when left tackle Andrew Whitworth was pushed back into him early in the second quarter. Smith was wide open to grab the pass and return it 22 yards to the Rams 4-yard line.

After two penalties, the Bears settled for Cody Parkey's 31-yard field goal for a brief 6-3 lead.

Smith was the 11th Bears player to record an interception this season. Eddie Jackson also intercepted Goff on the final play of the first half, a Hail Mary pass to the end zone.

Cornerback Kyle Fuller picked off Goff late in the third quarter and Prince Amukamara clinched the win in the fourth with a pick, bringing the Bears' total to an NFL-leading 25 interceptions.

Jackson brought his total to five interceptions this season, trailing

only Fuller, who has seven, tying the Dolphins' Xavien Howard for the most in the NFL.

Risk-reward: Bears general manager Ryan Pace said on the team's pregame radio show that he wants quarterback Mitch Trubisky to continue to play with his instincts as he tries to protect himself from further injury.

Trubisky injured his right shoulder at the end of a 5-yard run Nov. 18 against the Vikings, and much of the talk as he returned this week to face the Rams was how he would maintain his running ability as a weapon while also minimizing risk to injury.

The Bears believe Trubisky needs to continue to make the right decisions on when to take off and when to get down.

"You don't want them to play cautious," Pace said. "You want them to cut loose. There's a lot of examples of quarterbacks around our league that utilize their athleticism to their advantage but don't take the unnecessary risk, and Mitch understands that."

Trubisky wasted little time showing he still was willing to run.

He surged forward for a 9-yard gain on the Bears' first play from scrimmage. Later in the drive, on third-and-11, he rushed for 13 yards to gain the first down.

Next up: The Bears turned to rookie Anthony Miller to return a kickoff for the first time Sunday.

Previously, the Bears used Benny Cunningham and then Taquan Mizzell to return kicks.

But entering Sunday, they ranked 31st in the NFL with 18.3 yards per kick return. They had just five returns of more than 20 yards.

Miller returned the opening kickoff 20 yards to the 23-yard line. Tarik Cohen was deep for the kickoff early in the second half.

Inactives and injuries: With Trubisky's return, third-string quarterback Tyler Bray was inactive for the first time in three games.

Backup safety Deon Bush was inactive after missing practice all week with a hamstring injury.

Wide receivers Kevin White and Javon Wims, outside linebacker Kylie Fitts, offensive lineman Rashaad Coward and defen-



BRIAN CASSELLA / CHICAGO TRIBUNE
Bears linebacker Roquan Smith grabs an interception, his first of the season, Sunday against the Rams. The Bears made four interceptions.

sive lineman Nick Williams were healthy scratches.

Jackson (shin) and defensive lineman Bilal Nichols (knee) were both active after being limited in Friday's practice while the Bears practiced inside on turf.

Cornerback Bryce Callahan went down with a foot injury in the second quarter and was out for the game.

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Bears' effort bodes well

Biggs, from Page 1

to be the lowest output in two years for the Rams under coach Sean McVay. The Rams had scored 29 points or more in every game but one this season, and that was in a 23-20 win in Denver on Oct. 14.

If defense wins championships, the Bears (9-4) figure to have a chance to at least make a deep playoff run, and they can clinch a playoff berth as early as next week. They still need to do some climbing to gain one of the top two seeds in the NFC and earn a first-round bye. The Saints and Rams are both 11-2, two games ahead, with the Saints holding the tiebreaker between those teams based on a head-to-head victory.

The outcome on this cold night should give the Bears confidence that as the No. 3 seed — and that's where they are in the NFC playoff picture — they could travel to the No. 2 Rams in the divisional round and win a game.

What's interesting is in the last two weeks, the two highest-octane offenses in the NFC have been shut down. The Cowboys suffocated the Saints 13-10 on Nov. 29 and here the Rams had the power turned out on them as Jared Goff was forced into a career-high four interceptions and running back Todd Gurley, who entered the week as the NFL's leading rusher, went nowhere, gaining only 28 yards on 11 carries.

While much of the focus entering the game was on Rams defensive tackle Aaron Donald, a front-runner for NFL defensive player of the year honors, he wasn't a game-wrecker, and the Bears' line was more impressive.

It was a dominating effort and



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE
Offensive tackle Bradley Sowell secures a two-yard catch for a touchdown in the third quarter as the Rams' John Johnson tries to knock it loose.

affirms the Bears are for real.

But Sunday night's game also certainly raises questions about the Bears offense as quarterback Mitch Trubisky had a rocky outing after missing the last two games with a right shoulder injury. Trubisky was intercepted three times for the first time this season and finished only 16 of 30 for 110 yards. The lone highlight was a new Matt Nagy wrinkle at the goal line when Trubisky threw a 2-yard touchdown pass to tackle-eligible Bradley Sowell.

The Rams totaled only 98 yards and six first downs in the first half, their lowest totals this season, and the Bears defense took command at the start of the

third quarter when nose tackle Eddie Goldman sacked Goff for a safety and an 8-6 lead. After the free kick, the Bears mounted their best drive of the game to score on the latest goal-line gadget play.

It looked like the Bears were in trouble when John Johnson intercepted Trubisky late in the third quarter on a badly thrown pass for Trey Burton, but on the next play Kyle Fuller broke on a telegraphed Goff throw for Josh Reynolds and came up with his seventh interception, tied for the most in the NFL.

The Bears totaled only three sacks, but Goff never looked comfortable in the pocket, and

they came at opportune times as Akiem Hicks dropped him on fourth-and-4 with 4:28 remaining to give the ball back to the offense on the Rams 26-yard line.

When the rush didn't get home, Goff looked like a jittery rookie. The Bears did a nice job of matching the inside seam routes the Rams like and taking away what are rhythm throws for Goff. The defensive backs did a good job of staying on top of the play-action shots he did take and they did a good job of tackling after the catch on in-breaking routes. They did so for much of the game without injured nickel cornerback Bryce Callahan. That's concerning because Callahan has

played so well and had been able to remain injury-free to this point.

While Trubisky was off, the Bears got a season-high 101 rushing rushing from Jordan Howard and ran for a team total of 194 yards. Beating high-powered offenses in the playoffs will take defense and complementary football, which could mean more games in which Nagy actually commits to the run and sticks with it.

Instead of worrying about the offensive approach, savor a re-sounding victory for the defense.

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Defense flexes its muscles, grounds high-flying Rams

Campbell, from Page 1

Leave the permutations, though, for later in the week. The Bears and their fans deserve to enjoy this. In suffocating the 11-1 Rams — make that the 11-2 Rams — they reminded us that they can beat anyone because of this defense.

"We just had it tonight," lineman Akiem Hicks said. "We had a lot of heart and a lot of focus."

OK, so maybe they need to be at home. Maybe it has to be cold. Achieving true greatness would require winning without those advantages elsewhere in January, maybe even in Los Angeles. But the Bears don't have to apologize for them today. Especially not after overcoming quarterback Mitch Trubisky's rusty throwing

performance that included three interceptions.

Fangio laid out the challenge midweek. The Rams have good players, a good scheme and a good play-caller. So how did the Bears do it?

"Our name of the game was to get pressure, and coach trusted us to play man coverage on the outside," cornerback Prince Amukamara said. "When pressure and coverage work together, you see a lot of success."

It's a combination so simple but so darn hard to perfect, especially against an offense fueled by running back Todd Gurley, who entered Week 14 as the NFL's leading rusher.

But leave it to these Bears to raise the bar — again. "Everybody played like their

hat was on fire," linebacker Leonard Floyd said.

They held the Rams to 3.3 yards per play before the final 25 seconds of the game; the Rams' previous low was 5.4 against the Lions last Sunday.

They picked off Goff four times. They sacked him three times, including once in the end zone. Goff danced like he had hot coals under his feet, looking more uncomfortable than he has at any time previously during a season worthy of contention for the NFL MVP award.

Even more impressive was how they limited Gurley to 28 yards on 11 carries, his lowest rushing total since his rookie year in 2015.

The only poor performance was the pathetic pleading by the

Bears game operations crew. The PA announcer begged the crowd of 58,076 to "Get loud and stay loud!" or, "Bring it loud!" throughout the game while an air-raid siren blared every time the Rams were in the huddle.

As if Chicagoans had never seen their team play defense before. As if defense hasn't been a hallmark of this franchise for decades.

It was doubly insulting because these Bears have proven they need no bush-league gimmicks. They just hit you in the mouth up front and cover on the back end. And by doing so Sunday, they turned the Rams into a disjointed mess.

It started on the first snap. Floyd stopped Gurley for 1 yard, and it only got better from there.

Goldman became the fifth Bears player to score points on defense this season when he bull-rushed center John Sullivan back and sacked Goff. Hicks arrived a split-second later.

"Eddie works so hard in the scheme of our defense," Hicks said. "He's an unsung hero of this defense."

There safety was one of several races to the quarterback. Hicks and Robertson-Harris met there on fourth-and-4 with 4:28 to play. Hicks got up and sprinted to sideline, where he celebrated with fans behind the bench.

It was the guttural scream to go with the flex. The sound of dominance.

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SCOREBOARD

CALENDAR

TEAM	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
							GB Noon FOX-32, AM-780
	SAC 7 NBCSCH, AM-670			@ORL 8:30 NBCSCH, AM-670		@SA 7:30 WGN-9, AM-670	
	@WPG 7 NBCSCH, AM-720		PIT 7 NBCSN, AM-720		WPG 7:30 NBCSCH, AM-720		SJ 6 WGN-9, AM-720

MONDAY ON TV/RADIO

TIME	HOME	AWAY	NETWORK
6:30 p.m.	Pelicans	at Celtics	NBA TV
7 p.m.	Kings	at Bulls	NBCSCH, WSCR-AM 670
9:30 p.m.	Heat	at Lakers	NBA TV
7:15 p.m.	Vikings	at Seahawks	ESPN
6:30 p.m.	Kings	at Red Wings	NHL Network
1:55 p.m.	Everton	vs. Watford	NBCSN

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

2018-19 DIV. I BOWL GLANCE	DATE	BOWL	SITE	TEAMS	TM
Sat	Celebration	Atlanta	NC A&T (9-2) vs. Alcorn St (9-3)	11*	
Sat	Cure	Orlando	Tulane (6-6) vs. La-Lafay. (7-6)	12:30	
Sat	New Mexico	Albuquerque	N. Texas (9-3) vs. Utah St (10-2)		
Sat	Las Vegas	Vegas	Fresno St (11-2) vs. Ariz. St (7-5)	2:30	
Sat	Camellia	Montgomery, Ala.	Go. So. (9-3) vs. E. Michigan (7-5)	4:30	
Sat	New Orleans	New Orleans	MSU (8-5) vs. Appalachian St (10-2)	8	
D19	Boca Raton, Fla.	Boca Raton, Fla.	UAB (10-3) vs. North Illinois (8-5)	6	
D20	Frisco, Texas	Frisco, Texas	San Diego St (7-5) vs. Ohio (8-4)	7	
D20	Gasparilla	St. Petersburg, Fla.	Marshall (8-4) vs. USF (7-5)	7	
D21	Bahamas	Nassau	Toledo (7-5) vs. FIU (8-4)	11:30*	
D21	Idaho Potato	Boise	W Michigan (7-5) vs. BYU (6-6)	3	
D22	Birmingham	Birmingham, Ala.	Memphis (8-5) vs. Wake Forest (6-6)	11*	
D22	Armed Forces	Fort Worth, Texas	Houston (8-4) vs. Army (10-2)	2:30	
D22	Dollar General	Mobile, Ala.	Buffalo (10-3) vs. Troy (9-3)	4	
D22	Hawaii	Honolulu	La Tech (7-5) vs. Hawaii (8-5)	9:30	
D26	SERVPRO	Dallas	Boston Coll. (7-5) vs. Boise St (10-3)	12:30	
D26	Quick Lane	Detroit	Minnesota (6-6) vs. Ga. Tech (7-5)	4:15	
D26	Cheez-IT	Phoenix	California (7-5) vs. TCU (6-6)	7	
D27	Independence	Shreveport, La.	Temple (8-4) vs. Duke (7-5)	12:30	
D27	Pinstripe	Charlotte, N.C.	Michigan St (7-5) vs. Wisconsin (7-5)	4:15	
D27	Texas	Houston	Baylor (6-5) vs. Vanderbilt (6-6)	8	
D28	Music City	Nashville	Purdue (6-6) vs. Auburn (7-5)	12:30	
D28	Camping World	Orlando	V. Virginia (8-3) vs. Syracuse (9-3)	4:15	
D28	Alamo	San Antonio	Iowa St (8-4) vs. Wash. St (10-2)	8	
D29	Peach	Atlanta	Florida (9-3) vs. Michigan (10-2)	11*	
D29	Belk	Charlotte, N.C.	S. Carolina (7-5) vs. Virginia (7-5)	11*	
D29	Arizona	Tucson, Ariz.	Ark. St (8-4) vs. Nevada (7-5)	12:15	
D29	Cotton	Arlington, Tex.	Note Dame (12-0) vs. Clemson (13-0)	3	
D29	Orange	Miami Gard., Fla.	Oklahoma (12-1) vs. Alabama (13-0)	7	
D31	Military	Annapolis, Md.	Cincinnati (10-2) vs. Va. Tech (6-6)	11*	
D31	Sun	El Paso, Texas	Stanford (8-4) vs. Pittsburgh (7-6)	1	
D31	Redbox	Santa Clara, Calif.	Michigan St (7-5) vs. Oregon (8-4)	7	
D31	Liberty	Memphis, Tenn.	Missouri (8-4) vs. Oklahoma St (6-6)	2:45	
D31	Holiday	San Diego	Northwestern (8-5) vs. Utah (9-4)	6	
D31	Gator	Jacksonville, Fla.	NC St (9-3) vs. Texas A&M (8-4)	6:30	
J1	Outback	Tampa, Fla.	Mississippi St (8-4) vs. Iowa (8-4)	11*	
J1	Citrus	Orlando	Kentucky (9-3) vs. Penn St (9-3)	noon	
J1	Fiesta	Glendale, Ariz.	LSU (9-3) vs. UCF (12-0)	noon	
J1	Rose	Pasadena, Calif.	Washington St (7-5) vs. Oregon (8-4)	2:45	
J1	Sugar	New Orleans	Texas (9-4) vs. Georgia (11-2)	7:45	
J1	CFP Final	Santa Clara, Calif.	Cotton vs. Orange winners	7	

OTHER BOWLS

J19	Shrine	St. Petersburg, Fla.	East vs. West	2
J19	Colgate	Pasadena, Calif.	American vs. National	3
J26	Senior	Mobile, Ala.	North vs. South	1:30

FCS PLAYOFFS

Friday's semifinal
North Dakota State (13-0) vs. South Dakota State (10-2), 7 p.m.
Saturday's semifinal
Maine (10-3) vs. Eastern Washington (11-2), 11 a.m.
Championship, Jan. 5
At Toyota Stadium; Frisco, Texas
Semifinal winners, 11 a.m.

DIV. II CHAMPIONSHIP

Saturday in McKinney, Texas
Valdosta State (13-0) vs. Ferris State (15-0), 3 p.m.

DIV. III CHAMPIONSHIP

Friday in Shenoadoah, Texas
Mount Union (14-0) vs. Mary Hardin-Baylor (14-0), 6 p.m.

NBA G LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
CENTRAL				
Canton	7	6	.538	-
Fort Wayne	5	6	.455	1
Grand Rapids	5	8	.385	2
Windy City	5	11	.313	3½
Wisconsin	2	12	.143	5½

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Agua Caliente 115, Iowa 103
Long Island 125, Lakeland 111

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Grand Rapids at Fort Wayne, 6 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Delaware, 6 p.m.
Agua Caliente at Sioux Falls, 6:30 p.m.
Texas at Memphis, 7 p.m.
Erie at Stockton, 9 p.m.

TUESDAY SCHEDULE

Westchester at Lakeland, 6 p.m.
Capital City at Northern Arizona, 7:30 p.m.
Austin at Salt Lake City, 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Windy City at Long Island, 6 p.m.
Wisconsin at Greensboro, 10 a.m.
Texas at Grand Rapids, 6 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Raptors, 6:30 p.m.

AHL

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	OL	SOL	PT	GF	GA
Iowa	14	5	4	2	34	72	62
Milwaukee	14	9	4	2	32	76	72
G. Rapids	14	8	2	31	81	78	
WOLVES	13	9	2	1	29	86	78
Rockford	11	10	1	4	27	89	70
Texas	12	9	1	1	26	75	75
Manitoba	11	12	2	0	24	62	80
San Antonio	10	15	1	0	21	64	78

2 points for a win, 1 point for an overtime/shootout loss.

SUNDAY'S RESULTS

Springfield 5, Binghamton 4
Toronto 1, Belleville 0 (OT)
WBS/Scranton 5, Hershey 4 (SO)
San Jose 4, Bakersfield 0

MONDAY'S SCHEDULE

none scheduled

TUESDAY'S SCHEDULE

Grand Rapids at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Tucson, 8:05 p.m.

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

Providence at Utica, 6 p.m.
Syracuse at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Binghamton at Rochester, 6:05 p.m.
WBS/Scranton at Springfield, 6:05 p.m.
Belleville at Laval, 6:30 p.m.
Iowa at Texas, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Tucson, 8:05 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE

New York: Named Chili Davis hitting coach, Chuck Hernandez bullpen coach and Luis Rojas quality control coach.

HOCKEY

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

Carolina: Recalled G Scott Darling from Charlotte (AHL).
Los Angeles: Recalled F Austin Wagner from Ontario (AHL).
Minnesota: Recalled F Luke Kunin from Iowa (AHL).
N.Y. Islanders: Returned G Christopher Gibson to Bridgeport (AHL). Recalled F Josh Ho-Sang from Bridgeport.
Washington: Reassigned F Riley Barber to Hershey (AHL).

AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE

AHL: Suspended Springfield D Ian McCoshen one game.

SOCCER

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER

Atlanta: Declined options on G Mitch

GOLF

QBE SHOOTOUT

3rd of 3 rounds; **Tiburion GC; Naples, Fla., 7:30 a.m. Par: 72**

186 (-30) \$422,500 each
Patton Kizzire/Brian Harman 59-66-61
187 (-29) \$265,500
Graeme McDowell/Emiliano Grillo 59-66-62
188 (-28) \$132,500
Gary Woodland/Charley Hoffman 61-64-63
Kevin Na/Bryson DeChambeau 59-67-62
Luke List/Charles Howell III 61-66-61
189 (-27) \$97,500
Bubba Watson/Harold Varner III 59-67-60
193 (-23) \$92,500
Lyle Thompson/Tony Finau 61-67-65
194 (-22) \$82,500
Brandt Snedeker/Billy Horschel 63-67-64
Steve Stricker/Sean O'Hair 62-67-65
196 (-20) \$85,000
Andrew Landry/Luke Donald 63-68-65
198 (-18) \$82,500
Kyle Stanek/Pat Perez 63-68-67
202 (-14) \$80,000
Kevin Kisner/Cameron Champ 63-71-69

EUROPEAN PGA

SOUTH AFRICAN OPEN

4th of 4 rounds; **Randpark GC; Johannesburg, 7 a.m.**

5-Bushwallow Course; 7,116 yards, par-71
Firehorn Course; 7,504 yards, par-71
(Final 2 rds played on Firehorn course)

Purse: \$125 million

266 (-18)
Louis Oosthuizen 62b-70f-67-67

274 (-19)
Lance Gordon 69b-68f-69-66

274 (-19)
Eben Elton 68b-69f-71-66

275 (-18)
Thomas Aiken 67b-68f-72-67

275 (-18)
Oliver Wilson 73b-66f-68-67

275 (-18)
Charl Schwartzel 67f-63b-72-72

275 (-18)
Brandon Stone 71b-67f-71-66

275 (-18)
Yikeun Chang 70f-65f-72-68

275 (-18)
Anthony Michael 67f-71b-69-68

Haydn Porteous 68f-70b-68-69

Branden Grace 68b-68f-71-70

Joe Kruger 66b-67f-72-70

Jeff Winger 68f-69b-68-70

Madalisto Muthiya 53b-68f-71-73

276 (-4)

Zander Lombard 64b-68f-74-70

Kurt Kitayama 63f-69f-74-70

Tapio Puikkane 69b-69f-68-70

Robert Macintyre 70b-67f-68-71

Ernie Els 66b-71f-68-71

Matt Wallace 65b-69f-68-74

ALSO: 277 (-7)

Jarin Todd 68b-72f-69-68

283 (-4)

John Catlin 70f-70f-74-69

UPCOMING PGA TOUR EVENTS

Jan. 3-6: Sentry Tournament of Champions, Kapalua Resort (Plantation), Kapalua, Hawaii

Jan. 24-27: Farmers Insurance Open, Torrey Pines GC (North and South), San Diego

Jan. 31-Feb. 3: Waste Management Phoenix Open, TPC Scottsdale, Scottsdale, Ariz.

Feb. 7-10: AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, Pebble Beach, Spyglass Hill, Monterey Peninsula (Shore Course), Pebble Beach, Calif.

Feb. 14-17: Genesis Open, Riviera CC, Los Angeles

Feb. 21-24: WGC-Mexico Championship, Chapultepec GC, Mexico City

Feb. 21-24: Puerto Rico Open, Coco Beach Golf & CC, Rio Grande, Puerto Rico

LATEST LINE

TEAM	W	L	PCT	GB
NBA				
Sacramento	2½			
at Indiana	6½			
at Philadelphia	8			
at Boston	7			
at Milwaukee	4			
at Cleveland	5½			
at Utah	5½			
at Dallas	5½			
LA Clippers	11			
at Phoenix	11			
at Denver	10½			
at Golden State	10½			
at LA Lakers	6			
COLLEGE BASKETBALL				
at St. Mary's	12½			
at Pacific	6			
NHL				
Pittsburgh	-140			
at Tampa Bay	-250			
at Detroit	-120			
at San Jose	-205			
New Jersey	+185			

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

TEAM	W	L	PCT	GB
NBA				
Washington	2½			
Detroit	8			
New Orleans	7			
Cleveland	4			
Utah	5½			
Orlando	5½			
at Phoenix	11			
at Memphis	10½			
Minnesota	6			
MIAMI				
MIAMI	6			
COLLEGE BASKETBALL				
Cal St.-Fullerton	12½			
Long Beach St	6			
NHL				
at NY Islanders	+130			
at Tampa Bay	-250			
at Detroit	-120			
at San Jose	-205			
New Jersey	+185			

CELEBRATION BOWL

NC A&T 7½, Alcorn State

NEX MEXICO

BULLS

Boylen huddles with players to build trust

Bulls, from Page 1

said on how the day went down. "We both agreed on something, the players and the coaches. We came to them as men. We talked, told them how we felt. And they responded very well."

If Boylen and his staff hadn't been receptive to the players' desire to meet instead of practice, things could've gone south. According to multiple sources, a group text exchange began with "two or three players" advocating for not even showing up for the rare practice called the day after a set of back-to-back games with another game scheduled Monday.

But "veterans" demanded attendance from all teammates, including those advocating for a boycott, and suggested the meeting. According to several people present at the second meeting, Boylen — who was promoted from assistant to head coach when the Bulls fired Fred Hoiberg on Dec. 3 — tackled the drama head-on and tried to use the opportunity to build trust.

At one point, multiple sources said, Boylen had a colleague reveal that he merely planned to hold a film session and have individual players get shots up instead of the hard practice he had hinted at late Saturday. Boylen did this, the sources said, to show players how they need to learn to trust him.

"Um. No. Ah, I think it was just a communication, a little bit of both," Boylen said, when asked who decided not to practice. "This is what I think is necessary today. And players felt they needed a voice and to talk too. And that's cool. That's good."

"This is a family thing. This is open lines of communication. We're still learning about each other. I've moved over the 18 inches (from assistant coach's chair). They're still learning how I want it. There's been a little shock and awe here in the last seven days. And there's an adjustment to that. And that's OK."

By benching the starters twice in five-for-five substitutions, Boylen walked the fine line between holding players accountable and embarrassing them. Players understood Boylen's first five-man substitution, which came with the Bulls trailing 13-0 with 7 minutes, 15 seconds left in the first quarter. The second, which occurred after the Celtics outscored them a mere 5-3 in the first 2:58 of the second half, frustrated some players.

"We needed to get a lot of stuff off our chest and be transparent," guard Zach LaVine said Sunday. "I don't think the players' toughness should ever be questioned. I think that's on us. I think that is a little bit of what we discussed in our meeting."

LaVine, who thrived in Hoiberg's player-friendly system, was the most visibly frustrated Saturday in the postgame locker room. LaVine, along with Justin Holiday, led the players-only meeting.

"I don't think a lot of people in the business are (expletives)," LaVine said. "At least I'm not. I'm a genuine person. I think I'm very kind. But sometimes the truth hurts. You have to get to that point where you have to be productive."

While admitting he wanted to keep playing as a competitor, Carter said he had no issue with anything Boylen has done. At 19, the first-round pick is quickly emerging as a team leader.

"Coach has to make tough decisions," Carter said. "When he saw the game going bad, he wanted to give other people the opportunity to change the game around. I respect that decision. It's a different system, so I don't feel like we really had an issue. At least I didn't. And from the meeting, didn't nobody really have an issue. It was just we've got to be better. While we were in the game, we didn't do what we were supposed to do. We can blame it on Coach. But after looking at the film we didn't take responsibility for what was happening on the court."

That is the type of leadership Boylen is seeking to find with his unconventional moves. Those have included publicly questioning the team's toughness and



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bulls coach Jim Boylen talks with guards Zach LaVine (8) and Justin Holiday during a game against the Thunder on Friday at the United Center.

conditioning, practicing them on typical off days and then the mass benchings.

"Sure you can," Boylen said if such moves eventually can have diminishing returns. "But here's the difference, here's the deal now: The best players in this program are going to be coached by the head coach. The great teams I've been on, the best players are coached by the head coach. We're going to honor the tough conversations, we're going to honor that we all have a goal of where we want to go. And we're going to work at getting there."

"I don't think anybody in here thought we were going to ease into this thing. That's not my personality. That's not how you affect change. We're not easing into anything."

Boylen said "absolutely" when asked if it was his decision not to hold practice.

"And I have every right to change my mind with my gut and my experience," Boylen said. "That's what a head coach does. He sees what's going on and he makes his adjustments. And we move forward. I think that's called leadership. I know that's called leadership."

Carter said leadership must become a teamwide priority.

"Of course we could say Zach or the best players on the team should be the leaders. But if that's not the case, at some point a leader will begin to form," Carter said. "I feel like once everybody takes responsibility for themselves, they'll understand what it takes to be a leader."

"Honestly, I can't tell you who it will be. But I feel like we're going down the right path with this whole meeting today being direct and honest. Everybody told each other how we really, really felt about what happened, how we feel about each other in terms of the team, how we feel about everybody as a whole. So I feel like we definitely got somewhere, even though we weren't on the court running, shooting."

Boylen said he's not concerned about the message a five-man substitution sends.

"To sub five guys means I felt the quality of what was going on there wasn't up to our standard. They understand where I'm coming from," Boylen said. "I think we're all remorseful in how we played and what happened. And we're moving on."

On multiple occasions, Boylen has referenced Spurs coach Gregg Popovich, for whom he worked, as a coach who also uses five-man substitutions. Asked if he can make the same move without the same pedigree — or veteran players — as Popovich, Boylen said yes.

"They know I have every right and they know my heart and they know if I'm subbing, it's what I think is best for this team. That's my job," Boylen said. "You guys got to know: I'm going to do my job here, which is to develop this team to represent the city of Chicago in the way I think it's supposed to be represented."

"Nobody is going to make more mistakes than I do. I have a lot of responsibility and make a lot of decisions. I'm not going to get them all right. But this is not a hobby for me. We're going to keep working and grinding and communicating and hugging and crying and laughing and moving forward."

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BLACKHAWKS



KAMIL KRZACZYNSKI/AP

Former Blackhawks right wing Andrew Shaw reacts after teammate Max Domi scores the first goal of the game Sunday at the United Center. Shaw assisted on Domi's goal.

CANADIENS 3, BLACKHAWKS 2

A lost cause

Blackhawks drop 7th straight as Canadiens score in final 2 minutes



UP NEXT
Blackhawks at Jets
7 p.m. Tuesday, NBCSCH

By JIMMY GREENFIELD | Chicago Tribune

The Blackhawks outshot the Canadiens, drew penalty after penalty, and the NHL's worst power-play unit not only looked good, it even scored a goal.

It didn't matter, for the same old reason. The Hawks once again fell behind in the first period only to tie the score, but Tomas Tatar's deflection of a Jeff Petry slap shot with 1 minute, 17 seconds remaining in the third period lifted the Canadiens to a 3-2 win Sunday night at the United Center.

The loss was the Hawks' seventh straight. They have lost nine of 10 games and 18 of their last 21 while dropping to 9-17-5.

"We just couldn't finish," Hawks coach Jeremy Colliton said. "Unfortunate to give up the goal at the end. That really, really gives it a negative tinge."

The Canadiens went up 1-0 with 13 minutes, 55 seconds left in the first on Max Domi's rebound goal. A Shea Weber slap shot 1:31 later made it 2-0, and the Hawks were again playing to type. It marked the 10th straight game they gave up the first goal and the ninth time in the last 10 that they allowed at least two goals in the first period.

But just as they've been falling behind, they've also been keeping games close, and Patrick Kane's power-play goal with 59 seconds left in the first made it 2-1. The second period was pretty quiet until Kane's second goal of the game and 15th of the season tied it 2-2 with 7:05 remaining.

Kane came into the game with two goals

in his last 18 games after starting the season with 11 goals in the first 11 games.

"It's been awhile for me here lately," Kane said. "I could kind of feel it coming the last couple games. It's nice to get on the score sheet, would've been nice to get another one there in the third or get something, especially on the power play. But it didn't happen."

Artem Anisimov took a hard hit from Weber early in the third and didn't return.

"He's in concussion protocol," Colliton said. "So obviously we don't know how long it'll be, but that's where he's at right now."

The Hawks had 10 minutes of power-play time in the third period, including six straight minutes with a man advantage after Jordie Benn took a four-minute high-sticking penalty just as a previous penalty ended. The Hawks finished 1-for-8 on the power play but put 14 shots on goal. Overall, they outshot the Canadiens 39-28.

"I don't know if we could've done much more, to be honest with you," Kane said.

The Canadiens had a 5-on-3 for 55 seconds in the third, when Connor Murphy took a high-sticking penalty while Brandon Saad already was off for interference. Murphy played 16:46 in his season debut after missing the first 30 games with a back injury.

"We turned it on as the game went on," Colliton said. "But we don't give ourselves a chance in those situations. Until it changes, it's going to be hard for us to win."

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BLACKHAWKS NOTES

No rush to inject life from Rockford pipeline

By JIMMY GREENFIELD | Chicago Tribune

Despite the Blackhawks' long slide to the bottom of the NHL standings, there has been very little movement between Rockford and Chicago so far this season.

Forward Alexandre Fortin started with the IceHogs and was called up during the second week of the season. Defenseman Gustav Forsling was sent to Rockford for a few games after his injured wrist healed before rejoining the Hawks.

There aren't any prospects in Rockford who have made it difficult for the Hawks to keep them there. Forward Dylan Sikura had his first two-goal game of the season for Rockford on Friday and is leading the IceHogs with 18 points (nine goals, nine assists) in 26 games.

"Any young player, when they come up you'd like it to be for good," Hawks coach Jeremy Colliton said. "So it's important not to be too itchy on the trigger despite our results right now."

Time is on his side: On the Hawks' recent two-game road trip, defenseman Henri

Jokiharju's ice time dropped to 14 minutes, 29 seconds against the Ducks and 12:37 against the Golden Knights, the least amount of time the 19-year-old rookie has played all season. He came into Sunday averaging 20:27 per game.

Colliton agreed when asked whether Jokiharju's confidence could be taking a hit.

"It's just natural being a rookie there's going to be ups and downs," Colliton said, "and his play is going to be really high, and then sometimes it's going to take a dip. We feel he can be a huge part of our success going forward, and we're just trying to speed up the development."

One more to go: Forward Brendan Perlini has no points in six games with the Hawks since he was acquired from the Coyotes. He was a healthy scratch against the Canadiens.

According to NHL rules, Perlini can be sent to Rockford without having to clear waivers because he has yet to play in 160 career games. After sitting out Sunday's game, Perlini remained at 159.

BASEBALL



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The White Sox undoubtedly would fill more seats at Guaranteed Rate Field if free-agent superstar Bryce Harper took his warmup swings in the home team's batter's box next season.

Coming attractions could include slugger on opposite side of town from Bryant

Bryce Harper and Kris Bryant can get an up-close and personal view of the winter meetings this week without turning on their TVs.

All the two Las Vegas natives need to do is head over to the Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino, where all the action is taking place.

Harper, of course, is one of the star attractions of the meetings, along with fellow free agent Manny Machado. He's looking to become the highest-paid player in the game, according to reports, and just might get it if the bidding gets out of control.

Bryant, meanwhile, is just an interested observer, albeit one hoping to remain with the Cubs after an ESPN report maintained he was being made available.

Only a couple of summers ago, the Vegas buddies were rumored to be future teammates, a rumor that started when MLB Network's Peter Gammons told WSCR-AM 670: "I have people who tell me Bryce Harper would prefer to play for the Cubs." Bryant and Harper then appeared together in one of Harper's Instagram posts with the hashtag "#Back2BackOneDay."

"He's funny, man," Bryant told me afterward, suggesting Harper was just "stirring the pot" for the media. "He knows how to get people talking about stuff, and I love that about him."

Cubs first baseman Anthony Rizzo, the better half of "Bryzzo," then chimed in, saying the Harper rumor made perfect sense.

"I don't blame him," Rizzo said. "Who wouldn't want to play in Chicago in the summertime?"

The Cubs seemingly are out of the picture because of budgetary issues, but the White Sox are expected to make their big push this week. According to ESPN's Tim Kurkjian, the Sox are among the top three contenders for Harper, along with the Dodgers and Phillies.

The Dodgers are perennial contenders and Los Angeles is relatively close to Harper's Las Vegas home. It would seem a natural fit for someone whose



PAUL SULLIVAN
On baseball

long, flowing hair is part of his persona, or at least it was until he recently got a buzz cut, as evidenced by Bryant's Instagram picture of the two friends, their wives and the singer Nelly.

The Phillies are further along in their rebuild than the Sox and

seemingly have more incentive to outbid all rivals. They threw \$75 million at Jake Arrieta last winter and last month owner John Middleton told USA Today: "We're going into this expecting to spend money, and maybe even be a little bit stupid about it."

What do the Sox have to sell to Harper on?

A ton of top prospects, enough money to spend stupidly if necessary, and an opportunity to play baseball in a real baseball town.

Asked how he'd sell a team that lost 100 games and resides in the same city as the Cubs to a marquee free agent, Sox general manager Rick Hahn implied the question was silly.

"I chuckle a little bit, because you've got to understand these guys are professionals and they understand deep nuances about each individual franchise," he replied. "From a macro standpoint, the idea of potentially being a winner in Chicago has a very broad appeal."

"From a nuanced standpoint, the chance to be part of the White Sox organization based on what our future looks like — futures that these players are familiar with and understand, having either seeing personally how some of these young players play or video or have talked to other players about them — it's something they buy into."

"There is an allure not just (about) winning in this city but being part of something that's potentially sustainable and potentially great. Where we were in Year 2 of a rebuild I don't think really plays a huge role in the decision-making process of what a player is buying into in terms of the long-term future."

While the courtship of Harper continues, Cubs President Theo



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Will Las Vegas buddies Bryce Harper, left, and Kris Bryant both play in Chicago next summer?

Epstein acknowledged he spoke to Bryant after the ESPN report to allay any concerns the 2016 MVP was being shopped.

"He wasn't concerned about it," Epstein said, "but it's always good to hear (the truth)."

Epstein reiterated they don't intend to trade Bryant, who is arbitration-eligible and turned down the Cubs' attempts at getting a long-term deal that would keep him past 2021, when he'll become a free agent.

"Our only relevant thinking there is probably what led to the report anyway," Epstein said. "I think I was asked a question, 'Do we have any untouchables?' And the answer is 'no.' There are enough limitations anyway, and trying to get better you don't want to impose an artificial one on yourself."

"But I think in the same breath I said there are some players who are so talented, so well-rounded and so impactful on what they can do, their performance on the field, and their impact on the franchise more broadly that it's virtually impossible to find a match. I'll just leave it at that. It speaks for itself."

So look for Bryant to remain a Cub, at least for the near future. And if the Sox can beat the odds and convince Harper to come to the South Side, the two Vegas pals would be together in Chicago, albeit on opposite ends of town.

Perhaps Rizzo had the best sales pitch all along:

Who wouldn't want to play in Chicago in the summertime?

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Time for Harper's bazaar

White Sox, Cubs have long shopping lists besides trying to woo a superstar

BY MARK GONZALES
Chicago Tribune

LAS VEGAS — Adding free-agent superstar Bryce Harper wouldn't be enough to shore up all of the holes on the young White Sox roster.

And even a successful trade for left-hander Cole Hamels on July 27 didn't vault the Cubs any further than the National League wild-card game.

So both teams have plenty of boxes to check Sunday as the winter meetings began Sunday at the spacious Mandalay Bay resort.

The Cubs may need to trade one or more of their top young major-league players to achieve the payroll flexibility needed to address their needs after they failed to reach the NL Championship Series for the first time since 2014.

"Things change if you don't perform," Cubs President Theo Epstein said. "That's the nature of it. We're not ruling anything in; we're not ruling anything out."

The Cubs and Sox have plenty of space on their 40-man rosters to add players before Thursday's Rule 5 Draft, so there's ample time to address their priorities.

The Sox possess plenty of financial freedom to pursue Harper in an attempt to propel themselves from a 100-loss season to contention in the American League Central.

Their chances of landing Harper weren't hurt when Nationals owner Mark Lerner told a local radio station he didn't expect his prized slugger to return.

But the Phillies, who also have deep financial resources and are considered closer to winning than the Sox are, already have announced their intentions to make a big splash.

The Sox's current payroll commitment for 2019 is \$15 million to four players, not counting arbitration-eligible or pre-arbitration players. They could keep that number from increasing by about \$16 million if they were to trade first baseman Jose Abreu,

who is projected to earn that amount in his final season of arbitration.

Dealing Abreu could allow the Sox to address at least one of their many needs: starting pitchers, relievers and a backup catcher.

Adding a veteran starter could take some stress off young pitchers Reynaldo Lopez, Carlos Rodon and Lucas Giolito and lessen any temptation to promote prospects like Jordan Stephens, Kоди Medeiros and Dylan Cease.

The addition of Alex Colome via trade from the Mariners gives the Sox a luxury: a closer for a team not expected to contend. Nevertheless, they still need bullpen help to assist a group of youngsters with little major-league experience.

The Cubs' search for relief help became more urgent with the disclosure that closer Brandon Morrow might not be available for the season's first month after undergoing arthroscopic on his right elbow. Left-handers Zach Britton and Andrew Miller have closer experience, but the demand for their services could exceed the Cubs' budget.

A trade seems more plausible, possibly involving outfielders Ian Happ or Albert Almora Jr. and pitching prospects at the lower levels of the minor leagues.

"So if there are (financial) limitations or a need to get creative, it just underscores the fact we have to do a better job," Epstein said. "We have to find value and efficiency on the roster."

Epstein also is focused on searching for a backup player — preferably a middle infielder — with versatility and on-base skills.

The fact that the Cubs lost the NL Central title despite winning 95 games wasn't lost on Epstein.

"There are a lot of things that go into winning besides talent," Epstein said. "Talent goes only so far."

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Chicago daily double: Smith, Baines voted into Hall

Fame, from Page 1

"(Baines) deserves it," Reinsdorf said. "It was a shame he didn't get in sooner. I looked at Tony La Russa and thought he was going to cry."

Smith and Baines will be inducted on July 21, 2019 in Cooperstown, N.Y.

Smith, 61, retired in 1997 after an 18-year career as the all-time leader with 478 saves. He earned 180 saves in eight seasons (1980-87) with the Cubs. The big right-hander was an All-Star seven times and saved 30 or more games 10 times.

Smith, who pitched for seven teams after the Cubs traded him to the Red Sox in 1987 for Al Nipper

and Calvin Schiraldi, now ranks a distant third on the all-time saves list behind Mariano Rivera's 652 and Trevor Hoffman's 478. Smith becomes the eighth reliever in the Hall of Fame after those two, Dennis Eckersley, Rollie Fingers, Rich Gossage, Bruce Sutter and Hoyt Wilhelm.

Smith is a special assistant with the Giants.

Baines collected 2,866 hits with a smooth left-handed swing during a 22-year career. He earned four of his six American League All-Star selections with the White Sox, with whom he played 14 of his 22 seasons and collected 1,773 hits.

"When the game was on the line in the eighth or ninth inning,"

Reinsdorf said, "and you can pick somebody to you wanted up, it was Harold Baines."

Baines, 59, was the first overall selection in the 1977 draft by then-owner Bill Veeck and reached the majors three years later. He played for the Sox from 1980-89 and was traded midseason to the Rangers with Fred Manrique for Sammy Sosa, Wilson Alvarez and Scott Fletcher.

He returned to the Sox in 1996-97 and 2000-01, and also played for the Orioles, Athletics and Indians before finishing with a .289 batting average.

Baines hit .300 or higher eight times and hit 20 or more home runs in 11 seasons. His 1,628 RBIs rank 34th all-time, and he added

488 doubles and 384 home runs.

At the time of his retirement after the 2001 season, Baines was the all-time leader among designated hitters in games, hits, home runs and RBIs.

Baines serves as an ambassador for the Sox.

The Today's Game Era committee's other committee members were Hall of Famers Roberto Alomar, Bert Blyleven, Pat Gillick, Greg Maddux, Joe Morgan, John Schuerholz, Ozzie Smith and Joe Torre; major-league executives Al Avila, Paul Beeston and former Cubs general manager Andy MacPhail; and veteran media members/historians Steve Hirdt, Tim Kurkjian and Claire Smith.

The committee members spent

Sunday reviewing the credentials of the 10 candidates until they were ready to vote.

Candidates who fell short were former players Joe Carter, Albert Belle, Will Clark and Orel Hershiser; managers Piniella, Davey Johnson and Charlie Manuel and owner George Steinbrenner.

The finalists were selected by the Historical Overview Committee appointed by the Baseball Writers' Association of America. Eligible candidates were selected from among a pool of managers, umpires, executives and players whose greatest career impact occurred after 1988.

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— eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE —



EVAN AGOSTINI/AP

Then a member of the Bears, Charles Tillman accepts the award for Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year from NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell in Feb. 2014.

‘It is probably one of my greatest accomplishments’

NFL's Walter Payton Award means much to nominees

BY BARRY WILNER
Associated Press

Winning any of the AP's individual NFL awards, from MVP to top rookie, means plenty to players.

Being nominated for, no less winning, the Walter Payton Man of the Year award means more.

Don't minimize how proud a guy is when he's voted one of the prestigious individual awards. It's a portion of his resume that jumps off the page the way Saquon Barkley hurdles over potential tacklers.

But being selected for the Payton award, renamed in 1999 for the great Chicago Bears running back and humanitarian, involves so much more than football achievements.

"It is probably one of my greatest accomplishments," says 2013 winner Charles Tillman, who played 12 seasons at cornerback for the Bears and his final year with the Panthers. "It really shows the true character of a person.

"When fans see us, they just assume a lot of times we are just athletes. They don't know what these men do on their days off during the season, in the community. A lot of players really put their community service in every week of the year. They get their charity work done and their volunteer work.

"The Walter Payton Award is about excellence off the field. I am proud to be associated with that award."

Who wouldn't be? In a time when many NFL players have been criticized or even condemned for their protests of social and racial injustice during the national anthem, many — if not most of them — also have been doing good deeds in their communities. They don't do it for recognition or applause. As Tillman notes, they do it because they can "shed light on a bigger thing. It's not just football. It's about being a good person, serving other people and loving other people."

Unlike in the past, when three finalists were selected before a recipient was chosen, one player from every NFL team is a finalist. All will be recognized and participate in NFL functions during



LYNNE SLADKY/AP

Jets tackle Kelvin Beachum on the late Walter Payton: "What he did on and off the field, his excellence is bar none, top in history. ... To be mentioned in the same name and the same breath as him, it's truly humbling."

Super Bowl week. The Man of the Year will be revealed at NFL Honors, when The Associated Press' individual NFL awards are announced Feb. 2 in Atlanta.

Five current players have won the award: Drew Brees, Thomas Davis, Larry Fitzgerald, Eli Manning and J.J. Watt, and they wear a Man of the Year patch on their jerseys. All 2018 finalists will wear a Man of the Year helmet decal beginning this week through the end of the season.

"It's a tremendous honor," Jets offensive tackle Kelvin Beachum says. This week, Beachum surprised Ca'moore Jones, an eighth-grade student at Orange Prepara-

tory Academy in New Jersey, with two Super Bowl tickets. Moore was nominated by his teacher, Glenn Gamble, for his performance and growth with the Character Playbook course that is embraced by the NFL.

"Just the name Walter Payton, he's the gold standard," Beachum said. "What he did off the field and on the field, his excellence is bar none, top in history. So to be mentioned in the same name and the same breath as him, it's truly humbling."

Humbling is an appropriate word because the award finalists often feel that sensation during their community work.

"I've been blessed to play in this league for 13 years and to be a part of some really good seasons," says Rams offensive tackle Andrew Whitworth, who is heavily involved with the Make-A-Wish Foundation. "But making a difference in someone's life will go beyond football any day of the week. It's not just about the game, it's about the opportunity to bring people together. When I look back and think about my NFL career, the time spent out in the community giving back to people in need will always be the most touching to me."

Adds Colts DE Jabaal Sheard: "With our jobs as NFL players

comes a huge platform to brighten and improve the lives of others, and that's what I strive to do every day."

Tillman knows firsthand how kind and giving people can be. His own family was helped in 2008 when his infant daughter Tiana needed a heart transplant. Magali Garcia, the mother of 9-week-old Armando, who died in a Minnesota hospital, offered her son's heart.

To Tillman, Magali Garcia is a hero, not him. She is what the Payton award is all about.

"When my daughter needed a new heart, another person stepped up and decided to take a bad situation and turn it into a success story," Tillman says. "She not only blessed my family but other families with her choice.

"For all we do in our foundation, it is a great blessing for what this woman did for her son. Magali, she is the one who actually is blessing those people, blesses them every day, and doesn't even know it. She served my family and a lot of families and she made an amazing choice. A tough decision. I think about her son a lot and I truly am sorry. She is a part of my family, and for us to have this story that has bonded us, and this connection, and to turn that negative into something positive by blessing other people I get great satisfaction in that."

This year's finalists are: Arizona Cardinals, Antoine Bethea; Atlanta Falcons, Grady Jarrett; Baltimore Ravens, Brandon Carr; Buffalo Bills, Lorenzo Alexander; Carolina Panthers, Julius Peppers; Chicago Bears, Trey Burton; Cincinnati Bengals, Carlos Dunlap; Cleveland Browns, Christian Kirksey; Dallas Cowboys, Dak Prescott; Denver Broncos, Von Miller; Detroit Lions, Matthew Stafford; Green Bay Packers, Kenny Clark; Houston Texans, Whitney Mercilus; Indianapolis Colts, Jabaal Sheard; Jacksonville Jaguars, Blake Bortles; Kansas City Chiefs, Dustin Colquitt; Los Angeles Chargers, Corey Liuget; Los Angeles Rams, Andrew Whitworth; Miami Dolphins, Kenny Stills; Minnesota Vikings, Kyle Rudolph; New England Patriots, Devin McCourty; New Orleans Saints, Mark Ingram; New York Giants, Michael Thomas; New York Jets, Kelvin Beachum; Oakland Raiders, Marshawn Lynch; Philadelphia Eagles, Chris Long; Pittsburgh Steelers, Cameron Heyward; San Francisco 49ers, Robbie Gould; Seattle Seahawks, K.J. Wright; Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Gerald McCoy; Tennessee Titans, Jurrell Casey; Washington Redskins, Vernon Davis.

eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE



RON SCHWANE/AP

Alex Rodriguez runs the bases after hitting a home run during a game in 2001.



JOE ROBBINS/GETTY

Bryce Harper's impending free agency deal has long been the talk of baseball and sports.

Like A-Rod, Harper's free agency can alter history

BY DAVE SHEININ | The Washington Post

When Bryce Harper scrawls his signature on the contract that will bind him to an as-yet-undetermined franchise for the next chapter of his career, it will complete what has been the most anticipated and scrutinized free agency in baseball in nearly two decades — one that has seemed to be Harper's destiny since he debuted with the Washington Nationals in April 2012.

Harper's unique set of attributes — youth, talent and magnetism — has only one real antecedent in the recent history of free agency, and if the example of Alex Rodriguez is any guide, this one stroke of the pen will alter the trajectories of three important entities: the team that signs Harper, the team that loses him and the player himself. And perhaps not in the way any of them anticipated.

The record-setting, 10-year, \$252 million contract Rodriguez signed with the Texas Rangers on Dec. 11, 2000 remains a watershed moment for the sport. It doubled Kevin Garnett's Minnesota Timberwolves deal as the biggest free agent contract in North American sports at the time. Anyone who was present at the Wyndham Anatole Hotel in Dallas will likely never forget the ashen faces of league officials and rival executives as they heard the figures.

"I'm kind of stupefied by the numbers. They're beyond alarming," Sandy Alderson, then Major League Baseball's vice president of baseball operations, told reporters at the time. "This is a crisis situation. I really believe that."

For 18 years — even as the industry's annual revenue has nearly tripled — the Rangers' deal for Rodriguez (worth nearly \$380 million in present-day dollars when adjusted for inflation) remains the most money ever committed to a baseball player who changed teams. Or at least it has remained so, until Harper and Manny Machado, his co-star on this high-priced double-bill, took aim at it this winter.

No two cases are alike, and there are enough differences between Rodriguez in 2000 and Harper in 2018 — beginning with the fact the former was a shortstop, the latter an outfielder — to make any comparison imprecise. But in many of the biggest ways, including the agent negotiating on their behalf, Scott Boras, they are the remarkably similar:

Both were former No. 1 overall draft picks, both had been the most celebrated teenager in the game when they debuted, and both were still only 25 when they completed their final season before free agency. Both had a lengthy list of accomplishments by that time — for Rodriguez, a batting title, three 40-home-run seasons and four all-star appearances; for Harper, rookie of the year and MVP awards, a home run title and six all-star appearances.

In the 18 years between them, there have been other players who were similarly young (Adrian Beltre) or talented (Albert Pujols, among others) when they hit free agency — and Machado, a 26-year-old shortstop/third baseman who could challenge Harper this winter for the largest deal

in baseball history, checks both boxes — but not since Rodriguez has someone arrived at this point with the same combination of youth, talent and marketing potential as Harper.

(Mike Trout, at 27 the consensus best player in baseball, likely would have shattered all records had he hit free agency last winter, at the end of his sixth year of service time, but he had already signed a six-year, \$144.5 million contract extension with the Los Angeles Angels in 2014 that delays his free agency until 2020.)

Boras, in some of the same language he once reserved for Rodriguez, has called Harper a "generational" and "iconic" player. "Anyone who's done what Bryce has done at 25," he said last month with typical hype and bluster, "is almost a lock to be a Hall of Fame player... We know elite performances are coming for Bryce Harper and the franchise he plays for."

Such a player move is bound to alter history for the entire industry, but never more so than for the three principals: the team that says goodbye, the team that says hello and the player who says goodbye and hello in the same breath. Here, in a case study that could prove instructive for the Harper signing, is a look back at how that aftermath played out around Rodriguez.

The Mariners never had much of a prayer of keeping Rodriguez, and they barely even tried. Their final offer was for \$90 million over five years — half the length and barely a third of the overall value that Rodriguez wound up getting from Texas. It was an offer the Mariners knew in advance would fall short. (Contrast that with the 10-year, \$300 million offer the Nationals made to Harper on the eve of his free agency — an offer that, while rejected, was widely seen as a good-faith attempt and, had Harper accepted it, would have set a record for a free agent signing.)

"We had discussions, but we never really got close," Pat Gillick, the Mariners' general manager at the time, said of the Rodriguez negotiations, such as they were. "I think (Boras) — as he's supposed to do — was telling his client to go on the market and see what the market really was. That's the responsibility of a good agent."

Rodriguez was the third superstar the Mariners had lost in a span of two and a half years, following the trades of left-hander Randy Johnson in July 1998 and center fielder Ken Griffey Jr. in February 2000. After giving some consideration to trading Rodriguez ahead of the 2000 season, the Mariners decided to keep him and try to contend one last time with him, ultimately going 91-71, earning a wild card and advancing to the 2000 American League Championship Series. In his final two at-bats in a Mariners uniform, a 9-7 loss in Game 6 of the ALCS, Rodriguez homered off Yankees pitcher Orlando Hernandez and singled off closer Mariano Rivera.

Nobody could have foreseen what happened next in Seattle: the 2001 Mariners, largely fueled by AL rookie of the year and MVP Ichiro Suzuki, went 116-46 — still the best regular-season record by any team in

the last century — before losing to the Yankees in the ALCS for the second straight season.

The timing of the Mariners' historic season, in their first year without Rodriguez, was frequently cited as evidence that a team built with talented pieces across its roster is better off than one constructed around a single transcendent figure.

"We closed ranks" after the departures of their superstars, Gillick recalled. "You have to realize it's a team game. When you have a player like A-Rod or Harper, who can carry their load and then some, it makes it easier. But over 162 games, when everybody carries their load and a little more, there's a closeness that develops."

The Rangers were never viewed as a leading suitor for Rodriguez — right up until the moment they shocked the industry by signing him. In hindsight, however, they had the perfect mix of ingredients: a new owner, Tom Hicks, anxious to make a splashy move; a large media market where every other sport took a back seat to football; and a veteran roster that had made the playoffs as recently as 1999 and appeared to be only an additional piece or two from returning to prominence.

Not only that, but the Winter Meetings being in Dallas that year gave the Rangers a built-in national stage. (This year, with the Winter Meetings in Harper's hometown of Las Vegas, the stage will belong primarily to him.)

While the national media was focused on known suitors such as the Los Angeles Dodgers, New York Mets, Chicago White Sox and Atlanta Braves, the Rangers' brass was quietly preparing for a stealth recruitment.

"Ownership has to be heavily involved in something like that. This kind of transaction — it's talked about a lot in the year before," said Doug Melvin, the Rangers' general manager at the time. "A lot of people were surprised, because the perception of the bigger players at the time was that they were all going to the L.A.s, the New Yorks, the Chicagos. But the stage was set up pretty well for us to make a big splash."

At the introductory news conference, Hicks gushed, "Alex is the player we believe will allow this franchise to fulfill its dream of... becoming a World Series champion."

But while the Rangers immediately saw a nearly 10-percent boost in attendance, Rodriguez, whose salary represented roughly a quarter of the team's payroll, barely moved the needle on their win-loss record. The Rangers went from 71-91 in 2000 to 73-89 in 2001 — the latter a mark they would never exceed in Rodriguez's time in Texas. By 2002, Melvin had been fired as the Rangers' GM, and by February 2004, the Rangers had traded Rodriguez to the New York Yankees.

"The years I was there, we just didn't have enough pitching," Melvin said. Hicks always felt confident the Rodriguez signing would pay off, Melvin said, "and I thought it had a chance of working out, too. You bring a player like that into your lineup, it's exciting. But no one or two players can win

it for you. Baseball is a game of 25 players."

If the aftermath of the Rodriguez move didn't work out exactly the way the Mariners nor the Rangers might have expected, neither did it for the player himself. While Rodriguez thrived in the hitter-friendly Ballpark in Arlington, averaging 52 homers per season from 2001-2003 and winning his first MVP award in 2003, he failed to turn around the franchise's fortunes. (As soon as he left, however, the 2004 Rangers improved by 18 wins, finishing 89-73.)

By the end of 2003, Rodriguez was so ready to leave, he agreed to move to third base to facilitate a trade to the Yankees, for whom he would go on to win MVP awards in 2005 and 2007. At the end of the latter season, he exercised an opt-out clause in his contract — a rarity when he first signed the deal in 2000, but now a standard feature of most major free agent deals — and eventually re-signed with the Yankees on a new, 10-year, \$275 million contract, a deal that remains the largest ever for a free agent in baseball. (Giancarlo Stanton's 13-year, \$325 million contract with the Miami Marlins was an extension.)

"I never viewed it as a 10-year, \$252 million deal, because of the opt-out," Melvin said. "I told (Hicks), 'He's going to opt out. He'll only be 31 years old.' I viewed it as a seven-year, \$180 million deal."

All told, Rodriguez won three MVP awards, hit 329 homers, stole 132 bases and batted .304/.400/.591 over the seven seasons he played under the original 2000 contract. Nothing else may have gone as planned, but A-Rod put up the numbers.

However, while with the Yankees, Rodriguez also endured a pair of PED-related scandals that have tarnished his legacy and called into question his chances of earning election to the Hall of Fame. In 2009, he admitted using steroids from 2001-2003 while with the Rangers, and in 2014 he was suspended for the entire season for violating the league's drug policy.

Rodriguez, now a TV analyst for ESPN and Fox Sports, declined an interview request for this story through a spokesman, but while broadcasting a Nationals game this April, Rodriguez came close to expressing regret over his choice to chase every last dollar and sign with the Rangers. In discussing Harper's pending free agency, he drew upon his own experience with free agency and said there was part of him that wished he had signed with the team he rooted for as a child: the Mets.

"I thought I would make great concessions to go play for the Mets," Rodriguez said on the air. "I thought it was a great story for baseball... If I was to do it again, I would just take control of my career a lot more."

The last 18 years of baseball history may have looked vastly different — certainly for the Mets and Rangers — had Rodriguez followed his own heart instead of his agent's head in December 2000. Such decisions now await Harper, and such powers now rest with him. And the trajectory of the Nationals, and perhaps another franchise, stands on the verge of a great change.



ALLEN J. SCHABEN/LOS ANGELES TIMES

Shameik Moore voices Miles Morales in Sony's animated "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse." He caught executives' attention with his performance in 2015's "Dope."

'I AM SPIDER-MAN'

Shameik Moore spies another breakthrough with the role of Miles Morales in animated film

BY SONAIYA KELLEY | Los Angeles Times

For Shameik Moore, the chance to play webslinger Miles Morales in Sony's animated "Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse" wasn't just the opportunity of a lifetime; it was fated.

"While we were filming the movie 'Dope,' I wrote in my journal: 'I am Miles Morales, I am Spider-Man,'" he said over lunch in Beverly Hills.

Moore, who'd go on to give a breakthrough performance in "Dope" — Rick Famuyiwa's coming-of-age comedy about a '90s-obsessed, South LA teen-

ager — was onto something. Not long after he spoke it into existence, Sony execs caught wind of the relative newcomer at a 2015 Sundance Film Festival screening of the film.

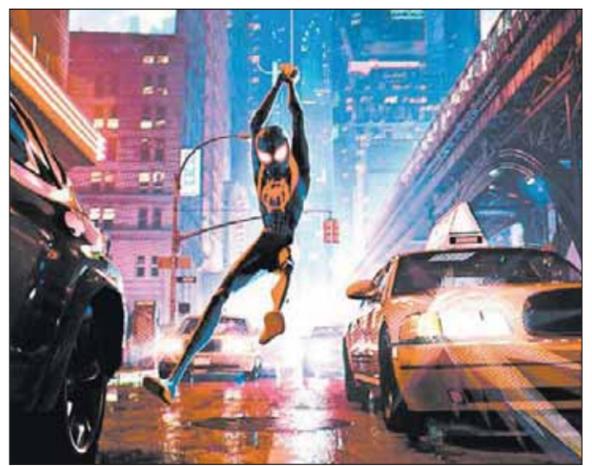
"He had a really interesting performance (in 'Dope') and his voice was pretty interesting," said "Spider-Verse" director Bob Persichetti, who co-directed the film, which opens nationwide on Dec. 14, with Peter Ramsey and Rodney Rothman.

The directors sent Moore a few pages of the script and

asked him to record himself reading lines. "He sent me back an audio text with a whole scene recorded," Persichetti recalled. "He has such a unique, idiosyncratic, charming voice that both delivers this naivete but also this really sincere, honest take on the words on the page, and we were blown away."

Despite being sold on Moore's performance, the directors decided to do due diligence by holding "secret" open casting calls in cities including New York, Chicago

Turn to Moore, Page 3



SONY PICTURES

Morales, introduced in the 2011 comic "Ultimate Fallout #4," is the first black and Latino person to assume the Spider-Man mantle.



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Grammy-nominated rapper Cardi B headlined the B96 Jingle Bash on Saturday at Allstate Arena.

IN PERFORMANCE

Cardi B brings the jams and the magic to B96 Jingle Bash

BY ALTHEA LEGASPI
 Chicago Tribune

Fresh off being nominated for five Grammys, including Album of the Year for her No. 1-charting debut LP "Invasion of Privacy,"

Cardi B was riding high as the headliner for B96 Jingle Bash at the sold-out Allstate Arena on Saturday. The lineup was bookended by Camila Cabello, with Bash alumni Shawn Mendes and Mike Posner as well as Lauv and

Why Don't We in between.

The headlining Bronx rapper who has broken Billboard chart records was the "it" choice as top billing for the holiday pop

Turn to Jingle, Page 4

The Oscars, not Kevin Hart, are the problem



MICHAEL PHILLIPS
 Tribune movie critic

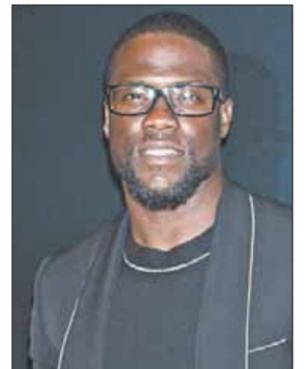
Congratulations to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for putting out a fire it personally started by offering Kevin Hart the 2019 Oscars hosting gig.

Congratulations, and good luck solving your real problem.

At the moment, the Oscars epitomize the industry they were created to promote: confused. Defensive. Chagrined, temporarily. Buckling under the weight of nearly a century of sexism, misogyny, racism and fashion mishaps.

Can an American tradition nearly twice the age of the Super Bowl ever regain its relevance and its ratings?

To recap: Wednesday Kevin Hart was announced as the next Oscars host. On Thursday, refusing to muster a legitimate apology for homophobic slurs in tweets and stand-up routines past, the popular comedian, movie star and self-branding



GREGORY PACE/ZUMA PRESS

Comedian Kevin Hart withdrew as host of the Academy Awards after criticism over slurs.

expert "resigned." Between Lena Dunham and Kevin Hart, the art of the apology has rarely seen a less skillful couple of days.

Eventually Hart apologized, more or less, and by doing so he did all of us a favor.

He spared us the prospect of a middling, motor-mouth talent with a massive social media presence sweating to keep a bloated, antiquated hunk of network television under three

Turn to Phillips, Page 4

CELEBRITIES

Tribune news services



RICHARD SHOTWELL/INVISION 2017

Pharrell gave a private beachside concert on Saturday.

Cardi B, Pharrell, Kanye draw crowds at Art Basel Miami

Royalty, Real Housewives and the fathers of two Kardashian babies were among the celebs who fanned out across Miami for a week of glamorous parties toasting the world's best artists during Art Basel.

Cardi B was spotted Wednesday night partying at 24/7 ultra-club E11EVEN MIAMI. She grabbed the microphone and sang along when the DJ played her hits, including "Bodak Yellow" and "Drip," which features her ex, Offset.

G-Eazy and Travis Scott also gave separate performances at the all-night club over the weekend. Neither Kylie Jenner nor Kanye West was with Scott when he performed on top of the DJ booth and asked the crowd to put away their cellphones so they could enjoy the moment.

At the private upstairs club at Casa Tua, Leonardo DiCaprio hung out with U2's Bono at a karaoke party where Paris Hilton and Serena Williams danced to Beyonce's "Formation." Downstairs at the exclusive Italian restaurant, Princess Eugenie hosted an intimate seated dinner for the London-based art gallery Hauser & Wirth, where she serves as director.

One of the biggest draws of the week was at the RC Cola Factory in Wynwood, where rappers West and Lil Wayne gave surprise performances to honor late rapper XXXTentacion.

Saturday, Pharrell gave a private beachside concert at the swanky 1 Hotel South Beach. Also spotted around town were "Real Housewives" star Bethenny Frankel, Brooke Shields and Rosario Dawson.

— Associated Press

Box office

1. "Ralph Breaks the Internet," \$16.1 million
2. "Dr. Seuss' The Grinch," \$15.2 million
3. "Creed II," \$10.3 million
4. "Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald," \$6.8 million
5. "Bohemian Rhapsody," \$6 million
6. "Instant Family," \$5.6 million
7. "Green Book," \$3.9 million
8. "Robin Hood," \$3.6 million
9. "The Possession of Hannah Grace," \$3.2 million
10. "Widows," \$3.1 million

SOURCE: Associated Press
Estimated sales,
Friday-Sunday



SUSAN RAGAN/AP 1992

Sinatra items net \$9M at Sotheby's: The private treasures of Frank Sinatra and his wife Barbara were a multimillion-dollar hit at auction. Sotheby's reported Friday that the couple's entertainment memorabilia, art, jewelry, books and other personal items sold for \$9.2 million — about twice their presale estimates. Nine paintings by the legendary crooner went for more than \$850,000, against a high estimate of \$120,000. The 20-carat diamond engagement ring Sinatra presented to his fiancée in a glass of champagne fetched nearly \$1.7 million, surpassing a top \$1.5 million estimate.

Dec. 10 birthdays: Actress Fionnula Flanagan is 77. Actress Susan Dey is 66. Actress Nia Peeples is 57. TV chef Bobby Flay is 54. Drummer Meg White is 44. Rapper Kuniva is 42. Actress Raven-Symone is 33.



ASK AMY

By AMY DICKINSON

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

Family holiday drama brings encore

Dear Amy: Since last year, I've been asking my wife to take a different approach to the holidays and to just focus on our small immediate family.

Every year there's some major disappointment, family conflict or travel debacle, typically with her extended family. She ends up exhausted, angry, frustrated or hurt. Last year, she said she was "done" after a big fight between her aunt and cousin that got very heated. She says she does not want them around, but she feels obligated to host these big family holiday parties, because otherwise, they would not see one another.

My wife finally said she was not going to host this year. I was thrilled and told her we would find ways to make it special for us and our son. Soon after, my wife told me she was getting "rude" or "hurtful" responses from her family, saying they were disappointed in her. She began to second-guess our decision. She told me her family began to assume that I did not want them around, and she did not know why they thought this.

I found out through another family member that my wife had actually blamed me for forgoing the holiday party this year, and she had told her family that she really wanted to have it but I was against it.

Amy, how can I get my wife to understand "quality" over "quantity" with familial relationships? I don't want to see her in this constant cycle of anxiety and stress.

— Anxious Husband

Dear Husband: Your wife's family members

took advantage of her passivity for years, and now she is throwing you under the bus in order to escape their reaction to this change. (Understand that your insistence that she change things is also probably stressful for her.)

But hey, she is half-right. You are the one forcing this issue, and you should be willing to take one for the family team. You are inoculated against this bullying because you likely don't care that much what these people think of you. The beauty of being an in-law is that you get to make pronouncements with little personal consequence.

I hope you will arrange some holiday plans that your immediate family can enjoy together, in the hope that these will become traditions. Attend your local theater's production of "A Christmas Carol." Make and decorate cookies to deliver to neighbors. Go ice-skating together.

It isn't fair or right, but you should be prepared for the possibility that even with a lovely, low-key holiday, your wife will feel pressured, guilty and as if she is missing something important. She will have to find the best balance for her.

Dear Amy: My husband and I and our three children moved into a duplex home a few months ago.

The neighbors are great except they smoke marijuana. The smell is awful. It bothers me a lot. Our whole house smells whenever they're smoking, especially my little son's room. We don't want to move any time soon. What should we do?

— Concerned Mom

Dear Concerned: You don't say whether you rent or own, but it is increasingly common for smoking to be banned in homes sharing a common wall — for the reason you cite.

Marijuana smoke is especially pungent, and even if this next-door exposure doesn't prove toxic to you or your children, the smell alone is noxious.

You should speak with your neighbors. You say they are "great"; there is a real likelihood that they simply don't realize the impact their smoking has on your family.

Say, "Hey, I want you to know that we are getting slammed by pot smoke over here. It's especially strong in 'Benny's' room. It's like it comes right through the walls. Can you guys smoke outside?"

Depending on their response, you will want to refer to your lease, condo or HOA rules to see what rules are in place and enforceable.

Dear Amy: "Worried Grad" wondered how to reach out to his college crush, two years after graduation. Thank you for encouraging him to do this and for offering ideas for what to say. I contacted my college crush out of the blue — and out of the blue, we fell in love!

— Happy

Dear Happy: The thing to remember is to keep the contact light and to not exert any pressure.

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IN PERFORMANCE

New sounds, historic occasion

U. of C.'s Grossman Ensemble makes debut performance

By HOWARD REICH
Chicago Tribune

It's just possible that someday people will look back at what happened Friday night at the University of Chicago's Logan Center and say: I was there.

Surely a sense of history hovered about the occasion, as the Chicago Center for Contemporary Composition — based at the university — launched its resident band, the Grossman Ensemble. Its 13 members specialize in new music and proved it with a concert of world premieres, each creating a wholly distinct world of sound.

Before a note rang out, however, Augusta Read Thomas — the center's founder and director — welcomed a large audience, thanked supporters and illuminated the uniqueness of the venture. For though rehearsal time tends to be scarce where contemporary scores are concerned, the Grossman Ensemble was afforded "a rehearsal process that started three months ago," she said.

Thomas added that each premiere would be prefaced by a few words from its creator, indeed a fine way of introducing unfamiliar sounds.

Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Shulamit Ran rose from her seat in the auditorium and explained that Thomas had invited her to write the first work on the ensemble's first program, a formidable responsibility. This led Ran to conclude "this is no time to write a downer kind of piece," said Ran, to gentle laughter from the house.



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Ben Bolter conducts the Grossman Ensemble during its debut performance Friday at the University of Chicago's Logan Center.

Ran met the challenge, her "Grand Rounds" conveying a sense of celebration, though not in overbearing ways. Instead, she brought forth a vast range of color from a rather unconventional band: The Grossman Ensemble features Chicago's Spektral Quartet at its core, plus winds, horn, dual percussionists, harp and piano.

Ran used this palette to open a readily accessible score that was as transparent in texture as it was lucid in tone. The joyful tintinnabulation of two mallet instruments spoke softly, as did long-held notes from flute and alto saxophone. Musical events

came swiftly, the piece gaining animation and rhythmic momentum over time. Ultimately, Ran reminded listeners that it's possible to employ a relatively large ensemble in ultra-economical ways, while still achieving a brilliant timbral array.

Sam Pluta, an assistant professor of music at the University of Chicago, told the audience that he composed "Actuate/Resonate" specifically for this room, the Logan Center's Performance Hall. Its responsiveness, said Pluta, had induced him to write a more soft-spoken work than he might otherwise have done. Certainly it was

the delicacy of this music, and its reverence for each individual pitch, that distinguished "Actuate/Resonate."

The meticulous placement of every note, and the distinctive character of Pluto's electro-acoustic instrumentation, left no space for throwaway gestures or nonchalant phrase-making. In effect, Pluta succeeded in making the room itself an instrument, its resonance made apparent through this piece. Pluta also altered our perception of time, slowing it at will.

Tonia Ko, the 2018-19 postdoctoral researcher at the CCCC, told the crowd

that her "Simple Fuel" explored the nature of movement, but it was at least as much a study of color and texture. By asking the instrumentalists to engage their instruments with novelty devices, she conjured whooshing percussion sounds and rasping string utterances.

David Rakowski, a professor at Brandeis University, told the audience that "Lee" was his homage to a much-missed friend, composer Lee Hyla. By far the most traditional work on the program, the piece featured a first movement of nearly orchestral scope; a second movement that revealed in sensuous, long-

lined lyricism; and a driving finale that flirted with jazz-like figures.

It was an exuberant finale to the concert, all adroitly conducted by Ben Bolter and dispatched with polish and aplomb by the Grossman Ensemble. In so doing, the group set a high standard for itself — and lofty expectations for the concerts ahead.

For information on future performances, visit cccc.uchicago.edu.

Howard Reich is a Tribune critic.

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Moore

Continued from Page 1

and Atlanta for six months.

"But we were really pushing hard to cast him," Persichetti said. "Nobody could come close to Shameik's unique quality, and I was very happy to be able to send him a text and say, 'I know you've been waiting a long time, but you got it.'"

"I attracted that to me," the 23-year-old Moore now says confidently. "It took a few months to really solidify it, but it ended up working out."

"I feel like I was bitten by that spider," he added.

"There's hundreds of people that auditioned to be Spider-Man. The same way that spider found Miles is the same way that Sony found me."

Morales was introduced into the Marvel canon in 2011 in "Ultimate Fallout #4," a comic by Brian Michael Bendis and Sara Pichelli. In interviews, Bendis has said the character was created as a reaction to Barack Obama's presidency.

The first black and Latino person to assume the Spider-Man mantle, Morales was written as a reluctant teenager who gets bitten by a radioactive spider but is less than ecstatic about his resultant powers. He is thrust into the responsibility only after the original Spider-Man, Peter Parker, is killed by the Green Goblin.

The character quickly gained popularity, with an online petition circulating in 2014 demanding Donald Glover be cast in a big-screen version of the role. Glover eventually made a brief appearance as Aaron Davis, Morales' supervillain uncle The Prowler, in Sony's live-action "Spider-Man: Homecoming."

That film starred Tom Holland, who followed in the footsteps of Tobey Maguire and Andrew Garfield and formally introduced Peter Parker to the Marvel Cinematic Universe in "Captain America: Civil War." Meanwhile, Sony saw an opportunity to explore



ALLEN J. SCHABEN/LOS ANGELES TIMES

"I'm happy that this Spider-Man (Miles Morales) was made back in 2011," Shameik Moore said. "... Somebody needs to make the new characters, superheroes, for their culture."

other aspects of the vast Spider-Verse that exists in comic book canon — and to do so in a surprising way.

After the success of Warner Bros.' "The Lego Movie" in 2014, the studio enlisted filmmakers Phil Lord and Chris Miller to bring their patented irreverent style to an animated spin on the world's favorite webslinger. And the idea quickly emerged to further distinguish the project by focusing not on Peter Parker, but on Miles Morales.

"I think it's about that time that this myth of Spider-Man, this sort of American story, represented what New York looks like today, and that's a city filled with diversity," Persichetti said of bringing Morales' story to the big screen. "It's a city that is the birth of this nation, it's a melting pot. And Miles is a character that's born out of the 21st century in New York."

For Moore, preparing to play Morales came easy because of a sense of shared identity. "I already knew Miles Morales," he said. "I have so much in common with him that really it was just adapting to how they wanted me to execute my vocal performance."

"He came in and was

kind of pitching up his voice a little bit," Persichetti recalled. "And we asked him like, 'No, no, no, no ... do your voice, that's the guy we hired. Your voice has the ability to both go low and high naturally, and you embody this character.'"

After embracing his sound, Moore proved to be a natural.

"He was a bit of a blank canvas in the sense that he had so much exuberance and joy that he would bounce all over the place," Persichetti said. "And out of that came a playful quality that ended up being part of the film. But also there were moments of insecurity in the script that he was really able to tap into. I can't now imagine anyone else being that voice."

While superhero movies have seemed to swallow Hollywood whole in recent years, animation in the genre remains largely relegated to TV, streaming and home video projects. The buzz around "Spider-Verse" just might change that. The film has already been selected as the year's best animated feature by the New York Film Critics Circle and is seen as a leading contender for the animated feature Oscar. Its Rotten Tomatoes score remained a stunning 100

percent fresh with little over a week to go before release.

Sony is certainly confident: A sequel and plans for spinoffs have already been announced.

"A studio's dream is to have the ability to make a sequel or spin characters off," Persichetti said. "It was really the audience's reaction to this movie and Miles and Gwen (Stacy, aka Spider-Woman) and the other characters in it that gave the studio the freedom to say, 'You know what? We're going to chase this.'"

"There are a lot of stories in this multiverse that a lot of people can relate to, and we're going to try to make a bunch of different stories that have all been born out of this first film. And we want them all to be unique to whoever their main character is the way this one was unique to Miles."

Though the film is being lauded for expanding representation and offering much-needed diversity to the predominately white Marvel Cinematic Universe, Moore has mixed feelings about the trend of inclusivity.

"I'm happy that this Spider-Man was made back in 2011, not after the hype of 'Black Panther,'" said the actor, who, though in favor

of representation, is strongly against the trend of swapping the traditional race and genders of popular characters for the sake of inclusivity.

"Somebody needs to make the new characters, superheroes, for their culture," he continued. "If we want more black superheroes, let's have some black writers make some black superhero stories. Let's not take the white superheroes we already know and make them all black."

"Representation is important, and I'm glad that we've reached this place, but I don't feel like the community should get lazy. Everything is being remade right now or there's a new version of the same story. But what about the new stories? It's very important that we get back on that."

As a teenager, Moore had his sights set on a career as a dancer when he caught the eye of a casting director and booked a commercial for Cartoon Network.

"When I booked my first job, it was like, 'Oh wow,'" said the actor, who was 13 or 14 at the time. "I didn't really expect to book it. I did it because I'd never been on an audition. And at that time, \$1,000 seemed like a whole lot of money."

After landing the spot, he hired an agent and auditioned for Tyler Perry's sitcom "House of Payne," for which he appeared in one episode. "After that, it was just nonstop auditioning until I finally booked 'Dope,'" he said.

After his breakthrough performance in "Dope," Moore was the victim of a series of false starts.

He was cast in Baz Luhrmann's epic hip-hop origin story "The Get Down" for Netflix, which filmed in New York for two years before being canceled after a single season.

"It was supposed to be six months (of filming), but I learned so much that I can't complain," he said. "I worked with one of the greatest filmmakers of all time. The whole process was a learning experience that most people have to go to college to get and still don't gain that knowledge."

I'm extremely thankful and I learned a lot."

He was next cast in an NBC comedy pilot from "black-ish" showrunner Kenya Barris called "Bright Futures" about a group of young professionals, which ultimately wasn't picked up.

"But I got to work with a good friend of mine," Moore said of Barris. "He is really smart. He can pitch anything; he can get anybody to pay for whatever. He's a great guy, very business-oriented, and he leads by example."

While the actor maintains an optimistic perspective despite his delayed launch, he says it's been difficult to reconcile his career ambitions with the limitations he's hit after each "breakthrough" turn.

"When people see me on the street, they see Miles Morales, they see ('The Get Down' character) Shaolin Fantastic, they see ('Dope's') Malcolm Adekanbi," he said. "It could be millions of people that know my face, but I have less than 300,000 followers right now on Instagram. I think that says a lot about how the roles I take need to be heightening the perception of who I am."

Up next, Moore will appear in "Cut Throat City," a film about a group of boys in New Orleans forced to rob casinos in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. He's completed filming on James Franco's "The Pretenders," a project largely under wraps. He also has plans to release music in the near future.

But for now, the young star is patient, confident in his ability to play the long game, putting in hard work and eventually reaping the fruit of his efforts.

"When you're LeBron James and you know it, or Michael Jordan, or Michael Jackson, it's because you put in the work for it," he said. "So you're happy when you win the championship, but are you surprised? No. You're happy you won an Oscar, but are you surprised? That's kind of where I'm at."

sonaiya.kelley@latimes.com

Jingle

Continued from Page 1

radio concert season, having recently performed other Jingle-named radio shows around the country alongside Cabello and Mendes.

Cardi B's brief-but-ferocious, hit-filled set spanned her singles and spotlighted several of her strong guest verses on other artists' songs, including her competition-slaying rhymes on Migos' "MotorSport," and her poppier forays in Maroon 5's "Girls Like You" and Bruno Mars' "Finesse."

Armed with brazen, crafty lyrics and a personality as big as her hustle, she delivered her own flex-fueled, formidable songs (the slinky "Drip," "Bartier Cardi," "Money") with swagger, but offered vulnerability and yearning with equal aplomb ("Be Careful," "Ring"). The Latin-tinged trap tune "I Like It" was another highlight.

Though the sound cutting out at the beginning of the second song "Money Bag" could've slowed Cardi B's momentum, it didn't. By the time she closed with "Bodak Yellow," her breakout song that put detractors on notice, she showcased that not only does she make money moves — she can run the game on her own raw, charismatic terms.

The lineup also offered a sampling of what flavored the mostly teen audience's current pop tastes. And if the ear-piercing sing-alongs were any indication, Mendes remained a favorite. His 2016 Bash appearance also had fans swooning despite his sheepish delivery, but for his return he displayed more confidence, which buoyed songs such as "Treat You Better" and the Grammy-nominated "In My Blood."

Posner and his band added saxophone-inflected rock into the equation, while Lauv exuded laid-back charm with his romantic sway. Boy band



Camila Cabello set a festive tone with her opening performance at Saturday's B96 Jingle Bash.

CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS



Boy band Why Don't We takes the Jingle Bash stage.

Why Don't We injected vocal harmonies into the mix, and Cabello's opening performance set a festive tone, complete with red-costumed dancers, smoldering ballads and a sultry

"Havana."

Althea Legaspi is a freelance critic.

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Jingle Bash alum Shawn Mendes sang with more confidence this time around.

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ENGAGEMENT

Gervais – Pascarella

The engagement of Leah Gervais, daughter of Catherine Gervais and the late Paul Gervais, to Adam Pascarella, son of Donna and Curtis Pascarella, is being announced by the bride's mother.

Leah is a 2014 graduate of New York University. Adam graduated in 2010 from the University of Michigan and in 2014 from the University of Pennsylvania School of Law. The couple resides in Manhattan, New York City.

The couple will be married on October 5, 2019.

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CHICAGOLAND THEATRE DIRECTORY

Phillips

Continued from Page 1

hours. He spared us the possibility of an opening monologue nervously acknowledging or conspicuously avoiding the objectionable comments he made a few years ago, back when times were less "sensitive" (his word), back when Hart wasn't evolved enough to know better, way, way back in his early 30s.

Comedy's a rough game. Risking offense is part of that game. Pick a better potential Oscar host, from Keegan-Michael Key to Jordan Peele to Sarah Silverman to Tiffany Haddish: There's a good chance you'll find a YouTube clip or an Instagram post constituting grounds for an apology, whether extorted by the academy or not.

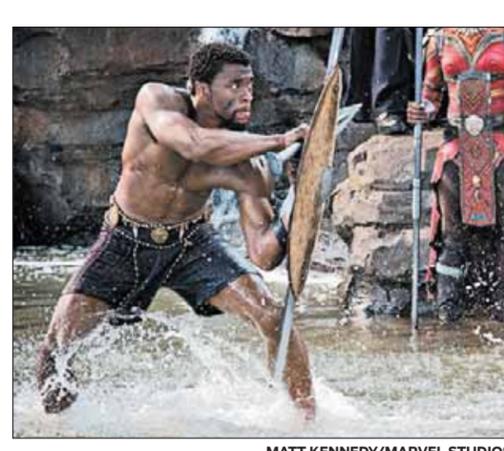
But the academy has a far more serious problem than its misguided, unvetted initial choice of Kevin Hart as Oscar emcee. The problem is the irrelevant chore that the Oscars have become.

The Feb. 24 Oscars telecast marks the 91st edition of the tradition, begun in 1929 with a simple, 15-minute ceremony held at the Hollywood Roosevelt hotel. Last year's run, the 90th, garnered the worst TV ratings since TV came into the picture.

The 2018 show, the second to be hosted by Jimmy Kimmel, was far from the worst recent Oscars bash. But we're talking about a starry night now contending with a ridiculous degree of light pollution, emitted by other entertainment options.

If "Black Panther" wins the Oscar this year, that'll be different. That'll be what a lot of people want, including those inside the academy's board of governors; inside ABC-TV (home of the Oscars telecast); and inside the ABC's corporate owner, Disney, which runs Marvel. Which made "Black Panther." Which was a huge, ratings-friendly hit.

The old world is gone.



MATT KENNEDY/MARVEL STUDIOS

If "Black Panther" wins the Oscar this year, that'll be what a lot of people want, including academy board members.

For the movies, it's a bigger, broader, more interesting world now. It's getting there, anyway.

Six years ago, Oscars host and "Family Guy" creator Seth MacFarlane sang "We Saw Your Boobs" in the opening number, and the look on Charlize Theron's face — even if it was prerecorded — was like a message from the near future: Screw this boys' club humor. Enough. Time's up.

Four months ago, the academy's governors voted to create a new award to coexist alongside the "outstanding motion picture" category, recognizing "outstanding achievement in popular film." Enough with the "Spotlight"s and the "Moonlight"s and the "Shape of Water"s and all the other big Oscar winners that were, in many respects, small. Where's the award for the stockholder-friendly \$200 million franchise item?

The "popular" award, reportedly ordered by ABC-TV for the purposes of the show's declining ratings, failed to establish criteria or a voting process or eligibility or what the hell "popular" means. For now it's on hold.

These and other economically driven maneuvers came at a time when the academy got more serious about diversifying its voting ranks, at long last. That much the Oscars are doing right. It's going to be progressively less of a white male hangout, and we may see a shift in what sorts of movies reap the awards in future years.

Short of a merger with the looser, hipper, more nimble Golden Globes, an annual event that has out-hosted and out-funneled the Oscars for years now, I wonder if there's any way to creatively reactivate the Oscars. We're living in a time of perpetual, distracting, cheap cliffhangers provided by a ratings-conscious president. America's relationship to many of its long-standing institutions, from the U.S. government to the Olympics, the Super Bowl, the Emmys and the Grammys — it's all eroding. And maybe inevitable.

Meantime I offer these reminders:

The Oscars should run 2.5 hours. At the most.

The Oscars should not implement a "people's choice" or "best big hit that didn't stink" award. Ever.

The Oscars should consider parting ways with ABC. By becoming less of a thing, pressurized by ratings expectations, it might just become a thing that feels new, not old.

Finally: The Oscars never should've gone after Kevin Hart. Homophobia aside, he's a medium-grade talent. There's enough medium-grade talents on that stage every year as it is.

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WATCH THIS: MONDAY



Odette Annable

"No Sleep 'Til Christmas" (8 p.m., FREE): This new romantic comedy stars married actors Dave and Odette Annable as a pair of strangers united by sleeplessness. Her condition is vexing for Lizzie (Odette), an event planner trying to put together her own wedding. While her fiancé Josh (Charles Michael Davis) snoozes, Lizzie's sleeplessness leads her to bump into bartender Billy (Dave). They discover they can fall asleep when together.

"CMA Country Christmas" (7 p.m., ABC): For the second time, country music icon Reba McEntire returns as host and one of the performers for the ninth annual edition of this consistently popular two-hour holiday music special. Joining McEntire for an evening of Christmas classics and unique collaborations are Tony Bennett, Brett Eldredge, Amy Grant, Diana Krall, Martina McBride, Brad Paisley, Dustin Lynch, Old Dominion, Lindsey Stirling, Dan + Shay, The Isaacs and Brett Young.

"Santa Claus: The Movie" (7 p.m., 9:30 p.m., CMT): He doesn't have the title role, but Dudley Moore is the key player in this 1985 fantasy. His character is an elf who's banished from the North Pole after his efforts to speed up toy production result in shoddy workmanship. He hooks up with an evil toymaker (John Lithgow) who specializes in dangerous toys — plush animals stuffed with razor blades and broken glass. David Huddleston plays Santa, with Burgess Meredith as a wise old elf.

"Mama Medium" (7 p.m., 11 p.m., TLC): In a poignant new episode called "Surprising a Psychic," Jennie gives an empathic reading to a voiceless woman whose challenges were only compounded when she was left paralyzed by a medical procedure that went terribly wrong. In other segments, Jennie turns a skeptic into a believer during an impromptu reading and discovers a heartfelt connection between two women while performing a reading for them.

"Coming Home for Christmas" (9 p.m., Hallmark): As house manager Lizzie Richfield (Danica McKellar, "The Wonder Years") prepares the exclusive Ashford Estate in Virginia to be sold, she plans a final Christmas Eve gala for the Marley family, who are closely associated with the property. They're largely estranged from one another, however, which means Lizzie has to navigate and try to defuse a number of long-standing family feuds that are on the verge of detonating. Andrew Francis ("Chesapeake Shores"), Neal Bledsoe and Paula Shaw also star.

TALK SHOWS

"The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" (10:34 p.m., NBC): Comic John Mulaney; actress Vanessa Hudgens; Grimes performs.*

"The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (10:35 p.m., CBS): Actor Bryan Cranston; historian Doris Kearns Goodwin.*

"Jimmy Kimmel Live" (10:35 p.m., ABC): Celebrity guests and comedy skits.*

* Subject to change

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

MONDAY EVENING, DEC. 10

	PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS 2	The Neighborhood (N)	Happy Together (N)	Magnum P.I.: "Bad Day to Be a Hero." (N) ©		Bull: "A Higher Law." (N) ©		News (N) ♦
	NBC 5	The Voice: "Live Semi-Final, Top 8 Performances." (N)				Pentatonix: A Not So Silent Night (N) ©		NBC 5 News (N) ♦
	ABC 7	CMA Country Christmas (N) ©				The Great Christmas Light Fight: "All Stars." (N)		News at 10pm (N) ♦
	WGN 9	blackish: "Chop Shop." ©	blackish ©	Last Man Standing ©	Last Man Standing ©	WGN News at Nine (N)		WGN News at Ten (N)
	Antenna 9.2	Alice ©	Alice ©	B. Miller	B. Miller	Coach ©	Coach ©	Murphy
	This TV 9.3	A Different Kind of Christmas (NR,'96) ** ©				Santa Who? (NR,'00) ** © ♦		
	PBS 11	Chicago Tonight (N)	Encore Programming			John Paul II in Ireland: A Plea for Peace (N) ©		Sacred (NR,'16) ♦
	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: "Mirror, Mirror." ©		Star Trek: Next		Star Trek: Deep Space 9		Star Trek ♦
Bounce 26.5	Scandal ©		Family Time	Mann &	White Chicks (PG-13,'04) ** ♦			
FOX 32	The Resident: "Three Words." ©		9-1-1: "Awful People." ©		Fox 32 News at Nine (N)		Modern Family ©	
Ion 38	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law-SVU ♦	
Telem 44	(7:05) La sultana (N) ©		Falsa identidad (N) ©		Señora Acero (N) ©		Chicago (N)	
CW 50	Arrow (N) ©		DC's Legends (N)		Law Order: CI		Chicago ♦	
UniMas 60	*(6) Reto 4 elementos: Naturaleza extrema						Tiro de ♦	
WJYS 62	J. Savelle	K. Hagin	Joyce Meyer	Robison	Blakeman	Paid Prog.	Monument	
Univ 66	Jesus		Mi marido tiene familia		Amar a muerte		Noticias (N)	
CABLE	AE	The First 48 ©		The First 48 ©		(9:01) The First 48 ©		First 48 ♦
	AMC	♦ National Lamp. Christmas		(8:15) National Lampoon's		Christmas Vacation (PG-13,'89) ***		
	ANIM	Last Alaskans (N)		Last Alaskans (N)		Into Alaska (N)		North-Law ♦
	BBCA	Revenge of the Nerds (R,'84) **	♦ Robert Carradine.			Revenge of the Nerds (R,'84) ** ♦		
	BET	*(6:55) We Belong Together (NR,'18)	Cassidy Fralin.			Think Like a Man (PG-13,'12) ***		
	BIGTEN	Womens (N) BTN Live ©		BTN Football		in 60 ©	BTN Live ©	
	BRAVO	Vanderpump Rules ©		Vanderpump Rules (N)		Unanchored (N) ©		Watch (N)
	CLTV	News at 7	News (N)	News at 8	News (N)	SportsFeed ©		Politics
	CNBC	American Greed ©		American Greed ©		American Greed ©		Greed ♦
	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)		Cuomo Prime Time (N)		CNN Tonight (N)		Tonight (N) ♦
	COM	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Daily (N) ♦
	DISC	Street-Memphis (N)		Street-Memphis (N)		(9:01) Street Outlaws (N) © ♦		
	DISN	Bizaardvark	Coop	Andi Mack	Stuck	Bunk'd ©	Bunk'd ©	Raven
	E!	Busy	Botched ©	Botched ©		Busy (N)	Nightly (N)	Kardash ♦
	ESPN	(7:15) NFL Football: Minnesota Vikings at Seattle Seahawks.	(N) (Live)			World/Poker		Boxing © ♦
	ESPN2	Pokr (Tape)		Pokr (Tape)		World/Poker		Boxing © ♦
	FNC	Tucker Carlson (N)		Hannity (N) ©		The Ingraham Angle (N)		Fox News
	FOOD	Holiday Baking		Holiday Baking (N)		Christmas Cookie (N)		Ginger ♦
	FREE	♦ Dr. Seuss' How-Grinch		No Sleep 'Til Christmas (NR,'18)	Odette Annable. ©			700 Club ♦
	FX	Independence Day: Resurgence (PG-13,'16) **	Liam Hemsworth.			Interstellar ('14) *** © ♦		
	HALL	Miss Christmas (NR,'17)	Brooke D'Orsay. ©			Coming Home for Christmas (NR,'17) ♦		
	HGTV	Love It or List It ©		Love It or List It (N) ©		Hunters (N)	Hunt Intl (N)	Hunters
	HIST	Forged in Fire: Cutting Deeper: "Battle Blades." (N) ©						Forged ♦
	HLN	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic
	IFC	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	The Town ♦
	LIFE	Santa's Boots (NR,'18)	Megan Hilty, Noah Mills. ©			(9:03) A Very Nutty Christmas ('18) ♦		
	MSNBC	All In With Chris Hayes		Rachel Maddow Show (N)		The Last Word (N)		11th Hour (N)
	MTV	Teen Mom OG ©		Teen Mom OG (N) ©		Teen Mom: Young (N)		Teen Mom
	NBCSCH	NBA Basketball: Sacramento Kings at Chicago Bulls.	(N) (Live)			Chicago Bulls (N)		Bulls (N)
	NICK	Albert (NR,'16) ©		SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ©
OVATION	*(5:30) The Da Vinci Code (PG-13,'06) **	©			Angels & Demons (PG-13,'09) ** ♦			
OWN	Dateline on OWN ©		Dateline on OWN (N)		Deadline: Crime		Dateline ♦	
OLY	Dateline: Secrets		Dateline: Secrets		Dateline: Secrets		Dateline ♦	
PARMT	Spider-Man 3 (PG-13,'07) **	Tobey Maguire, Kirsten Dunst. ©						
SYFY	*(6:34) National Treasure: Book of Secrets ('07) **				Nightflyers (N) ©		Futurama	
TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Final Space	
TCM	The Monster and the Girl		Helpmates	Towed In	(9:15) Paths of Glory (NR,'57) **** ♦			
TLC	Mama Medium (N) ©		Long Island Medium (N)		Who Do You (N)		Who Do ♦	
TLN	Supernatural Humanit		Faith Chi	Pastor Greg	Robison	Billy Graham	Humanit ♦	
TNT	Doctor Strange (PG-13,'16) ***	Benedict Cumberbatch. ©			RoboCop ('14) ***			
TOON	Gumball	Gumball	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	
TRAV	Destination Truth		Destination Truth		Destination Truth		Destinati. ♦	
TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Two Men	Two Men	King	
USA	WWE Monday Night RAW (N) (Live) ©						Country (N) ♦	
VH1	Love & Hip Hop (N) ©		T.I. & Tiny: Friends (N)		Love & Hip Hop ©		T.I. & Tiny ♦	
WE	Criminal Minds ©		Criminal Minds ©		Criminal Minds: "L.D.S.K."		Criminal ♦	
WGN America	M*A*S*H ©	M*A*S*H ©	M*A*S*H ©	M*A*S*H ©	M*A*S*H ©	M*A*S*H ©	M*A*S*H ©	
PREMIUM	HBO	My Bril. (Subtitled-English)	My Bril. (Season Finale) (N) Subtitled-		VICE: The Panic Artists (N)			
	HBO2	Sally4Ever	Room 104	(8:05) Ideal Home (NR,'18) **		Four Christmases ** ♦		
	MAX	High Crimes (PG-13,'02) **	Ashley Judd. ©			Get Out (R,'17) *** Daniel Kaluuya. ♦		
	SHO	Ray Donovan: "The 1-3-2."		Escape at Dannemora		Ray Donovan: "The 1-3-2." Escape ♦		
	STARZ	(7:01) Counterpart ©		(8:01) Dark Crimes (R,'16)	Jim Carrey.	(9:36) Outlander © ♦		
STZENC	Inside Out (PG,'15) ***	©		Alexander and the Terrible		Proposal ♦		

Chicago Tribune PRESENTS

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Class Schedule

HISTORY

Part I - Looking Back: What Would the Founding Fathers Think of America Today?

9:30 AM | Wendy Schiller / Brown University
10:35 AM | Undergraduate Teaching Award



POLITICS

Part II - Looking Forward: The Changing Face of Politics

10:50 AM | Sam Potlicchio / Georgetown University
11:55 AM | "America's Best Professors," Princeton Review



MUSIC

Three Musical Masterpieces that Every American Should Hear

12:10 PM | Orin Grossman / Fairfield University
1:15 PM | Distinguished Teacher Award



Register online at OneDayU.com or call 800-300-3438

Horoscopes



Today's birthday (Dec. 10): Consider and make long-term plans this year. Dreams come true one step at a time, with persistent efforts. Take your health, vitality and fitness to new levels. Winter cash contributes to your next educational exploration. Next summer rains silver into shared pots, leading to new income sources.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 7. Share what you're learning with friends. Someone comes up with the perfect solution to a team challenge. Listen to other views for a wider perspective.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 8. Career opportunities show up over the next few days. Rise into a new role or responsibility. Provide leadership, and consider choices carefully.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 7. The next two days favor travel, studies and exploration. Investigate interesting possibilities. Avoid instability or risk. Include cultural favorites in your research.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 8. Changes necessitate budget revisions. Adjust to suit the circumstances. Talk about shared financial priorities and objectives.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 8. A collaboration heats up and builds steam today and tomorrow. Things could get romantic; allow flexibility in your schedule for the unexpected.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 7. Beauty lies in the details. Put your heart into your work. Maintain physical practices and healthy routines for growing strength and harmony.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 7. Settle into relaxation mode with people you love. Distractions abound; choose the most enjoyable ones. Play your favorites games, sports and instruments.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 7. Family matters have your attention. Make domestic repairs and improvements for long-lasting value. Perfect your environment, and share it with your dear ones.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 8. Use your creativity and intellect for an elegant solution. Keep digging to find the answer you've been looking for. Practice your arts.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 8. Profitable ideas abound over the next two days. Take profitable action. Your morale rises with a cash flow influx. Stash nuts away for winter.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 8. Get intimately involved with a personal project. Do it for love. Don't worry about money or spend much. You're especially powerful. Prepare to launch.

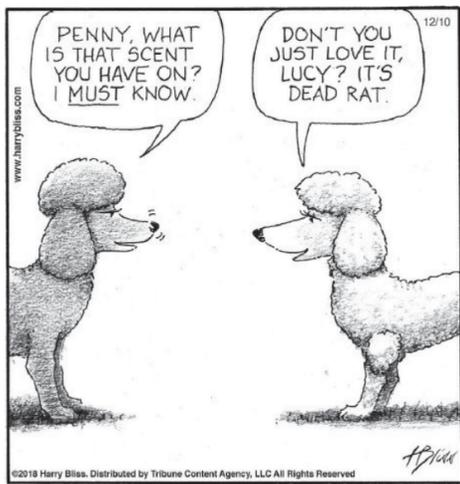
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 6. Slow down, and take time for consideration. Focus on priority deadlines and promises. Peaceful privacy allows maximum productivity with minimal stress. Relax and contemplate.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater



Bliss



Bridge

Here are the answers to the weekly quiz:

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ K 9 8 7 ♥ 5 ♦ K Q 9 ♣ Q J 5 4 2

West	North	East	South
1♥	Pass	1NT	?

What call would you make?

A.1—The double of a 1NT response shows a take out double of the suit opened on your left. Double.

Q.2—North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ J 10 9 7 4 2 ♥ K ♦ Q 4 3 ♣ Q 7 3

As dealer, what call would you make?

A.2—The opponents wouldn't mind a bit if you passed with this hand, but you're not here to please them. Open 2S.

Q.3—East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ 10 9 7 5 ♥ A 9 ♦ Q 6 4 ♣ K J 6 2

North	East	South	West
1♣	Pass	1♠	Pass

What call would you make?

A.3—After a reverse, an immediate raise in either of partner's suits should be played as game forcing. Bid 3C.

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:

♠ 7 4 ♥ A 9 7 ♦ K 10 ♣ A Q 10 9 5 3

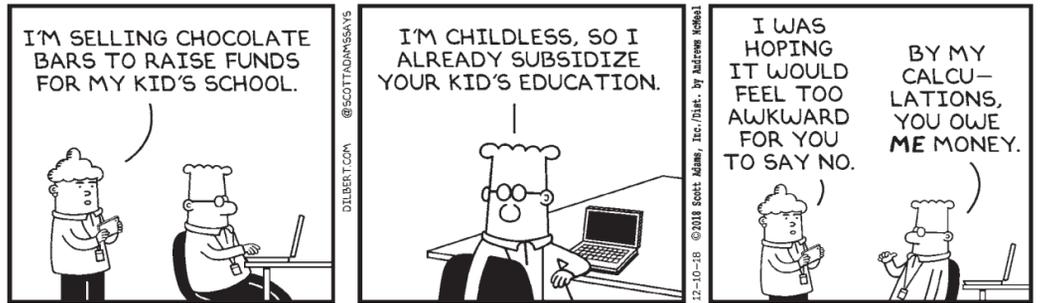
West	North	East	South
1♥	Pass	Pass	?

What call would you make?

A.4—In the pass out seat, as here, a jump shift shows an intermediate hand, roughly 14-16, with a decent six-card suit. Bid 3C.

— Bob Jones
tcaeditors@tribpub.com

Dilbert



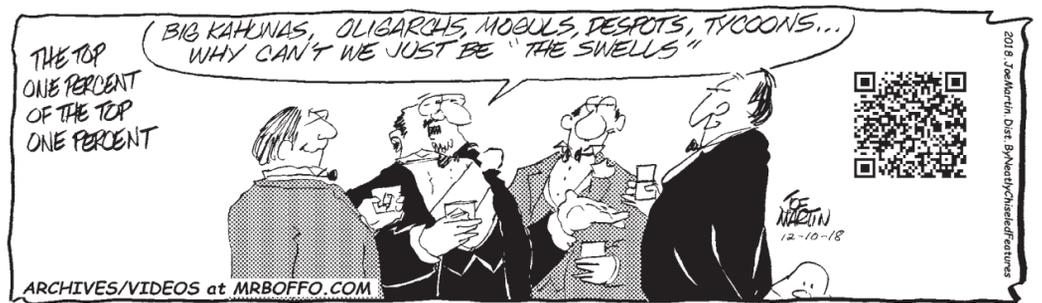
Baby Blues



Zits



Mr. Boffo



Frazz



Classic Peanuts



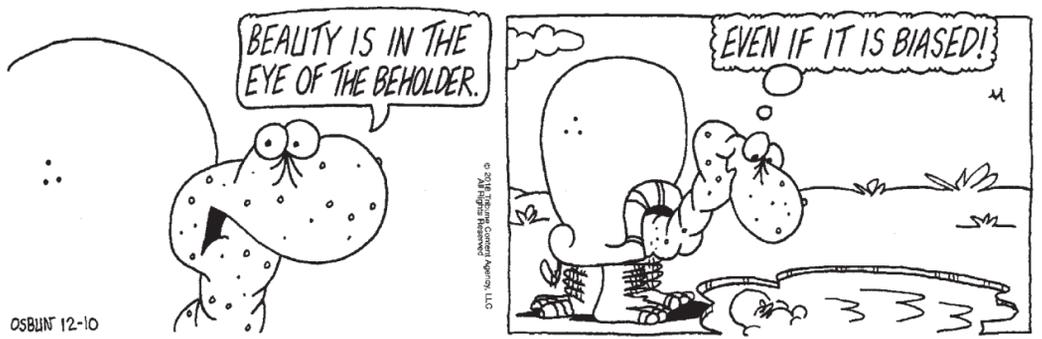
Pickles



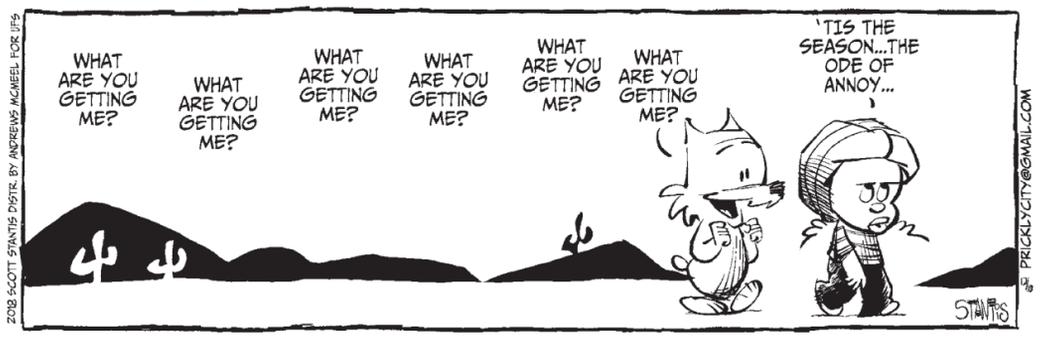
Dick Tracy



Animal Crackers



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