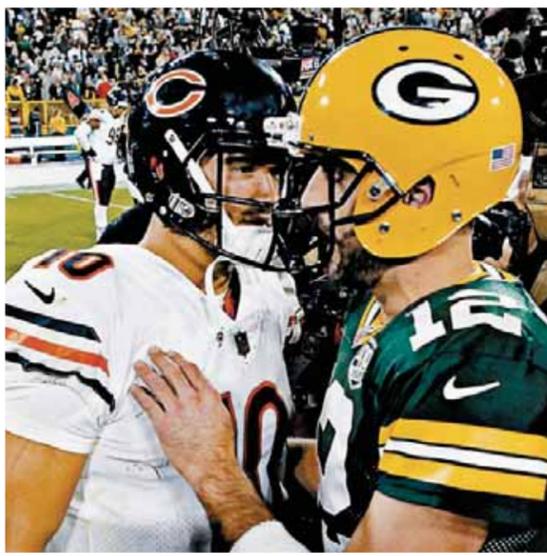


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A+E Best of stage, architecture in 2018

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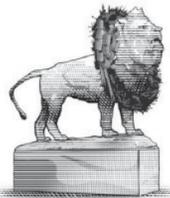
WE MEET AGAIN

Bears can clinch division with win against Packers

Matt Nagy energizes the team with gadget plays

JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago Tribune



Final



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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2018

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

Financial secrecy in mayoral race

10 of 16 top Chicago candidates decline to release full tax returns for 2014-17

BY **BILL RUTHHART**
Chicago Tribune

Over four years, Cook County Circuit Court Clerk Dorothy Brown reported \$72,000 in income from a side business as a motivational and religious speaker. Former federal prosecutor

Lori Lightfoot made nearly \$1 million last year as a law firm partner and gave \$52,000 to charity. And former Chicago Public Schools CEO Paul Vallas recorded no taxable income in the year before Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner appointed him to an administrative post at Chicago

State University. Those are just a few facts found in the hundreds of pages of full tax returns released to the Chicago Tribune by six candidates running for mayor in the Feb. 26 election. An additional 10 candidates refused to release their complete tax returns, with just one releasing any financial records at all.

Disclosing tax returns is a rite of transparency for many candidates who have run for major elected

office, an act of disclosure that not only tells the public how much the political hopefuls earn in income but where their financial interests reside, how they have made their money and what potential conflicts of interest could arise if they are elected.

For the bulk of Chicago's top contenders for mayor, however, that information remains secret.

What investments former U.S. Commerce Secretary Bill Daley

holds, who paid public policy consultant Amara Enyia and how much former top cop Garry McCarthy has pulled in from his security business are just some of the many questions left unanswered by politicians asking voters to let them run the nation's third-largest city.

On Nov. 1, the Tribune requested four years of tax returns

Turn to **Taxes, Page 10**



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Cook County sheriff's Detective Sgt. Jason Moran looks at John Wayne Gacy evidence this month. Gacy was executed in 1994.

END OF INNOCENCE

John Wayne Gacy was arrested 40 years ago in a killing spree that claimed 33 victims and shattered the illusion of the safe, suburban community

BY **WILLIAM LEE**
Chicago Tribune

In the shadow of O'Hare International Airport, the winding, looping streets and small-town character of unincorporated Norwood Park Township look much the way they did in December 1978.

But gone are the lines of gawking bystanders, desperate families of missing young men and carloads of curiosity-seekers who choked the streets in the days before that long-ago Christmas, trying to catch a glimpse of the murder house.

John Wayne Gacy's confession to the rape and murder of more than 30 people didn't just



WILLIAM YATES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

John Wayne Gacy, 36, is taken from the Des Plaines police station to a hospital for evaluation on Dec. 23, 1978.

awaken America to a nightmare hidden in its own backyard. The discovery 40 years ago of the dank, muddy mass grave underneath Gacy's yellow brick ranch house at 8213 W. Summerdale Ave. forever shattered the image of the safe suburban community.

A police search for missing Maine West sophomore Robert Piest led investigators to 36-year-old Gacy, a "stocky, bull necked contractor," described by neighbors and business associates as a pillar of the community: a likable, boastful divorced businessman and Democratic precinct captain who hosted themed neighborhood parties and entertained

Turn to **Gacy, Page 12**

Health care ruling puts Republicans in quandary

No immediate effect on coverage even as ACA at height of popularity

BY **RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A federal judge's ruling that the Obama health law is unconstitutional has landed like a stink bomb among Republicans, who've seen the politics of health care flip as Americans increasingly value the overhaul's core parts, including protections for pre-existing medical conditions and Medicaid for more low-income people.

While the decision by the Republican-appointed judge in Texas was sweeping, it has little immediate practical effect because the Affordable Care Act remains in place while the legal battle continues, possibly all the way to the Supreme Court.

Turn to **Health, Page 33**

RYAN ZINKE OUT: Interior secretary quits, cites 'vicious' attacks.
TOUGH STRETCH: Legal, political risks help isolate the president.
Nation & World, Page 31

TRIBUNE EDITORIAL

4 more years to finish interchange? C'mon

Two world wars were fought in less time. Rows of skyscrapers went up in less time ... **Page 28**

Culinary crunch in Chicago's kitchens

A restaurant boom has created a labor shortage, and small operators are squeezed. **Business**

Tom Skilling's forecast High 48 Low 29

Chicago Weather Center: Complete forecast in **Nation & World, Page 43**

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CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago mayoral candidates stand before the start of a forum at the Copernicus Center on the Northwest Side on Tuesday.



JOHN KASS

**Ringside at main event:
Race for Chicago mayor**

If anyone tells you they can predict the two Chicago mayoral candidates out of the massive field of 21 that will make the runoff in February, they're either stoners or suffering parallel universe issues.

Because no one knows which two will get the top spots in February, setting up a one-on-one mayoral election in April. Nobody knows. Nobody.

At a mayoral forum at the Copernicus Center on the Northwest Side the other night, the lobby was full of eager tribalists handicapping weaknesses and strengths. It was like being at the old DaVinci Manor before the prize-fights, but without the gold-painted cupids spurting water into the fountains and Benny Bentley's cigar smoke.

One fellow aggressively pushed his favorite candidate, Garry McCarthy, the former Chicago police boss fired by Mayor Rahm Emanuel over the Laquan McDonald fiasco.

"Garry McCarthy will make the runoff?" said the pushy guy. "What do you think, Kass? What do you think?" I don't think for free, I said. Buy a Tribune.

"What about McCarthy?" he said. I suggested he go munch on something, maybe a sandwich.

"You want me to munch on something?" said the guy, astonished.

Yeah, go munch. McCarthy is from New York. He's bragged about out-lawing dubs after a big snow. He doesn't understand Chicago.

But with 21 candidates, anything is possible, even McCarthy. I'm no soothsayer. But after more than 30 years covering politics, I've seen some things.

The political royal, Bill Daley didn't show. He was out of town raising campaign cash. He's not much for forums where he'd be asked in public about Daley family deals or his lobbying. He's running a rose-garden campaign. But he can't see that Chicago is suffering from four decades of severe Daley fatigue.

Another no-show was Jerry Joyce, son of Jeremiah Joyce, the Daley family political retainer who received all those juicy airport deals. Jerry Jr. is now challenging Bill Daley's petitions.

The Joyce boys are known as tough guys, but Jerry Jr. was a ghost the other night.

Incumbent Mayor Rahm Emanuel wasn't there, but his presence was felt. Rahm's desperately campaigning for legacy, pushing for a constitutional amendment to try and fix that massive state and city public union worker pension debt.

And he's pushing for a 20 to 30 percent gas tax, a la French premier Emmanuel Macron, whose tax policies triggered all those angry yellow jackets in Paris.

"Rahm should go to France right now and keep going," said mayoral candidate Willie Wilson, a businessman who gives his own money away to the poor. "All this stuff Rahm's doing now, it's crazy. It's too much, too fast, man. He's got to be doing this for his friends. He don't need to do nothing but leave town, like yesterday."

Rahm was installed by the Daleys. But they gave him the proverbial fiscal crap sandwich and told him to eat it. Rahm's made some tough decisions but not enough of them. Where was the Rahm Emanuel proposing state constitutional changes to pension laws eight years ago?

"What Emanuel is doing with these last-minute deals is dangerous," said former city budget director and public schools CEO Paul Vallas. "Any of these critical financial decisions need to be deferred for the next mayor and the new City Council. We need substantive long-term fiscal planning, not this dramatic stopgap last minute stuff."

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle told me she's confident that her challenge against the petition signatures of state Comptroller Susana Mendoza is doing well. She wants to knock Mendoza off the ballot.

And Mendoza? She reached for the gender card, blaming Preckwinkle as if Toni's a traitor to gender. Really, Susana? As Harold Washington used to say, "Politics ain't beanbag." And Susana? It's not soccer, either.

"It's ironic that in the year of the woman, in Trump's America, the highest-ranking woman in Cook County government, who happens to

be the boss of the party bosses, thinks it's a good idea to challenge five women of color and no one else, by the way," Mendoza said.

She might be overdoing the gender card business. Gender doesn't have anything to do with questionable signatures. Pen and ink don't have a gender, yet.

Toni Preckwinkle has serious problems of her own. Her campaign has credibility issues, and there was that disastrous campaign rollout when she lied about a top aide and sexual impropriety, and that other business about the "lost" county SUV.

But there's more. She woefully underperforms with African-American voters.

In her Democratic primary campaign against former Ald. Bob Fioretti, she underperformed in all the black city wards. Fioretti was in the mid-to high 30s against her and even approached 40 percent in some. Toni's pop tax still haunts her.

She ran unopposed in the November Cook County elections, and still underperformed. Preckwinkle received 728,772 votes. But lower down the ballot, Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart, Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas and Cook County Clerk Karen Yarbrough all got vastly higher vote totals in their countywide races.

This means voters went out of their way to skip her on the ballot.

Candidates aren't finished trying to knock each other off the ballot in petition challenges with the Chicago Board of Elections. And there's still time for Chicago to grow up and think seriously — not about tribalism — but about who can run the city from day one.

And there are more scandals to drop, rage to vent, tribalism to watch, as a great but troubled city decides its future in the most important election in decades.

I love this. I really do.

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OLIVER DE ROS/AP

Claudia Maquin, 27, Jackelin Caal's mother, speaks with journalists in Raxruha, Guatemala, on Saturday.

The blame game in the death of a 7-year-old migrant girl



DAHLEEN GLANTON

A 7-year-old Guatemalan girl who wanted nothing more than to grow up in America died after trying to make it across our border.

Everyone agrees it is a tragedy. But no one knows where to go from here.

Our hearts break whenever a child dies senselessly. We become so emotionally entwined in sadness and anger that we are unable to think clearly about the circumstances of the death.

When there are political implications, we need someone to blame. So we retreat to the corner where we have always felt most comfortable, the place where years of polarization have told us we belong.

By now, each of us has figured out where we stand on the issue of Donald Trump's border wall and his administration's policies regarding migrants seeking to enter the United States. We either believe that a wall is a reasonable demand in order to keep people from entering our country illegally. Or we believe the whole idea of building a wall is divisive and ridiculous.

The explosive political issue became more volatile with the news last week of Jackelin Caal's death from dehydration and shock, days after U.S. Border Patrol agents picked up her and her father in a remote, mountainous stretch of New Mexico desert.

We don't yet know all of the details. What we do know is that the child, traveling with her 29-year-old father, was among more than 160 migrants taken into custody on Dec. 6 and bused to a border detention center 90 miles away.

The group is among thousands of migrants who have made their way from Central America in recent months, fleeing violence and economic despair, hoping to gain asylum in the U.S. Many of them, however, have been detained in Mexico, due to strict

U.S. entry policies. Most of them will never be granted asylum.

The administration's initial response to Jackelin's death was to place responsibility solely on the parents, blaming them for choosing to do whatever they could to give their child a shot at a life better than she ever could have dreamed of in Guatemala.

"The agents involved are deeply affected and empathize with the father over the loss of his daughter," U.S. Customs and Border Protection Commissioner Kevin McAleenan said in a statement. "We cannot stress enough the dangers posed by traveling long distances, in crowded transportation, or in the natural elements through remote desert areas without food, water and other supplies."

Certainly, Jackelin's father knew that traveling through such rough terrain for days without adequate food and water would be challenging for anyone, especially a child. But he must have believed that the benefits of taking a chance on reaching America far outweighed any reasons for turning back or not trying at all.

Maybe he weighed his options and decided that remaining in Guatemala would have caused even greater suffering for his daughter, maybe even death, sooner or later. Maybe he thought that risking her life was the only way to save her. But perhaps his dreams of America were too optimistic.

Those of us who believe that our country has been heartless and closed-minded toward migrants fleeing Central America are quick to blame the government.

America is ill-equipped to care for such an influx of immigrants all at once. Our country is too politically divided to develop a comprehensive and equitable policy to address the migrant crisis. The border detention centers are filthy, unsuitable and, some insist, unsafe. But we cannot properly deal with the social, economic and psychological problems migrants face at our borders because we have never figured out how to address those same issues among many Americans who were born

here.

At this point, there is no reason to think that Border Patrol agents didn't do all they could to help Jackelin. Perhaps they are right in suggesting that she would have died in the desert had the agents not taken her into custody.

When the child arrived at the Border Patrol station, she wasn't breathing. Her temperature was 105.7. Medical personnel revived her and airlifted her to a hospital in El Paso, Texas, where she later died.

Others point to the Trump administration's militarization of the border, in which the president sent troops to confront the migrants who tried to enter illegally. Such actions, some insist, do nothing to stop migrants from coming to America. It only forces them to take more drastic means to get here.

History has proven this to be true. From the pilgrims who arrived in the early 1600s in search of religious freedom to the Europeans who followed centuries later in search of economic opportunity, immigrants have always risked their lives to come to America.

Though our country is less welcoming than it once was, people still would rather face death on the road to America than live in places where there are no opportunities to thrive. Regardless of whether we build a wall or not, that will never change.

So when a child dies en route to freedom, we must not blame the child. We shouldn't try to thrust all of the blame onto the parents, either. And in this case, at least, we cannot entirely blame our government.

Perhaps Jackelin's death is no one's fault. And perhaps it is all of ours.

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When we started the @VintageTribune Instagram account in 2014, we had no idea how big the response would be. Robin Daughtridge, former associate managing editor for photography, and myself would often share "found" photos while searching through the Tribune's archives looking for historic images. These "one-offs" — photographs that were intriguing, shocking or just plain fun — became a bit of an obsession, and the Instagram account was born as an outlet for us to share them with you. The response was overwhelming. Since our first post July 1, 2014, we've shared more than 5,000 photos and grown to know many of you in our "Insta" community — more than 83,000 fans. You've found grandparents, parents and even yourselves in our photos. Now, we're bringing these images back to print, once again, with a collection of 300 of our — and your — favorites. "Vintage Chicago: The Best of @vintagetribe on Instagram" is a portrait of a city and its people, told through the lenses of countless photographers from the city's hometown paper. Each frame is a story, a trip back in time. We hope you enjoy the trip as much as we have.

— Marianne Mather, photo editor.

"Vintage Chicago: The Best of @vintagetribe on Instagram" is available now at Chicagotribune.com/vintage-tribune, and wherever books are sold.

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MARGARET HOLT, standards editor

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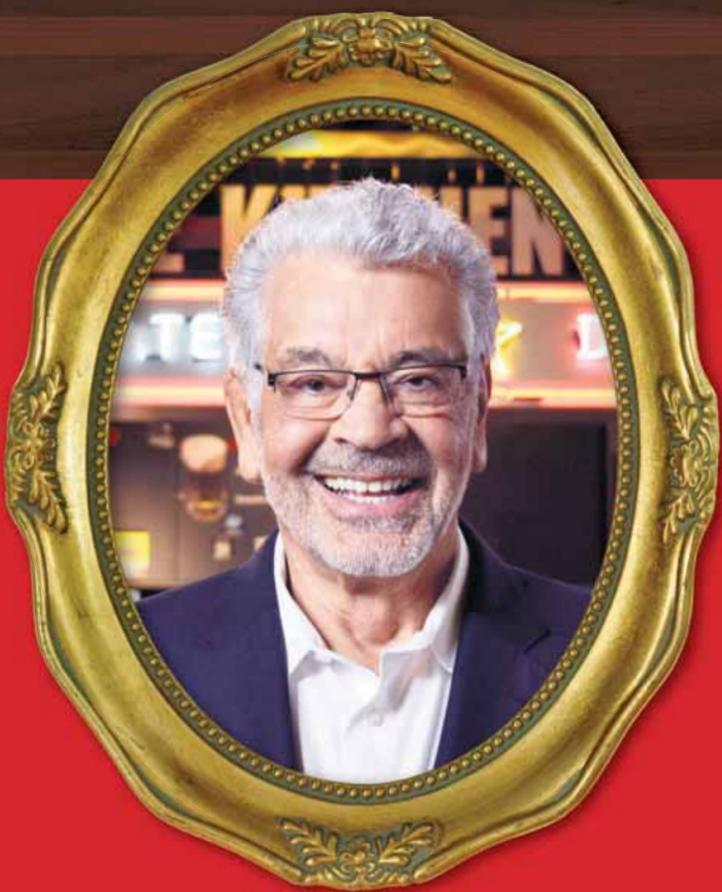
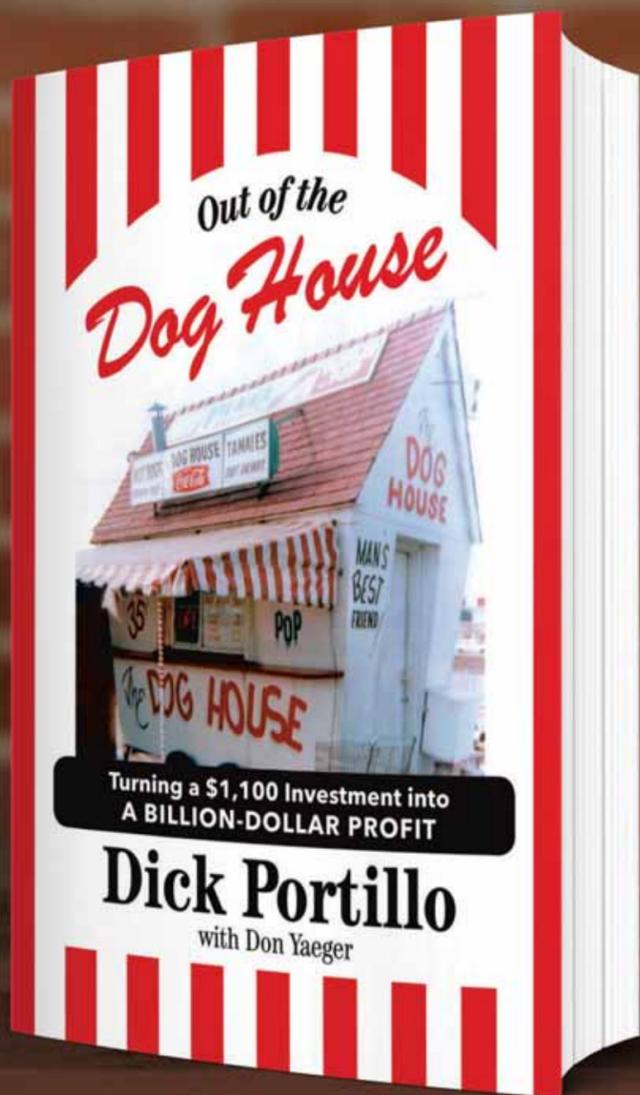
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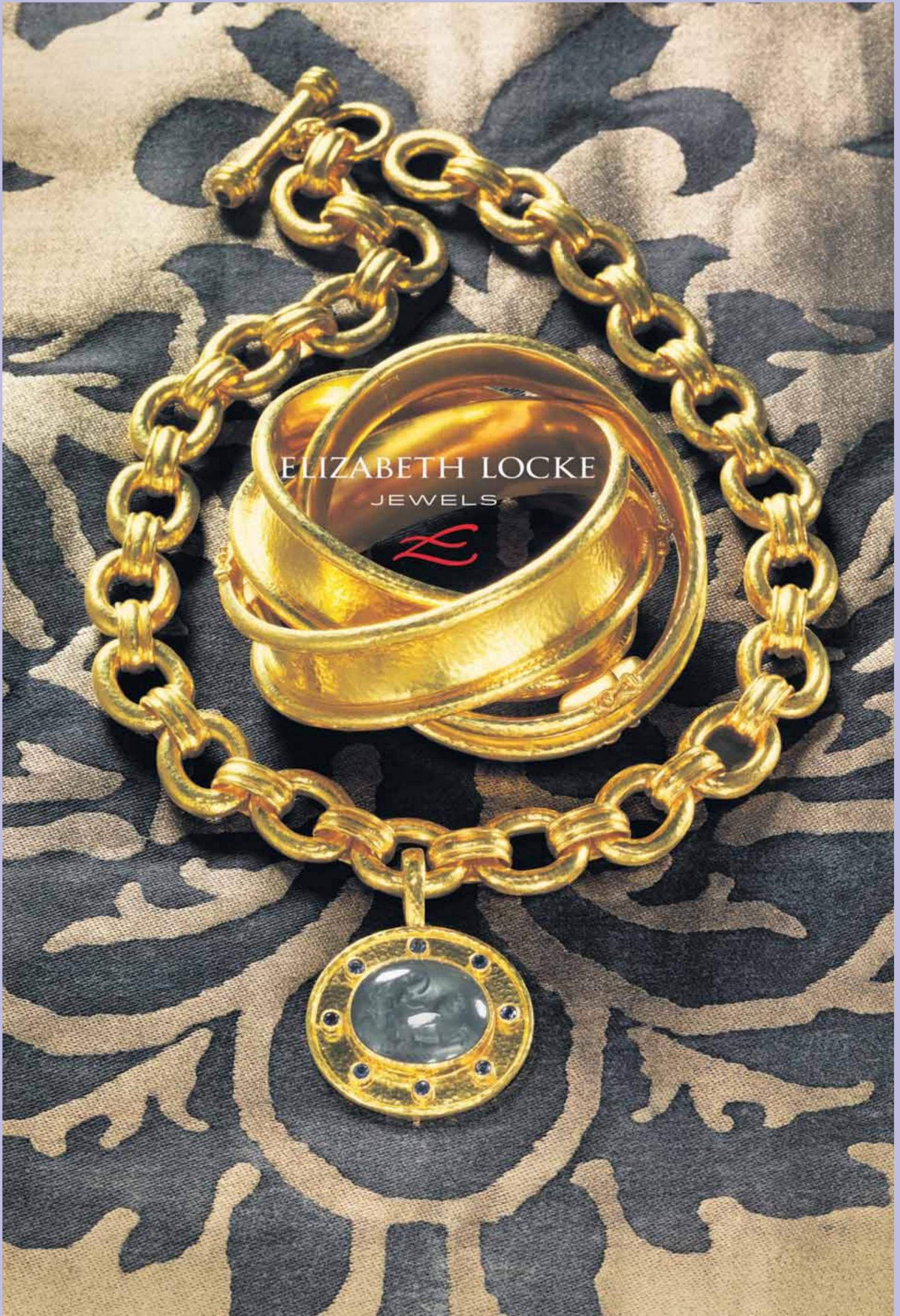
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Chicago Tribune CHICAGOLAND

Kenneka Jenkins' family sues Rosemont hotel

Asks for \$50M judgment over her death in freezer

By JOHN KEILMAN
Chicago Tribune

The mother of Kenneka Jenkins, the young woman from Chicago who was found dead in a freezer at a Rosemont hotel, has filed a long-anticipated lawsuit against the hotel, its security contractor and even a restaurant that allegedly was renting the space where Jenkins was found.

The lawsuit contends the defendants — the Crowne Plaza Chicago O'Hare Hotel, Capital Security and Investigations and the Murray Bros. Caddyshack restaurant — were negligent for failing to secure the freezer, located in an unused

kitchen, and for failing to conduct a proper search when Jenkins went missing from a party.

The family is seeking a judgment in excess of \$50 million, the lawsuit says.

Jenkins, 19, disappeared in the early morning of Sept. 9, 2017, after attending a party held in a room of the Crowne Plaza. Her family came looking for her, but authorities didn't find her body until 20 hours later. Surveillance video released by police showed Jenkins stumbling through the hotel's hallways until she ended up in the kitchen, rounding the corner where the freezer was kept.

An autopsy report from the Cook County medical examiner's office concluded that Jenkins died of hypothermia, with alcohol and a drug used to treat epilepsy

and migraines "significant contributing factors."

A spokesman for the Crowne Plaza said in a statement that the hotel would fight the lawsuit.

"The death of Kenneka Jenkins was a tragedy, but the proximate cause of her death were the unsavory individuals who used a stolen credit card to book a room and host an illegal party which Ms. Jenkins attended," he said. "Those criminals escaped the hotel before police arrived and have never truly been held accountable. This lawsuit has no merit and we will vigorously contest it."

Representatives of the security company and the restaurant did not return requests for comment. Jenkins' mother, Tereasa Martin,



Jenkins

did not respond to a phone message, and her attorney declined comment.

The lawsuit contains new claims about the circumstances of Jenkins' death. It says the hotel had other walk-in freezers that were kept locked and inaccessible to the public. The one in which Jenkins was found was not only unsecured but had "a sticker affixed that was completely faded and failed to instruct how to release the lock system of the door," the lawsuit contends. Rosemont police found in their investigation that the door could not be opened from the inside unless a circular handle was pushed to release the latch. The mechanism appeared to be working properly, police said.

The lawsuit also claims that Jenkins passed several hotel employees while she was wandering the hallways. "Had Crowne Plaza defendants and employees and/or agents of defendant Capital Security properly intervened when they observed (Jenkins) visibly disoriented, confused and lost within their premises, they would have prevented her from entering the abandoned kitchen and prevented her death," it says.

The lawsuit blames the security company for failing to stop the party Jenkins attended before wandering away. Dozens of people were hanging out in a room meant for just four guests, a smoke detector had been disabled and the odor of "strong intoxicants" was evident, it says. If security guards had promptly bro-

ken up the party, the lawsuit contends, Jenkins would not have died.

Though the Murray Bros. Caddyshack restaurant didn't open until April, about seven months after Jenkins died, a news release from the company indicates it signed a deal in July 2017 to lease space in the hotel. The lawsuit says the restaurant should have secured the kitchen and made sure the empty freezer was turned off.

The Beam Legal Team in Chicago filed the lawsuit, but a lawyer for the firm said the case will be handled by prominent Michigan attorney Geoffrey Fieger, best known for representing the late "right to die" advocate Dr. Jack Kevorkian.

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ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Riders wait for trains at the CTA's renovated Quincy station on Friday in Chicago's Loop. It is one of the oldest stations in the CTA's system.

CTA finishes rehab of the historic Quincy station

By MARY WISNIEWSKI
Chicago Tribune

A CTA station that was first built when William McKinley was president has been renovated for the 21st century, including the addition of two elevators to make it accessible for riders with disabilities.

The CTA on Friday announced the

completion of \$18.2 million in work on the Quincy station at Wells Street in Chicago's Loop, located near the financial district and Willis Tower. The station is one of the busiest on the CTA system, with 2.2 million rides annually on the Brown, Orange, Pink and Purple lines.

Besides the elevators, which opened for service early Friday morning, the project included stair replacement and painting

and lighting improvements, CTA spokeswoman Irene Ferradaz said. The station still looks close to how it did in the late 19th century, with pressed tin walls and varnished wooden floors in the station house and vintage posters on the platform.

About 29 percent of CTA rail stations are not accessible for people with disabilities. In July, the agency announced a plan to make the entire system accessible over

the next 20 years. The plan will cost \$2.1 billion, and the CTA does not yet have the money to pay for it. However, Ferradaz noted that the CTA has made some progress in the last seven years. In 2011, 94 of 143 stations were accessible. Now the number is 104 out of 145.

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U. of I. professor fired for falsifying data in grant application

By DAWN RHODES
Chicago Tribune

A tenured biology professor at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign was fired Friday, a rare punishment that essentially means a career death sentence in higher education and that has happened only once before at the state's flagship public university.

Fei Wang, an associate professor of cell and molecular biology, was terminated following a special meeting of university trustees Friday, concluding a yearslong review of his work. Board members determined that Wang had fabricated and falsified scientific data in grant applications to the National Institutes of Health and the National Science Foundation.

It was not known when Wang's alleged misconduct occurred or what type of grants were involved, but school officials said the falsification involved passing off mouse cells as human cells and submitting results from experiments that were never performed.

He has sued the university in Chicago federal court, saying that officials did not fully investigate the

claims. The lawsuit was filed before Friday's meeting and sought to prevent the university from firing him. Wang declined to comment when reached by phone and referred questions to his lawyer, Stuart Polizzi, who said the suit would continue.

"Our claim is they did not follow their own process for investigating this," Polizzi said. "When they're not following their own policies, it limits the information that gets into the record for the sake of defending yourself."

Links to Wang's faculty profile were inactive Friday. His LinkedIn page states that he joined the U. of I. faculty in November 2005. He was granted tenure in 2012, U. of I. spokeswoman Robin Kaler said. He was in the department of cell and developmental biology.

His firing is effective immediately.

"Prof. Wang is without question a highly intelligent, likable, and charismatic scientist," trustees wrote in its report, released Friday. "However, the record supporting his fabrication of data and falsification of laboratory results, his submission of mouse cells rather than human cells in his data, his failure to men-

tor and supervise his students is overwhelming and beyond unacceptable. Prof. Wang's misconduct has already required the university to return substantial sums of research funds to the federal government."

Kaler said the university returned \$355,000 to several agencies that funded his research.

The beginnings of the case date to January 2014, university officials said. Following up on an emailed tip, Professor Jia Chen, who heads Wang's department, learned of reports that Wang's application for a grant to the National Institutes of Health presented images of mouse cells and misrepresented as human cells and referred to non-existent experiments.

Professors and administrators investigated over the next several months. A panel comprised of faculty in the school of molecular and cellular biology issued its final report in March 2015, recommending Wang's dismissal.

"Dr. Wang cannot be trusted with conducting academic research and mentoring graduate students and postdoctoral fellows," those faculty officials said at the time. "From an academ-

ic and research standpoint, the panel strongly and unanimously recommends termination of Dr. Wang's employment and all association with the UIUC."

In December 2015, the university chancellor at the time, Barbara Wilson, filed charges against Wang with the tenure committee. The committee held four hearings in late 2016 and early 2017 to consider the allegations, and issued a final report in April supporting his dismissal.

In addition to the original allegations, the committee concluded that Wang had also falsified data in an earlier grant application to the National Science Foundation and had failed to properly mentor the seven doctoral candidates under his supervision at the time.

"Professor Wang knew what he was doing when he did it," committee members wrote. "It is instructive that the misrepresentations were not random. For the most part, they tended to claim more work than had actually been done and with more success than was warranted."

Wang then requested a hearing before trustees, which occurred last month. Board members agreed that

Wang had been "grossly neglectful" and supported his immediate dismissal. Among the most compelling evidence, trustees said, is that Wang admitted to all the allegations when confronted by Chen, his department head.

"According to Prof. Chen, she asked him 'Did you make this up completely?' and Prof. Wang answered 'Yes,'" trustees wrote.

Kaler said Wang had not been teaching since the investigation began but had continued to be paid while the process unfolded. Wang's pay in the 2017-18 academic year was \$87,617.

Wozniak's firing is believed to have been the first time the university board took up a tenure review case.

"These are very rare cases and the board considers these matters as among the most serious tasks it faces," a university spokesman, Tom Hardy, said.

Tenure is an indefinite appointment that essentially provides a professor a lifetime post. It is prized among academics because allows a faculty member to teach, research, speak and write freely without fear of interference from university leadership. It is seen as



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Fei Wang, a tenured biology professor, was fired by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

being critical to protect academic freedom.

Owing to the status it confers, the process of rescinding tenure is an exhaustive one and can take years. Wozniak had been suspended from teaching for more than three years by the time he was fired.

The president consults with the university's faculty advisory committee then submits a written statement supporting a professor's firing to the university senate. A statement of the accusations then must be mailed to the professor, at which point the faculty member may request a hearing before the senate's committee on academic freedom and tenure.

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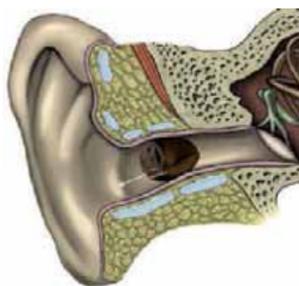
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Mercy Hospital employees, Chicago police and others attend Saturday's service, held weeks after the Nov. 19 shootings. ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

'Gathering of healing and renewal' at Mercy Hospital

BY ANNA SPOERRE
Chicago Tribune

A gospel choir stood shoulder to shoulder in white robes, their faces not shying away from the brilliant sun as they sang in remembrance of the victims of the shooting almost a month ago, Mercy Hospital and Medical Center behind them.

Tamara O'Neal, an emergency room doctor at Mercy, Officer Samuel Jimenez, a rookie member of the Chicago Police Department, and Dayna Less, a pharmacist at the hospital, were remembered Saturday morning for their courage at a "gathering of healing and renewal."

The event touched on the lives lost but also encouraged those in the crowd, including many hospital employees and police officers, to continue on their mission of healing.

"You are the source of my strength, you are the strength of my life," the choir members sang from a small stage set up in a grassy field across from the hospital as about 150 people stood before them. Hospital employees passed out maroon scarves featuring

Mercy's logo to represent unity.

On Nov. 19, Juan Lopez showed up at the hospital, where he confronted and murdered his ex-fiancee, O'Neal, over their broken engagement. Jimenez was killed while coming to O'Neal's aid, and Less was slain as she exited a hospital elevator. Lopez was found dead after he was shot in the stomach by police and he shot himself in the head.

"We are gathered here today not only to mourn how different our lives will be without them, but to give thanks to you for how full our lives were when they were with us," Susan Gallagher, chair of the hospital's board of directors, said to the crowd.

Carol Garikes Schneider, president of Mercy Hospital, spoke of the overwhelming support the hospital has received in the weeks after the shooting: cards from students in the nearby Chinatown neighborhood, donations from individuals in 27 states, and support from hospitals and clergy around the world.

And, she added, the support that hospital employees showed for one another. "I commend our Mercy

"Your care for each other was admirable through the very worst of circumstances."

— Carol Garikes Schneider, president of Mercy Hospital

team, who showed tremendous courage and professionalism," Schneider said. "Your care for each other was admirable through the very worst of circumstances."

Just before a bagpipe and drum rendition of "Amazing Grace" by members of the Police Department that left many wiping away tears, prayers were sent up for each victim.

"We remember (Jimenez's) bravery running toward danger to save lives," Chicago police chaplain Hysni Selenica said. "We are grateful for his service and we respect him becoming a police officer — a career that he pursued with energy and a commitment to justice in his com-

munity."

"We remember Dayna's smile, her promise as a pharmacist and her zeal to change the world," said Gayle Thompson, assistant director of Mercy's pharmacy residency program.

"The first doctor in her family, Tamara was a talented emergency medicine physician who harvested her strength through her spirituality and her devotion to others, especially the underserved," said Michael Markos, a doctor at Mercy.

Ronald Keys carried a doughnut as he started back toward the hospital entrance to return to his shift after the ceremony. Keys, a clinical partner at Mercy, said he and his employees took turns dropping by the event to listen and pick up free coffee and pastries.

He was grateful for Saturday's event; it felt to him like a lot of people were holding in their feelings about the tragedy, and he said he hoped this was a chance to let them out.

"It makes you appreciate your life even more."

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Park district calls recent inequality report 'inaccurate'

Officials push back against Friends of the Parks study

BY MORGAN GREENE
Chicago Tribune

Decades after the Chicago Park District settled a wide-ranging discrimination lawsuit, the park system is again defending itself against claims it's failing black and Latino neighborhoods.

Friends of the Parks, the city's largest park advocacy and preservation group, on Wednesday released the first major report to examine the Chicago park system in two decades and found that one North Side park region has almost four times as many programs as a South Side park region of similar size and population.

The Park District released a statement Thursday pushing back against the report, echoing comments made by park board President Jesse Ruiz at Wednesday's board meeting.

"This report is inaccurate and blatantly disregards important capital and programmatic gains that have been made in every neighborhood across the city," according to the statement.

The Park District noted that when Mayor Rahm Emanuel took office, 90 percent of residents were within a 10-minute walk of a park, and today that number has climbed to more than 99 percent because of an expansion of park acreage and facilities.

"These gains have not gone unnoticed, as we were the first urban park district in the nation to win the prestigious 2014 Gold Medal Award for Excellence in Parks and Recreation Management, which recognized investments made to create a brighter, healthier future for all of Chicago's children," according to the statement. The Park District also listed new facilities in predominantly black and Latino communities: The \$19 million La Villita Park in Little Village, the \$175 million Ellis Park center in the Oakland community area, the Big Marsh Natural Area in South

Deering, Gately Indoor Track in Pullman and the Addams Sports Complex on the Near West Side.

But Friends of the Parks said the new facilities don't negate the report's findings. The study determined that Latino communities receive the lowest capital investment from the Park District, the North Side still receives more robust resources and the park area with the most programs had a much higher percentage of white residents, while the one with the least had poorer residents, more of whom were black.

"We're glad for any actual or potential progress," Juanita Irizarry, executive director of Friends of the Parks, said in a Friday email. "But imagine how bad the situation has been if those gains the Chicago Park District brags about bring us to the state of the parks that we outline in our report based on their data."

"It is also important to note that while the Chicago Park District has plans in the works to add facilities and programming in places like Pullman, Brighton Park and the Near West Side, they don't currently have practices that will ensure they are serving local residents," Daniel LaSpata, the principal author of the report, said in a statement. "We found that the Park District currently doesn't require those entities who provide programming through privatized contracts to track racial/ethnic demographics. So how would they know who they are serving?"

The watchdog group plans to give the report to mayoral and aldermanic candidates.

A 1982 discrimination lawsuit filed against the park system alleged that black and Latino neighborhoods received less in resources than predominantly white communities. A year later, the Park District entered into a federal consent decree, agreeing to spend more money in underserved neighborhoods while not admitting to discrimination. The decree was dismissed in 1989.

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Keepsake pin honors memory of teacher who died unexpectedly

BY DONNA VICKROY
Daily Southtown

She was their sunshine. With her bright smile and quick sense of humor, special education teacher Abby Ohl lit up Virgil I. Grissom Middle School in the short time she worked there.

When she died unexpectedly Oct. 12, teachers, students and the entire Tinley Park community were stunned.

Now that same grieving community is choosing to remember Ohl with a commemorative yellow pin shaped like a sunburst with

a pink heart inside.

"We think about her all the time. She was our sunshine," said Grissom Principal Deborah Broadwell. "We want to remember Abby, and this is something we all think she would approve of."

The \$3 pin is attached to a small card that reads, "When you wear this pin let your love shine bright in honor of Ms. Abby Ohl."

All of the schools in Kirby District 140 sold the pins last week, Broadwell said. The public can purchase them from 5 to 7 p.m. during a community sale Monday at Grissom, 17000 S. 80th

Ave., Tinley Park.

Proceeds from the sales will be used to fund a Kirby Education Association scholarship to be awarded to a Victor J. Andrew High School graduate who plans to pursue a career in special education, Broadwell said.

Ohl, 25, collapsed in her classroom while helping students on a Friday afternoon.

The Cook County Medical Examiner's Office said the cause of death is still undetermined. A graduate of St. George Catholic



Ohl

School and Andrew, she was remembered by co-workers and friends as a young woman who loved to laugh, dance, watch "The Gilmore Girls" and help at Special Olympics. She also helped run Student Council at Grissom.

She was preceded in death by an older brother, Taylor, who also died unexpectedly in 2002 when he was 14. Survived by her parents, Dennis and Sue, and a brother, Thomas, a U.S. Marine, Ohl was said to have credited her mother, a

teacher at District 140's Keller School, with inspiring her to go into education.

Illinois state Sen. Michael Hastings (D-19) also plans to recognize Ohl through a death resolution.

During his annual visit to Grissom Dec. 7 to talk with students about the Constitution and government workings, Hastings said several of Ohl's colleagues talked with him about the late teacher's "profound impact on the school and her students."

Hastings said, "It's unfortunate how she died suddenly and out of the blue."

Death resolutions, he

said, are reserved for people who've made an impact on the community.

"You read the background of the individual who passed away and the individual becomes memorialized and they're forever remembered," he said.

Hastings said he plans to read a piece about Ohl on the Senate floor in late January, likely Jan. 30.

"I'll read it out loud and tell people how important she was," Hastings said, "and she'll forever be memorialized in the state of Illinois."

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Candidate tax records give insights

Taxes, from Page 1

complete with all schedules and attachments for 16 declared candidates for mayor.

Lightfoot, Brown, Vallas, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, state Comptroller Susana Mendoza and state Rep. LaShawn Ford all provided full tax returns for 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017. Law firm partner Gery Chico provided only the top sheets of his Form 1040 for those years without the attached schedules and statements, leaving unanswered what investments he might hold and what tax exemptions he claimed, among other things.

Those who released their tax returns all had one trait in common — they either currently hold elected office or previously worked extensively at City Hall. One candidate with a history in politics and government who did not disclose the information: Daley, the former U.S. commerce secretary and onetime White House chief of staff whose brother and father reigned as Chicago mayor for a combined 43 years.

Joining Daley in not releasing their tax returns: McCarthy, Enya, businessman Willie Wilson, tech entrepreneur Neal Sales-Griffin, activist Ja'Mal Green, Southwest Side attorney Jerry Joyce and attorney John Kozlar. The Tribune also requested tax returns from former Ald. Bob Fioretti, a late entrant to the race who so far has not complied. Mayor Rahm Emanuel has released his complete tax returns dating to 2005.

Those candidates who did not comply with the Tribune's request are largely government outsiders, with backgrounds still unfamiliar to many voters. That makes the need for them to release the financial documents all the more important, said Brian Gaines, a political science professor at the Institute of Government and Public Affairs at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

"It's more risky for them not to disclose their tax returns, because they are not well known," Gaines said. "If you're a voter and all you know about someone is they're a businessman, and down the line, you're trying to determine if this is someone I trust or not, it's helpful for the candidate to be able to say, 'My financial dealings are completely open. Everyone knows where all my money comes from.'"

For the seven candidates who disclosed tax returns, annual income ranged as high as \$2 million to as low as \$22,811. In one year, Ford reported losses of more than \$700,000 tied to real estate investments.

Gaines said the conventional wisdom from campaign operatives and political consultants in major contests for Congress, governor and mayor of a major city such as Chicago is for candidates to disclose all their financial information. That, he said, is because the risks of the public "punishing you for secrecy" is greater than the political damage of whatever embarrassing information might be found in tax returns, such as not giving much to charity.

But like many issues in politics these days, President Donald Trump has changed the calculus. Trump so far has refused to release his tax returns, giving various reasons for not doing so. The Trump factor could be giving candidates in other races reason to follow suit, Gaines said.

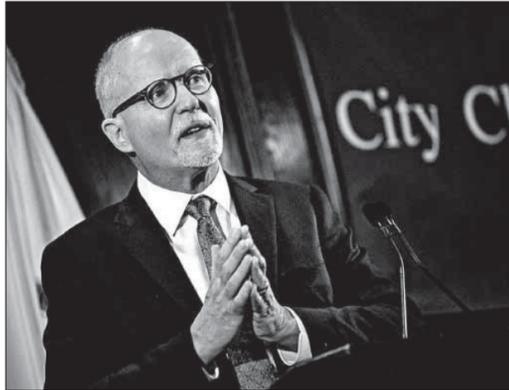
In Chicago, however, candidates who don't release their tax returns could get unwelcome comparisons with Trump, who remains deeply unpopular in the city. Even more of a factor in Chicago is the presence of 21 mayoral candidates, and Gaines said some of them may think they can "totally ignore the issue and hope people miss it in the crowd."

"In a good-government sense, voters should know as much as possible about all the candidates, including their finances," Gaines said. "But in a strictly Machiavellian read on it, is it a risky thing in such an open field?"



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

In 2014-17, Gery Chico's adjusted gross income averaged \$1.75 million and his effective tax rate was 37.9%.



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Paul Vallas averaged \$126,782 in adjusted gross income and paid a 17.3% tax rate. He reported no taxable income in '16.



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Susana Mendoza averaged \$167,212 in adjusted gross income and paid an effective tax rate of 18.9% in 2014-17.



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Dorothy Brown averaged \$107,599 in adjusted gross income, paid a 21% tax rate and gave \$15K to charity.

Yes, because it still could come down to two or three serious candidates, and if you're the one who isn't disclosing much information, the others may draw voters' attention to it in a big way and say, "You just can't trust this guy."

Candidates who released taxes

Here are the major takeaways from the candidates who released tax records:

Chico: The onetime chief of staff to former Mayor Richard M. Daley released only the Form 1040 summary of his federal tax returns. He declined to release his state returns and any attached schedules or statements that would provide further details on his income, investments, tax exemptions, charitable donations and more.

Asked why Chico did not release his complete tax returns, spokeswoman Kelley Quinn responded, "The information Gery released is far and above what is required to be made public by any candidate for mayor."

Chico's partial release of tax returns echoes similar decisions by Gov. Bruce Rauner and Gov.-elect J.B. Pritzker, both extremely wealthy businessmen who refused to make public their investments, deductions and other detailed tax information — including how much they hold in offshore investments. Gaines, the political science professor, said Chico's move to release only partial tax returns could invite attacks from opponents.

"If you can plant the idea in people's heads that someone won't tell you where

their personal financial interests rest, is he fit to run a city where he could end up running a city to his own personal gain?" Gaines said. "That's the kind of argument that sometimes catches on."

Chico, 62, previously has served as president of the Chicago Board of Education, president of the Chicago Park District board and chairman of the board of trustees for City Colleges of Chicago — all under Daley. He later served as president of the Illinois State Board of Education during Democratic Gov. Pat Quinn's tenure.

The partial tax returns Chico released show he made the most money of the seven candidates who disclosed financial records. Over the four years, his adjusted gross income averaged \$1.75 million per year with a high topping \$2 million in 2017. Chico, who filed jointly with his wife, Sunny Chico, paid an effective tax rate of 37.9 percent.

Chico's forms showed he claimed nearly \$1 million in itemized deductions over the four years, but he did not release the schedules that listed them. He also made alimony payments of \$100,000 in 2014, 2015 and 2016 and \$20,833 in 2017, the records showed.

Chico's documents did not show the deductions he and his wife claimed for charitable contributions. Separately, he released a list of donations from 2016 and 2017 showing he made \$146,409 in contributions, including \$42,769 to Habitat for Humanity in 2016.

Chico's limited tax returns did not show what investments he might hold. In 2015 alone he listed



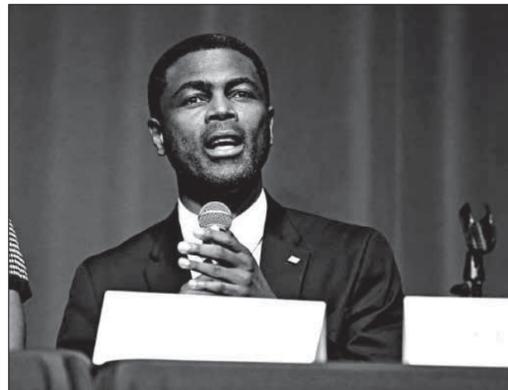
ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Lori Lightfoot averaged \$971,626 in adjusted gross income, paid a 38.6% effective tax rate and gave \$52K to charity.



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Toni Preckwinkle's adjusted gross income averaged \$191,776 in 2014-17, and she paid an effective tax rate of 23.6%.



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

LaShawn Ford lost \$736,298 in 2014. He averaged \$52,082 in gross income and paid an 18.1% tax rate in 2015-17.

\$523,606 in Schedule E losses, a broad category that covers income and losses tied to areas such as rental real estate, trusts, estates, S corporations, royalties and partnerships. In 2017 he reported \$513,180 in Schedule E income.

Quinn declined to say what that category of money was tied to, and when asked to explain the large swings in income and losses, she only would say, "Sometimes investments are up, sometimes they're down."

Lightfoot: The former federal prosecutor, who served as president of the Chicago Police Board until she launched her campaign, reported an average adjusted gross income of \$971,626 from 2014 through 2017, working as a partner at the law firm Mayer Brown. Lightfoot, who stepped down from the firm to run for mayor, paid an effective tax rate of 38.6 percent over the four years.

She filed taxes in several states in addition to Illinois, including New York, California and Minnesota, and also claimed \$21,898 in foreign tax credits tied to overseas income. Lightfoot said she filed in other states and claimed foreign income because as a partner she had an ownership stake in the law firm, which does business in various states and internationally.

Lightfoot, 56, filed jointly with her wife, librarian Amy Eshleman. The two took deductions for property taxes and mortgage interest paid on their Logan Square home.

Over the four years, Lightfoot also claimed deductions for \$121,000 in charitable contributions, including nearly \$24,000 to the Steppenwolf Theatre. Lightfoot also claimed a now-defunct \$500 state education expense credit for the \$12,150 in annual tuition she paid for her daughter to attend a Catholic elementary school.

Vallas: The education specialist had an adjusted gross income that averaged \$126,782 per year over the four years, including a high of \$206,267 in 2017 after Rauner appointed Vallas to a post to help turn around the struggling Chicago State University. Vallas left that job to run for mayor.

The year before, however, Vallas reported no taxable income and a gross income of just \$22,811. Vallas spokesman John Holden did not respond to a question about why Vallas reported so little income in 2016 as he worked as an education consultant.

Vallas, 65, filed jointly with his wife, Sharon Koldenhoven Vallas, who reported \$2,162 in wages that year from working as an Uber driver. The couple listed their suburban Palos Heights home as the main address on all four of the tax returns, in which they claimed deductions for mortgage interest and property taxes tied to the house.

Vallas has said he moved to a Chicago rental property in late 2017. The couple reported \$7,000 in charitable contributions over the four years, most of it in donations to thrift shops, and paid an effective tax rate of 17.3 percent.

The former schools chief in Philadelphia and New Orleans reported \$26 in profits from his Vallas Group consulting business in 2014, which Holden called a "break-even year" as Vallas mostly campaigned for lieutenant governor alongside former Democratic Gov. Quinn, who lost to Rauner. In 2015, Vallas reported \$18,756 in losses tied to the Vallas Group. Holden said that was a "slow year as there was no business development in 2014 while he was campaigning."

Preckwinkle: The Cook County Board president collected an adjusted gross income that averaged \$191,776 annually from 2014 through 2017, according to her tax returns. She paid an effective tax rate of 23.6 percent.

Preckwinkle took deductions tied to four properties — three Hyde Park condos and a property she owns in Crosby, Minn. In 2014 and part of 2015, Preckwinkle rented out one of the Hyde Park properties, claiming losses of more than \$6,000 over those two years. Campaign spokeswoman Monica Trevino said Preckwinkle no longer rents any of the properties because her children live in them.

In all four years, Preckwinkle listed her daughter Jennifer Preckwinkle as a dependent because she is in

nursing school, her campaign said. In 2014, Preckwinkle had a gross income of \$290,778 bolstered by \$144,860 in pension and annuity income. Trevino said Preckwinkle withdrew retirement funds that year to pay bills after divorcing her husband, Zeus Preckwinkle.

Preckwinkle, 71, paid taxes on about \$10,000 in Social Security benefits in 2014, 2015 and 2017. Asked why she did not report Social Security income in 2016, Trevino replied, "It was an error."

Mendoza: The state comptroller's adjusted gross income averaged \$167,212 annually over the four-year period. She and husband David Szostak filed jointly and paid an effective tax rate of 18.9 percent during that time.

Mendoza, 46, reported her highest income of \$232,714 in 2014. She reported about \$133,000 in income while her husband reported nearly \$100,000. The following year, Szostak reported \$1,380 in losses tied to a marketing business and the couple reported receiving \$12,180 in unemployment compensation. Mendoza campaign spokesman Pete Giangreco said Szostak collected the unemployment benefits while he was out of a job.

Mendoza and her husband reported paying about \$12,000 in day care costs annually for their young son. The couple deducted taxes and mortgage interest paid on their Portage Park home while regularly reporting losses connected to a second home they rent out in Fort Collins, Colo. From 2014 through 2017, they reported \$19,000 in losses tied to the Colorado home. Mendoza and Szostak listed \$1,622 in charitable gifts over the four years, most of which they did not list in the documents provided.

Ford: The West Side state representative did not report any income in 2014, instead losing a total of \$736,298 — most of it tied to real estate. From 2015 to 2017, Ford averaged \$52,082 in adjusted gross income and paid an effective tax rate of 18.1 percent.

The same year Ford, 46, reported losses tied to his real estate investment business, he pleaded guilty to a single misdemeanor tax count for overreporting what he spent in 2007 to rehab a single-family house in Chicago's Austin neighborhood, reducing his capital gain from the sale of the home. The deception cost the Internal Revenue Service a tax loss of \$3,782, according to the plea deal with federal prosecutors.

That agreement came after Ford had been indicted on 17 felony bank fraud charges, as prosecutors accused Ford of lying to ShoreBank to obtain a \$373,500 extension on a line of credit to fix six depressed West Side properties. The indictment alleged that Ford improperly used some of the money for personal expenses, but the lawmaker disputed the charges from the beginning, blaming the indictment on the bank's eventual 2010 failure. In August 2014, federal prosecutors dropped the 17 felony counts with little explanation in exchange for Ford pleading guilty to the misdemeanor tax charge.

In an interview, Ford said the losses he reported in 2014 were not related to the case and reflected a deep depreciation of his real estate holdings after the Great Recession. Ford said he did not file for bankruptcy but noted that it took several years to negotiate a final agreement with lenders on the sale of the properties. Ford estimated he held 20 to 30 investment properties at the time, all of which he said were sold in short sales.

A statement of insolvency filed with Ford's 2015 tax return listed \$2.7 million in total liabilities, including a \$180,000 personal loan and \$2.5 million in mortgages on real estate valued at \$14 million. The 2015 statement also indicated Ford's previously reported \$736,000 in debt had been forgiven.

In 2016, Ford reported just \$32,069 in income as

Turn to **Taxes, Next Page**

Taxes, from Previous Page

lawmakers went without paychecks for much of the year as part of the budget stalemate in Springfield. Last year, Ford listed \$59,980 in income but reported \$14,809 in losses tied to a business named Ford Desired Real Estate. Over the four years, Ford claimed \$11,040 in charitable contributions but did not provide a breakdown in his returns.

Brown: The Cook County Circuit Court clerk for the past 18 years reported an adjusted gross income that averaged \$107,599 from 2014 through 2017. Brown, 65, paid an effective tax rate of 21.1 percent over those years.

The clerk reported giving \$15,302 to charities over the four years, most of it in cash donations that she did not list in the released documents. She reported donating a 1996 Mercedes C Class valued at \$500 to Kars for Kids and claimed tax deductions tied to the use of a Jeep Liberty and a 2000 Cadillac DeVille as part of her side businesses.

Over the four years, Brown reported \$72,000 in income and \$41,000 in expenses tied to a business described in her tax returns as "motivational/religious speaker/accounting/network marketing/consulting/general." Brown campaign spokeswoman Patricia Andrews-Keenan did not respond to questions about what type of work the clerk did in connection with the business.

From 2014 through 2016, Brown also reported a total of \$28,840 in losses tied to four other businesses — Sankofa Group LLC, Inspiration Partnership, Dreams-Makers International and Goat Masters Corp. Brown's spokeswoman also did not answer questions about those businesses.

Goat Masters has drawn the attention of federal authorities as part of a long-running corruption investigation into Brown's office. In April 2017, federal prosecutors ordered Goat Masters to provide financial records connected to a man who allegedly paid a \$15,000 bribe in 2014 to secure a job in Brown's office.

Sivasubramani Rajaram, an ex-employee of Brown's office, was sentenced last year to probation after pleading guilty to lying to a grand jury after prosecutors alleged he paid a \$15,000 bribe disguised as a loan to Goat Masters, a goat meat supply company owned by Brown and her husband, Benton Cook III.

In 2014 — the same year prosecutors alleged Rajaram paid the bribe — Brown claimed \$24,800 in losses related to Goat Masters.

Did not disclose

Daley headlines the group of candidates who did not provide their tax returns.

Spokesman Peter Cunningham at first said Daley would be unable to meet the monthlong deadline offered by the Tribune. He later said Daley "would like to wait until the field is set (after petition challenges, etc.) before releasing tax returns."

The number of contenders could be whittled down over the next month as election officials rule on challenges to some candidates' petition signatures that are required to get on the ballot. Daley's petitions initially were challenged by Joyce, who dropped that effort Wednesday. Daley also has abandoned previous campaigns before reaching the ballot, including a short-lived 2014 run for the Democratic nomination for governor.

Daley, 70, previously served as an executive with JPMorgan Chase and stepped down from the Swiss hedge fund Argentiere Capital to run for mayor. He filled out the city economic interest disclosure required to run for mayor, noting that his 2017 income was greater than \$25,000, the largest income bracket listed on the form.

As for Wilson, spokesman F. Scott Winslow declined to explain why the wealthy Omar Medical Supplies CEO would not release his tax returns as part of his second consecutive run for mayor. In his ethics disclosure, Wilson also said he

made more than \$25,000 last year. He has given his campaign fund \$827,000, records show.

Enyia spokeswoman Kristi Kucera declined to say why the campaign would not release her records. In her ethics disclosure, Enyia reported getting paid \$3,000 per month last year by Kids First Chicago, the latest name for a non-profit education reform group founded by the Commercial Club of Chicago. The group worked as a key fundraiser for former Mayor Richard M. Daley's Renaissance 2010 initiative,

which aimed to shut down underperforming schools and largely replace them with dozens of independently operated charter schools.

Enyia also reported getting paid as the interim village manager for University Park. The south suburb's finances have been under investigation by the FBI for more than two years, though no charges have been filed against any village employee or official. The Daily Southtown has reported. Enyia released a resume to the Tribune but did not list the clients she's

worked for as a policy consultant.

Sales-Griffin told the Tribune he didn't have any "tax returns to share at this time" but reported in his ethics form that he made more than \$25,000 last year. Kozlar said he would not release his returns, and in his ethics disclosure he reported no income in 2017.

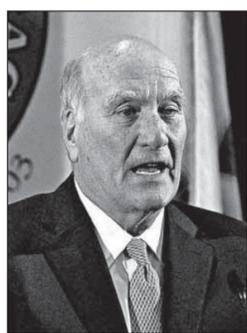
A spokesman for Green said the candidate needed more time to come up with his tax returns. Green also reported to city ethics officials that he made no income last year, but his spokesman said it was an

error while declining to say how much Green made.

Joyce's campaign did not respond to repeated requests for tax records. And in his ethics form, McCarthy reported making more than \$25,000 in 2017 from his private security firm GFM Strategies.

Asked whether he had an explanation for why Chicago's former top cop wouldn't release his tax returns, spokesman John Davis responded, "No, we don't."

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ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE
Bill Daley was among candidates who did not provide tax returns, reportedly waiting until the field is set.

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By the Yard

John Wayne Gacy's known victims



Tommy Boling Michael Bonnin Matthew Bowman William Bundy John Butkovich William Carroll Robert Gilroy Gregory Godzik Jimmy Haakenson Rick Johnston William Kindred Frank Landingin Michael Marino

Killings shattered illusion of safety

Gacy, from Page 1

children as a clown named Pogo.

"(The public) would feel much more comfortable if Gacy was this type of creepy, sequestered ghoul that was unkempt and heinous," Detective Sgt. Jason Moran of the Cook County sheriff's office, who is a point man on the Gacy case, said recently. "But instead, he dressed as a clown and bounced kids on his knee. He would knock at your door and say vote for my candidate."

Gacy's nice-guy persona masked something far more sinister. Once they were safely restrained — usually in a pair of handcuffs as he demonstrated a "trick" he learned as a clown — Gacy's easy smile melted away, revealing a cold, growling predator who sexually assaulted his victims before strangling many of them with a knotted rope. He buried 29 of his 33 victims in trenches underneath and around his home and dumped four others from bridges once his property could hold no more bodies.

The horror in the tiny community and images of Gacy in his clown outfit were splashed across newspapers around the world, again associating Chicago with a killing spree 12 years after Richard Speck's massacre of eight student nurses on the Far South Side. Gacy also had chilling similarities to another charming Chicago-area killer, Herman Webster Mudgett, also known as Dr. H.H. Holmes. Quite possibly the country's first serial killer, he lured people into his personally designed "murder castle" in 1890s Englewood. But where Mudgett had trick rooms with vents that led to disposal rooms, Gacy had a knotted rope and a crawl space.

After Gacy's house was razed in April 1979, the vacant lot became a notorious gathering place in the 1980s, drawing everyone from ghost hunters to rowdy neighborhood teenagers who late at night spun their wheels in the dirt lot and dumped beer bottles.

Now a new home sits on the lot, but the block still draws the occasional tourist or documentary crew, said one neighbor who lives across the street from the former Gacy property but asked not to be identified. "If you've got two guys in a car, or an out-of-state plate, it's probably Gacy."

Gacy was executed by lethal injection in 1994, but the impact of his crimes went beyond tainting his neighborhood. In response to widespread criticism of local police for taking years to connect the missing victims to Gacy, federal and local law enforcement agencies began sharing information on runaways and sex offenders, implemented a national hotline and launched a computer database for missing people.

Police departments and schools nationwide joined forces for massive public service campaigns tasked with teaching parents and children about "stranger danger."

Experts said the case also breathed new life into old, unevolved fears about homosexuality, still a taboo subject at the time. The combination of homosexuality and the heinous nature of the murders of young men lent a tawdry element to the tale that also attached shame to the victims and their families as the unfortunately named Gacy became a punchline in living rooms and on playgrounds across the country.

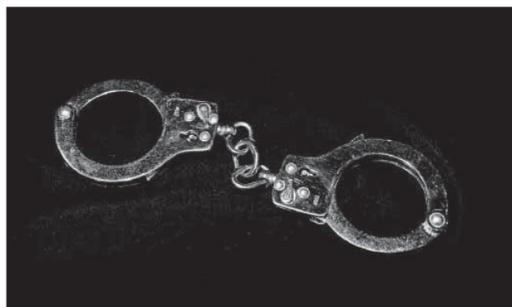
Case 'cleared' but not 'closed'

Inside battered boxes at Moran's Little Village office are pictures from Gacy's arrest four days before Christmas that capture not only grisly images but also



SALLY GOOD/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Police remove a body from the home of John Wayne Gacy in unincorporated Norwood Park Township in March 1979. The house was later torn down.



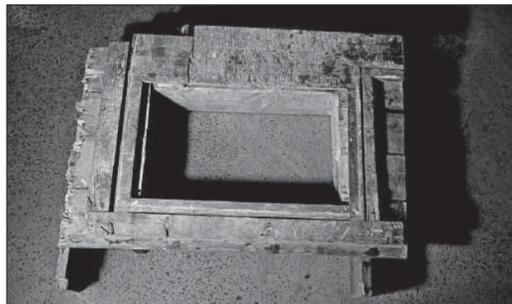
ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Handcuffs were part of a "trick" used to restrain victims.



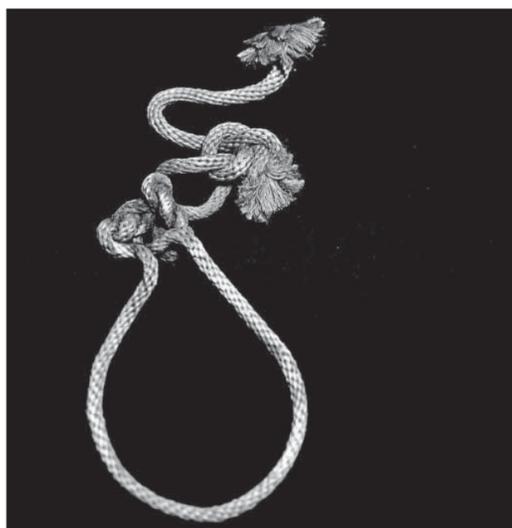
ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Maine West student Robert Piest's coat was in the home.



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The frame of the crawl space's trapdoor was evidence.



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Many times, Gacy sexually assaulted and strangled victims.

serve as a time capsule of a more worry-free era, with items like Gacy's Tiki-style mock bar set up inside his rec room. Aging photos show law enforcement officers and Chief Medical Examiner Robert Stein working in the muddy crawl space in street clothes,

where officers today would be dressed in full-body hazmat suits.

Other photos show colorful merchandise inside Nisson Pharmacy on Touhy Avenue. Fifteen-year-old Piest worked at the family-owned shop, one of many that have since yielded



MARTIN ZIELINSKI PHOTO 1976

Gacy entertained children as a clown named Pogo. He also owned a business, PDM Contractors.

largely to corporate giants like Walgreens and CVS. The teen told his mother, who'd come to pick him up from work so he could attend her birthday party, that he'd be right back after he talked to a man about a summer job that paid \$5 an hour.

Piest's slaying later that night at Gacy's home was the thread that unraveled Gacy's six-year rampage and brought Des Plaines police to his doorstep on Dec. 12, 1978. Authorities later found evidence at his home that linked him to the pharmacy, despite his early denials. Then a shocking confession to "maybe 30" murders confirmed a police officer's suspicion about the strange odor inside Gacy's home.

Retired sheriff's investigator Phil Bettiker, one of the first officers to hear Gacy's confession, has grim memories of the early days of the case, particularly when he and other sheriff's officers began excavating bodies from underneath the home. Inside the muddy pit, days seemed to stretch on endlessly as reporters and others gathered outside waiting for the nightly body count. He remembered officers running over to a local McDonald's to get fry baskets to sift the soil. And he recalled with a smile how a supervisor gave him and other officers the OK to help themselves to a case of Gacy's beer after digging up his home for more than 12 hours.



Gacy

come a mentor to Moran, a one-man cold-case squad who was tasked by Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart in 2010 with finding out the names of the remaining unidentified victims.

"This case isn't cleared and closed... it's open in that all of his victims haven't been identified," Moran explained. He said there's no new evidence that links Gacy to additional victims but adds "it's hard to put it past someone so evil."

Moran's office inside a Cook County sheriff's facility on South Rockwell Street is where boxes of Gacy relics are stored. The dingy storeroom contains work orders from Gacy's business, PDM Contractors, and ledger books showing Gacy's neat penmanship, along with more personal items, such as a dog-eared Bible and a wedding album from his first marriage.

In a cavernous warehouse in Cicero, items presented at his 1980 trial are stored, including jackets of two victims, Gacy's hand-drawn map of the bodies buried on his property and the wooden frame of the trapdoor leading to the infamous crawl space. The wooden structure played a dramatic role during closing arguments, when Assistant State's Attorney Terry Sullivan dropped photos of the identified victims into it before the jury.

Moran has also traced some of Gacy's travels across the country, looking for missing men and boys

along the way.

"Gacy, for a man of the '70s, was a traveler. He would travel all over the country for business and pleasure, and how did he turn it off in other places?" Moran said, referring to his urges to kill.

He's been able to identify two Gacy victims, William George Bundy and Minnesota native Jimmy Haakenson, and clear four suspected victims who died at the hands of other killers or of other causes. Six unidentified victims remain.

"I've solved more non-Gacy victims," Moran said grimly. He has also helped isolate a DNA profile for Gacy that can be used in a law enforcement database to be matched with any as-of-yet undiscovered or unidentified skeletons that may still hold traces of the killer's DNA.

Moran said identifying the remaining victims is difficult because of the likelihood that they were people with weak family bonds, possibly runaways or wards of the state, whose disappearances wouldn't have raised alarms at a time when a million teenagers a year ran away from home, according to a published report from that time.

Bettiker recalls being given the responsibility of going over an endless number of missing persons reports from agencies across the state.

In those decades before Amber Alerts, sex offender registries, 24-hour cable news and social media helped authorities quickly raise alarms on endangered youngsters, missing person investigations were less sophisticated operations where cases generally dried up once they were filed.

"Other than a parent making a missing person report on a juvenile or another person, (we'd take) as much information as we could and we'd put it out to other departments," Bettiker said. "But as far as an active pursuit of trying to locate them, there wasn't that much done, unless they were a fragile youth or something like that. But for the ages of most of the Gacy victims, if they're runaways, they're runaways. We try to locate them ... but there wasn't an awful lot we could do."

Killer in plain sight

Attorney Sam Amirante likes to joke that he was 6-foot-4 before he began representing an acquaint-

Turn to Gacy, Next Page



James Mazzara John Mowery Russell Nelson Timothy O'Rourke Kenneth Parker Robert Piest Jon Prestidge Randall Reffett Darrel Samson Samuel Stapleton John Szyz David Talsma Robert Winch

Gacy, from Previous Page

ance named John W. Gacy and wound up 5-foot-2 after being ground down by the immense and horrifying details of the case. Amirante, who later became a Cook County judge, wrote about his experience and how his infamous former client made a drunken confession to being "judge, jury and executioner of many, many people."

Amirante said it took months of exposure to Gacy to recognize his chilling duality.

"He looked at his victims like he was taking out the trash. He had no feelings about them," Amirante said, sitting in a private office at his Barrington home nearly 40 years after hearing the famous confession. "He could talk about a child who's dying of cancer and cry like a baby about this child he didn't even know or never met and feel authentically sad about this child. Then he'd talk about another child that he murdered and have no feelings whatsoever."

Perhaps the most astonishing aspect of Gacy's case wasn't the body count — it was that the portly, unassuming man killed 33 disabled young men and boys.

Over time, he'd refined his technique of trapping and killing his victims so well, it allowed him to ensnare multiple victims within days. It wasn't until Gacy's arrest that cracks began to appear in his carefully cultivated image.

Gacy had secret gay relationships but, according to his former attorney, denied being gay. Still, he cruised the city's North Side from Lakeview to Uptown prowling for young men. He also conditioned his neighbors to see young men coming to and leaving his home any time of day or night, easily explaining visitors as young workers digging trenches underneath his home.

Amirante, a former assistant public defender who represented Gacy as his first private client, agreed that the secret to Gacy's success lay largely in his unctuous charm developed over years as the son of a harsh, verbally abusive father and later refined as a successful shoe salesman.

"I always tell people that the scary thing about Gacy was that he wasn't scary at all. That's the scary thing — he could have been anyone's brother or father, uncle," Amirante said. "He was not an intimidating kind of person, with the exception of when he would turn and change out of the very affable, charming, likable guy into the killer that he was."

"Everyone who ever knew John Gacy knew one thing about him — he was a master manipulator. He could sell ice cubes to Eskimos," Amirante wrote in a 2011 book with Danny Broderick, "John Wayne Gacy: Defending a Monster."

Gacy also knew how to set a trap, Moran said. "He often would build up trust with his victims, so they wouldn't need to be on guard. He was their employer, their friend. He may have been someone who provided them with alcohol and drugs and maybe a place to sleep at night. That's an easy way to kill someone."

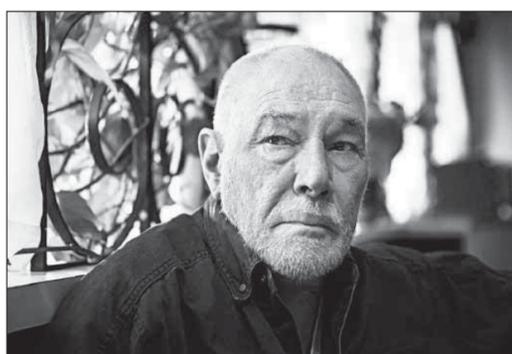
Bettiker recalled the elaborately themed parties that Gacy hosted at his home, where dozens of guests unwittingly celebrated over his private graveyard.

"He'd have parties at his residence where he'd invite maybe 200 people. He'd be the center of attraction," he recalled. "One-on-one, or in a group setting, he would be the last person that you'd think was a serial killer and is as devious as he was."

Had Gacy not targeted Piest, a well-regarded Maine West athlete and student with strong family ties to the community, his killing spree may have continued. Today, Amirante speculates that the usually cautious Gacy may have subconsciously pursued a



COOK COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT
A worker shows how deep investigators had dug into the crawl space under the home after Gacy's 1978 arrest.



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE
Phil Bettiker, now a retired Cook County sheriff's investigator, was one of the first officers to hear Gacy's confession.

victim who he knew would get him caught.

"I think he was being absolutely self-destructive and in the good side of him — the very limited good side of him that was left — clearly wanted to be caught," Amirante said. "He was sabotaging himself."

Gacy became the bogeyman to a generation of boys who never considered that they could be victims of sexual violence. The case left an impact across the entire area, including the city's South Side, where Moran spent his boyhood.

"I was only a boy during the original investigation, but growing up a boy in Chicago, the case, facts and circumstances, the Gacy serial killings stuck with you because it meant that boys could be victims of violent crime just like girls had been," Moran recalled.

He and others who worked during Gacy's time said the case also tapped a well of homophobia that may have scared off some families from seeking information on their missing loved ones due to the social stigma.

"These victims were primarily born in the 1950s and their parents were born in the 1920s and '30s," Moran said. "That generation, the parents of these victims, was not ready to accept homosexuality, and because the media constantly brought up the gay aspect of this case, Sheriff (Dart) and I thought it may be what kept people from coming forward."

Amirante said he believed a killer with Gacy's personal demons would be less likely to exist today.

"The police department (at the time) looked at things differently. Society looked at things differently. Gacy looked at himself differently then, because he was homosexual and, because of the trauma he went through, he couldn't accept himself. Today, the world is more open, people are more open. People are more understanding and compassionate about people who are different."

Quiet returns to Summerdale Avenue

Following Gacy's arrest, detectives and prosecutors learned that he had been on law enforcement's radar prior to 1978, including a case two years earlier when he was a suspect in the

disappearance of a 9-year-old boy. Gacy's case, as highlighted by a cascade of news articles and books, embarrassed law enforcement by exposing the lack of a safety net for vulnerable young people.

In the years since Gacy and other high-profile serial murder cases like that of 6-year-old Adam Walsh and a string of child killings in Atlanta, authorities have erected a system of public and private partnerships, along with implementing missing persons computer databases that can analyze patterns and reveal previous police complaints against a suspect. Also, private organizations such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in Washington assemble computerized information on missing people to safeguard against sex traffickers as well as sexual predators.

"The police ended up looking kind of foolish," in the wake of the Gacy case, a University of Louisville criminologist told the Tribune in 1994 after Gacy's execution. The criminologist, Robert C. Crouse, called Gacy "the No. 1 event" that changed how police departments operate.

After Dart took office, he ordered a review of cold cases. He said he was astounded to learn just how poorly missing persons cases were investigated by police of that era, saying he believed communication would have been similar to today.

"I couldn't have been more naive if I wanted to (be)," Dart said. "You want to talk about a fragmented, broken system, where it's amazing any missing person was found. ... If people only could transport back to that time, they'd find out that missing persons throughout the country was a train wreck. It was lucky if a department was writing the name down."

Elected officials began passing laws creating sex offender registries, and schools across the country added curriculum teaching youngsters about stranger danger and instructing them to speak out. Even Hollywood got into the act, blanketing 1980s and '90s television with public service announcements during family sitcoms and after-school programming.

The dramatic five-week trial led to years of headlines, numerous books and a TV movie starring Brian Dennehy as Gacy. The term



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE
Then-assistant public defender Sam Amirante represented Gacy along with attorney Robert Motta.

"crawl space" entered the American lexicon, meaning any dark secret in a quiet place, as DJ Steve Dahl's parody song, "Another Kid in the Crawl," earned chuck-

les from area teens and rebukes from families of survivors. Gacy also may have helped popularize the "killer clown" archetype, though author Stephen

King's 1986 best-seller "It" likely didn't help matters.

Today, with airliners crisscrossing the skies above, Norwood Park Township, with its small bungalows and two-flat buildings, resembles other neighborhoods at the edges of the city, popular with municipal workers and ethnic whites. In the aftermath of the gruesome discovery on Gacy's property, his neighbors had difficulty reconciling the friendly, gentle neighbor with the killer.

"Gacy had everybody fooled, and people don't like it — they don't like that they were friends with an evildoer," Moran said.

But over the years, as old neighbors moved away or died, quiet returned to Summerdale Avenue.

One neighbor, whose family moved to the block three years ago from Canada, said she had no idea about Gacy's connection until a friend told her that she might live across the street from the infamous house.

"I still don't know which house it is," the woman said outside her home.

Moran said he hopes society and law enforcement have learned lessons from Gacy, though both must remain vigilant. "I'd like to believe that it would not take 33 victims in six years in one geographic area again ... that we would be on top of it more."

His boss, Dart, added that technology and social media have removed much of the anonymity that allowed serial killers like Gacy to operate in the shadows.

"I don't think the magnitude could ever occur again like this," he said. "I just don't see a scenario where it would happen."

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Man gets prison for giving friend fatal dose

5-year term likely to shrink to about a year behind bars

BY AMANDA MARRAZZO
Chicago Tribune

Sobs filled a packed McHenry County courtroom Thursday as relatives and supporters of John Galloway pleaded for the former heroin addict to receive probation for supplying the drugs on which his friend overdosed.

But the judge ruled that Galloway, 21, must serve prison time for his role in the death of Jake Czipo, of Crystal Lake.

Galloway pleaded guilty in October to possession of heroin with intent to deliver in connection with the May 2017 death of Czipo, 20, and in exchange a more serious charge of drug-induced homicide against Galloway was dropped.

He was sentenced to five years in prison, but with credit for time served in jail while he awaited trial and a 50 percent sentencing guideline, officials said he will likely be freed in about a year.

McHenry County Judge James Cowlin noted the 37 letters submitted on Galloway's behalf and the many



T.J. and Judith Galloway pleaded for probation for their son John in the 2017 overdose death of his friend Jake Czipo.

supporters in the courtroom, including his parents, who begged the judge for probation.

But Cowlin said Galloway, who acknowledged he was addicted to heroin and sold drugs to survive, knew from his own experiences what he was "inflicting" on others when he supplied them with the opioid.

Authorities said Galloway, also from Crystal Lake, had more than 40 run-ins with police over the years and had been a party in at least two other fatal drug overdoses.

His mother, Judith Galloway, wept as she told the



Galloway

judge of how her son, the second-youngest of six children, was a loving and happy child until he "made a very bad choice" at just 11 years old to start doing drugs.

"My son ... did not wake up one day and say, 'I want to be a drug addict,'" she said. But by the age of 16 he was addicted to heroin and his life "began to spiral out of control."

She said her son has overdosed four times and has many close friends who have died of drug overdoses, including at least seven since he has been in jail.

Today, with 18 months of sobriety since his arrest, his

mother said her son is "free from drugs and ready to live his life."

She said she cries daily for the family of Jake Czipo, calling him "amazing, vibrant ... precious."

Czipo's family was not in the courtroom Thursday, but prosecutors read a statement they submitted.

They wrote that they're serving "a life sentence of pain" since Czipo died on May 18, 2017. Authorities say Galloway obtained heroin for both him and Czipo and then called 911 when he realized Czipo had stopped breathing.

Czipo's parents had asked for the drug-induced homicide charge to be dismissed against Galloway, saying they did not want to see him go to prison for 30 years.

However, they also blamed Galloway for introducing their son to heroin. They wrote that they had "little sympathy" for him and that, unlike their son, "he still has a future." They said their hope is that Galloway doesn't "return to his old habits" when he is released from prison.

Galloway apologized and vowed to stay sober. He spoke of his love for his friend, Czipo, and promised that if given probation he

would continue on in sober living and recovery programs and work toward being a substance abuse counselor.

Galloway said he was in a dark place and ashamed of his addiction, which led to homelessness and selling drugs to survive. He cried over losing as many as 13 friends to drug overdoses. He spoke of being allowed recently to leave jail to attend the funeral of one such friend. He noted the stark reality of drug addiction, describing how he was dressed in an orange jail jumpsuit as he stood over his friend's casket.

When he was arrested in Czipo's death, Galloway said he was "angry, selfish and lost," adding, "I never want to go back to drugs."

Galloway also spoke of his friend Seth Ferguson, who had also been charged with drug-induced homicide in Czipo's death. Ferguson pleaded guilty to a lesser charge in February and was released but died in September at age 23.

Galloway's case was highlighted in an August Tribune article that examined how, with opioid overdose deaths on the rise, Chicago-area prosecutors



Czipo

have increasingly lodged drug-induced homicide charges against those who supply fatal doses. Critics say such defendants are often just fellow users who are sharing drugs with friends, not major dealers, and that they themselves need treatment, not prison.

Proponents say those who supply drugs that cause someone's death must face the consequences.

In sending Galloway to prison, the judge sternly told him he doesn't ever want to see him back in court. "The court gets tired of being handed death certificates," the judge said.

When Cowlin handed down his sentence, Judith Galloway slumped into the arms of another son sitting beside her and wept. John Galloway kept turning to look at her, mouthing that it was OK. As sheriff's deputies led Galloway out of the courtroom, several of his supporters said, "I love you, John."

He still faces drug-related charges in Kane County.

Amanda Marrazzo is a freelance reporter.



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

David Caudle processes signed petitions in support of the mayoral candidacy of Susana Mendoza on Nov. 26.

Preckwinkle's election challenge of Mendoza petitions to proceed

BY JOHN BYRNE
Chicago Tribune

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle will get to keep trying to knock state Comptroller Susana Mendoza off Chicago's mayoral ballot.

Chicago Election Board hearing officer Barbara Goodman on Friday ruled three facets of Preckwinkle's challenge to Mendoza's nominating petitions can proceed, while agreeing with the Mendoza campaign to dismiss a fourth.

The high-stakes fight centers on whether Mendoza collected at least 12,500 valid signatures of registered Chicago voters, the minimum

needed to get on the Feb. 26 mayoral ballot. Both sides have publicly predicted they will prevail.

Goodman said the Preckwinkle campaign hadn't established a pattern of fraud by some of those who collected Mendoza's signatures, and so struck that argument from the challenge. But she said evidence must be presented before she can rule on Preckwinkle's allegations that more than 13,000 signatures the Mendoza campaign submitted do not match people registered at those addresses, as well as claims of duplicate signatures and other problems with the names.

Mendoza campaign lawyer Tony Jacob said the pattern of fraud ruling is a victory for his client, and predicted she will beat the challenge. "The objectors have been very exaggerated in the way in which they've described Ms. Mendoza's petitions," Jacob said after the ruling. "She has more than enough signatures to be on the ballot, and that will play out."

Jacob said Mendoza has been prevailing on the vast majority of the line-by-line signature arguments the campaigns are waging behind the scenes.

But Preckwinkle lawyer Keri-Lyn Krafthefer said Friday's ruling has very

little impact on the overall fight, which she said Preckwinkle will win. "We'll be able to still prove they were deficient, and I think the voters will be able to determine for themselves why a candidate would want to hide and prevent evidence of fraud from going forward," she said.

Goodman set another hearing in the case for Sunday morning. Once she makes a recommendation on Preckwinkle's challenge, the full Chicago Election Board will make a final ruling in the case. It could then head to court.

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Feds: Cocaine operation made door-to-door deliveries

Chicago-based rapper among 18 people indicted

BY JASON MEISNER
Chicago Tribune

A Chicago-based rapper who has teamed up with Twista and other well-known acts was one of 18 people indicted on federal charges alleging they ran a cocaine-distribution network to make door-to-door deliveries.

Anees Usmani, 41, who goes by the stage name Ace Boogie, was charged with conspiracy to distribute cocaine as part of a multiyear

investigation code-named Operation Flawed Deal, according to the U.S. attorney's office.

According to his Instagram page, Usmani is a co-founder of hip-hop label Bloodlines Records. A 2016 music video featuring one of his songs shows him on a private jet with Twista, flashing diamond-encrusted watches and rapping in Arabic about his prowess.

"Now I run my town like I'm the damn mayor," Usmani says in the video, which has English subtitles. "I got my guards outside my house ... no police reports and no investigation."

Usmani's indictment was made public when he appeared in U.S. District Court on Friday afternoon, a day after his arrest, according to Joseph Fitzpatrick, a spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office. He was ordered held pending a detention hearing next week.

Prosecutors allege that Usmani and his co-conspirators — including his brother, Nafees Usmani, 39, and ex-wife, Lisa Usmani, 41, both of Lincolnwood — have distributed cocaine to as many as 2,000 customers in the Chicago area since 2017 through a door-to-door delivery service.

The charges carry up to

40 years in prison upon conviction.

Federal prosecutors also are seeking to seize Usmani's Mercedes G63 sport utility vehicle, more than \$500,000 in cash and several properties tied to the organization, court records show.

The investigation was run by the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force, a partnership among federal, state and local authorities that targets large-scale drug-trafficking organizations, according to the U.S. attorney's office.

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Hey, Bears, let the hardcore Packers fan visit the sideline



REX W. HUPPKE

Russell Beckman should be allowed on the Chicago Bears sideline this weekend before the big game against the Green Bay Packers.

He should be welcomed, decked out in his green and yellow Packers regalia, and carried onto the field on a giant wheel of cheese. The people carrying that giant, Beckman-bearing wheel of cheese should be the knuckleheads in the Bears organization who are barring the Wisconsin social studies and special education teacher from wearing what he darn well pleases.

If you haven't heard of The Mighty Beckman, here's a quick rundown:

He's a hardcore Packers fan and a season ticket holder at both Lambeau Field and Soldier Field. He sells most of his Bears tickets but always comes when the Packers are in town.

Bears season ticket holders can earn loyalty points that get them invited to special fan events, and one of those events is a chance to be on the sideline before a Packers-Bears game.

One such game was held Dec. 18, 2016. But Beckman was denied access to the Soldier Field sideline because he was wearing Packers gear.

So he did what any right-thinking fan would do who doesn't like to have his clothing choice questioned by a bunch of uptight ninnies: He filed a federal lawsuit.

The argument is that Soldier Field — run by the Chicago Park District — is a public space and that the Bears, by denying entrance based on his outfit, are violating Beckman's First Amendment rights.

While the lawsuit plods along, the proud Packers supporter sought a temporary restraining order and injunction that would give him access to the pregame sideline fan event before this Sunday's game. Alas, U.S. District Judge Joan Gottschall on Thursday denied Beckman's request.

I can't speak to the legal merits of the case, but I can certainly speak to the Chicago Bears organization's intransigence on this issue: Lighten up. Beckman is a fan. Granted, he's a fan of the wrong team, but what harm comes from letting an enthusiastic fellow who enjoys

dying his beard green and wrapping himself in what appears to be the entire contents of a Lambeau Field gift shop hang out on the sideline before a rivalry game?

"I'm a fan of the NFL," Beckman told my colleague, Corilyn Shropshire. "I want the Bears-Packers rivalry to be exciting. I want Packers and Bears games to mean something. If you're a fan of something, you want to claim it."

Indeed you do. And the Bears are keeping Beckman — a paying customer — from laying claim to his fan fantasy.

So I have an idea that might appease all parties.

Beckman, a Packers fan of inestimable perseverance, will be allowed to hang out on the sideline before this Sunday's game, and he can wear as much Packers paraphernalia as his sturdy frame can support.

In return, the Green Bay Packers organization will allow a die-hard Chicago Bears fan to come for a pregame sideline visit at Lambeau Field next season wearing an elaborate bear costume. (I briefly considered demanding that the Packers allow a real bear onto the field, but that would likely require mauling insurance, and few NFL teams carry that anymore.)

How is this not a perfect resolution? Beckman — a person any sports fan should admire — gets to do what he wants and not have any of his clothing rights infringed upon. And Packers fans can, if they wish, hurl insults or cheese wedges at a Chicagoan dressed as a bear!

It's a win for everyone. How about it, Bears brass? Do the right thing and strike a deal with your counterparts in Green Bay.

Let's work this out so The Mighty Beckman can drop his lawsuit and get hoisted atop a giant wheel of cheddar and marched in to a hero's welcome at Soldier Field.

At the end of the day, isn't that what sports are really about?

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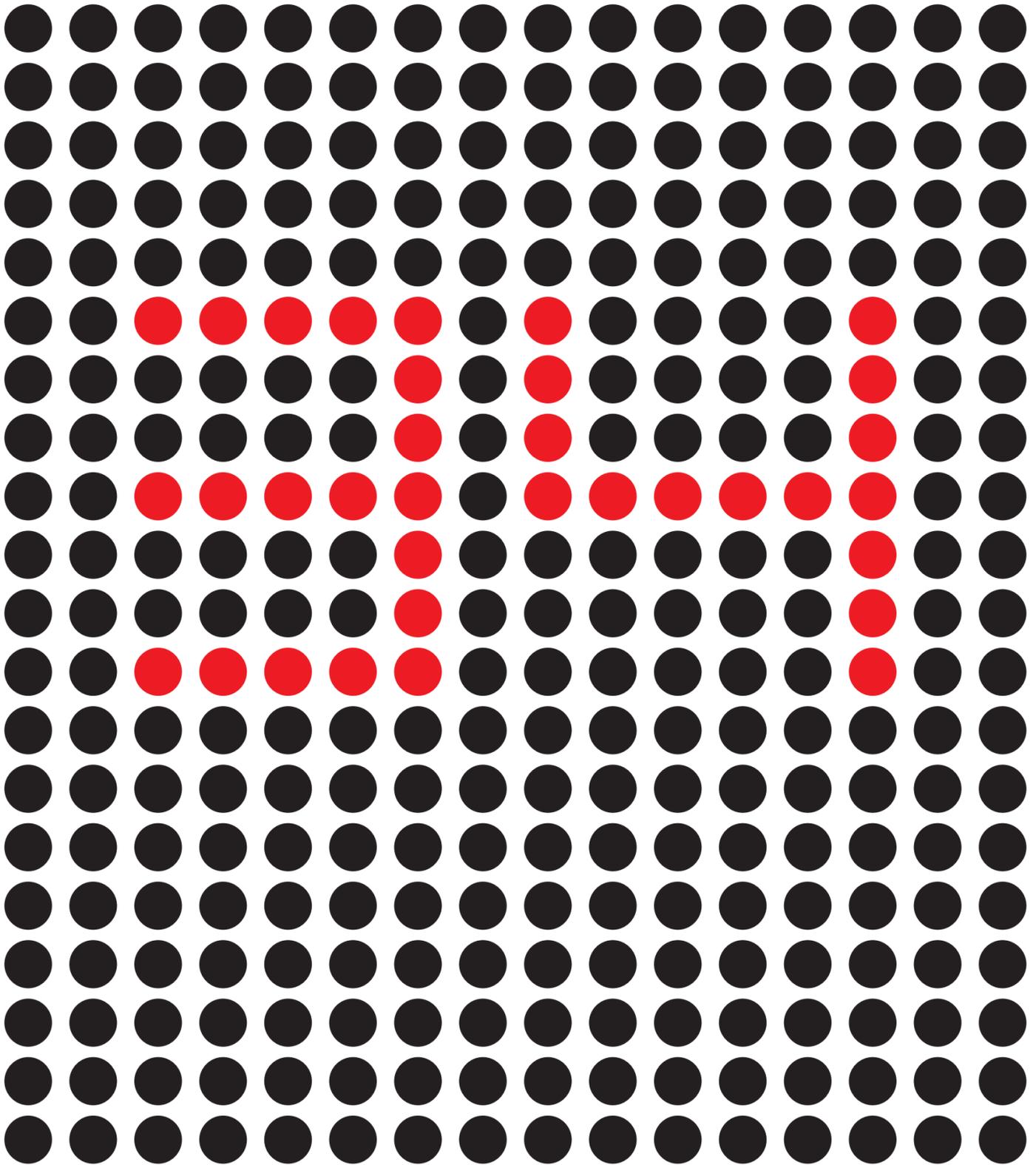
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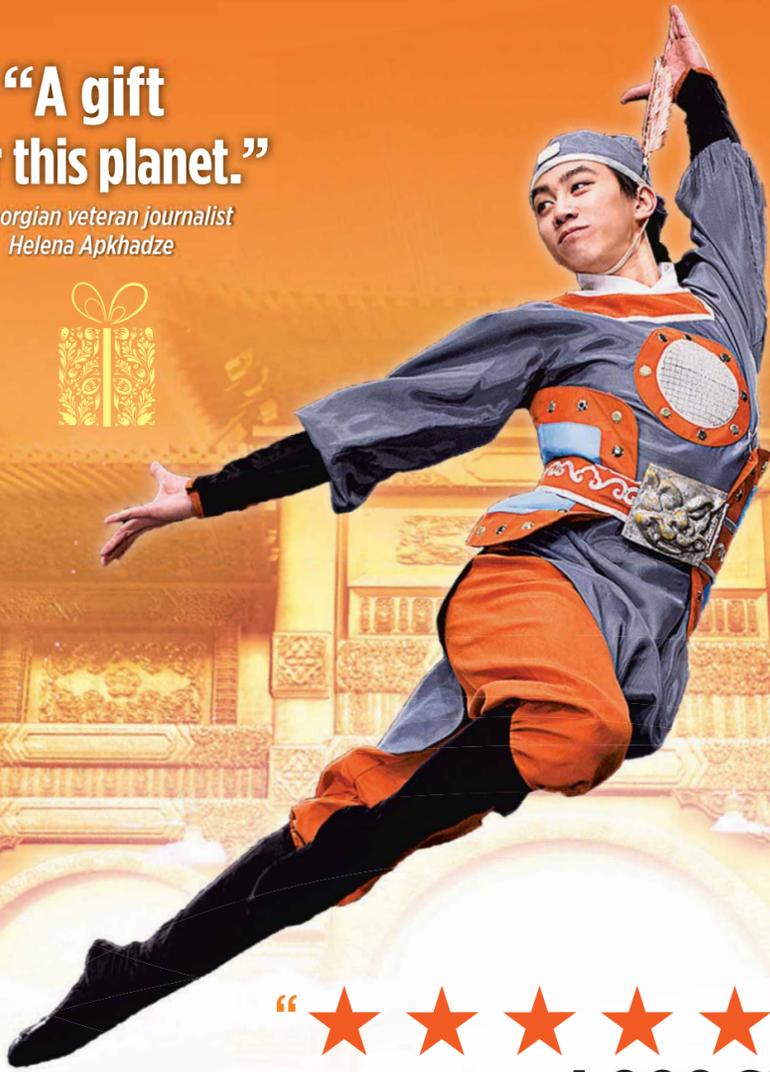
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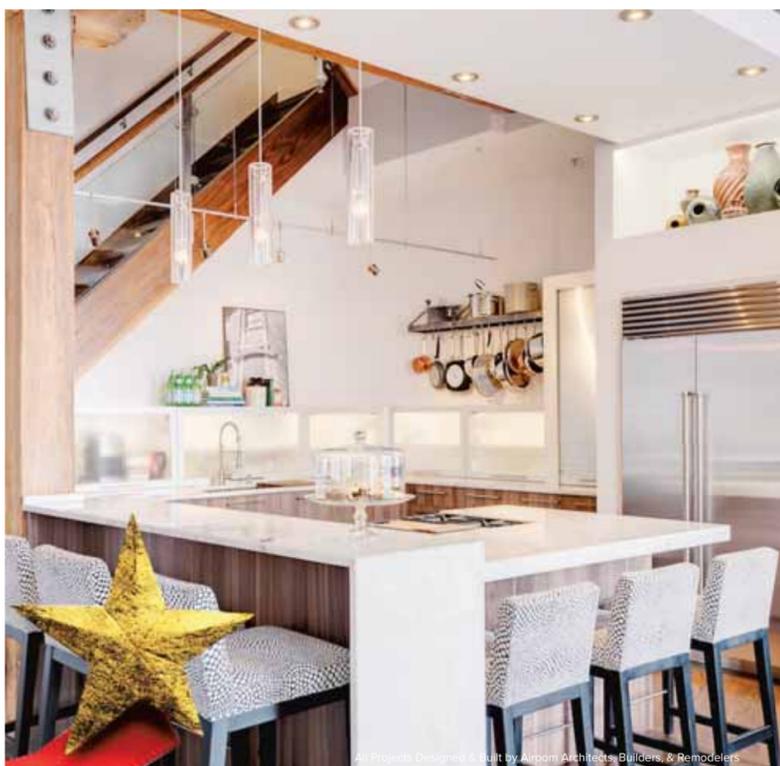
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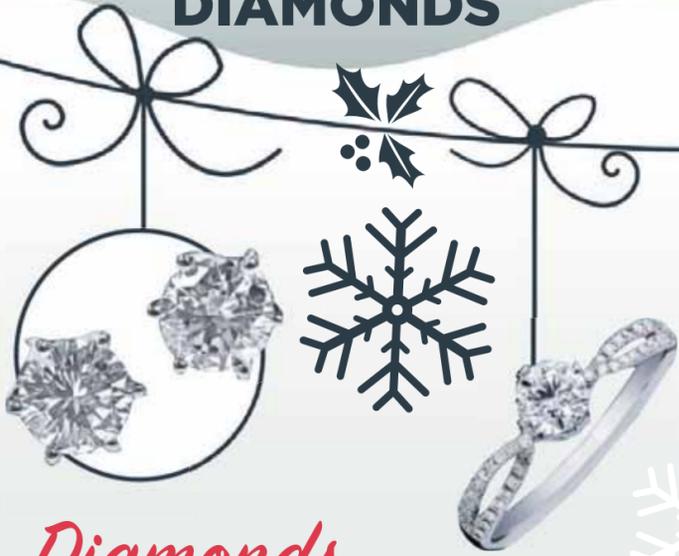
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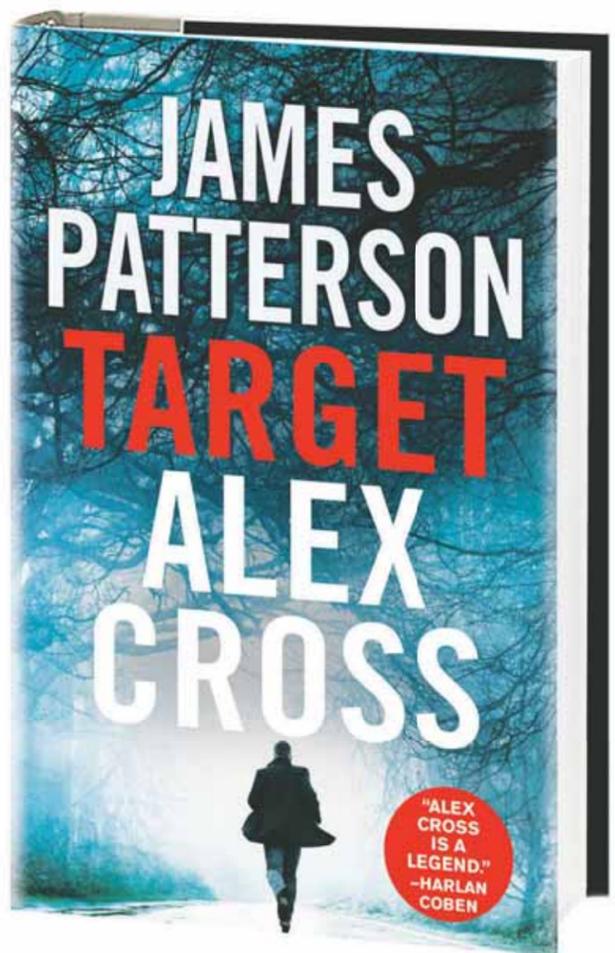
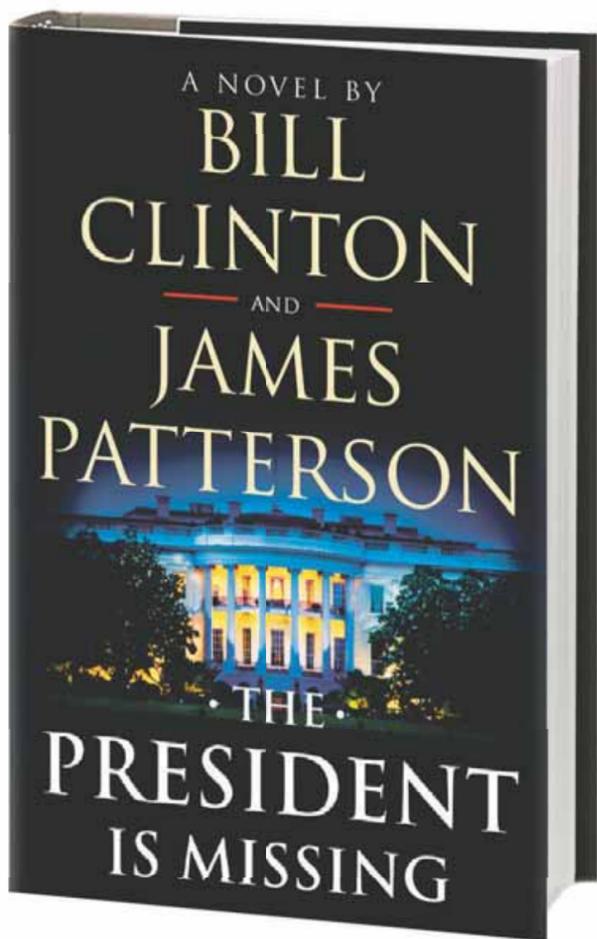
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Ex-Rosemont sergeant, charged with robberies, will seek pension

BY JENNIFER JOHNSON
Pioneer Press

A former Rosemont Public Safety sergeant, who was facing the potential loss of his job due to his September arrest on armed robbery charges, has applied to receive a pension from the village, his attorney said.

Edward J. Karas, 40, is seeking a non-duty-related disability pension following his recent departure from the public safety department, said attorney Richard

Blass, who is representing Karas in his pension petition and criminal case.

In a statement issued Dec. 12, the Rosemont Public Safety Department announced that Karas, of Rosemont, had "officially resigned" from his position as sergeant on Nov. 21 — three weeks before his scheduled termination hearing with the village's Board of Public Safety Commissioners. Blass, however, characterized Karas' departure as a "retirement," and

said his client is waiting for the village's pension board to set a hearing date to consider his pension application.

If awarded a non-duty-related disability pension, Karas could receive annual payments that equate to half of his last year's salary with the department, Blass said.

According to budget documents released by the village of Rosemont, Karas' annual salary as a public



Karas

safety sergeant was set at \$112,527 for 2018.

Blass declined to comment on the nature of Karas' reported disability or injury.

Attorney John Murphey, who represented Public Safety Superintendent Donald E. Stephens III in his request to have Karas fired from the department, said he was aware that Karas was seeking a pension from the village.

Karas was arrested by Park Ridge police on Sept. 13, accused of driving the getaway car in two gas station armed robberies, authorities said. The robberies were reported on the morning of Sept. 12 at a Shell station at 2301 W. Touhy Ave. in Park Ridge, and Fire King Exxon at 8500 W. Lawrence Ave. in Norridge, police said. At the time of his arrest, Karas was on paid leave from his sergeant's position as the department conducted an internal in-

vestigation of allegations that he had used his law enforcement authority to bring a large group of people, including a felon, into an event at the Allstate Arena without tickets or security checks, a complaint filed by Stephens said.

Karas, who is free on bond, has entered a not guilty plea to the armed robbery charges, his attorney said.

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Attorney in inmate death criticizes inquest ruling

BY FRANK
ABDERHOLDEN
News-Sun

The attorney for the family of Edward Robinson III, who died in a Lake County jail cell in September, said this week's finding by a Lake County Coroner's inquest that he died of natural causes doesn't add up.

"The result of the inquest is wrong," said attorney Larry R. Rogers, who represents Robinson's mother, Sandra Raftie of Park City.

Rogers, an attorney for the Chicago firm Power Rogers & Smith LLP, said Friday that Raftie plans to file a lawsuit but has held off because the coroner's inquest was pending, along with an investigation by the Lake County Major Crime Task Force, which has not been completed.

"Edward Robinson III did not die of natural causes, he died as a result of negligence," Rogers said in a statement. "Lake County Sheriff's deputies ignored Edward after he collapsed, and they allowed him to lay on the cold cement floor of his cell for hours without medical assistance.

"That is gross neglect," Rogers added, "and we look forward to proving it in a court of law."

On Thursday, a coroner's jury found natural causes to be the manner of Robinson's Sept. 19 death. Robinson, a 32-year-old resident of Park City, was found at first lethargic and then unresponsive in his cell, authorities say, and he died after eventually being transported to a Waukegan hospital.

The time it took to address Robinson's medical needs came under fire and resulted in the demotions of several command staff members at the jail last fall by former Sheriff Mark Curran.

The coroner's inquest, held in the Lake County Courthouse, was described by Coroner Dr. Howard Cooper as neither a criminal nor civil proceeding, but a method of determining "the manner of death."

An earlier autopsy ruled the cause of death to be hypothermia, said Cooper. Robinson's core body temperature was 84 degrees when he arrived at the hospital just prior to dying.

Sheriff's spokesman Sgt. Christopher Covelli said that during Thursday's inquest, witnesses testified that Robinson had been lying on the cold floor of his cell in his own urine prior to being transported.

Cooper added that Robinson had been previously diagnosed with schizophrenia, which can cause patients to sometimes undergo rapid body temperature loss and hypothermia.

Robinson was being held in a cell in the jail's administrative segregation unit, where inmates are checked every 30 minutes if not deemed suicidal.

Sheriff's office officials said Robinson was in the unit, where each prisoner is housed in a separate cell, because he had banged a chair against a cell door and tried to plug a toilet with Styrofoam.

Officials added that jail guards first called for a medical evaluation just after 6 a.m. that day because Robinson was lethargic and guards were having a hard time communicating with him.

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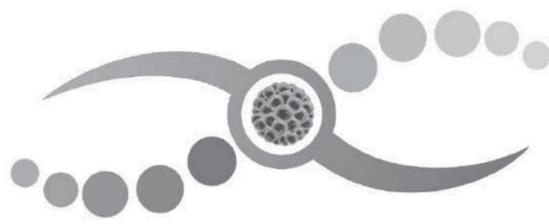
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Chicago Tribune
PERSPECTIVE

THE SURPRISING TRUTH ABOUT 'GUN DEATHS'



STEVE CHAPMAN

If you're thinking of venturing outside your home today, the news may change your mind. "Gun deaths in U.S. reach highest level in nearly 40 years, CDC data reveal," blared Thursday's headline on CNN's website. A news release from Everytown for Gun Safety noted that "39,773 people were killed by gun violence in 2017 — approximately 1,100 more than were killed by motor vehicle accidents."

The picture these announcements evoke is of mass shootings and random gun crimes that pose a mortal danger to every American. But that image is not quite accurate. The number of homicides actually declined last year — and is believed to have fallen again this year. Our streets have gotten safer.

So what gives? When gun control advocates cite "gun deaths," they are not talking just about slayings of people by other people. Some 60 percent of these deaths, it turns out, are not homicides but suicides. Most of the people who inflict fatal gunshot wounds harm only themselves.

"The rate of suicide in general increased from 2016 to 2017, and the increase was actually greater for the non-firearm suicide rate than for the firearm suicide rate," Florida State University criminologist Gary Kleck tells me — "suggesting that something that affects suicide but is unrelated to firearms is responsible for the recent suicide increase."

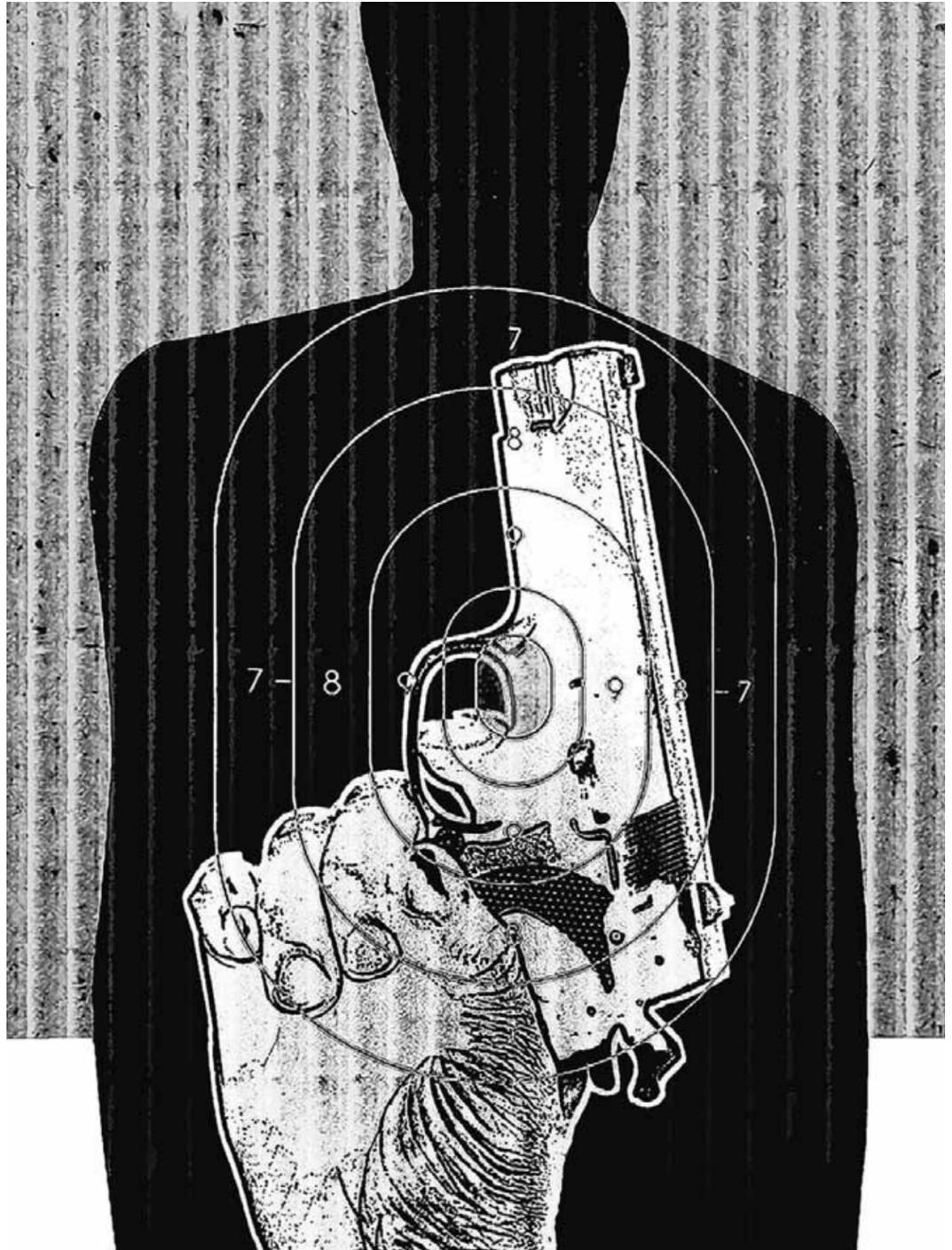
To lump suicides with homicides is to confuse the gun issue. The causes behind American murders explain very little about American suicides. Murder victims are disproportionately African-American. The suicide rate, by contrast, is three times higher among whites than blacks.

Critics of our permissive gun laws make much of the fact that Americans are unusually prone to use firearms to kill themselves. But it's easy to find other methods.

Japan has among the strictest gun control regimes on Earth and one of the lowest murder rates. But its suicide rate is higher than ours. Almost no Japanese suicides involve firearms; 2 in 3 are by hanging. Canadians, who are somewhat less likely to kill themselves than Americans, are much more likely to resort to hanging or poison.

Groups such as Everytown for Gun Safety argue that if the United States had stricter gun laws and fewer guns, it would also suffer fewer suicides. The evidence says otherwise.

When Australia adopted its strict National Firearms Agreement, gun homicides and suicides, which had been declining, continued to decline — as did nongun homicides and suicides. A study by Kleck concluded that the restrictions "did not reduce either suicide or homicide rates below what, based on pre-1996 trends, they would have been in the absence of the NFA."



TRIBUNE ILLUSTRATION

A 2004 review by the U.S. government's National Research Council acknowledged, "Some gun control policies may reduce the number of gun suicides, but they have not yet been shown to reduce the overall risk of suicide in any population." International data, it noted, "do not reveal a consistent association between gun ownership and overall suicide rates."

There is evidence that people who have firearms in their homes are more likely to kill themselves than people who don't. But correlation is not causation.

If people who have library cards read more books than people who don't, that doesn't mean getting a card causes people to read. People who read a lot, after all, tend to have library

cards. It may be that people who are prone to suicide are more inclined to buy guns — not that people who buy guns are more prone to suicide.

A recent report by the RAND Corp., a California-based think tank, said, "Available empirical research does not provide strong causal evidence for the effects of gun prevalence on suicide risk."

Here's another factor, noted by scholars in the Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health: "Suicidal individuals vary in the strength of their intention to die, which can influence their choice of a suicide method." Firearms tend to be preferred by those most determined to be dead. Depriving these unfortunates of guns would not make them want to live.

In any case, the sort of gun control measures that are politically conceivable in the United States would be irrelevant. We could ban semi-automatic "assault weapons" or 15-round magazines, but neither is needed by those who want to shoot themselves.

There are many ways to combat the scourge of suicide: facilitating mental health care, substance abuse treatment, employment and social support. Focusing on firearms is missing the point.

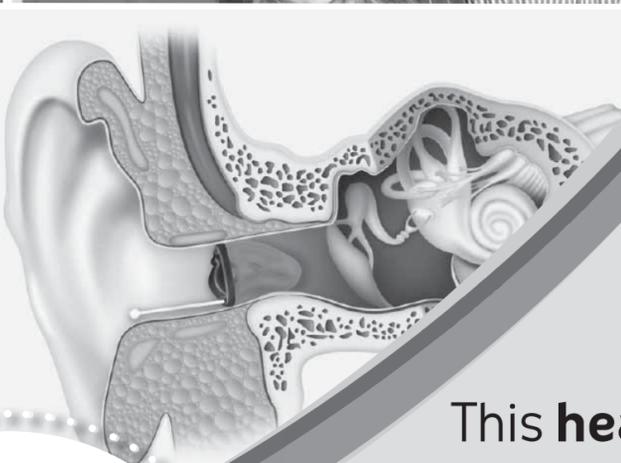
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PERSPECTIVE

Maybe Trump can't win in 2020, but Democrats can lose



JONAH GOLDBERG

Donald Trump probably can't win the 2020 presidential election, but the Democrats can lose it.

What I mean is that in a contest between Trump and a generic Democrat, Trump would almost surely lose if the current political climate holds through 2020. According to a Fox News poll released Wednesday, 38 percent of respondents said they would "definitely" or "probably" vote for Trump, while 55 percent said they would "definitely" or "probably" vote for someone else.

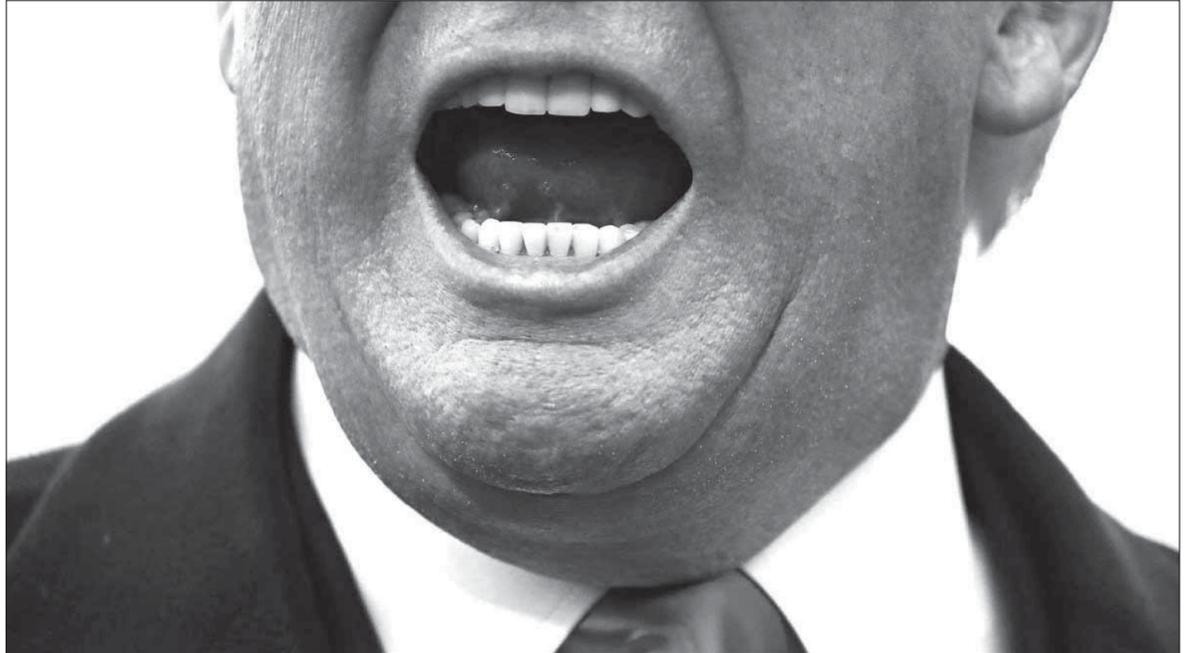
Trump's boosters are often quick to dismiss the polls, claiming they were wrong in 2016, when everyone said he had no chance of winning. The problem with this defense is that the national polls were actually pretty accurate in 2016. If you average out the 13 final national polls of 2016, they showed Hillary Clinton ahead by 3.1 percentage points. She won the popular vote — the only thing national polls measure — by 2.1 percentage points.

Trump carried the Electoral College because he won Pennsylvania and Wisconsin by 0.7 points each and Michigan by 0.2 points. A mere 78,000 votes carried the day.

Most presidents work assiduously to build on the coalition that brought them to power. President Trump has done almost the opposite, catering to his base while doing almost everything he can to alienate suburban Republicans and independents, which is why the GOP got shellacked in the midterms.

So if Trump runs — which is probably a bigger "if" than many people think — the cards are stacked against him. Fortunately for him, the Democrats will not nominate someone named Generic Democrat.

Instead, the Democrats are poised to re-create the same dynamic that got Trump the GOP nomination in the first place. While it's technically true that Trump beat 16 opponents, as he likes to say, the truth is more complicated. Trump



MARK WILSON/GETTY

never won a majority of votes in the primaries. He benefited from a collective-action problem in which various candidates defeated each other while a sticky plurality of voters stuck with Trump.

If the field had been narrower, with only two or three contenders other than Trump, his base of support might not have been enough. But with each additional player, the number of votes he needed to win shrank.

Right now, it's almost easier to list the number of prominent Democrats who aren't thinking of running. No one knows for sure, but estimates on the number of potential Democratic candidates range from 20 to 40. In that kind of field, the ability to attract a small but passionate cadre of supporters will be more important than arguments about electability. Thus, there will be an enormous incentive to replicate the Trump model of taking unorthodox positions, stated as boldly as possible, in order to win over the most

passionate ideologues and activists.

Moreover, the mood among Democrats is more than a little analogous to the mood among Republicans in 2016. Hillary Clinton was a uniquely disliked and feared figure among conservatives. The argument that America would be "over" if she won found purchase among millions of Republican voters. One need only listen to a few minutes of discussion on CNN or MSNBC, or to read the op-ed pages on almost any given day, to see that a similar attitude is widespread among Democrats. If you can't imagine chants of "Lock him up!" at the Democratic convention in 2020, you haven't been paying attention.

Thus, the odds that the Democrats will elect their own Trump are very high. Of course, the one thing Trump fans and foes alike can agree on is that Trump is a unique political personality. But a Democratic candidate could substitute policy outlandishness for personal outlandishness quite easily. Many in the Demo-

cratic base could easily rally to someone promising to abolish ICE, deliver "Medicare-for-all," repeal the Second Amendment, whatever. That would give Trump the ability to persuade many otherwise hostile voters to cast ballots against the Democrats rather than for the incumbent. He can't win, but they can still lose.

Tribune Content Agency

Jonah Goldberg is an editor at large of National Review Online and a visiting fellow at the American Enterprise Institute.



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As 'Silent Night' turns 200, its Austrian home cracks down on immigrants

BY GREGOR THUSWALDNER

This year marks the 200th anniversary of "Silent Night," the world's most popular Christmas song, which has been translated into more than 300 languages. When it premiered in the provincial town of Oberndorf, Austria, on Christmas Eve in 1818, it was highly unlikely that it would become the most favorite Christmas carol of all time.

And its anniversary is being celebrated at a moment when Austria's treatment of refugees feels counter to the calming message of the song.

Joseph Mohr, who wrote the lyrics of "Silent Night" in 1816, was an illegitimate child whose godfather was Salzburg's last executioner. Thanks to his godfather, who recognized Mohr's intellectual abilities, he was able to study and become a priest. Mohr moved from parish to parish before he became priest in the small town of Oberndorf, just 10 miles north of his hometown, Salzburg.

Today we associate Salzburg with "The Sound of Music," the Salzburg Festival and, of course, the genius loci, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. At that time, however, Salzburg was not a tourist destination at all. The Napoleonic Wars had devastated most of Europe, including Salzburg, which was an affluent city within a small

independent territory for centuries before it became part of the Austrian Empire in 1816.

"Silent Night" doesn't meet the criteria of a church hymn, as it was originally performed on guitar, not on organ. There have been many legends trying to explain the highly unusual choice of instrument for the carol. The popular 1959 children's book, "The Christmas Mouse" by Elizabeth Wenning, solidified the myth that mice ruined the organ, so the composer, Franz Xaver Gruber, had to use his guitar. However, there is no historical record that the organ was broken. It is more likely that Gruber intentionally used his guitar, as the song was meant to conclude the Christmas Eve worship service in front of a manger.

The carol was known only locally until 1825, when Carl Mauracher, from the Austrian state of Tyrol, built a new organ in Mohr's church. Mauracher passed the song on to singers in his native Zillertal in Tyrol. They toured parts of Europe and performed many folk songs, including "Silent Night." In the early 1830s, the Tyrolian singers came to Leipzig, where they found a particularly receptive audience. August Robert Friese, a publisher in Leipzig, was the first one to print the carol, which he incorrectly described as a Tyrolian folk song. Once in print, the

Have a Flashback idea?

Share suggestions with Lara Weber at lweber@chicagotribune.com or 312-222-3440.

song became more popular in Europe and even overseas, thanks to the Rainer family singers from Tyrol.

The Rainer family singers arrived in New York in 1839 and performed "Silent Night" in the German original in front of Alexander Hamilton's grave in Trinity Church Cemetery on Christmas Eve that year. But it wasn't until 20 years later, in 1859, when the Episcopal priest at Trinity Church, John F. Young, translated the song into English. The rest, as they say, is history. Numerous singers, from Bing Crosby to Michael Buble and from Aretha Franklin to Kelly Clarkson, have recorded their versions of "Silent Night."

In 2011, "Silent Night" was selected for the UNESCO heritage list because of its "key contribution to sustaining cultural diversity."

Unfortunately, Austria's government today, which is led by a coalition of the conservative People's Party and the far-right Freedom Party, is not interested in sustaining cultural diversity. To the contrary, Austria has drastically reduced

benefits for refugees while requiring them to be fluent in German in order to be eligible for minimum benefits. Like the United States, Hungary and about a dozen other nations, Austria recently rejected the United Nations' Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, a nonbinding global framework for handling migration. At 32, Chancellor Sebastian Kurz has been named a "political wunderkind," whose anti-immigration populism has become a blueprint for other conservative leaders in Europe.

While Austria is making it significantly more difficult for its immigrants to permanently settle down, the country is proudly celebrating the 200th anniversary of a song about the peace experienced by a refugee couple and their infant son, who is hailed as the savior of the world.

The website of the Silent Night Association in Oberndorf shows an image of a handshake — one hand is white, the other one black. It suggests that intercultural friendships are still possible and that the peaceful and hopeful message of "Silent Night" will prevail.

Gregor Thuswaldner is president of the Austrian Studies Association and dean of arts and sciences at North Park University in Chicago.

Some holiday songs, ranked

BY ALEXANDRA PETRI

If you are on the internet long enough, there comes a year when you will be forced to rank something. Now it is my time. So I am taking the liberty of going through the 100 holiday songs being foisted upon us everywhere and ranking them from Most Especially Heinous to Best.

100. "Little Drummer Boy." My hatred for this song is well-documented. I think it is because the song takes approximately 18 years to sing and does not rhyme. The concept of the song is bad. The execution of the song is bad. There is not even an actual drum in the dang song, there is just someone saying PA-RUM-PA-PUM-PUM, which, frankly, is not a good onomatopoeia and probably is an insult to those fluent in Drum. Nothing will fix it, even the application of David Bowie to it. Every year people say, "Have you heard David Bowie's version?" Yes. Yes, I have. It is still an abomination.

99. "Do You Hear What I Hear?" A better name for this song would be "I Assume You Cannot Hear Anything I Am Saying and so I Am Going to Repeat All the Words Twice." The problem with this song is the problem that arises any time you are forced to repeat something you said because someone didn't hear it properly: namely, that you didn't phrase the thing very well in the first place. "WITH A VOICE AS BIG AS THE SEA." What? "WITH A VOICE AS BIG AS THE SEA." you shout, regretting that you ever thought it was a good idea to introduce a simile.

98. "Santa Baby." The panicky Michael

Buble version that addresses Santa as "buddy" and "pally" and, even more confusingly, "poppy" has been richly and correctly mocked. But here is my bone to pick with the original, especially in 2018: Santa's *whole concept*, as far as I can understand it, is that he will give you amazing, wonderful gifts for *nothing*. Yet the singer in this song seems to be laboring under the delusion that to receive elegant presents, she has to sleep with him?

97. "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer." One of my chatters correctly describes this as a song about how differently-abled people are bullied until the system finds a way to exploit them for profit. The only good thing about this song is that Rudolph is a reindeer with a people name, and all the other reindeer have dog names. Prancer, Blitzen, Dancer!

96. "Silver Bells." I don't like Christmas songs with onomatopoeia of any kind. Just play the dang instrument; don't have a human being sitting there going RING-A-LING like a moron.

95. "Carol of the Bells." OK, here's another thing I dislike: songs that would be fine if they didn't have words but instead we put words in them. This carol reminds me of that time in the 1970s when they decided that all movie theme songs had to have lyrics, so "The Godfather" theme got the words "Speak softly, love, so no one hears us but the sky!" (Yeegh.) "Carol of the Bells" typifies the worst excesses of this approach: "Hark how the bells! Sweet silver bells!" And that is before you even get to the DING-DONGS.

94. "Linus and Lucy." This makes me

feel like I am on hold.

93. "The Chipmunk Song." This song is designed to be annoying, but, unlike other songs designed to be annoying, it succeeds in turning me against it. It is the voices, I think.

92. "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus." Love adultery!

91. "Little Saint Nick." You know, I should like this song. There's something frustrating in not liking something that is entirely made up of components you like. "Will they do anything to make it sound like anything other than a normal Beach Boys song? Absolutely not!" My inability to enjoy this frustrates me more and more with each listen.

... Let's skip straight to the top ...

5. "Dominick the Donkey." Jiggity-jig! Hee haw! Hee haw! Now I am beginning to see that there is a problem with this list, which is that my taste is very strong and very bad, but I really like this song about a donkey. I love, as a genre, songs that try very hard to make a new seasonal figure happen. This song was like, "I see you, Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer, and I raise you!" These songs always create a problem for their character to solve, or some magic, and I love, too, how prosaic the problem is that Dominick resolves: The reindeer can't do hills! Not a lot of Christmas songs can pull off what "Dominick the Donkey" does. I am all in on "Dominick the Donkey."

4. "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." This song has always read as passive-aggressive to me, and I find that enjoyable.

3. "Underneath the Tree." I wish we

lived in a world where one of our biggest complaints, as a society, was that no song since "All I Want for Christmas Is You" has been added to the Christmas canon. This should be a big complaint! I think "Underneath the Tree" deserves to be added to the canon. Three reasons: Kelly Clarkson is great; it hits all the Christmas bases in a quick, efficient list ("You're here, where you should be/Snow is falling, and the carolers sing. ... Presents, such a beautiful sight!"); and it slaps! Let it into the canon!

2. "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch." My spouse disagrees that the tune of this song is good. He says it is too whimsical. Unlike other holiday songs, which are saccharine at best and lachrymose at worst, "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch" is just a man facing insult after insult from a deep bass voice with no reference to Christmas whatsoever. It is a welcome reprieve. I am correct to put it here.

1. "Good King Wenceslas." This is a great song. I never tire of hearing about the only semi-impressive good deeds of this medieval monarch. He made the sod slightly warm! Hooray! Good for you, King Wenceslas! All the rhymes work! Every word is satisfying to sing! WENCESLAS! ON THE FEAST OF STEPHEN! DEEP AND CRISP AND EVEN! What a rollicking hearty song. Wenceslas! I wish we sang this song year-round.

The Washington Post

Alexandra Petri is a Washington Post columnist.

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EDITORIALS

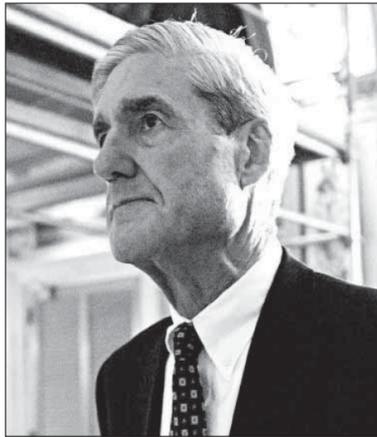
Why Americans need Mueller's verdict on Trump

In May 2017 when special counsel Robert Mueller began his investigation of Donald Trump's presidential campaign, the country strapped in for a long, strange trip. Destination? We'd know when we got there.

Mueller was tasked with finding any coordination between the Russian government and individuals associated with the campaign, plus pursuing "any matters" arising from the investigation. So far, Americans have heard lots about those other matters, including serious legal trouble for Trump associates Michael Flynn, Michael Cohen and Paul Manafort. But no evidence has come to light yet proving collusion between the campaign and Russia to swing the election for Trump.

Much of the recently expended oxygen was over Cohen's guilty plea for campaign finance violations. Court papers reveal Cohen's also been sharing with Mueller's team his knowledge of "core Russia-related issues." The same goes for Flynn. He's been so helpful that Mueller recommends Flynn not get prison time for lying to FBI agents about his conversations with the Russian ambassador.

There are at least two reasons for Trump to be worried about the direction of the special counsel's investigation. The first is that Mueller's mandate is so broad. Typically, law enforcement authorities identify crimes and then pursue the culprits. Mueller, in effect, is working the



J. SCOTT APPLEWHITE/AP 2017

Special counsel Robert Mueller's investigation began about 19 months ago.

opposite strategy. He was pointed in the direction of a coterie of campaign-related suspects — and, by association, the president — then was given permission to bore down as deep as he chooses to find crimes. Those crimes include lying to the investigators.

Mueller is already responsible for a slew of indictments and convictions. He hasn't finished, and with each step he takes, the shadow of scandal lengthens over Trump's presidency. The special counsel faces no

time limit on his activity. He works independently from the Justice Department. When does Mueller wrap up? When does he determine he's no longer building a larger case but simply rooting out felonies as a means to its own ends? When Mueller says so, probably.

The risk of a special counsel probe becoming a perpetual prosecution machine is why the Tribune Editorial Board looks skeptically at calls for these independent investigations. They can get out of hand. Such mechanisms should be employed rarely, in situations where there's compelling evidence of a serious crime when normal law enforcement channels aren't available because of a conflict of interest. Mueller's probe passes our test because Russian meddling is a threat to democracy and because Trump fired FBI Director James Comey, who had been leading the investigation.

If the first reason for Trump to be worried about his presidency is the breadth of the special counsel's mandate, the second reason is his own reckless conduct. After all, Trump himself is the reason Mueller is all up in the president's grill. If Trump had maintained discipline and allowed Comey to conclude the FBI investigation, there'd be no special counsel. But Trump couldn't help himself, fired Comey, blabbed about it and now can be reasonably accused — at least in the public's mind — of obstructing justice.

Once in swing, Mueller's investigation

was empowered to pursue "any matters." In one major step, Mueller referred an investigation of Cohen to federal prosecutors in New York. That's what led to Cohen's guilty pleas on charges including campaign law violations for arranging payoffs to women who said they had affairs with Trump. Cohen implicated Trump in that crime, but the president denies it.

Proof of such reckless behavior by Trump could lead to his impeachment. Are there more allegations of crime in Trump's orbit for Mueller to identify? Will Trump be accused directly of illegal activity? These are questions Trump wakes up pondering each day and then rails about on Twitter — instead of focusing intently on his other responsibilities as president.

To Trump and his supporters, the Mueller investigation is a witch hunt. To foes of the president, Mueller appears to be making their case that this president is unfit to hold office. To the detriment of the entire country, Trump's administration appears distracted and prone to chaos. Getting caught in the sights of a long-running special counsel probe is a terrible look for a president.

Mueller is a trustworthy figure pursuing a legitimate assignment. He needs the independence to conclude his investigation on his own timeline, and then disclose the results. But the sooner he finishes, the better off the country will be.

4 more years to finish the Jane Byrne? C'mon, IDOT.

It was already a Monday and then this: news that reconstruction of the Jane Byrne Interchange — one of the most notorious logjams in the nation — wouldn't be completed until 2022, three years later than transportation officials had projected.

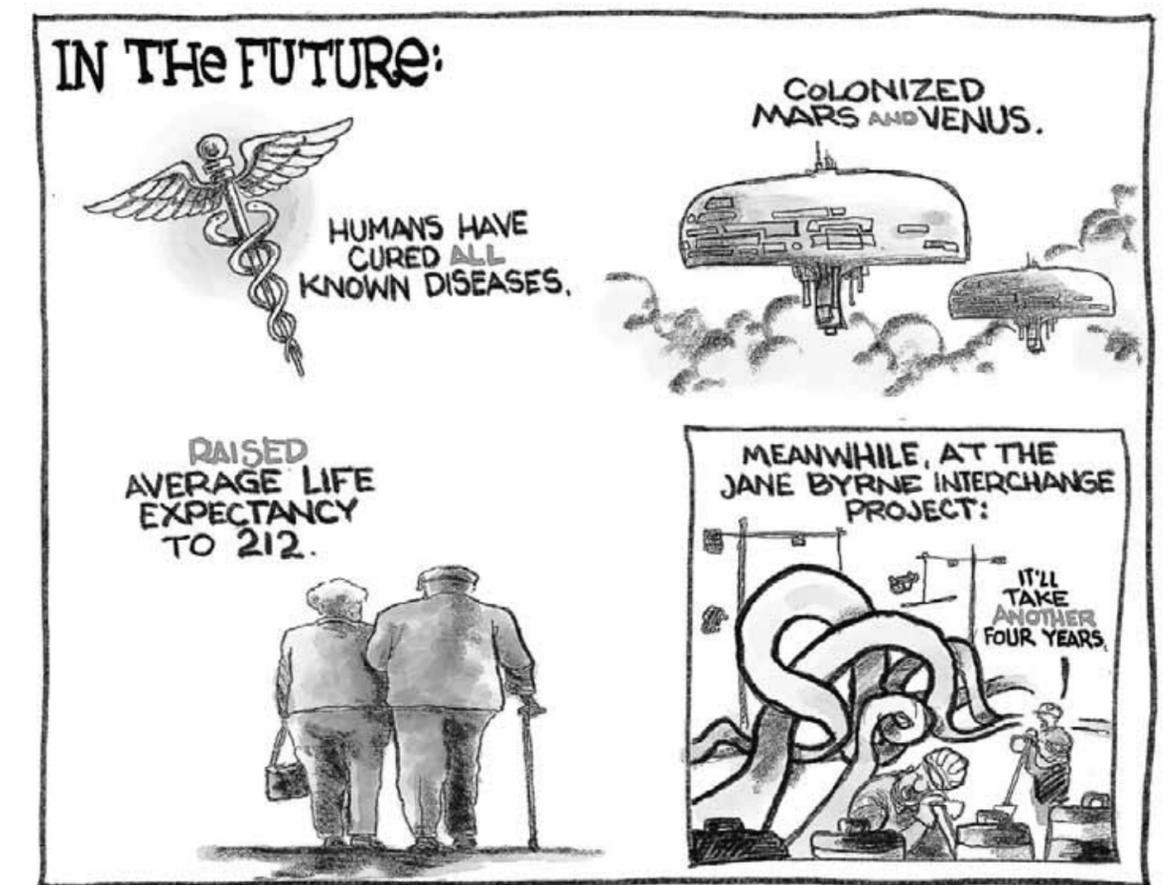
Tribune transportation writer Mary Wisniewski dropped the bombshell in her Dec. 10 "Getting Around" column. Buckle up, buttercup: Rebuilding the city's concrete nucleus where the Kennedy, Eisenhower and Dan Ryan expressways converge with Ida B. Wells Drive (formerly Congress Parkway) won't end for four more years.

If the Illinois Department of Transportation meets that new deadline, the interchange will have been under reconstruction for eight years with at least a year of planning and designing before that. (Cranky motorists will argue that finishing in 2022 actually would make this a 10-construction-seasons project; IDOT itself has cited the Morgan Street bridge rebuild begun in September 2013 as "part of the overall Circle Interchange project." But that's piling on.)

Two world wars were fought and won in less time. Rows of skyscrapers went up in less time. The transformation of Navy Pier, less time. New Comiskey Park, less time. Dan Ryan reconstruction, less time. Millennium Park, less time. The Deep Tunnel Project — oh, wait. That engineering feat began in the mid-1970s and isn't expected to be completed until 2029. Somebody, go pick on them.

When we asked Mayor Rahm Emanuel on Wednesday about the lengthening timetable for the interchange project, he channeled our frustration: "There should be penalties and accountability in the system" on a project that is "so far behind schedule." But his record isn't perfect either. While he pointed to the renovation of the Chicago Transit Authority Red Line, which was completed on time and under budget, the Navy Pier Flyover, a walkway near the lakefront, is years behind schedule. Emanuel has blamed slow state funding.

We realize the Jane Byrne project — the Circle Interchange, aka "The Spaghetti Bowl," was renamed for the late mayor in 2014 — is about as complicated as they come. IDOT officials made a decision early



SCOTT STANTIS

on to keep lanes of traffic moving. That means the construction gets done more slowly and, so far, mostly on the bridges stretching across the expressways. That might explain why motorists don't often see work crews on the ground — often a ghost town of disheveled cement and barricades. Even the bridge work has been undertaken mostly at night to ameliorate traffic jams. IDOT also pleads that, to deal with deteriorating infrastructure, the agency unexpectedly had to reroute workers to Lake Shore Drive and Interstate 55 ramp projects.

The Byrne interchange also is smack dab in an urban area. At the project's get-go, IDOT labeled it the most congested interchange in the nation, serving 400,000 drivers a day. A CTA rail line runs through the middle, a major water pumping station is in its footprint, neighborhood traffic includes bicyclists and pedestrians, and the constant streams of drivers heading east, west, north and south clog the site nonstop.

Still, four years is a long delay. Especially for a network so central to Chicago.

We'll never understand why IDOT didn't order more intense work or bigger crews around the clock and on weekends. Let's just say that if Gov.-elect J.B. Pritzker shares Emanuel's devotion to penalties and accountability, he'll make new friends by the thousands.

For many commuters, there is a way to deal with it. Get on a train. Carpool. Take the bus. Leave early. No, leave earlier. By any means, reduce the numbers of cars and trucks winding through the construction. Give your heartburn and your middle finger a rest. It's going to be a while.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

We have the cult of Trump on the right, a demigod who, among his worshippers, can do no wrong. And we have the cult of social justice on the left, a religion whose followers show the same zeal as any born-again Evangelical. They are filling the void that Christianity once owned, without any of the wisdom and culture and restraint that Christianity once provided.

For many, especially the young, discovering a new meaning in the midst of the fallen world is thrilling. And social-justice ideology does everything a religion should. It offers an account of the whole: that human life and society and any kind of truth must be seen entirely as a function of social power structures, in which various groups have spent all of human existence oppress-

ing other groups. ... Like early modern Christians, they punish heresy by banishing sinners from society or coercing them to public demonstrations of shame ...

The same cultish dynamic can be seen on the right. There, many profess nominal Christianity and yet demonstrate every day that they have left it far behind. ... They have embraced wealth and nationalism as

core goods, two ideas utterly anathema to Christ. They are indifferent to the destruction of the creation they say they believe God made. And because their faith is un-moored but their religious impulse is strong, they seek a replacement for religion. This is why they could suddenly rally to a cult called Trump.

Andrew Sullivan, New York Magazine

PERSPECTIVE



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Students on the University of Illinois at Chicago campus in October. Schools say U.S. policy is deterring international student enrollments in the States.

Why foreign students are afraid to study at U.S. universities

BY CATHERINE RAMPPELL

One of America's most successful exports is in trouble.

For decades, the U.S. higher education system has been the envy of the world. We "sell" much more education to other countries than we "buy" from them; nearly three times as many foreign students are currently studying here as we have abroad.

In trade terms, this means we run a massive surplus in education — about \$34 billion in 2017, according to Commerce Department data. Our educational exports are about as big as our total exports of soybeans, coal and natural gas combined.

But all that may be at risk.

A recent report from the Institute of International Education and the State Department found that new international student enrollments fell by 6.6 percent in the 2017-18 school year, the second consecutive year of declines. A separate, more limited IIE survey of schools suggests that the declines continued this fall too.

To be sure, some of the forces behind these decreases are beyond our (or President Donald Trump's) control. Some foreign governments, such as Brazil and Saudi Arabia, have reduced the scholarships that previously sent significant numbers of students to the United States, according to Peggy Blumenthal, senior counselor to the president at IIE.

China, whose students represent about a third of U.S. international student enrollment, has been invest-

ing in improving its own domestic university system too.

But according to the schools that are now watching the trend, the biggest forces deterring international students are U.S. policy and U.S. culture.

"They see the headlines and they think that they're no longer wanted in the United States," said Lawrence Schovanec, president of Texas Tech University, whose foreign student enrollment declined by 2 percent this year. Sixty percent of schools with declining international enrollment, in fact, said that the U.S. social and political environment was a contributing factor, according to the IIE survey.

The most frequently cited issue, however, was "visa application process or visa issues/delays." In the fall 2018 survey, 83 percent of schools named this as an issue, compared with 34 percent in fall 2016.

Problems began — but didn't end — with Trump's Muslim ban. Schools have seen students trapped abroad and have since advised some students not to go home before graduation lest they get stuck trying to come back. Said Bennington College President Mariko Silver, "We've seen individual students who have contacted us with the desire to come and have pulled out of the process."

Boo-hoo, Trump supporters might say. What's the big deal if some foreigners stay home?

Forget the feel-good explanations about how international students enrich the campus environment

Problems began — but didn't end — with President Donald Trump's Muslim ban.

(which I don't dispute). The students who come here also spend cold, hard cash: on tuition, travel, books, food, housing.

A lot of jobs depend on those students. American colleges and universities alone employed 3 million people in 2017. For context, that dwarfs the entire agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting sector.

And contrary to perceptions that foreign students take spots that belong to Americans, at many schools they're enabling more American students to get a degree.

In the years after the financial crisis, as states slashed budgets for higher education, schools helped make up the shortfall by enrolling more out-of-state and international students. These students generally pay full tuition, and their higher fees are used to cross-subsidize lower, in-state tuition rates (and scholarships) of American classmates.

No wonder that the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign recently paid \$424,000 to insure itself against a significant drop in tuition revenue from Chinese students.

More significantly, a continued drop-off in international students

could cause serious pain beyond academia.

Foreign students come here in part because they're interested in staying after graduation and working here. They disproportionately study fields that U.S. employers demand, and that U.S. students avoid. Foreign students now represent a majority of computer science and engineering graduate programs at U.S. universities, for instance.

That talent pipeline may be drying up.

Foreigners are experiencing more visa issues not only when they apply to study but also when they apply to stay and work. That might be one reason more than half of the decline in total enrollment last year was due to fewer students from India in computer science and engineering grad programs.

Our loss has become other countries' gain. We're still the top destination for foreign students, but Australia and Canada have seen their international enrollments rise by double-digit percentages in the past year. They're enticing students in word and in deed, with messages of welcome and expedited visas.

Trump likes to say that our allies are taking advantage of us on trade. In this case, would you really blame them?

The Washington Post

Catherine Rampell is a Washington Post columnist.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Hold impeachment talk, wait for Mueller's report

I also think it's a bit premature to start impeachment proceedings on President Trump but not for the reasons you specified (Tribune editorial, "The impeachment rabbit hole," Dec. 11).

We must wait for special counsel Robert Mueller's full report and information from other federal prosecutors so that the strongest and most concrete case possible can be made for impeachment and removal from office. But it's already quite clear to me, and I think the majority of Americans, that what Trump did with respect to paying off Stormy Daniels and Karen McDougal was to prevent these purported affairs from becoming public so that it wouldn't affect the coming election and not, as you imply, to "avoid deep personal embarrassment." This president is simply incapable of being embarrassed.

The real test, once Mueller's report is out, is, will it be strong enough not just to impeach Trump but to overcome an overly partisan GOP-controlled Senate to remove

this scalawag from office.

— Charles Gradle, Oak Park

Trump's government shutdown threat

The laughable thing about President Trump's looming threatened government shutdown, if there is anything laughable in the sorry mess, is his pretending to understand anything about border security.

This is the guy who told us six months ago that the North Korean nuclear threat was over. Wrong. This is the guy who doubts Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman's role in Jamal Khashoggi's murder. Wrong. Who doubts the human role in climate change. Wrong.

This is the guy who lied about being involved in the Stormy Daniels payoff. This is the guy who lied about handpicking professional instructors for Trump University. Who lied that the "Tax Cut and Jobs Act" passed a year ago was a middle-class tax cut. Who floated the idea of an actual middle-class tax cut in the run-up to the recent midterm elections, but seems

since to have dropped it.

He doesn't care about border security. He cares about solidifying his support, by stoking people's fear and anger, among the 60-something percent of Republicans who think building a wall should be an immediate priority, even though a majority of all Americans believes differently. It's the same tactic he used during the midterms. Has he forgotten that it did not work out so well? In the cities and suburbs we work, live, go to school, shop and play with people of all races and faiths, some native-born, some immigrant. We see directly how little there is to fear from diversity.

Maybe Trump doesn't care about a government shutdown the same way he really doesn't care about the possibility of being impeached. Just like his many business bankruptcies, he'll get out of the mess with his personal fortune relatively intact. Who gets hurt will be those of us who trusted him or were forced to rely on him. And he'll be able to retire to Mar-a-Lago to play golf and reminisce about how he made America great.

— John Podulka, Winfield

Protecting America's waterways

America has always been proud of its natural heritage and rich natural assets.

Accepting progressive pollution of our waterways and elimination of wetlands appears to challenge this long-held ethos. And this seems to be the direction we are headed.

The EPA's decision to remove federal protection of many wetlands within the United States challenges overwhelming scientific evidence that supports the broad protection of our connected water systems that has existed for decades. This decision is challenging critical systems thinking and all wetlands, streams, waterways add up to larger healthy or unhealthy water systems.

The waters of the United States need strong protection from greed and shortsightedness.

Clean water is essential to economic growth. You cannot have economic vitality and investment in regions with polluted or degraded waters. Rolling back the protection policies challenges our very health and our environmental and economic future.

How can we look into the eyes of our children and tell them that their-term greed is better than long-term environmental health?

This action by the EPA will result in the loss of many of our country's smaller wetlands, integrity of our stream systems and a broad erosion of our basic American ethos.

— Philip Enquist, Chicago



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NATION & WORLD

Legal risks help isolate president

Trump enters a difficult stretch as aides leave, investigations advance, friends flip

By **CHRIS MEGERIAN**
AND **ELI STOKOLS**
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — It was almost noon Friday when a Marine suddenly appeared outside the West Wing doors, a sign that President Donald Trump had belatedly reported to the Oval Office.

For the third day in a row, the president had been in the White House residence all morning, fuming about federal investigations that have moved closer to him — and are likely to get worse.

His former confidant, attorney Michael Cohen, and other once-stalwart supporters have flipped, becoming witnesses for a Justice Department he has struggled to bend to his will. Prosecutors also secured the cooperation of American Media Inc., the tabloid publisher that routinely helped Trump muzzle bad stories and target his enemies.

The result is Trump has become increasingly isolated as he enters what may be the most difficult stretch of his presidency, one laden with political and legal dangers.

Come January, a newly elected Democratic majority in the House is expected to issue a blizzard of subpoenas. Rep. Nancy Pelosi, who is expected to be the next House speaker, said Thursday that a House committee will probably “take the first steps” toward seeking Trump’s long-hidden tax returns, an effort he will almost certainly fight.

Special counsel Robert

Mueller continues to investigate Russia’s role in Trump’s election and whether the president sought to obstruct justice by trying to end the inquiry.

“I don’t think he’s ever in his life been in this position,” said Barbara Res, who worked years for the Trump Organization, the president’s private family-run business.

Trump already is struggling to exert his influence. Few Republicans have endorsed his threats to force a government shutdown over Christmas if Congress doesn’t approve \$5 billion for a proposed border wall.

On Thursday, the Republican-controlled Senate took a direct slap at the White House, voting unanimously by voice vote to condemn Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman for the brutal slaying of journalist Jamal Khashoggi. Trump has publicly backed the crown prince despite U.S. intelligence findings that he masterminded the killing.

Tony Schwartz, the ghost writer of Trump’s 1987 best-selling book, “The Art of the Deal,” said the reckoning Trump faces follows decades of operating under a belief that he was above the law.

“He got away with so much, for so long, that he came to believe he was untouchable and invincible,” Schwartz said.

Several others close to the president, granted anonymity to speak openly about conversations with him, said Trump already senses diminishing respect



JACQUELYN MARTIN/AP

President Donald Trump is now struggling to exert his influence over GOP lawmakers.

and worries about losing support from powerful financial donors and Republican lawmakers as his legal and political troubles worsen.

“They’re still not saying it publicly, but most Republicans on the Hill understand ... that it’s not going to end well, that it’s going to be bad,” said a longtime Republican operative close to party leadership.

Trump has long railed against “rats” who cooperate with law enforcement.

In a Twitter message Thursday, he accused Cohen — who was sentenced to three years in federal prison the day before for tax fraud, campaign finance violations and other crimes — of pleading guilty “in

order to embarrass the president and get a much reduced prison sentence, which he did.”

But the most pressing threat may be the investigation, led by the U.S. attorney’s office in Manhattan, in what prosecutors say was an illegal scheme to pay \$280,000 to two women shortly before the 2016 election to buy their silence about alleged sexual affairs with Trump years earlier.

Cohen directly paid Stormy Daniels, a porn star, and was reimbursed by the Trump Organization. American Media Inc., publisher of the National Enquirer, paid Karen McDougal, a former Playboy model, for the rights to her story and then never ran it.

Prosecutors say Trump directed both payments, which were illegal because they were intended to influence the election and functioned as excessive campaign contributions that were not disclosed.

In an interview aired by ABC’s “Good Morning America” on Friday, Cohen said Trump “of course” knew the payment was wrong. “Nothing at the Trump Organization was ever done unless it was run through Mr. Trump,” Cohen said.

Establishing whether Trump knew the hush money would violate campaign finance laws is a key hurdle for prosecutors if they intend to charge him.

The president once de-

nied knowing about the payments, but he abandoned that as evidence showed otherwise.

He now argues that he never asked Cohen to break the law.

Some of Trump’s Republican allies have begun to publicly admit concerns about whether Trump violated the law in the hush money scheme — even if he’s unlikely to face prosecution while in office.

“Am I concerned that the president might be involved in a crime? Of course,” Sen. Bill Cassidy, R-La., told reporters, although he also expressed doubt about whether the violation amounts to a crime.

There are more signs of trouble ahead.

With the White House chief of staff, John Kelly, leaving at the end of the month, Trump has struggled to find a replacement.

After Nick Ayers, a top aide to Vice President Mike Pence, turned him down, several others reportedly under consideration also said no thanks.

On Friday, Trump announced via Twitter that budget director Mick Mulvaney will serve as acting chief of staff.

While his difficulty filling the job full-time highlights the president’s isolation, Schwartz said Trump almost certainly doesn’t agree.

“He doesn’t feel the ordinary human emotions most of us do,” he said. “For example, he’s free of shame because he has no conscience, nor any self-awareness. So while his behavior certainly suggests he feels increasing fear and isolation, he would be the last one to know it.”

Interior chief resigns, citing ‘vicious’ attacks

Embattled Zinke faces many federal and ethics probes

By **ELLEN KNICKMEYER**,
MATTHEW BROWN AND
JONATHAN LEMIRE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, facing federal investigations into his travel, political activity and potential conflicts of interest, will leave the administration at year’s end, Trump said Saturday.

In his resignation letter, Zinke said “vicious and politically motivated attacks” against him had “created an unfortunate distraction” in fulfilling the agency’s mission.

Trump, in tweeting Zinke’s departure, said the former Montana congressman “accomplished much during his tenure” and that a replacement would be announced this week. The Cabinet post requires Senate confirmation.

Zinke is leaving weeks before Democrats take control of the House, a shift in power that promises to sharpen the probes into his conduct.

His departure comes

amid a staff shake-up as Trump heads into his third year in office facing increased legal exposure due to intensifying investigations into his campaign, business, foundation and administration.

Zinke’s resignation letter, obtained from a Zinke aide Saturday, cites what he calls “meritless and false claims” and says that “to some, truth no longer matters.”

The letter, dated Saturday, said Zinke’s last day would be Jan. 2. It was not clear whether Zinke had already submitted the letter when Trump tweeted.

Zinke, 57, played a leading part in Trump’s efforts to roll back federal environmental regulations and promote domestic energy development. He drew attention from his first day on the job, when he mounted a roan gelding to ride across Washington’s National Mall to the Department of Interior.

Trump never established a deep personal connection with Zinke but appreciated how he stood tall against criticisms from environmental groups as he worked to roll back protections.

But the White House concluded in recent weeks

that Zinke was likely the Cabinet member most vulnerable to investigations led by newly empowered Democrats in Congress, according to an administration official not authorized to publicly discuss personnel matters who spoke on condition of anonymity.

His tenure was temporarily extended as Interior helped with the response to California wildfires and the West Wing was consumed with speculation over the replacement of chief of staff John Kelly.

But White House officials pressured him to resign, the official said, which he did after his final public appearance at his department’s Christmas party on Thursday night.

As interior secretary, Zinke pushed to develop oil, natural gas and coal beneath public lands in line with the administration’s business-friendly aims.

But he has been dogged by ethics probes, including one centered on a Montana land deal involving a foundation he created and the chairman of an energy services company, Halliburton, that does business with the Interior Department.

Investigators also are re-



SHAWN THEW/GETTY

Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke is leaving before the Democrats take control of the House, a shift in power that will sharpen the probes into his conduct.

viewing Zinke’s decision to block two tribes from opening a casino in Connecticut and his redrawing of boundaries to shrink a Utah national monument. Zinke has denied wrongdoing.

The Associated Press reported last month that the department’s internal watchdog had referred an investigation of Zinke to the Justice Department.

Zinke’s travels with his wife, Lola Zinke, also had come under scrutiny.

Interior’s inspector general’s office said Zinke allowed his wife to ride in government vehicles with

him despite a department policy that bars nongovernment officials from doing so.

Trump told reporters this fall he was evaluating Zinke’s future in the administration in light of the allegations and offered a lukewarm vote of confidence. Zinke in November denied he already was hunting for his next job.

“I enjoy working for the president,” he told a Montana radio station. “Now, if you do your job, he supports you.”

Zinke outlasted EPA chief Scott Pruitt, another enthusiastic advocate of

Trump’s business-friendly way of governing who resigned in July amid ethics scandals.

Democratic leaders in Congress were scathing in response to the news that Zinke was leaving.

“Ryan Zinke was one of the most toxic members of the cabinet in the way he treated our environment, our precious public lands, and the way he treated the govt like it was his personal honey pot,” Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumer tweeted Saturday. “The swamp cabinet will be a little less foul without him.”

‘Donald’ makes list of worst passwords of year, company says

By **HAMZA SHABAN**
The Washington Post

The word “password” and the numbers “123456” are again the most commonly used passwords, according to an annual ranking of the worst passwords to use published by the software company SplashData.

But another password made the list for the first time this year: “Donald.”

SplashData analyzed more than 5 million passwords that were leaked on

the internet, and just like the seven previous years the company has reviewed the data, people continue to set easy-to-guess passwords that rely on strings of letters and numbers that are close to each other on computer keyboards.

In addition to perennial favorites, such as “1234567” and “12345678,” the list of ill-advised passwords included newcomers “!@#%&* (the special characters that correspond to 1234567, ranked 20th), and “donald,” ranked 23rd.

People who use these passwords put themselves ‘at substantial risk.’

— *SplashData, software company*

The popularity of “football” (16th) fell seven spots from last year’s list, “princess” (11th) returned after taking a hiatus, and “iloveyou” was unchanged, rounding out the Top 10 worst passwords. The company estimates that nearly 10 percent of people online

have used at least one of the worst 25 passwords on the list.

“Hackers have great success using celebrity names, terms from pop culture and sports, and simple keyboard patterns to break into accounts online because they know so many people are

using those easy-to-remember combinations,” said Morgan Slain, chief executive at SplashData.

Undeterred from the most basic security advice, millions of people keep using weak passwords, SplashData said. The analysis found that “123456” and “password” were the most commonly used passwords for the fifth year in a row, and the next five most widely used passwords were just short strings of consecutive numbers, or simply the same number

typed over and over again, like the sixth worst password on the list: “111111.”

People who use these passwords put themselves “at substantial risk of being hacked and having their identities stolen,” the company said. SplashData said it encourages people to set stronger passwords, pointing to the recent hacks of Marriott and the National Republican Congressional Committee, to urge computer users to protect themselves.



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Negotiators strike deal at global climate talks

But two tough issues linger, put off for next year

BY FRANK JORDANS
Associated Press

KATOWICE, Poland — After two weeks of bruising negotiations, officials from almost 200 countries agreed Saturday on universal, transparent rules that will govern efforts to cut emissions and curb global warming. Fierce disagreements on two other climate issues were kicked down the road for a year to help bridge a chasm of opinions on the best solutions.

The deal agreed upon at U.N. climate talks in Poland enables countries to put into action the principles in the 2015 Paris climate accord. But to the frustration of environmental activists and some countries urging more ambitious climate



CZAREK SOKOLOWSKI/AP
"You have made a thousand little steps forward together," said Michal Kurtyka, a Polish official chairing the talks.

goals, negotiators delayed decisions on two key issues until next year in an effort to get a deal on them.

"Through this package, you have made a thousand little steps forward together," said Michal Kurtyka, a senior Polish official chairing the talks.

He said while each country would likely find some parts of the agreement it didn't like, efforts had been

made to balance the interests of all parties.

"We will all have to give in order to gain," he said.

"We will all have to be courageous to look into the future and make yet another step for the sake of humanity."

The talks in Poland took place against a backdrop of growing concern among scientists that global warming on Earth is proceeding

faster than governments are responding to it.

Last month, a study found that global warming will worsen disasters such as the deadly California wildfires and the powerful hurricanes that have hit the United States this year.

A recent report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, or IPCC, concluded that while it's possible to cap global warming at 2.7 degrees Fahrenheit by the end of the century compared to pre-industrial times, this would require a dramatic overhaul of the global economy, including a shift away from fossil fuels.

Alarmed by efforts to include this in the final text of the meeting, the oil-exporting nations of the U.S., Russia, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait blocked an endorsement of the IPCC report mid-way through this month's talks in the Polish city of Katowice.

That prompted an uproar from vulnerable countries like small island nations and environmental groups.

The final text at the U.N. talks omits a previous reference to specific reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and merely welcomes the "timely completion" of the IPCC report, not its conclusions.

Last-minute snags forced negotiators in Katowice to go into extra time, after Friday's scheduled end of the conference had passed without a deal.

One major sticking point was how to create a functioning market in carbon credits. Economists believe that an international trading system could be an effective way to drive down greenhouse gas emissions and raise large amounts of money for measures to curb global warming.

But Brazil wanted to keep the piles of carbon credits it had amassed

under an old system that developed countries say wasn't credible.

Among those that pushed back hardest was the United States, despite President Donald Trump's decision to pull out of the Paris climate accord and promote the use of coal.

"Overall, the U.S. role here has been somewhat schizophrenic — pushing coal and dissing science on the one hand, but also working hard in the room for strong transparency rules," said Elliot Diringer of the Center for Climate and Energy Solutions, a Washington think tank.

When it came to closing potential loopholes that could allow countries to dodge their commitments to cut emissions, "the U.S. pushed harder than nearly anyone else for transparency rules that put all countries under the same system, and it's largely succeeded."



KEVIN WOLF/AP
Dermot Rooney, left, and David Schlaegel prepare to put up the early George Washington portrait in Mount Vernon, Va.

Early Washington portrait finds its way back home

BY MICHAEL E. RUANE
The Washington Post

Young Col. Washington came home to Mount Vernon, Va., packed in a foam-lined wooden box that was fastened with 14 screws and labeled "keep dry."

He had been away for 216 years, but inside his gilded frame he still looked soldierly in his red waistcoat and pale sash. Around his neck he wore a silver officer's pendant, marked with the British royal coat of arms.

And his face was that of a confident man, accustomed to command.

This was the youthful George Washington painted in his 40s by the artist Charles Willson Peale. The famous portrait returned to display at Mount Vernon last week

for the first time since 1802. Here was not the dour, white-haired figure on the dollar bill, nor the black-clad older man with bad dentures depicted in other portraits.

This was the earliest known painting of the country's first president and the man who would lead the Colonial forces to victory in the Revolutionary War.

The painting, "George Washington as Colonel in the Virginia Regiment," was uncrated and hung with care in Mount Vernon's Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center, where it opened to the public Thursday.

It will be on display for the next two years.

"We always mourn (Mount Vernon pieces) that got away," said Susan Schoelwer, Mount Ver-

non's executive director for historic preservation and collections.

Now one is back.

"It's absolutely thrilling to be able to experience the young George Washington instead of the battle-worn Washington," she said. "It's the only likeness that we have of him depicting his appearance prior to the Revolutionary War."

The painting is on loan from Washington and Lee University.

In October, the university, grappling with its complex history, decided to replace paintings of Washington and Confederate Gen. Robert E. Lee in military garb with depictions of the men in civilian clothes.

Mount Vernon has loaned the university its Gilbert Stuart portrait of an older Washington not in

uniform.

In May 1772, the Annapolis, Md.-based Peale visited Mount Vernon and was asked by Washington's wife, Martha, to paint her husband's portrait.

Washington sat for Peale over three days and paid the artist about 18 pounds — approximately \$2,700 in today's money, according to a University of Wyoming currency calculator.

Peale painted Washington in the garb of a colonel of the Virginia Regiment, which Washington had commanded from 1755 to 1758 during the French and Indian War, according to Mount Vernon. The oil painting is 60 inches tall and 50 inches wide.

"He looks commanding, as you would expect an officer," Schoelwer said. "He looks trustworthy."

Health care ruling puts GOP in a bind

Health, from Page 1

The ruling has "no impact to current coverage or coverage in a 2019 plan," Seema Verma, administrator for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, tweeted Friday.

HealthCare.gov, the government's site for signing up, accepted applications Saturday, the deadline in most states for enrolling for coverage next year, and those benefits will take effect Jan. 1.

Medicaid expansion will proceed in Virginia, one of the latest states to accept that option. Employers will still be required to cover the young adult children of workers, and Medicare recipients will still get discounted prescription drugs.

But Republicans, still stinging from their loss of the House in the midterm elections, are facing a political quandary after U.S. District Judge Reed O'Connor said the entire 2010 health law was invalid.

Warnings about the Texas lawsuit were part of the political narrative behind Democrats' electoral gains. Health care was the top issue for about one-fourth of voters in November, ahead of immigration and jobs and the economy, according to VoteCast, a nationwide survey for The Associated Press. Those most concerned with health care supported Democrats.

In his ruling, O'Connor reasoned that the body of the law could not be surgically separated from its now-meaningless requirement for people to have health insurance.

"On the assumption that the Supreme Court upholds, we will get great, great health care for our people," President Donald Trump told reporters during a visit Saturday to Arlington National Cemetery. "We'll have to sit down with the Democrats to do it, but I'm sure they want to do it also."

Economist Gail Wilensky, who oversaw the Medicare program for President George H.W. Bush, said the state attorneys general from GOP strongholds who filed the lawsuit really weren't very considerate of their fellow Republicans.

"The fact that they could cause their fellow Republicans harm did not seem to bother them," said Wilensky, a critic of President Barack Obama's signature domestic achievement.

"The people who raised it are a bunch of guys who don't have serious election issues, mostly from states where saber-rattling against the ACA is fine," she added. "How many elections do you have to get battered before you find another issue?"

Douglas Holtz-Eakin, top policy adviser to Republican John McCain's 2008 presidential campaign, said he was struck by the relative silence from top Republicans after the ruling issued.

A prominent example: "The House was not party to this suit, and we are reviewing the ruling and its impact," said AshLee Strong, spokeswoman for

House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis.

Republicans are "going to have to figure out what to do," Holtz-Eakin said. "If it's invalidated by the courts, it's not 'We're going to do it our way.' They're going to have to get together with the Democrats in the House."

The GOP's failed effort last year to repeal the law showed there's no consensus within the party itself.

Trump tweeted Friday night that "Congress must pass a STRONG law that provides GREAT health-care and protects pre-existing conditions."

"Get it done!" he told Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., and Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., who is expected to be speaker in January.

But Trump had no plan of his own to offer in the 2017 "repeal and replace" debate.

Two top House Republicans issued diverging statements.

Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy of California said "Obamacare is a broken law," but added, "I am committed to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to make sure America's healthcare system works for all Americans."

The third-ranking GOP leader, Louisiana Rep. Steve Scalise, praised the judge's ruling and made no mention of working with Democrats, whom he accused of "running a fear-mongering campaign" to win control of the House last month.

The chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, Rep. Kevin Brady, R-Texas, said that if the law is ultimately overturned, then members of Congress from both parties should start over, working together. He urged maintaining provisions such as protections for pre-existing medical conditions, no lifetime dollar limits on insurance coverage, and allowing young adults to stay on parental coverage until age 26.

Democrats were united in condemning the ruling.

Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer of New York said voters will remember. "What will stand is Republican ownership of such a harmful and disastrous lawsuit," he tweeted.

The next chapter in the legal case could take months to play out.

A coalition of Democratic state officials led by California Attorney General Xavier Becerra will appeal O'Connor's decision, most likely to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 5th Circuit in New Orleans.

"The legal merits of the case are frivolous," said University of Michigan law professor Nicholas Bagley. "The notion that the unconstitutionality of an unenforceable mandate somehow requires toppling the entire ACA is bonkers."

Bagley supports the law generally, but has been critical of how it has been put into effect.

Bloomberg News contributed.

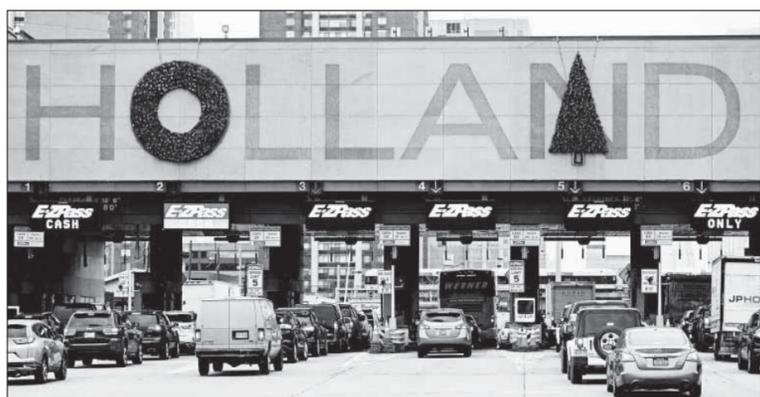
A holiday eyesore? Holland Tunnel critics drive point home

BY DAVID PORTER
Associated Press

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — The Holland Tunnel between New Jersey and New York City may be in for a makeover after critics called the placement of its holiday decorations a distraction, a possible trigger for people with obsessive-compulsive disorder — and just plain ugly.

Wreaths have adorned the entrance to the tunnel around the holidays for decades. But some are upset by the configuration in which wreaths cover the letters "O" and "U" on the entrance sign and a tree-shaped decoration covers the letter "N" in "Holland." The decoration would fit more snugly over the "A," several have said.

On a day when the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, the tunnel's operator, approved an \$8.5 billion budget and celebrated record traffic at its ports and airports in 2018,



JULIO CORTEZ/AP
Motorists complain that the Holland Tunnel wreaths just don't look right.

most of the questions after its monthly board meeting focused on the decorations.

Cory Windelspecht, the Manhattan man who has been the public face of the push to move the decorations, addressed the board.

"The only reason we are here today is that we spoke loudly," he told board members. "We just wanted

to get noticed."

Windelspecht said he travels through the tunnel several times a week as part of his job in medical sales and that he has been irked by the sign for several years because of the placement of the tree decoration over the "N."

In a lighthearted notice sent Wednesday and styled to mimic the poem that

begins "'Twas the night before Christmas," the Port Authority said it is conducting its own public poll. Participants have until four options, and Executive Director Rick Cotton said thousands have already voted.

He wouldn't give details but said, based on results so far, "change is in the air."



LEFTERIS PITARAKIS/AP

Candles protesting the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi are placed outside Saudi Arabia's consulate in Istanbul. Khashoggi's friends say they fear they are under surveillance.

Khashoggi's friends are being watched

And U.S. can do little as other governments have gotten surveillance tools

By **TIM JOHNSON**
AND **STUART LEAVENWORTH**
McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — For years, Ali Al-Ahmed felt grateful to be in the United States, enjoying a safe life, much like his friend, the slain writer Jamal Khashoggi did.

Now the dissident Saudi says he is “freaked out.”

Al-Ahmed feels hounded even in his suburban Washington home. He's been sent dozens of emails tainted with malware.

He grows uneasy every time he turns on his car's ignition.

And he blames the Saudi monarchy, which U.S. intelligence has concluded killed Khashoggi while The Washington Post columnist visited his country's consulate in Istanbul in October.

“This morning, when I was putting on my socks, I thought: ‘I could be killed in a matter of weeks or days,’” Al-Ahmed said.

It is a nervousness shared by many migrants who fled their homelands because of fears of persecution, only to find themselves subjects of surveillance in a country they thought would offer them protection. They worry that their cellphones are hacked, their computers hijacked and their communications intercepted.

Governments around the globe have obtained electronic surveillance tools, and some are using them to spy on their nationals inside the United States. Researchers say there is strong reason to believe Mexico, Ethiopia and Saudi Arabia have done so.

But Chinese, Iranians, Tibetans, Uighurs, Vietnamese and other groups say they believe they have been targeted as well.

As such spying increases, it follows a certain logic. The U.S. government claims the right to conduct vast electronic surveillance outside its own borders in the name of national security. Other countries say they have the same right to snoop here. And a U.S. court ruling last year gives them cover.

“What we're essentially doing is we're giving other countries carte blanche to surveil not just their own nationals (inside the United States) but our nationals within the United States,” said Nate Cardozo, senior staff attorney on the civil liberties team at the Electronic Frontier Foundation, a group that advocates for privacy and free expression in the digital age.

The United States is a traditional haven for those demanding political change in their homelands. Foreign nations sometimes view these communities as sources of instability.

“Many states have historically been paranoid about diaspora communities and have used various means to track them,” said John Scott-Railton, senior researcher at the internet watchdog group Citizen Lab. “With the plummeting barrier to entry for conducting some kind of monitoring, many states have just said, ‘Great. This is exactly what we need to sort of claw back visibility of our diaspora.’”

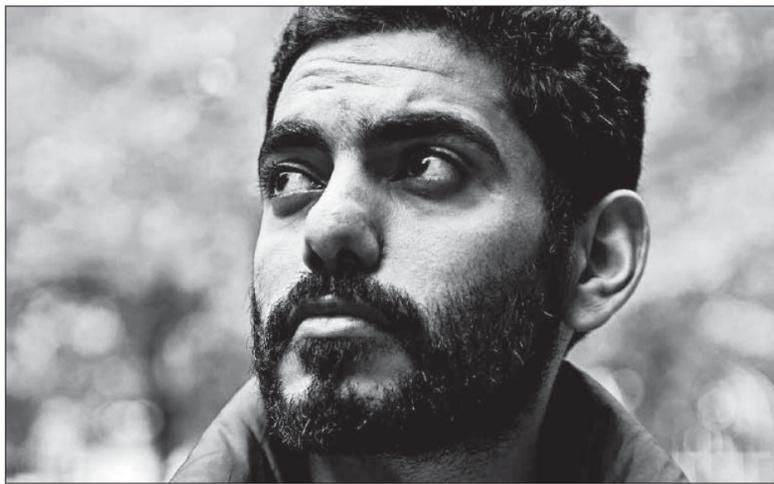
One national security lawyer described the international legal status quo as “anomalous” but said he expected little change.

“Persons in the United States are legally and effectively protected against unlawful surveillance by American government at every level, but are not legally or effectively protected from surveillance by foreign governments or persons. Intuitively, this is a peculiar state of affairs,” said Joel Brenner, a former senior counsel at the National Security Agency, the top-secret body that



ALEX BRANDON/AP

Ali Al-Ahmed feels hounded after the death of his friend, Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi. He has received dozens of emails tainted with malware.



FRANÇOIS OLLIVIER/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Omar Abdulaziz sued an Israeli spyware company, saying the NSO Group's Pegasus surveillance tool was used by the Saudis to monitor his communications with Khashoggi.

sweeps the globe for electronic signals.

“The practical reality is that neither the United States nor our own surveillance targets abroad can do much about this state of affairs, anomalous though it may seem,” Brenner said.

Since the U.S. government is arguably better at surveillance than any other government, including Russia and China, it is not eager to wade into any debate about establishing a global legal doctrine limiting such snooping.

Some migrant communities have taken to public education to warn members that one click on a malicious link or email attachment could install spyware to read their chats, listen to their calls on Skype, activate their microphones and cameras and take their files.

“We worked on a lot of simple memes. ‘Detach from Attachments’ is one of our most successful,” said Ladhon Tethong, director of the Tibet Action Institute, which teaches safe technology practices. She said the slogan worked “because of the Buddhist concept but also because everybody could relate to, ‘Oh, I’m getting all these strange emails and attachments, and I clicked on that one and something strange happened.’ Just don’t open them.”

Tethong said Tibetans are subject to constant surveillance in their homeland, which China claims as its own. Tibetans in the United States and Canada are deeply concerned over Chinese electronic monitoring within North America as well.

It is the case of Ethiopia, though, that has drawn attention to the gap between U.S. criminal law and judicial remedies for those saying they have been spied on from abroad.

The Wiretap Act bars anyone from

intruding on another's communications, and the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act prohibits breaching into a person's computer. But federal prosecutors are swamped by other computer crimes, and a federal court ruling last year gives foreign governments some cover, leaving victims with the option of seeking civil remedies.

Under most circumstances, foreign governments are exempt from civil lawsuits under principles designed to maintain good relations between nations.

Still, an Ethiopian-American who filed suit in 2014 under the pseudonym of Kidane charged Ethiopian agents with infecting his computer at his Silver Spring, Md., home with spyware. Forensic experts found that the spyware was operated from the Ethiopian capital.

A federal court rejected Kidane's claim and the D.C. Circuit in 2017 upheld the ruling that he did not have grounds to sue Ethiopia because the African nation sent no agents to U.S. soil, and its hackers operated from Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital.

Sarah McCune, a U.S. lawyer and independent consultant for Amnesty International, called the ruling “problematic” and said, “Any foreign government that sees that, or is aware of that, will feel that they are relatively free to be engaging in that type of abusive behavior.”

Others in the Ethiopian diaspora say they believe they've been targeted as well.

Seenaa Jimjimo, an activist in Chicago, said she was bombarded with suspicious email prior to political change in April, when a new prime minister relaxed political control and free-speech restrictions.

“I frequently got different spearphishing

(email) that is trying to have me open some kind of link, some kind of document,” Jimjimo said. “It's scary, but you just learn to live with it.”

Spearphishing is when hackers send a tailored email or text message to a target, hoping that the victim will click on a link that will load malicious software onto their computer or cellphone.

Private firms that make surveillance tools, ostensibly only for law enforcement and counter-terrorism purposes, are coming under pressure.

A Saudi dissident in Montreal, Omar Abdulaziz, sued an Israeli spyware company recently in Israeli court, saying the NSO Group's Pegasus surveillance tool was employed by the Saudi government to monitor his communications with Khashoggi.

Al-Ahmed said he was unnerved that electronic and physical surveillance of him seemed to blend together.

In late May, Al-Ahmed, who is a director at the Institute for Gulf Affairs, attended a forum at the American Enterprise Institute. Afterward, he received an email purportedly from a photo vendor showing him at the event. It contained a prompt to see more photos. The email was a spearphishing attempt, according to an analysis by Citizen Lab, based at the Munk School of Global Affairs at the University of Toronto.

Al-Ahmed, 52, who said he has U.S. permanent residency but has lost his Saudi citizenship, essentially making him stateless, now worries as much about physical surveillance as spyware.

“There are what I call eyeballs here,” Al-Ahmed said. “They are surveilling.”

Saudi Embassy spokeswoman Fatimah Baeshen acknowledged a query seeking Saudi response but did not offer one.

Another case of electronic espionage targeted one of the most recognized journalists in Mexico, Carmen Aristegui, and her teenage son, Emilio, who attended a prep school in the Berkshires of western Massachusetts.

Aristegui and her investigations team uncovered some of the biggest corruption scandals under the former government of President Enrique Pena Nieto, including that his wife accepted a custom-built \$7 million mansion from a government contractor on extraordinarily generous terms.

Aristegui's son began getting dozens of text messages to his cellphone in Massachusetts in early 2016, his mother said. Some messages appeared to be from childhood friends, or referenced purported events near his home in Mexico City, she said. All contained malicious links that would trigger installation of Pegasus spyware on his cellphone.

“This was despicable conduct by people seeking private information from an adolescent boy with the only aim of damaging me,” said Aristegui, who hosts a news program on CNN en Espanol, a radio program and an online news site in Mexico.

Several texts appeared to be from the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City telling Emilio that there was an urgent problem with his student visa.

In a Nov. 27 report, Citizen Lab said it has identified 24 cases in Mexico of journalists, lawyers, politicians, corruption fighters and others targeted by Pegasus spyware.

While Citizen Lab did not attribute the spying to the Mexican government, Aristegui said she is sure that is the source of the electronic surveillance.

Those who follow electronic surveillance said they expect foreign nations to increase monitoring of people of interest — even when the subjects are in the United States.

“Governments clearly realize that they can pursue these operations with very little repercussions, and it is a source of significant intelligence for them. So why wouldn't they do it?” McKune said.



Stories about the creature have circulated in the Florida Panhandle region for years.

COURTESY JOURNALS.PLOS.ORG

'Mythical beast' turns out to be real in Fla. swamps

Scientists say it's a siren, a type of legless salamander

BY ROGER SIMMONS
Orlando Sentinel

ORLANDO, Fla. — It's as long as a snake, is spotted like a leopard, has two small arms with gills sticking out of its body and it lives in the swamps of Florida's Panhandle.

What is it? It's a new creature that was discovered by scientists, who announced their findings this month. They say it's a type of legless salamander called a siren — and this new species is being officially called *Siren reticulata*, or the reticulated siren. Others have referred to it as a leopard eel, even though it's not really an eel.

Scientists say the Reticulated Siren is among the largest species discovered in the United States in the last century.

"In this study we use morphological and genetic evidence to describe a previously unrecognized species from southern Alabama and the Florida panhandle," the scientists wrote in their paper, published in the journal Plos. "We name this species the reticulated siren, *Siren reticulata*. Future studies will enable more precise phylo-

genetic information about *S. reticulata* and will almost surely reveal additional undescribed species within the family."

National Geographic.com, which interviewed one of the authors of the scientific paper, said stories about this strange swamp creature have been passed around the Florida and Alabama area for years.

Scientists say the reticulated siren is among the largest species discovered in the United States in the last century.

"It was basically this mythical beast," said David A. Steen, who works at the Georgia Sea Turtle Center. "What immediately jumps out about the reticulated siren that makes it so different from currently-recognized species is its dark and reticulated (or net-like) pattern." Steen told National Geographic. "It also seems as though they have a disproportionately-smaller head, as compared to other sirens."

In the report for Plos, it was explained that while Steen was trapping turtles

at Eglin Air Force Base in 2009, he captured the first specimen of the newly discovered reticulated siren.

Despite efforts to try to find more specimens, the scientists reported, their efforts proved futile for five years. "However, on 8 June 2014, three more specimens were collected in a freshwater marsh adjacent to Lake Jackson in Walton County, Florida."

The reticulated siren was so hard to find because it spends its life below the surface of the water, the scientists said.

"*S. reticulata* has an elongate, eel-like body shape, two forelimbs, no eyelids, a lateral line, enlarged external gill fimbriae associated with gill slits, and a horny beak in place of the premaxillary teeth typical of other salamanders," the scientists said.

The reticulated siren has only been confirmed in Eglin AFB in Florida's Okaloosa County, Lake Jackson and in the Fish River near Baldwin County, Ala.

The scientists who wrote about the discovery — Sean P. Graham, Richard Kline, Crystal Kelehear and Steen — want their work on the creature to lead to more research. "We hope the data we present here inspire others to prioritize further study of this group," they wrote in their paper.

Puerto Rico faces what may be cockfighting end

Congress passes farm bill, extends ban to territories

BY JONATHAN LEVIN AND YALIXA RIVERA
Bloomberg News

It's Puerto Rico's answer to the bull ring — a death-in-the-afternoon blood sport.

But now the commonwealth is facing the end of cockfighting.

U.S. lawmakers are poised to close down the thriving island pastime as part of the farm bill that passed the House of Representatives Wednesday and goes to President Donald Trump for his signature. The measure would extend a prohibition on animal fighting to U.S. territories including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands; it's already illegal in all 50 states.

But in Puerto Rico, cockfighting is governed by the commonwealth and ingrained in the culture — it was first documented in the 18th century but likely existed for hundreds of years before that.

"I invite any member who wishes to come to Puerto Rico and see how regulated the cockfighting industry is to come and visit," Jennifer Gonzalez Colon, the island's non-voting House member, told colleagues Wednesday.

Opponents of the measure also say it will have a devastating effect on the islands' economies, noting that in Puerto Rico alone the cockfighting industry generates some \$18 million a year and employs some 27,000 people.

"We're all going crazy. Everybody is desperate," said 86-year-old Angel Ortiz, who owns a cockfighting ring in the city of Bayamon. "There are so many people who make a living off of this."

Cockfighting was once popular in rural areas of the



RICARDO ARDUENGO/AP

The owner of a losing rooster pays his bet as the judge removes spurs from the beaten bird at a government-sponsored cockfighting club in Bayamon, Puerto Rico.

U.S. South and Latin America and is one of the oldest sports known to history.

Handlers place two roosters into a pit, paired by weight and age. Genetically programmed to attack — and fitted with metal spurs called gaffs — they spar as onlookers place wagers. The battles often end in death.

In Puerto Rico, the sport arrived with Spanish conquistadors and in this century, there have been more than 100 cockpits called galleras and 200,000 fighting birds, according to commonwealth figures.

The battles and the betting are torrid. But many see the sport as brutal.

"Most people would be appalled that cockfighting was not already illegal," said Ashley Byrne, New York-based associate director with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. "In a civilized society and a modern society, forcing animals to fight for their lives is cruel."

Eugenio Crespo, a former director of the Federation of Animals of Puerto Rico, said his own father kept roosters and groomed them for battle. But Crespo turned against the sport and spent the past 30 years advocating for the feathered combatants.

"When you are a kid, sometimes you don't realize how abusive this activity is," he said. "But it is something that definitely gets engraved in your mind."

Top commonwealth officials aligned with the industry to oppose the ban. Gonzalez Colon blasted the move as an example of the kind of mistreatment the commonwealth suffers without representation in Congress.

Gov. Ricardo Rossello traveled to Washington to demand that the island be excluded, but he arrived too late. Legislators unexpectedly moved up the vote and approved the bill, which already passed the Senate.

Many in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands were saddened by approval of the ban, expected to go into effect in a year.

Stacey Plaskett, the U.S. Virgin Islands' congressional representative, said she would continue to fight the bill.

"I believed it to be a tremendous overreach of the federal government, which has not supported other basic needs of the territory," she said in a statement.

Associated Press contributed.

Chicago Tribune PRESENTS

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Undergraduate Teaching Award



POLITICS

Part II - Looking Forward: The Changing Face of Politics

10:50 AM - 11:55 AM | Sam Potolicchio / Georgetown University
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Battle for land heats up in Nigeria

Ordinary people keeping peace amid farmer-herder crisis

By MAX BEARAK
The Washington Post

BARKIN LADI, Nigeria — Farmers and herders once lived harmoniously on Nigeria's bucolic central plateau, but when Amos Lenji, a farmer, caught a young herdsman grazing cattle in his cornfields this October, he feared for his life.

His fear was rooted in a massacre that took place in June. More than 200 people, mostly farmers, were slaughtered by a gang of masked men dressed in black who marauded through the county of Barkin Ladi. Although no one was apprehended, the killers are suspected to be herdsmen.

It was the biggest bloodbath yet in a cycle of retaliatory killings between farmers and herders competing for space across Nigeria's hinterlands.

At least 1,300 were killed in the first six months of 2018, according to the International Crisis Group. That is more than six times as many as were killed in Nigeria in the same period by Boko Haram, one of Africa's deadliest terrorist groups.

Nigeria's population has grown exponentially and is projected to surpass the population of the U.S. by 2050, although Nigeria is 11 times smaller in area.

Amid the boom, land has become increasingly scarce, and disputes over ownership are frequently turning bloody.

New generations of farmers are planting on land traditionally used for grazing, and out of desperation, herders are grazing their cattle in fields still full of crops, destroying harvests. Many in the two groups now see each other as existential threats.

The near-constant violence has catapulted the farmer-herder crisis to the



Yahaya Musa, 37, stands guard in October as farmers harvest grain in Barkin Ladi, a central plateau in Nigeria.

top of an already long list of security concerns in Nigeria.

The country is roughly half Christian and half Muslim, and because farmers tend to be Christian and herders tend to be Muslim, the crisis has worsened the friction between the religious communities.

In the absence of an effective government response, locals have cobbled together groups of peacekeepers who have become the plateau's de facto law enforcement.

Barkin Ladi's vigilantes, as they're known, are particularly effective because they include farmers and herders.

Bitrus Dung Pam, the local group leader, says he commands 30 times as many recruits as there are police in the county.

"When people see us, they trust us," Pam said. "It's not like the army or the

police. We are the community."

Pam was who Lenji thought of, standing there in the cornfield. He picked up his cellphone and asked for help. The herdsman ran away.

"I had no other option," Lenji said.

Nigeria's police and security forces are under-equipped, underpaid and often deployed to unfamiliar areas of this country of almost 200 million people.

Vigilante groups have proliferated out of necessity. They have formed a national umbrella organization that says it has nearly 350,000 members. They fill a law enforcement vacuum, but they also represent a homegrown approach to peacekeeping.

They build trust by settling not only potentially explosive disputes between farmers and herders, but also smaller ones. The proc-

ess often resembles a court proceeding.

The volunteers are everyday people, mechanics and bricklayers, men and women, and Muslims and Christians, and they represent all the plateau's ethnic groups, including the two largest, the Berom and Fulani. Most farmers here are Christian and Berom, while most herders are Muslim and Fulani.

That inclusiveness commands the respect of local officials.

"No one will accuse them of being partisan or conniving with one tribe against the other," said Yakubu Dati, a spokesman for the state government.

"That is what we want, that is what this administration is all about, and we are doing everything to encourage other vigilante groups to emulate that so that peace can return permanently."

The violence between farmers and herders is Nigeria's deadliest, but it is just one of three major conflicts exposing the fraying social fabric in this country.

For a decade, Boko Haram has terrorized the northeast, killing tens of thousands, burning villages and kidnapping children. And in the Niger Delta in the country's south, guerrilla groups continue to target foreign oil companies and the government, slowing Nigeria's oil-dependent economy.

All these crises have led local communities to arm themselves against perceived enemies, while in the background, gargantuan challenges such as rapid population growth, climate change and religious rivalries deepen.

On the central plateau, Berom farmers are in the majority. Many believe that they are indigenous and that

nomadic Fulani herders are either interlopers or invaders. The same dynamic is playing out across semiarid parts of Africa, but most violently here, where the plateau's edges seem to provide a closed arena for battle.

"I won't be sad if all the Fulani leave this place," said Rose Mashingi, 36, a farmer who lives in a village that was attacked in June. "It is Berom land anyhow."

The polarization has penetrated Nigeria's politics. The country is set to hold a presidential election in February, and many in the mostly Christian south accuse President Muhammadu Buhari, an ethnic Fulani, of siding with herders.

His predecessor was voted out partly because he was perceived as weak against Boko Haram.

Buhari's re-election will partly rely on convincing skeptics that he is serious about peace in the Middle Belt, an ethnically diverse band across the country that is home to Nigeria's Federal Capital Territory, though his government has done little to intervene in the conflict.

On the plateau, Fulani leaders say that members of the state security forces, who are mostly Christian, discriminate against the herders, and the leaders also allege that security personnel have engaged in revenge attacks.

Local ardos, or Fulani traditional headmen, complained that police don't take cases they file seriously. And reports of Berom farmers stealing cattle are common, and the subsequent clashes often result in the deaths of herdsmen.

"It is a mess of poisoned relationships — layers of grievance that accumulated for generations are exploding," said Adam Higazi, an anthropological researcher at the University of Amsterdam who has been based on the plateau for more than a decade.

"Most people on the plateau don't think of anything else now except the animosity."

NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

Russia accuses U.S. of ignoring outreach on nuke disagreement

MOSCOW — Russia wants to sit down with Pentagon officials for "open and specific" talks on alleged violations of the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces treaty, the Russian Defense Ministry said Saturday.

The U.S. claims Russia is violating the INF treaty, and on Dec. 4 issued an ultimatum that Moscow come into compliance with the accord in 60 days, or else Washington will withdraw. Russia denies

it's in breach of the treaty.

Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu sent his counterpart, U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis, a proposal for launching talks three days ago, according to a statement.

But Russia says it hasn't received any official reply from the Pentagon, which spokesman Maj. Gen. Igor Konashenkov said proves that the U.S. is unwilling to maintain dialogue with Moscow on security issues.

Thousands brave snow to rally against Serbian leader Vucic

BELGRADE, Serbia — Braving snow and cold weather, thousands rallied Saturday in Serbia's capital to express discontent with the autocratic rule of President Aleksandar Vucic and his government.

The whistle-blowing crowds marched through central Belgrade, some carrying umbrellas against the falling snow. Some people also wore yellow vests that have become a symbol of resistance for

protesters in France. The protesters stopped by the presidency building, urging Vucic to resign.

Thousands also rallied a week ago.

Vucic is a former extreme nationalist who now says he wants Serbia to reform and join the European Union. But critics say Vucic has restricted democratic and media freedoms in the Balkan country, which he has denied.

Ukraine Orthodox leaders OK break with Russian church

KIEV, Ukraine — Ukrainian Orthodox leaders on Saturday approved the creation of a unified church independent of the Moscow Patriarchate and elected a leader to head the new church — a move that could raise tensions with neighboring Russia.

The vote, held at a synod in Kiev's St. Sophia Cathedral, is the latest in a series of confrontations between Ukraine and authorities in Russia, includ-

ing President Vladimir Putin's government. Ahead of the vote, the Russian Orthodox Church called on the United Nations, the leaders of Germany and France, the pope and other spiritual leaders to protect Orthodox believers in Ukraine.

The leader of the new Ukrainian Orthodox Church will be Metropolitan Epiphanius, 39, a bishop from the Kiev Patriarchate.



CAROLYN KASTER/AP

President Donald Trump visits Arlington National Cemetery on Saturday for a holiday commemoration, where wreaths are laid to honor the sacrifices made by veterans and their families. Trump received criticism for not visiting the cemetery on Veterans Day.

Migrant girl who died in Texas fled poor Guatemalan village

SAN ANTONIO SECORTEZ, Guatemala — Jakelin Amei Rosmary Caal Maquin received her first pair of shoes several weeks ago, when her father said they would set out together for the United States, thousands of miles from this small indigenous community in Guatemala where she spent her days plodding through mud and surrounded by coconut trees.

The 7-year-old was excited about the possibility of a new life in another country, relatives said Saturday. Maybe she would get her first toy, or learn to read and write.

Instead she died Dec. 8 in a Texas hospital two days after being taken into custody by U.S. Border Patrol agents in a remote stretch of New Mexico desert.

The death has drawn attention to the perilous routes that Central American migrants traverse to reach the U.S., where some plan to apply for asylum, and to the way migrants are treated once in custody. Jakelin's family says her father paid a human smuggler to sneak them across the border.

The girl and her father, Nery Gilberto Caal Cuz, 29, were arrested with other

migrants at about 9:15 p.m. Dec. 6 near the Antelope Wells border crossing.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection said the girl appeared healthy and showed no signs of distress. Authorities said her father spoke in Spanish to border agents and signed a form indicating she was in good health. Lawyers for the family said she did not suffer from a lack of food or water before being picked up, as U.S. authorities have said.

Jakelin's death drew questions from members of Congress and others about whether more could have been done.

Australia recognizes Jerusalem as Israeli capital

SYDNEY — Australia has decided to formally recognize west Jerusalem as Israel's capital, but won't move its embassy until there's a peace settlement between Israel and the Palestinians, Prime Minister Scott Morrison announced.

Morrison said in a speech Saturday that Aus-

tralia would recognize east Jerusalem as the Palestinian capital only after a settlement has been reached on a two-state solution. The Australian Embassy won't be moved from Tel Aviv until such a time, he said.

While the embassy move is delayed, Morrison said

his government would establish a defense and trade office in Jerusalem and would also start looking for an appropriate site for the embassy.

Australia becomes the third country to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital, following the U.S. and Guatemala.

Genoa mayor says bridge to be built by Christmas '19

ROME — Genoa's mayor is promising that his city will have a new bridge by Christmas 2019 to replace the one that collapsed in the summer, killing 43 people.

Mayor Marco Bucci on Saturday inaugurated a site that will demolish the pillars and parts of the span that remained standing when much of the Morandi Bridge's roadbed gave way on Aug. 14, sending dozens of vehicles plunging into a dry riverbed.

Bucci said demolition will begin after a final approval expected in the coming days from Italian prosecutors investigating the collapse. Poor maintenance or engineering flaws have been cited as possible causes.

The mayor said demolition should finish by March 31. He declined to say which construction company will build the major highway bridge.

In Sri Lanka: Disputed prime minister Mahinda Rajapaksa resigned Saturday, saying he wanted to end an impasse over his appointment and allow President Maithripala Sirisena to form a new government. Sirisena ousted Ranil Wickremesinghe in October, but Parliament rejected Rajapaksa's appointment.

In Russia: An off-duty police lieutenant has been hospitalized after a World War II-era land mine exploded on the side of a highway, Moscow police said. The RIA Novosti news agency reported Saturday that the officer was injured after picking up an undetonated explosive device, resulting in injuries to his hands and face.

OBITUARIES

ROBERT RASMUS 1925-2018

Ran Masonite Corp. and spoke to Studs Terkel about World War II

By **GRAYDON MEGAN**
Chicago Tribune

Robert Rasmus' time as a young infantryman in Germany near the end of World War II had an enduring influence on a career that included several years as president and CEO of Chicago-based Masonite Corp.

In an interview for Studs Terkel's 1985 book, "The Good War," Rasmus said, "I suspect there are a lot of people like me. In business, there'll be times when I say, 'This really worries the heck out of me, but it's really minor compared to having to do a river crossing under fire.'"

Rasmus, 93, who lived in Glencoe, died of natural causes in Evanston Hospital on Nov. 30, according to his son, John.

Rasmus grew up in the Andersonville neighborhood of Chicago. After graduating from Senn High School, he began engineering studies at the University of Illinois in Urbana-Champaign. His father, Walter E. Rasmus was a one-time chief engineer for the city of Chicago, his son said.

Rasmus began his studies in a program that provided for delayed entry into the Army. But he moved to active duty status in August 1944. He was deployed to Germany where he carried a bazooka, an anti-tank rocket launcher, into combat, his family said.

Decades later, he spoke to Terkel about the beauty of the country's rolling hills and great forests, imagining he could hear the music of Wagner as a backdrop. But the beauty of the country didn't make him forget the life-and-death nature of the next six weeks of combat. As the Allies rolled east, he told family members, he was put in charge of German prisoners, then had to protect them from revenge-minded Russian soldiers.

He returned home to finish his undergraduate engineering studies at the University of Illinois before



FAMILY PHOTO

Robert Rasmus was promoted to president and CEO of Masonite Corp. in 1977.

going on to Cornell University in Ithaca, N.Y., for a master's degree in the field.

Rasmus worked in manufacturing jobs for companies including Johnson & Johnson and Armour Co. before joining Masonite in 1957. There he ran operations at forest products plants in Mississippi and Northern California.

He was technical director of a plant in Laurel, Miss., in the early 1960s. The plant was a major producer of hardboard, a pressed wood product. The most familiar example of that product is pegboard, the brown perforated material typically with one finished side and a rougher unfinished back with holes that accept hooks for hanging tools and other items.

In 1967, the plant was the site of a bitter and violent labor strike. Rasmus, then vice president of manufacturing, was convinced some union leaders there were members of the Ku Klux Klan and were forcing overstaffing, calling illegal strikes and discriminating against black workers in job assignments. A plant guard was killed at the plant gate in a shotgun ambush.

Rasmus' son, John, said his father believed purging the plant of Klansmen and restoring efficient operations there saved Masonite. In 1977, he was promoted to

president and CEO of the company.

Rasmus retired from Masonite in 1985. He then put his management expertise to work as a board member with Brunswick Corp., Wausau Insurance, James Avery Craftsman and the Brookfield Zoo.

At jewelry maker James Avery, the relationship was more than just business. Rasmus was married to James Avery's sister.

"A great uncle, a friend and a mentor," said Chris Avery, now CEO of the Kerrville, Texas, company founded by his father James, who died in April.

Chris Avery was an anesthesiologist when he was asked to join the board of the family business 27 years ago to help with succession planning and other management issues.

"I had experience building teams in the medical field, but I didn't have any business experience," Avery said. "Bob had tremendous business experience. He was great for me as I came on the board. He was a great asset — someone to talk to."

Avery said his uncle took a patient and measured approach to issues.

That was the same sort of balance and long view Rasmus spoke about to Terkel in reflecting on his experiences as an infantryman.

"In a short period of time I had the most tremendous experiences of all of life: of fear, of jubilation, of misery, of hope, of comradeship, of endless excitement," Rasmus said. "I honestly feel grateful for having been a witness to an event as monumental as anything in history, and in a very small way, a participant."

His wife of 58 years, Annette, died in 2010.

Rasmus is also survived by another son, Richard; and five granddaughters.

Plans are being made for a memorial service in spring.

Graydon Megan is a freelance reporter.

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON DECEMBER 16 ...

In 1485 Catherine of Aragon, the first wife of England's King Henry VIII, was born in Alcalá de Henares, Spain.

In 1770 composer Ludwig van Beethoven was born in Bonn, Germany.

In 1773 the Boston Tea Party took place as American colonists boarded a British ship and dumped more than 300 chests of tea overboard to protest tea taxes.

In 1811 the first of the powerful New Madrid earthquakes struck the central Mississippi Valley with an estimated magnitude of 7.7.

In 1901 anthropologist Margaret Mead was born in Philadelphia.

In 1905 the entertainment trade publication Variety came out with its first weekly issue.

In 1916 Gregory Rasputin, the monk who had wielded powerful influence over the Russian court, was killed by a group of noblemen.

In 1917 science-fiction writer Arthur C. Clarke was born in Minehead, England.

In 1944 the World War II Battle of the Bulge began as German forces launched a surprise counterattack against Allied forces in Belgium.

In 1959 The Second City improvisational comedy troupe staged its first performance in Chicago.

In 1960, 134 people were killed when a United Air Lines DC-8 and a TWA Super Constellation collided over New York.

In 1980 Harland Sanders, founder of the Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant chain, died in Shelbyville, Ky.; he was 90.

In 1990 Jean-Bertrand

Aristide was elected president of Haiti in the country's first democratic elections.

In 1991 the U.N. General Assembly rescinded its 1975 resolution equating Zionism with racism by a vote of 111-25.

In 1996, underscoring the importance of parents' rights to their children, the Supreme Court ruled that states must let parents appeal orders terminating such rights even when they cannot afford court fees.

In 1998 President Bill Clinton ordered a sustained series of airstrikes against Iraq by U.S. and British forces in response to Saddam Hussein's continued defiance of U.N. weapons inspectors.

In 2000 President-elect George W. Bush selected Colin Powell to become the nation's first black secretary of state.

In 2002 Canada ratified the Kyoto Protocol, the 1997 treaty on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

In 2004 Britain's highest court dealt a huge blow to the government's anti-terrorism policy by ruling that it could not detain foreign suspects indefinitely without trial.

In 2005 Senate Democrats blocked passage of a new Patriot Act to combat terrorism at home. (The result was a revised Patriot Act signed by Bush in March 2006.)

In 2007 singer-songwriter Dan Fogelberg died in Deer Isle, Maine; he was 56.

In 2014 132 children and nine staff members were killed at an army-run school in Peshawar, Pakistan, in one of the deadliest terrorist attacks in the country's history. The Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility

WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

ILLINOIS
Dec. 15
Powerball 08 38 43 52 55 / 17
Powerball jackpot: \$246M
Lotto 08 17 27 34 36 46 / 12
Lotto jackpot: \$3.2M
Pick 3 midday 523 / 4
Pick 4 midday 5838 / 7
Lucky Day Lotto midday 05 07 32 40 41
Pick 3 evening 925 / 1
Pick 4 evening 8097 / 1
Lucky Day Lotto evening 18 22 28 39 44
Dec. 14
Mega Millions 05 22 26 43 49 / 23
Mega Millions jackpot: \$246M
Pick 3 midday 611 / 4
Pick 4 midday 3405 / 2
Lucky Day Lotto midday 08 10 15 22 33
Pick 3 evening 779 / 5
Pick 4 evening 4165 / 2
Lucky Day Lotto evening 22 23 36 42 45
Dec. 18 Mega Millions: \$284M

INDIANA
Dec. 15
Lotto 10 13 15 24 27 43
Daily 3 midday 523 / 3
Daily 4 midday 0390 / 3
Daily 3 evening 500 / 4
Daily 4 evening 7706 / 4
Cash 5 07 09 12 13 43
MICHIGAN
Dec. 15
Lotto 03 06 15 20 21 46
Daily 3 midday 327
Daily 4 midday 8738
Daily 3 evening 033
Daily 4 evening 2705
Fantasy 5 09 10 17 34 35
Keno 07 11 12 18 20 22 28 30 31 33 34
40 44 49 50 58 64 65 71 72 74 78
WISCONSIN
Dec. 15
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Pick 3 533
Pick 4 9497
Badger 5 03 08 21 25 26
SuperCash 01 17 23 29 34 36

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In Memoriam

James Verb

79, entered into rest on Friday, December 14th, 2018.

He was a transportation broker and had been in the Army reserves from 1961-1968.

He was preceded in rest by his daughters, Rachael and Robin and dear friend, Roy Easter.

Mr. Verb is survived by his wife of 20 years, Rosemarie Verb; son, Frank Verb (CJ); daughters, Amy Hansen (Craig) and Erica Caso (Greg); step-daughter, Denise DeSantis; Stepson, Scott Rawls; six grandchildren, Jake, Ashleigh, Lauren, Ryan, Layla and Sofia; sister, Sue Rosenthal (Vin); and a brother, Robert Verb (Lois).
Cremation was chosen.

Expressions of sympathy may take the form of contributions to the Alzheimer's Foundation.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Death Notices

Aanerud, Glenn A.

Glenn A. Aanerud, age 66, of Skokie. Veteran, United States Marine Corps. Beloved husband of Penny Lane Aanerud, nee Hoos; loving father of Darby Lane and Katelyn Sue; dear brother of Gordon "Bud" (Georgette) and the late Wayne (Marty).
Visitation, Monday, December 17, 2018, from 3 to 9 p.m., at **HABEN Funeral Home & Crematory**, 8057 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. Funeral Service and Interment are private. Funeral info: 847.673.6111 or www.habenfuneralhome.com to sign guestbook.



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Alfich, Joan Roslyn

Joan Roslyn Alfich (nee Franek) passed away December 11, 2018 at the Grace of Douglas skilled nursing facility in Douglas, Michigan after a lengthy illness. She was born in Chicago October 29, 1931 the daughter of Rose(nee Wach) and Frank E. Franek both of whom are deceased. She is survived by her husband of over 63 years, Edward M. Alfich, her son Paul I. Afic, daughter Lynn J. Alfich, grandchildren Jillian and Ben Alfich and their mother Barbara Alfich.

She is preceded in death by her sons Edward W. Alfich and Dr. Robert A. Alfich (Barbara).
A visitation will be held on Monday, Dec. 17th 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Blake-Lamb Funeral Home 4727 W. 103rd St. Oak Lawn. Funeral Tuesday, Dec. 18th chapel service at 10:00 a.m. at Blake-Lamb Funeral Home. Interment Resurrection Cemetery. For more information 708-636-1193 or visit www.blakelambobaklawn.com

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Ament, Neil S.

Neil S. Ament, age 57, of Highland Park, passed away peacefully in his home on December 13, 2018. He was a devoted son to Rosalind (Becker) Ament; an adoring father to Melissa Ament; a beloved stepfather to Jared Silber; a loving brother to Steven Ament, Michele (Enzo) Florenza, and Nina Ament. He also leaves behind his former wife (Debby Spungen) and many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and cousins. Service Monday 2PM at **Chicago Jewish Funerals**, 195 N. Buffalo Grove Road (One block north of Lake Cook Road) Buffalo Grove. Interment Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to the University of Wisconsin-Madison Athletics Scholarship Fund, <http://supportthebadgers.athletics.wisc.edu/>. Arrangements by: **Chicago Jewish Funerals**, 847.229.8822, www.cjinfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

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Arthurs, David Lee

David Lee Arthurs, 86, passed away on Tuesday, December 4, 2018, at his home in Elmwood Park, IL, after a brief illness. David was a talented artist and mechanically gifted engineer. He worked for 27 years as a lead machinist in aerospace building jet engines and transmissions that helped save lives, defend the nation and put man on the moon. He was born in Chicago on September 2, 1932. David was preceded in death by his parents, George (Nicholas Athanasios) and Winnie (Brann) Arthurs; his wife, Evelyn (Vander Meer); and grandson Thomas Biggs. He is survived by his life partner of 29 years, Marianne Ruscheinski; his children David J. Arthurs and his husband, Brennan Pardee, of California; Katherine and her husband, Daniel Biggs, of Wisconsin; Andrew Arthurs of Chicago; and Edward Ruscheinski and his wife Nancy (Scribner) of Chicago; his grandchildren Sarah (and Joshua) Shields, John (and Bethany) Biggs, Jessica (and Brendan) Pfarr, Caroline (and Jeremiah) Brensinger, Joseph (and Rochelle) Biggs, David Biggs, Kylie Ruscheinski and Keegan Ruscheinski; his great-grandchildren Nathaniel, Charlie, Lee and Julius Pfarr; Gad Biggs (son of John and Bethany); Oliver and William Brensinger; and Gabriel Biggs (son of Joseph and Rochelle); and numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and family friends. A memorial service will be scheduled later to occur during springtime.

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Asher, James M.

James M. Asher, age 63, at rest December 13, 2018. Loving husband of Elizabeth P. Asher (nee: Byrne) for 29 years. Dear brother of Nadine (Daniel) Washington, and uncle and godfather to David A. Washington. Beloved son of the late Thelma (nee: Madsen) and James M. Asher. Memorial visitation Saturday December 22nd, from 12-Noon until time of service 1:30 pm at **Adolf Funeral Home & Cremation Services**, Ltd. 2921 S. Harlem Avenue, Berwyn. Services will conclude at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorials to The Salvation Army and The Anti - Cruelty Society would be appreciated. Information: 708-484-4111 or adolfservices.com



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Barks, Elsie Dickson

Elsie Dickson Barks, 95, died at her home in Chicago on December 8, 2018. Mrs. Barks was born in Masterton, Ohio, the daughter of Dr. Harry Ellis Dickson and Faye Pryor Dickson. As valedictorian of Matamoras (Ohio) High School in 1941, she earned a scholarship to Marietta College, then transferred to the University of Missouri, where she earned

a Bachelor of Journalism degree with honors in 1945. After serving as State House Correspondent for United Press in Charleston, W. Va., Mrs. Barks became an instructor in journalism at the University of Missouri journalism school and associate editor of the university's daily newspaper. In 1947 Mrs. Barks married Horace B. Barks of St. Louis. Their business, Barks Publications, Inc., produced a monthly magazine, books, and other information resources for the electromechanical industry and other specialized fields since 1951, beginning in St. Louis and then in Chicago. After Mr. Barks' death in 2012, Mrs. Barks remained at the company as president until her retirement in 2015. Mrs. Barks is survived by five children: Elizabeth Van Ness, a Chicagoan, who succeeded her mother as publisher of Barks Publications, Inc.; Kate Barks Freed (John Goggin) of Denver; Joseph V. Barks (Barbara) of Berwyn, Pa.; Barbara Barks Wachter (Wilfried) of Lindau, Germany; and William M. Barks (Kristin Dorn) of Seattle; 12 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. In addition to her husband, she is preceded in death by three sisters, Vivian, Helen and Jeanne. Memorial Service January 5, 1pm, St. James Cathedral, 65 E Huron St, Chicago, IL 60611. Contributions in her honor may be made to the Grant Park Music Festival or the Northwestern Memorial Foundations for Northwestern Medicine.

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Beane, Rita Jeanne

Rita Beane (Meinhard) passed away peacefully on December 6, 2018 at the age of 95. Rita was born in April 15, 1923. She resided in Palatine, Illinois. She was the spouse of Edwin Beane.

Rita was the mother of Charles (Marian) Beane, Gary Beane (Bonnie Everhart), Lori (Alexander) Patano and Susan (Michael) Miller; grandmother of Andrew and Kevin Beane, Anna Edelman and Lauren Beane, Jennifer Patano, Michelle Bastedo and Anne Keener, Olivia and John Michael Miller; great-grandmother to eight. Services will be private.

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Bendig, Mary H.

Bendig, Mary H. (nee Steen), 84, of Chicago and, later, Niles. Beloved, dedicated wife of 57 years to the late Raymond J.; loving mother of Brian (Ruth), Raymond G. (Colleen), Alice (Robert Yedinak), and Marie (Carl Hays); proud grandmother of Cullan, Charlotte, Bridget, Christopher, Rory, Joseph, and Caroline; cherished daughter of the late John and the late Bridget (nee McRory); dear sister of the late Shaun (Mary Ann) Steen, the late Frances Steen, and Glenmary brother Joseph Steen; loving sister-in-law of the late William (the late Rosemary) and the late Marilyn (the late Terry Laughlin); fond aunt of many. The daughter of hard-working Irish immigrants, Mary was born and raised on Chicago's West Side, where she attended Austin's Resurrection grade school in the same class as her future husband, graduated from Siena High School, and often traveled up to the Hub Roller Rink on Harlem Avenue. Once her children were raised, she earned a bachelor's degree in education from Northeastern Illinois University. Mary was an avid reader, especially of newspapers, histories, biographies, and true crime. She first showed signs of her curiosity as a small girl when, to the dismay of her mother, she performed abdominal surgery on a baby doll to see what was making it cry. Mary displayed her handiness in a lifetime of sewing; as the only woman in a woodcarving class for seniors; and, in her final days, in her explanations to family members and medical caregivers on how to best work a wheelchair, help her change her clothes, and accurately check her oxygen level. She was pro-life, pro-peace, pro-labor, and never hesitant to strike up a conversation with a stranger. Mary did appreciate it if you did not call her during Chicago Tonight or 60 Minutes. For most of her life, she was a distance walker who maintained a steady pace, and, even during her final years dealing with blood cancer, she could be found "pushing myself" walking the halls and indoor garage of the Renaissance condo building. In her last year, Mary guided her husband through his own unexpected illness and resulting death. In her final month, she gave those who loved her one last gift by demonstrating how to die with patience and dignity. Mary was a devout Catholic whose faith informed her decision making. At a later date, a memorial mass will be held, and her cremains will be inurned at Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Hillside, where her husband and parents rest.

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Birmingham, George W.

George W. Birmingham, age 103, former resident of Oak Lawn. Loving husband of Jacquelin and the late Evelyn, nee Gallagher; Dear father of Patricia (Ronald) Mahay, and the late Judith (late John) Lusk; Proud grandpa of Patti (John) Kalousek, Mary (Edward) Hoey, Stephen (Kristin) Zagorski, Barbara Zagorski, Ronald (Alison) Mahay, Sean (Marie) Lusk, Jane O'Neill, and Sheila (Philip) Rossi; Great-grandpa of Samantha, Matthew, Madison, Mackenzie, Mason, Olivia, Jessica, John, Liam, Theodore, Francis, and George. Past Grand Knight of St. James Council, Knights of Columbus; Longtime District Sales Manager of Knapp Shoe Company. Visitation Wednesday, December 19th at 9:00 a.m. until time of prayers 10:30 a.m. from **Curley Funeral Home**, 6116 W. 111th Street, Chicago Ridge to Incarnation Church, 5757 W. 127th St. Crestwood. Mass 11:00 a.m. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to Guiding Eyes for the Blind, www.guidingeyes.org or Paws and Strips, www.pawsandstrips.org. For funeral info www.curleyfuneralhome.com or 708-422-2700



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Blaszczyk, Shirley A

Shirley A. Blaszczyk nee Hnetkovski. Beloved wife of Larry Blaszczyk. Loving mother of Ace (Jen) Blaszczyk, Katie (Billy) Edmiston & Lew (Gabby) Blaszczyk. Cherished grandmother of Emily, Carly, A.J. & Gus. Dear sister of the late Georgianne Middleton. Fond aunt of many nieces & nephews. Treasured friend of many. Resting at Thompson & Kuenster Funeral Home, 5570 W. 95th St., Oak Lawn where Services will be held Wednesday at 10:00 am. Interment Private. Visitation Tuesday from 3pm until 9pm. thompsonkuensterfuneralhome.com 708-425-0500

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Brachmanski, Teresa

Teresa Brachmanski (Gerlach), 88, of Lincolnshire passed away on December 11, 2018. Teresa was born in Poland and had been a Lincolnshire resident for 45 years. She was married to her late husband, Dr. Charles Brachmanski, for 57 years. She was the daughter of the late John and Helen (Gerard) Gerlach. She is survived by her children Elizabeth Thommes (Dr. James Thommes) and Terrence Brachmanski, grandmother of Stephanie Thommes (Robert Bachkosky), Brendan Thommes (Angelina), Melinda Thommes (Paul Radke) and Allyson Mansfield (Michael) and great-grandmother of Jack Bachkosky, Hadley Bachkosky and Clara Thommes. Funeral Mass for Teresa will be 10am Tuesday December 18th at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 121 E Maple Ave, Libertyville. Entombment Ascension Cemetery, Libertyville. Funeral arrangements by **McMurrough Funeral Chapel** (847) 362-2626. Please sign the guestbook at Libertyvillefuneralhome.com

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Burns, Marietta D.

Marietta D. Burns (nee Carbonaro) age 92 long-time resident of Chicago Heights, Illinois passed away on December 13, 2018. Beloved wife of 69 years to Thomas, loving mother to Thomas (Maureen) Burns, Noreen Burns Kimelman, Mary Pat Burns Witkowski and Margaret Burns (Mark) Westmeyer. Cherished grandmother to Robin (Robert), Jeremia, Megan, Benjamin, T.J., Mikaela and Katie; great grandmother to Jordan, Penny and Declan. Dear sister to Cosimo Carbonaro, the late Rachel Hock, and the late Frank Carbonaro. Marietta was a Radiology Instructor at the University of Illinois College of Dentistry Chicago for more than 40 years.

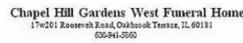
Visitation Tuesday, December 18th from 2PM to 8PM at **Kerr-Parzygnot Funeral Home** 540 Dixie Hwy. (at Joe Orr Rd.), Chicago Heights, IL 60411. Everyone to meet on Wednesday for funeral mass at 10AM, visitation from 9AM until time of mass at St. George Catholic Church, 6707 175th Street, Tinley Park, Illinois. Interment: Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, Illinois. (708) 754-0016.

KERR-PARZYGNOT FUNERAL HOME

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Casey, Thomas Hugh

Thomas Hugh Casey, 81 years of age, at rest December 9, 2018. Beloved husband of the late Joyce A. Casey, nee Loquerio, Loving father of Kristine (Russ) Johnson and Thomas (Lori) Casey. Dear Stepfather to Mary Carol (Tom) Kolecki, Bob (Veronica) Loquerio, Lisa (Steve) Forslin and Anthony (Danielle) Loquerio. Devoted son of the late Florence Pope. Proud Grandfather of Tory (Kristin) Wudtke, Evan and Shea Casey, Robert (Beverly) Wyka, Jennifer (Brandon) Smith, Ashley (Marko) Rojnica, and Kathryn Loquerio. Great-Grandfather of Elsie and Lilah Wudtke, Robert Sebastian Loquerio, Parker and Beckett Loquerio, Axl Smith, Violet, Ivy and Austin Wyka, and Sebastian Rojnica. Visitation Sunday December 16th 3:00pm to 8:00pm at **Chapel Hill Gardens West Funeral Home** 17W201 Oak Brook Terrace. Info. (630) 941-5860.



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Coffey, David Edward

Mr. David Edward Coffey, born on January 21, 1930 in Chicago, Illinois, to the late Sadie Mae and Cornelius Joseph Coffey, passed away peacefully at age 88 on August 16, 2018 surrounded by his family in Bradenton, Florida. David served in the Army before starting his law enforcement career in 1955 with the Chicago Park District and then continued with the Chicago Police Dept. He was promoted numerous times and ultimately retired in 1985 as Commander of the Traffic Enforcement Division. He received numerous commendations including an award for the chase and apprehension of 2 armed robbers in 1960. Also, while a police officer he started what became a very successful commercial maintenance company out of the family home called Yale Maintenance. He often donated his time to those in need including as a foster parent and at various hospitals. David was the loving husband of Judith. He was preceded in death by his sons, Charles and Daniel; and sister, Mary Whitlock. David is survived by his sons, David, Kevin, and Timothy; and daughters, Cheryl, Maureen, and Mary Ruth; and, 19 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. The family invites donations in David's name to St. Jude Police League. Friends and family can pay their respects at the memorial service on Friday, December 28 at 10:00 a.m., at St. Michael Church, 310 South Wheaton Avenue, Wheaton, Illinois, 60187.

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Cohen, Daniel Mark

Daniel Mark Cohen, 70, of Wilmette. Cherished son of the late Charles and Irene Cohen; loving father of Gabriella and Ariana Cohen. Daniel is also survived by his former wife Jerrilyn Musachia. Private graveside services will be held in New York. For information please call 847-256-5700.



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Cole, Louise S.

Louise S. Cole, age 85. Beloved wife for 61 years of Bernard "Bernie" Cole. Loving mother of Ira (Ellen) Cole, Philip (Lisa) Cole and the late Barbara Cole. Proud grandmother of Brenda, Scott, Adam and Brianna. Dear sister of Ilene (the late Donald) Epstein and the late Delores "Dee" Slan. Fond aunt of David (Laura) Epstein and Ilyse (Darryl) Fleishman. Cherished cousin and friend. Service Monday 10 AM at **Chicago Jewish Funerals**, 195 North Buffalo Grove Rd (one block North of Lake Cook Rd.), Buffalo Grove. Interment Westlawn. Memorials in her memory to Kellogg Cancer Center at Glenbrook Hospital, 2180 Pflingsten Rd., Ste. 1000, Glenview, IL 60026, www.northshore.org/kellogg-cancer-center, Beth Hillel Bnai Emunah, 3220 Big Tree Ln., Wilmette, IL 60091, www.bhcbe.org, or Temple Chai, 1670 Checker Rd., Long Grove, IL 60047, www.templechai.org would be appreciated. Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** - Buffalo Grove Chapel 847.229.8822, www.cjinfo.com.

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CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

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Collins, David Merrill

David Merrill Collins, age 98. A longtime resident of Hinsdale, Illinois, born April 30, 1920, and passed away December 12, 2018. Beloved husband of the late Monica Marie Collins, nee Buerlgar; loving father of Patricia Collins Wrede, Susan (Dean) Domeyer, David Alan (Cathy) Collins, Margaret (Dale) Hill, and Carol Ellen Collins; dear grandfather of Devin, Cole, Janice, David Christopher, Benjamin, Monica, Leandra, and Jesse. Funeral Services Tuesday, December 18th, at St. Isaac Jogues Parish; 306 W. Fourth Street, Hinsdale, Illinois 60521. Visitation, 9:00 a.m. until 9:45 a.m. in the fireplace room. Funeral Mass to follow at 10:00 a.m. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts in memory of David to the Purdue Scholarship Fund can be made by check to the Purdue Foundation-Purdue Scholarship Fund; 403 Wood Street, West Lafayette, Indiana 47907 or online at www.giving.purdue.edu. Arrangements by **Sullivan Funeral Home**. 630-323-0275 or www.sullivanfuneralhomehinsdale.com.



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Dawes, Marie E.

Marie E. Dawes, 95, formerly of Tinley Park. Beloved wife of the late Charles; loving mother of Dan (Diane), Janet (Gil) Van Haren, Lillian Dawes M.D. (Harrison Laut), Pauline (Steve) Mussa, Tom (Becky) and the late Charles P. Dawes; dear grandmother of Brett (Mackenzie), Eric, Tom, Robert, Matt and Megan; great-grandmother of Madelyn; fond sister of Eunice, Rita and Marge; aunt of many. Visitation Wednesday 4:00 - 8:00 pm. at **HURSEN FUNERAL HOME & CREMATORY**, SW CORNER OF MANNHEIM & ROOSEVELT ROADS, HILLSIDE/WESTCHESTER. Funeral Service Thursday 11:00 a.m. at funeral home. Entombment Oakridge Cemetery. Funeral info: 800-562-0082 or www.hursen.com.



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de Ranitz, O.P., Fr. Richard F.

Fr. Richard F. de Ranitz, O.P., 75, died on December 12, 2018. Fr. de Ranitz was born July 16, 1943 in Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin to Sidney S. and Thelma M. (Holzmeister) de Ranitz. He graduated from Prairie du Chien High School in 1961. Two years after studying at Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa, in preparation to enter the Dominican Order, he was received into the novitiate in 1963. He professed his vows in 1964, continued his studies and was ordained to the priesthood in 1970. Fr. de Ranitz was involved in preaching ministry for many years including the Dominican Shrine of St. Jude. He was a contemplative at heart. He excelled in playing classical music on the guitar and piano, as well as in the art of Tai Chi. He is survived by a brother, Tom de Ranitz and a sister, Mary (Marc Natelsky) de Ranitz. Services will be held at St. Vincent Ferrer Church in River Forest, IL on Tuesday, December 18, 2018 beginning with sung Morning Prayer at 9:00AM followed by visitation with Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00AM. Interment All Saints Cemetery. Memorial Donations to the Dominican Friars, Central Province, 1910 S. Ashland Ave, Chicago, IL, 60608 are greatly appreciated. For info 773-736-3833 or visit Fr. Richard's memorial at www.smithcorcoran.com



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Dieschbourg, Collette E.

Collette E. Dieschbourg (nee Fagan), age 96. Beloved wife of the late Thomas J. Loving mother of Thomas A. (Janice), William, Edward (Pamela), Michael (Barbara), the late John (Kathleen), and the late Joseph (Susan). Cherished grandmother of Amy, Rebecca (Matthew), Samantha (Brian), Thomas J., Timothy, Erik, Lisa, David, Ryan, Nicholas, Michelle (Drew), Hillary (Davis), Nicole, Meagan, Brian, Mark (Jessica), Matthew (Sofie), Renee, Scott, and Kevin. Great grandmother of 5 and the late Ethan. Dear aunt and friend of many. Visitation Monday, December 17, 2018 from 3:00-9:00 p.m. at **Colonial-Wojciechowski Funeral Home**, 8025 W. Golf Road in Niles. Funeral Tuesday, December 18 at 9:15 a.m. from the funeral home to St. Catherine Labourer Church. Mass 10:00 a.m. Interment All Saints. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions appreciated to Catholic Charities of Chicago or to the Jessica Dieschbourg Heart Transplant Fund. Please make the checks to Thomas Dieschbourg and label the memo for the "Jessica Dieschbourg Heart Transplant Fund". Send the checks: c/o Mark Kroencke, Executive Vice President, First American Bank, 1650 Louis Avenue, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007. Info 847-581-0536 or www.colonialfuneral.com



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Doblin, M.D., Morton J.

Morton J. Doblin, M.D., 92, beloved husband of Arline, nee Perlman, for 67 wonderful years; loving father of Rick (Lynne) Doblin, Bruce Doblin (Lisa Wainwright), Sharon (Larry) Porter and Stuart (Sheri) Doblin; cherished grandpa of Eden, Lilah, Eliora, Liam, Nathaniel (Snezana), Ari, Zachary, Kanoa (Jessica), Adam and Rain; devoted son of the late Freida and Louis Doblin; treasured friend of many. Morton was a dedicated and well respected pediatrician for over 40 years and he supported many Jewish organizations within the US as well as in Israel. Funeral service Monday 11:30 AM at Am Yisrael, 4 Happ Road, Northfield. Interment Memorial Park Cemetery, Skokie. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Am Yisrael or Hagar: Jewish Arab Education for Equality. For information, **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, (847) 255-3520 or www.shalom2.com



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Faeth, Jean C.

Jean C. Faeth, a longtime Hinsdale resident, died at her home on Thursday, December 6, 2018. Jean was born June 26, 1932, in Cincinnati, Ohio. She graduated from the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor's degree in Education. She raised her family primarily in Michigan before relocating to Hinsdale, IL in 1982. She had a lifelong passion for reading,

learning, travel, and duplicate bridge. Beloved wife of the late Harold W. Faeth, Jr. the loving mother of Cheryl (Paul) Kane, Steven (Valerie) and Sheila. Treasured grandmother of Erin Terryberry, Katie Kane, and Lizzy Faeth. A memorial service and celebration of Jean's life will be on Saturday, January 12, 2019, at 10:30 AM at Union Church of Hinsdale, 137 S. Garfield Ave. Hinsdale, IL. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Hinsdale Library, 20 E. Maple St., Hinsdale, IL 60521 or AS Good As Gold - Golden Retriever Rescue of IL, 518 S. Route 31, Suite 178, McHenry, IL 60050. Arrangements by **Brian Powell Funeral Directors of Hinsdale**. For information, 630-703-9131 or www.powellfuneraldirectors.com



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Feit, Charles Anthony

Charles Anthony Feit, age 89, of Skokie, Illinois, died peacefully at his home on December 12, 2018. Beloved husband for 56 years to the late Marilyn Cuccio Feit; loving father of Margaret Feit (Brian) Clarke, Peter (Katherine) Feit, Catherine "Katey" Feit (Michael Bremer), Madeleine (Daniel) Cusick, Jane Feit (David Goldberg), and Rosemary Feit (Matthew Moren); proud grandfather of Matthew (Melanie), Martha, and Paul Clarke; Anthony, Laura, Timothy, and Nathaniel Feit; Noah and Peter Bremer-Feit; Hannah, Leigh, Flannery, and Arden Cusick; Andrew, Nico, and Camille Goldberg; and Flynn Moren; dear brother of Eugene (Barbara) Feit and the late Thomas (Nancy) Feit; brother-in-law of Dr. Joseph (Louise) Cuccio, the late Andrew Cuccio (Dolores Hammond), the late Frank (Mary Margaret "Pat") Cuccio, and the late Rose (Tom) McDowell; and caring uncle to many nieces and nephews. Visitation Sunday, December 16, 2018, 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at **Donnellan Family Funeral Home**, 10045 Skokie Boulevard, at Old Orchard Road, Skokie, Illinois. Funeral Mass Monday December 17, 2018 10:00 a.m. at Saint Nicholas Church, 806 Ridge Avenue, Evanston, Illinois. Interment All Saints Cemetery, Des Plaines, Illinois. In lieu of flowers, the family kindly requests a contribution to a charity focused on eradicating poverty and hunger, such as The Catholic Near East Welfare Association, 1011 First Avenue, New York, New York 10022, The Greater Chicago Food Depository, 4100 W Ann Lurie Place, Chicago, Illinois 60632, or Howard Area Community Center, 7648 N Paulina Street, Chicago, Illinois 60626. Info: www.donnellanfuneral.com or 847 675-1990.



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Fisher, Jean

Jean Fisher nee Czech. Loving Wife of the late Leonard J. Dearest Mother of Barbara (William) Huryk and Michael (late Eileen) Polanski. Beloved Grandmother and Great-Grandmother of many. Cherished Daughter of the late Michael Czech and the late Bernice nee Hendzel. Fond Sister of the late Matthew Czech. Dear Friend of the Fisher family. Visitation and funeral Monday morning from 8:30am to 10:00am at the **WOLNIAK FUNERAL HOME** 5700 S. Pulaski Rd. with mass immediately following at 10:30am at St. Nicholas of Tolentine Church. Interment Resurrection Cemetery. For Info: (773) 767-4500 or www.wolniakfuneralhome.com

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Fleagle, Marla J.

Marla J. Fleagle, age 66 of Romeoville, IL., passed away Wednesday December 12, 2018. Beloved wife of Larry M. Fleagle; loving step-mother of Melissa (Andrew) Girard and Darlena Siczynski; devoted grandmother of Heather Girard and Andrew Girard Jr.; aunt and great-aunt of many nieces and nephews. Mrs. Fleagle retired from St. Thomas Hospice after nine years of service and she was a member of Jobs Daughters Eastern Star Riverside Chapter. Visitation Monday December 17, 2018 from 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at **Anderson Memorial Chapel** 606 Townhall Dr. Romeoville, IL., funeral service Tuesday December 18, 2018 8:30 a.m. at the funeral home. Interment Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, IL. In lieu of flowers memorials to the American Cancer Society would be appreciated. For information 815-886-2323 www.andersonmemorialhomes.com

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Gallagher, John Joseph

John Joseph Gallagher, 99, died Thursday, Dec. 13, in Chicago after a brief illness. Visitation will be Monday from 9:00-10:30 AM at **Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services** 44 S. Mill St. Naperville. A Mass of Christian Burial will follow at 11:00 AM at Ss. Peter and Paul Church 36 N Ellsworth St., Naperville. Interment will follow at Ss. Peter & Paul Cemetery, Naperville. The family suggests that memorial contributions may be made to the Pat Tillman Foundation or the Knights of Columbus Naperville Council #1369. For more information, please call (630)355-0213. For full obituary, please visit www.friedrichjones.com



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Gelman, Nadine

Nadine Gelman nee Dolnick, beloved wife of Charles Gelman for 65 years. Loving mother of Anne Gelman and Nancy Gelman (Mark Isenstein). Cherished grandmother of Libby and Josh Isenstein; Julia and Alice Heeger. Dear sister of Judy Natkin and treasured relative and friend to many. Memorial service Monday Dec.17 at 11:30 a.m., Beth Emet Synagogue, 1224 Dempster St., Evanston.

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Gillespie, Judith Wehs

Judith Wehs Gillespie. Age 76 of Park Ridge. Beloved wife of James R. Loving mother of Heidi, Alyssa, Ben, Jerome, Amber and the late Jim. Devoted grandmother of Inaya, Amrita, Darshan, Bailey, Tyler, Logan, Ben, Will, James, Jake, Jamie and George. Dear sister of the late James L. Wehs. Visitation Monday, December 17, 4-8 p.m. at **Ryan-Parke Funeral Home**, 120 S. Northwest Hwy., Park Ridge. Funeral Tuesday, friends and family to meet at Mary, Seat of Wisdom Church. Mass 11:30 a.m. Interment Town of Maine Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials to the Luminarts Cultural Foundation, www.luminarts.org appreciated. Please visit Judith Wehs Gillespie YouTube site. Funeral Info, www.ryan-parke.com.



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Goldstein, Arnold D.

Arnold D. Goldstein, 90, who passed away peacefully after a courageous battle with PML, loving husband of Selma for 68 years; loving father of Richard Goldstein (Julie O'Brien), Ralph (Tami) Goldstein and Joseph (Lisa) Goldstein; cherished Grampa of Adam (Jen), Sara (Rob), Anna (Joe), Jessika (Joe), David (Ashley), Travis, Lauren and Alex; adoring "Arnie" of Cosette, Harrison, Ari, Brooklyn and Remy; dear brother of the late Elayne Goldstein. Chapel service, Monday 10 AM at **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. Entombment Beth Shearim Mausoleum, Shalom Memorial Park. For information or to leave condolences, (847) 255-3520 or www.shalom2.com.



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Goushas, Clemens J.

Clemens J. Goushas, 83, of Lemont. Beloved husband of the late Dorothy for 62 years; loving father of Noreen (Frank) and John (Julie); cherished grandpa to Rebecca (Sean), Matthew (Jennifer), Alexa, Kyle, Sydney, Nicholas, and Christian; great-grandpa of Bennett, Connor and Theadora; dear son of the late John and the late Anne; brother to Frank, fond brother-in-law and dear uncle of many. Clem was a veteran of the Korean War where he learned his meteorological trade. He was a life-time member of the Lions Club, enjoyed bicycling the Chicago boulevards, attending grand kids sporting events, and caring for the love of his life, Dorothy. Memorial visitation Thursday, December 20, 2018, from 3 - 8 p.m. at **Markiewicz Funeral Home, P.C.** 108 Illinois St. Lemont. Inurnment with Military Honors will take place Friday, December 21, 2018, at 12 p.m., at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, IL. In lieu of flowers, memorials will be appreciated for the Lemont Lions Club. Info: 630-257-6363 or www.markiewiczfh.com

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Greenberg, Elayne

Elayne Greenberg nee Cassman, 89; beloved wife of the late Herbert; loving mother of Rhonda "Rande" (the late Allen) Shayne and Gary (Susin) Greenberg; adoring grandma of Howard Shayne, Leslie (Toy) de Lange and Brooke Haylee Greenberg (fiance Eric Deutz); proud GG of Allen Jacob de Lange; dear sister of the late Herman (the late June) Cassman and the late Fred (the late Joanne) Cassman; treasured aunt and friend of many. Chapel service Monday, 2:30 PM at **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. Interment Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Midwest Veterans Closet, PO Box 278, Wadsworth, IL 60083 - www.midwestveteranscloset.org. For information and condolences: 847-255-3520 or www.shalom2.com.



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Hall, Timothy

Timothy (Tim) Hall, 45, passed away Tuesday of a massive heart attack at his home in Chicago, Illinois. Born February 17, 1973, in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Tim grew up in Winnetka, Illinois and was a 1991 graduate of New Trier High School. He received a B.A. from DePauw University in 1995, where he was the vice president of the Sigma Chi Fraternity.

Tim had a successful career as a solutions architect responsible for executing information technology models for global enterprises. He worked at Affiliated Computer Services, Xerox and most recently Atos. He was an enthusiastic friend with a passion for life. He enjoyed playing all sports and was an especially avid golfer. Tim is survived by his son Charles Hall, who lives with his mother Nancy Crabill in Chicago; his parents Val and Bill Hall of Wilmette; his brothers Stephen of Menlo Park, CA and Phillip Hall of Smyrna, Georgia, his sister Lesley Millhouser of Denver, CO; as well as his five nieces and one nephew, Lucy, Margaret, Vivian, Ivy, Raegan and Rylan. Memorial Service Wednesday, December 19, 2018, 4:00 p.m. at Kenilworth Union Church, 211 Kenilworth Avenue, Kenilworth, IL 60043. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in Tim's honor to: The Northwestern Settlement in Chicago, 1400 West Augusta Boulevard, Chicago, IL 60642 (www.northwesternsettlement.org) Info: www.donnellanfuneral.com or (847)675-1990.



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Hara, Sylvia 'Simmie'

Sylvia "Simmie" Hara, nee Cohen, 96. Beloved wife of the late Morris Hara. Loving mother of Steven (Marla) Hara, Michael (Cynthia) Hara and Rick Hara. Proud grandmother of Noel (Betsy) Hara, Shawn (David) Suby, Alexa and Ashtin Hara. Cherished great-grandmother of Nate, Jordan, Jacob and Taryn. Dear sister of the late Mary (the late Bernard "Bunny") Lefkovitz. Service Tuesday 12 noon at **Chicago Jewish Funerals**, 195 N. Buffalo Grove Road, (One block north of Lake Cook Road) Buffalo Grove. Interment Shalom. Memorials to Ezra Habonim, the Niles Center Jewish Congregation, 4500 W. Dempster St., Skokie, IL 60076, www.ehnt.org or your favorite charity would be appreciated. Arrangements by: **Chicago Jewish Funerals**-Buffalo Grove Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfinfo.com



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Harris, Bernard

Bernard "Bernie" Harris, age 83, beloved husband and best friend of Joanne, nee Haas, cherished father of Julie (Jon) Walner and Ted (Marisa) Harris, loving "papa" of Tony and Joey Walner, Carly and Sophie Harris, brother of Floyd Harris. Funeral Sunday 12 Noon at North Shore Congregation Israel, Perlman Chapel (southside of building), 1185 Sheridan Rd., Glencoe. Interment to follow at 3 PM at Spring Hill Cemetery in Milwaukee, WI. In lieu of flowers contributions in Bernard's name to the American Heart Association, or the charity of your choice would be appreciated. Info **Mitzvah Memorial Funerals**, 630-MITZVAH (630-648-9824) or www.mitzvahfunerals.com



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Heringhaus, Gregory S.

Gregory S. Heringhaus of Chicago, age 48. Beloved husband of Katherine; loving son of Charles and Fay Heringhaus; dear brother of Penny (Fred) Brooks, Paula (Bob) Detzel, Peggy (Carl) Townsend and the late Pamela Demala; fond uncle of many; dear friend of John and Kelly Reed. Services have been held privately. For further info 708-F-U-N-E-R-A-L.

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Hopfinger, Anton J. 'Tony'

Anton "Tony" Joseph Hopfinger, age 75, of Lake Forest, Ill., passed away Dec. 5, 2018, peacefully at Highland Park Hospital. A beloved father to three sons and distinguished career scientist, Dr. Hopfinger is credited as a founding father of computational chemistry, which fueled the boom in advanced drug discovery in the late 20th century. He was born Dec. 3, 1943, in Oshkosh, Wis., to Anton and Laverne Hopfinger. The oldest of three children, he had a passion for science and mathematics at an early age. He met his wife, Kathleen Hanseter, while the two were in grade school and they were married for 49 years, until her death in 2015. After graduating from Lourdes High School in Oshkosh in 1962, he earned bachelor's degrees in math and physics at the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh. He went on to earn a doctorate in biophysical chemistry from Case Western Reserve University, where he continued as a research professor in macromolecular science in the 1970s. It was during this time that he began shaping the emerging field of computational chemistry. He was the lead author on more than 280 peer-reviewed publications, many of which explored the methodologies of computer-assisted molecular design. In the early 1980s, Dr. Hopfinger briefly left academia to serve as director of drug design at the then-pharmaceutical company Searle, where he played a key role in developing aspartame, the artificial sweetener. In his consulting work, he made significant contributions to a host of pharmaceuticals, including the Alzheimer's medication Aricept. Starting in 1985, he was a professor of bioengineering, chemistry and medicinal chemistry at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) and served as director of the Laboratory of Molecular Modeling and Design. During his academic career, he took great pleasure in serving as a thesis adviser to more than 50 doctoral students. Upon retirement in 2005, he was named professor emeritus of medicinal chemistry and pharmacognosy at UIC. He also served as a distinguished research professor of pharmacy at the University of New Mexico.

His work afforded him and his family opportunities to travel the world, experiences they will forever cherish. He also enjoyed reading spy novels, building model trains, watching football and spending time at his second home in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He is preceded in death by his wife, Kathleen (Hanseter) Hopfinger; his parents, Anton and Laverne Hopfinger; and brothers-in-law John Hanseter and Glen Dedow. He is survived by sons, Tim, Tony Jr. and Todd; daughters-in-law, Heidi (Tim) and Kylea (Tony Jr.); and granddaughters, Julia and Grace (Tim and Heidi), and Kaethe (Tony Jr. and Kylea). He is also survived by his sisters, Debra Perlewitz and Susan Geffers; brother-in-law, Peter Geffers; sisters-in-law, Mary Ann Dedow and Jodie Hanseter; as well as his nieces and nephews Angi Klabunde, Jeff Perlewitz, Joe Perlewitz, Pierce Geffers, Desiree Geffers, Noreen Smith, David Koene, Michelle Wickman and Cher Perez. A private memorial will take place at a future date. In lieu of flowers, he asked that donations be made to a charity of your choice. Info **Wenban Funeral Home**, 320 Vine Ave., Lake Forest, IL. 847.234.0022 www.wenbanfh.com



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Hull, Barbara M.

Barbara M. Hull, nee McConnell, 98, of Glenview, passed away December 8, 2018. She was the beloved wife of the late Addis E. Hull III; mother of Patricia Nawrocki; grandmother of Heather Schultheis and Lori Hunt; great grandmother of Taylor Schultheis, Colby Gehrke; sister of the late Dr. John William (Margaret) McConnell; aunt of Dr. Cameron McConnell (Tim Hanson), John Andrew McConnell and William David (Linda) McConnell. A memorial service will be held Wednesday, December 19, 2018 at 10 am at the Chapel of Misericordia, 6300 N. Ridge, Chicago. The family would like to thank Vi at the Glen Care Center and Guardian Hospice for their loving care and support. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Misericordia, 6300 N. Ridge Ave., Chicago, IL 60660. Funeral information 847-998-1020.

N.H. Scott & Hanekamp FUNERAL HOME

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Jacobs, Gitta K

June 19, 1933- December 7, 2018



Gitta K. Jacobs of Chicago, Illinois passed away peacefully at home, after a long battle with pulmonary fibrosis. Her generous spirit, sense of humor and work ethic earned her the love and admiration of friends and family alike.

Gitta was born in Vienna, Austria in 1933, the daughter of prominent Jewish parents, Franz and Paula Kaperl. In 1939, her parents recognized the Nazi threat and sent six-year-old Gitta to live in hiding with her nanny. In 1941, the family escaped with the clothes on their backs. They resettled in Kansas City, Mo. where they learned English through movies and radio. Franz built another successful business and encouraged Gitta to pursue her education at Northwestern University, where she studied theater. While in college, she met Anthony Jacobs, who she married during her junior year. Gitta and Anthony raised their six children in Glencoe until their divorce in 1979.

As a single woman, Gitta returned to Northwestern to complete her undergraduate degree, earned a master's in film and became active in Chicago's vibrant theater community. She joined the boards of several small theater companies and was proud of her role as an associate producer of the first national tour of "Angels in America," and investments in many local productions, including "Pump Boys and Dinettes." She was passionate about her role as a judge on the "Jeff" Committee, often attending more than a dozen productions a month. Gitta was a generous supporter several charities, especially Misericordia Home, where Sister Rosemary Connelly and the wonderful staff have looked after her son Billy Jacobs for over 40 years. She also spent over 20 years volunteering at the NICU unit at Children's Memorial Hospital, giving comfort to the infants and their families.

She is survived by her children Tracey Jacobs, Clayton Jacobs (Laura Ginett), Zachary Jacobs, Jennifer Jacobs Geis (Douglas), Billy Jacobs and Christopher Jacobs. Adored by her grandchildren Kristina, John Patrick, Erin Kathleen, Kiley, Luke and Greer Jacobs and Jarrett and Sarah Kreger; Charlie, William and Matthew Geis; Calvin De Castro and great-grandchildren, Jimmer Jacobs and Henry Bosch.

A memorial service will be held at Misericordia Home on Saturday, January 5, 2019 at 11:00 am.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that any donations be made to Misericordia Home, www.misericordia.com, in Chicago, Illinois.

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Jaeger, Harry E. 'Sonny'

Harry E. "Sonny" Jaeger died at age 86 on December 9, 2018. He leaves his beloved wife of 54 years, Angeline (nee Cochiro/Chuchchiara), three surviving children Terry, Angela and Dean (Hope) and five grandchildren, Isabella, Christopher, Joseph, Matthew and Jacob. Mr. Jaeger was predeceased by his son Harry B. He was born in Chicago on May 3, 1932 to German immigrant parents, Lothar E. and Gertrude B. Jaeger (Welzin). He graduated from Concordia Ev. Lutheran Grammar School, Lane Technical High School and Wright College. He enlisted and proudly served in the U.S. Navy for 4 years during the Korean conflict. His first employment was with Illinois Bell Telephone Co. (With a special assignment) to Western Electric as an Installer (1956-1957) on the Distant Early Warning radar (DEW) Line near the Eskimo village of Tuktoyaktuk which is located on the shore of the Beaufort Sea in the Northwest Territory of Canada. Harry was retired from Amphenol/Bunker Ramo/Allied Corp after 25 years of service in sales/marketing product management. During his retirement years, Harry could be found at his two sons' firm in Elmwood Park. There he loved spending several mornings each week studying the stock market, and always enjoyed making conversation with everyone who came by the office. Visitation Sunday, December 16, 2018 from 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at Cuneo-Columbian Funeral Home, 10300 West Grand Ave, Franklin Park, IL. Funeral Services Monday, December 17, 2018, Gathering at the chapel 9:00 a.m. for a 10:00 a.m. chapel service, with interment to follow at Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Hillside Illinois. For Info: (847) 455-1200

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Johandes, Carolyn

(nee Eck). Beloved wife of the late John "Butch" Johandes. Loving mother of Cheri (Gary) McLaughlin, John (Ana) & Timothy (Missy) Johandes. Cherished grandmother of Christian & Alex, Kayla & Noah and Vaali. Dear sister of Lorraine Engstrom & Wayne Eck. Kind aunt of many nieces & nephews. Visitation Monday, December 17th from 3 until 9 p.m. Chapel service Tuesday, December 18th, 10 a.m. at the **Kerry Funeral Home & Cremation Care Center**, 7020 W. 127th Street, Palos Heights. Interment Fairmount Willow Hills Memorial Park. www.kerryfh.com ~ (708) 361.4235 ~ www.facebook.com/kerryfuneral

KERRY FUNERAL HOME

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John L., Kirkland

John L. Kirkland, 92, died December 9, 2018 in Naples FL. He is survived by his wife Harriet of 68 years, and children Karen Lazos of Miami, FL, Kevin (Linda) of Fontana, WI, Robert of Fontana, WI, Melissa (Greg) Glyman of Lake Forest, IL, as well as eight grandchildren Kristina Lazos, Nick Lazos, Katherine (Ben) Romenesko, Elizabeth Kirkland, Johnny Glyman, Allie Glyman, Peter Glyman, Grace Glyman and one great-grandchild Emma Romenesko.

He was born and raised in Elgin, Illinois, served in the U.S. Navy, and graduated from Lake Forest College and Chicago-Kent College of Law.

He practiced law with the Chicago based firm of Hinshaw and Culbertson for 40 years, including a period as managing partner. He was a member of the Illinois State Bar Association where he served two terms on the Board of Governors, a past president of the Trial Lawyers Club of Chicago, a Fellow of the American College of Trial Lawyers, a member of the Society of Trial Layers, Federation of Insurance Counsel, and a lecturer on many topics of Insurance Law.

He served a term on the Cook County Zoning Board of Appeals and was a past Chairman of the Zoning Board of Appeals of the village of Arlington Heights, Illinois, and a life trustee of the Union League Club Boys and Girls Club of Chicago.

He belonged to the Imperial Golf Club of Naples, Florida and Big Foot Country Club of Fontana, Wisconsin, where he served as President for two years and became a lifetime honorary member and was also a long time member of the Union League Club of Chicago. He was listed in the Who's Who in America.

John's parents brought him to their summer cottage at Lake Geneva in the summer of 1926. He returned every summer of his life, and for many years his greatest joy was fishing and golfing with his wife, children, grandchildren, and friends.

A celebration of life is planned for the spring in Fontana.

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Kovaka, John S.

John S. Kovaka, age 73, U.S. Marine Corps Vietnam Veteran, beloved husband of Margaret "Peggy" (nee Schneider); loving father of Stephen, Brian, John 'J.R.' (Heather), Stephanie (Jay) McMahon; proud grandpa of Brian, Aidan, Sophia, Gabrielle, Gavin, Hailey, Madison, Abigail, Liam and Claire; dear brother-in-law of Helen (Gary Price) Schneider and Mary Ann (Pat) Foy; devoted uncle, friend and coach to many. In lieu of flowers, donations to Advocate Hope Children's Hospital, 4400 95th St. Oak Lawn, IL 60453, would be appreciated. Visitation Wednesday 3-9 P.M. Funeral Thursday 9:00 A.M. from **Lawn Funeral Home**, 7732 W. 159th St. Orland Park to Our Lady of the Ridge Church Mass 10:00 A.M. Interment Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery. Funeral info 708-429-3200.



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Kramer, John J.

John J. Kramer, 92, of Chicago. Cherished son of the late John and Katherine Kramer; beloved brother of the late George S. (late Hildegard) Kramer; loving uncle of George H. (Joanne) Kramer and Katherine Janet; proud great uncle of Christopher (Kristy) Janet and Nicholas (Debbie) Janet. Family and friends will gather Monday, December 17, 2018, from 9:30 a.m. until time of the funeral service 10:30 a.m., at **Wm. H. Scott Funeral Home**, 1100 Greenleaf Ave, Wilmette, IL 60091. Interment Memorial Park Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorials to Friedmann Place, 5527 N. Maplewood Ave, Chicago, IL 60625 appreciated. For Funeral information 847-251-8200.

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Kuipers, Jr., Martin P. 'Marty'

Martin P. "Marty" Kuipers, Jr., age 82, served in the U.S. Army Reserves. Beloved husband for 60 years to Bonnie, nee Bergsma. Loving father of Jim (Ruth), Dave (Wendy), Kristin (Bill) Slager and Kathy Furtek. Cherished grandfather of ten. Dearest great-grandfather of four. Fond brother of Arlene (late John) Wold. Dear uncle of many nieces and nephews. Former partner at A-K Tire. Transportation coordinator for 20 years at Southwest Chicago Christian Schools. Visitation Monday, December 17, 2018 at Calvary Church, 16100 S. 104th Ave., Orland Park, IL from 2:00-7:00 p.m. with a Service to Celebrate Marty's life and faith to immediately follow at 7:00 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Southwest Chicago Christian Schools or American Diabetes Association appreciated. Express your thoughts and condolences at colonialchapel.com 708-532-5400

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Kyanka, Robert Donald 'BOB KANE'

Proud U.S. Army Veteran during the Vietnam War Era. Loving & gentle husband for 34 years of Jacquelyn (nee Roach). Dear father of John Kyanka and step father of Frederic & Scott (Mary) Spencer. Cherished grandfather of Ashley (Michael) Swift & Jeffrey Spencer. Fond son-in-law of Barbara Pridemore. Former employee of Union Steel, Azcon Steel & West Walker Steel Companies. Memorial services will take place at a later date. Arrangements were entrusted to the **Kerry Funeral Home & Cremation Care Center** in Palos Heights. www.kerryfh.com ~ (708) 361.4235 ~ www.facebook.com/kerryfuneral



KERRY FUNERAL HOME

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Lafin, Howard J.

Howard J. Lafin, age 88, Proud U.S. Marine Corps, Korean War Veteran. Beloved husband to the late Ann; loving dad of Howard (Donna), Karl (Marcella), Thomas (Jeannine), Ann (Joe) Soltkykiewicz and the late Richard (Sue); cherished grandpa of Michael (Katherine), Andrea (Craig), John (Jenell), Erika, Robert, Amanda, Steven, Natalie, Amy (Jeremy) and the late Nicole; proud great grandpa of 7; dear brother of Elaine (Louis) Reynolds; forever friend of brother-in-law Nick (Rose) Malz; will be missed by his nieces. Visitation Sunday, from 3 to 9 P.M. Funeral prayers Monday, 9:15 A.M. at **Nelson Funeral Home**, 820 Talcott Rd., Park Ridge. Procession to St. Paul of the Cross Church for 10 A.M. Mass of Christian Burial. Interment Maryhill Cemetery. For info www.nelsonfunerals.com or (847) 823-5122.



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Larson, Robert Michael 'Bob'

Robert "Bob" Michael Larson, 82, of Northbrook, IL, passed away peacefully in his sleep December 9, 2018. Beloved husband for 60+ years of Mary Lee (Lyle) Larson; loving father of Ronald Michael (Ann) Larson and Laura Lee (Jeannine Forrest) Larson; cherished grandfather of Matthew (Lauren) Larson, Elizabeth Larson, and Julie Larson; dear brother of Richard (Margaret Holt) Larson and Linda (Michael) Kennedy; fond uncle of James (Jennifer) Kennedy, Christopher (Sarah Bauer) Kennedy, Jeffrey Larson, and Jennifer Larson; caring great-uncle to Matthew Kennedy, Ryan Kennedy, Kathryn Kennedy, and Avery Claire Larson. Bob was born November 16, 1936 to Iliff Leroy and Ethel Milton (Humphrey) Larson and raised in Mapleton, IA. He earned his Doctor of Pharmacy degree in 1959 from the University of Iowa and moved to Scottsdale, AZ for the next four years. In 1963, he moved his family to Northbrook, where he lived for the last 55 years and held a career with Walgreens Corporate HQ for 33+ years. He was a registered pharmacist, a Deacon and Elder of his church, and a member of the Medinah Shriners. He enjoyed golf, tennis, fishing, and the latest gadgets. A memorial service will be held January 12, 2019 at 11:00 am at The Village Presbyterian Church, 1300 Shermer Road, Northbrook, IL 60062. Memorial contributions may be made to The Village Presbyterian Church. Funeral information 847-998-1020.

N.H. Scott & Hanekamp FUNERAL HOME

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Lenardi, Deborah J.

nee Thomson, age 63, beloved wife of James C., loving sister of Jim (Helen), Diane Nyblom, Michael, Edward (Carol), Donna (Bill) Kampion and Kevin. Aunt and great-aunt of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Wednesday, December 19th 9:30 a.m. until time of funeral mass 11:30 a.m. at St. Daniel the Prophet Church, 54th & Nashville Sts, Chicago. Entombment Holy Sepulchre Mausoleum. In lieu of flowers masses preferred. Arrangements by **Parkside Chapels & Cremation Services**. Info. 773-767-9788. Online tributes www.parksidechapels.com



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Lipsky, Ronald S.

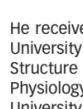
Ronald S. Lipsky, 85, beloved husband of Harriet, (nee Sandler) for 57 years; dearest brother of Ruth (the late Harry) Kreiter, loving father of Ellen (Dennis) Jourdan, Brad Lipsky, and Marc (Diane) Lipsky; cherished Zadie of Jason, Arden, and Jared. Ronald was a devoted uncle, cousin, and friend to many. Chapel service Monday December 17, 12:15 PM at **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. Interment at Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Diabetes Association or charity of your choice would be appreciated. For information and condolences: 847-255-3520 or www.shalom2.com



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Lorand, Laszlo

Dr. Laszlo Lorand of Glencoe, IL and Woods Hole, MA passed away peacefully at his home on December 6 at the age of 95. He was a Hungarian born Holocaust survivor and American Immigrant Biochemist and Medical Researcher. He spent the majority of his professional career at Northwestern University and was a Professor Emeritus of Cell and Molecular Biology at the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University at the time of his death. His research was in the area of thrombosis, protein associations, and calcium ions and is considered to have had a major impact in the field of blood coagulation.



He received an Absolutorium in Medicine from the University of Budapest and a Ph.D. in Biomolecular Structure from University of Leeds and taught Physiology and Pharmacology at Wayne State University School of Medicine prior to joining Northwestern.

Dr. Lorand was also a long-time member of the Marine Biological Laboratory summer research community in Woods Hole, MA. It was at the MBL that he met the love of his life, Joyce Bruner-Lorand, who predeceased him in 2010. He served on the MBL's Board of Trustees from 1987 to 1991 and was a faculty member in the MBL Physiology course.

He was an elected Member of the National Academy of Sciences, a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a foreign member of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. He received numerous awards and honorary degrees throughout his career including an honorary Doctor of Science from the University of Illinois and Doctor of Medicine and Surgery from the University of Ferrara, Italy. His scientific publishing career spanned over 70 years, with his last article accepted for publication shortly before his death, and was the author of more than 200 scientific publications. More important than his admirable career was his complete devotion and dedication to his family. He is survived by his daughter, 2 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren. Funeral services will be private.

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Mallardi, Genevieve A.

Genevieve A. Mallardi (nee Micek) age 91, at rest December 10, 2018. Beloved wife of the late Dominic. Loving mother of Sandra (Rex) Wilson. Fond grandmother of Dominick (Krislie) Smith. Great grandmother of Cecilia and Carmela. Dear sister of the late John, Stephanie, Walter, Frank, Mary and Joseph and fond aunt of many nieces and nephews. In lieu of flowers, donations to Our Lady Mother of the Church. Visitation Sunday, December 16, 2018 from 4:00 until 8:00 p.m. at **Cumberland Chapels** 8300 W. Lawrence Ave. Norridge. Funeral Monday, Beginning at the funeral home at 9:00 a.m. and then proceed to Our Lady Mother of the Church for 10:00 a.m. Mass. Interment will follow at St. Joseph Cemetery in River Grove.



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Marcus, Arthur R.

Arthur R. Marcus. Beloved husband of the late Judith, nee Mitchell. Dear father of Edye Kollar, Mitchell Marcus, and Laura (Craig) O'Keefe; devoted grandfather of Matthew (Yna), Amanda, Nicole, and Hannah (Will) Kollar, and Kristen, Dana, and Anthony Siciliano, and Colin and Abigail O'Keefe; great-grandfather of Una Kollar and Zoey Butz. Funeral service Monday 12/17 at 12 noon at **Weinstein & Piser Funeral Home**, 111 Skokie Blvd., Wilmette. Interment Westlawn Cemetery, Norridge. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the charity of your choice. Funeral info: 847-256-5700.



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Mayer, Geraldine M.

Geraldine M. Mayer nee Dunn, age 90, late of Oak Forest. Beloved wife of 69 years to George Mayer. Loving mother of Kevin, Mark (Patti), Gary (Janet), Greig (Kelli), Ken, Ellen (Tim) Ragen, Meg Gray, Tim (Char) and Tom (Cindy). Proud grandmother of 26 and great grandmother of 29. Dear sister of Margie Culver. Funeral Tuesday December 18, 2018, 9:15 AM at the Vandenberg Funeral Home, 17248 Harlem Avenue Tinley Park, IL. To St. Damian Church, Mass 10:00 AM. Interment in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Visitation Monday, 3:00-9:00 PM. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Catholic charities would be appreciated. For information on services, 708-532-1635 or www.vandenbergfuneralhome.com

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McCrea, Kathryn Irene

Kathryn Irene McCrea (nee Gunnesch), 60, of Chicago's Lincoln Square neighborhood, passed away peacefully December 9, 2018. After graduating from Mather High School, Kathy earned her B.S. in Social Work from Northeastern Illinois University and did post-graduate work at North Park College in Health Management while managing several doctor's offices. Kathy was a skilled gardener, an avid volunteer at Swedish Covenant Hospital, an auxiliary police officer for the Village of Rosemont (1995-2004), and a member of the Alliance of Transylvanian Saxons. She participated in the 1996 Mrs. Illinois-America contest, rescued many animals, and loved her family farm in Edgerton, Wisconsin. Kathy will be remembered for her tender heart, her generosity, and her long blonde hair. Cherished wife of 36 years to Douglas John McCrea and devoted mother of Steven Douglas McCrea. Loving sister of Karen A.G. Miller, dear aunt of Ronald F. (Monica) Miller II and great-aunt of Josh Miller. Step-mother of Toni Lynette Szklarski, Deanna Lynn (Eric) Wiley, and Douglas (Jenny) McCrea, Jr. Step-grandmother of Tyler and Haley Szklarski, Addisyn Wiley, and Lindsey McCrea. Daughter of the late Thomas Gunnesch and Irene Kathryn Gunnesch (nee Lurtz). Celebration of Life Saturday, December 29, 12-4pm (eulogies begin 1pm), at Himmel's Restaurant, 2251 W. Lawrence Ave, Chicago, 60625. Donations may be made in her name to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society: www.lls.org/illinois. Arrangements by **Cremation Society of Illinois**, 773-281-5058 or www.cremation-society.com.



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McGee, II, M.D., John Paul

John Paul McGee, II, M.D., age 74. Beloved husband of Sharon nee Stanton; loving father of J. Paul (Valerie) McGee and Anne (James) Wagner; dear grandfather of John Patrick, Andrew Declan McGee, Maeson Hope, Tema McGee and Chandler Cynthia Wagner; fond brother of the late Annette (the late Conrad) Lynch and the late Sally (the late Jim) Hunter; many nieces and nephews. Visitation Wednesday, December 19, 2018, 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at **Donnellan Family Funeral Home**, 10045 Skokie Boulevard, at Old Orchard Road, Skokie, IL 60077. Funeral service Thursday, December 20, 2018, 1:00 p.m. at Alice Miller Chapel, 1870 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60208. Interment private Immanuel Lutheran Cemetery, Glenview, IL. In lieu of flowers, memorials to the Anesthesia Scholarship at Northwestern University in his name, would be appreciated. Info: www.donnellanfuneral.com or 847-675-1990.



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Melzer, Patricia A.

Patricia "Patti" Melzer has had a lifetime of peace and love, celebrating life each day. Loving wife to Dave, mother to Heather (Gerard) Baum, Courtney Melzer, and Teresa (Sarah) Melzer-Hire, grandmother to Ethan and Olivia Baum, Miles Melzer-Haberman, and Leona and Theodore Melzer-Hire, sister to Brenda Sernek-Valadez, Christine Marmol, Pam Marmol, Pamela Romano, and Rodney Sernek, daughter of Bonnie Mejia and Richard Sernek, aunt, cousin, and friend to many. Patti nurtured joy and discovery in many as a tireless worker for peace, youth minister, retreat coordinator, care giver, gardener, and artist. Her bright light brought happiness to everyone she met with her genuine smile and concern. While Patti loved Chicago, she treasured nature. She created a backyard oasis raising wildflowers and butterflies teaching children about wonder, beauty, growth and change. A beautiful person inside and out, her welcoming presence led to friendships that will go on for eternity. Patti could best be understood as a passionate person who yearned to be in relationship with each person God put in her life. She has left her fingerprints on our hearts forever and will be profoundly missed. She will be waked on Monday Dec. 17th from 2 to 9 p.m. at **Cooney Funeral Home**, 3918 W. Irving Park Rd., Chicago. Free additional parking is directly across the street on Irving Park at "Meeting Place of the Church." There will be a viewing at the funeral home on Tuesday from 9:30-10:30 a.m. followed by an 11 a.m. Mass of the Resurrection at St. Viator Church, 4170 W. Addison St. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness at www.metavivor.org. For info 773-588-5850 or www.cooneyfuneralhome.com.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Mercatoris, Margaret

Margaret Mercatoris (nee McDonagh) age 85, born in Doctors Hill Kilfenora, County Claire, Ireland. Beloved wife of the late Richard Mercatoris and the late Andrew Moriarty. Devoted mother of Peggy (Joseph) Franczyk and Andrew (Lynda) Moriarty. Loving grandmother of the late Kelly and Frankie Kaczmarek. Also survived by many loving relatives and friends. Retired from Illinois Bell in 1983 after 25 years of service. Lifelong Telephone Pioneers of America and I.B.E.W. member. Memorial visitation Monday, Dec. 17th, 5-9 PM at the **Palos-Gaidas Funeral Home**, 11028 Southwest Hwy. (7700W) Palos Hills. Memorial service Monday 6:30 PM at the funeral home. Express your thoughts and memories in the online Guest Book at www.palosgaidasfh.com (708) 974 4410



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Michalek, Elaine C.

Elaine C. Michalek (nee Kirk) loving wife of Dennis M., beloved Mother of Dennis E. (Karl), Diane (Jerry) Mangano, Jennifer, and the late Michael. Devoted Grandmother of Jennifer (Philip), Joseph, Nicholas (Melissa), Alexandria, Michael, Matthew, and Zachary. Great grandmother of Malakai. Sister of Jeanne Spencer, Charles (Lois) Kirk, late Father Martin Kirk, CMF, and Anna Mae (Robert) McChrystal. Aunt of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Monday, December 17, 2018 from 3:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at Cuneo-Columbian Funeral Home, 10300 W. Grand Ave. (1 block east of Mannheim Road) Franklin Park, IL. Prayers Tuesday, December 18, 2018 at 8:30 a.m. from Cuneo-Columbian to Visitation Catholic Church, Elmhurst for 9:15 a.m. Mass. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Hillside. Info. 847-455-1200 or www.cuneocolumbian.net

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Montgomery, Gloria M.

Gloria M. Montgomery of Burr Ridge. Wife of the late Harry A. Mother of Chris L. (Amy Teri), Missy Montgomery-Rader, and Step- mother of Alison G. (Allen) Crumbley. Grandmother of Eloise and Harper, Harrison and Dovan Rader and Alana, Leigha., Olivia Crumbley. Sister of Sharon (Mark) Steger. Visitation Thursday 2:30 pm to time of Funeral Service 7:30 PM at **COGLIANESE FUNERAL HOME** 7508 S. County Line Road (one block south of 155/Stevenon) Burr Ridge. Expressions of sympathy may take the form of donations to LaRabida Childrens Hospital 6501 Promontory Dr. Chicago 60649. Funeral info 630654 8484 or www.coglianesefuneral.com

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Moy, Tai-On 'Don'

Tai-On "Don" Moy, beloved husband of the late Helen F. Moy. Loving father of Wendy (Salim) N.H. Henry Moy and the late James (Kevynn) Moy. Cherished Grandfather of Taylor, Michael and Charlie Ling; Austin, Mikayla and Ethan Moy. Dear brother of Pak Tung Moy. Don and Helen were the proud owners of Kow Kow Restaurant in Lincolnwood. Visitation Wednesday December 19th from 10am until 8pm at **Smith-Corcoran Funeral Home** 6150 N. Cicero Ave., Chicago. Funeral Thursday 10am at the funeral home. Interment Mount Auburn Cemetery. Info 773-736-3833 or www.smithcorcoran.com



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Murphy, Daniel C.

The funeral mass for Daniel C. Murphy, 86, of Lake Barrington, formerly of Glenview, will be held at 11 a.m. Thurs., Dec. 20, 2018 at St. Anne Catholic Community, 120 Ela St., (Corner of Franklin and Ela Sts.), Barrington. Friends are invited to join the family at 10:30 a.m. at the church. Interment private. Born March 10, 1932, in Blue Earth, MN, he passed away peacefully Dec., 13, 2018, at JourneyCare Hospice in Barrington. Devoted husband to the late Katherine, nee Corcoran; loving father of Kathleen and Dan (Robin) Murphy and the late Anne Murphy Slowik; cherished grandfather of eight; dear brother of Mimi (Tom) Carr and Bill Murphy; loving uncle of many. In lieu of flowers, memorials to JourneyCare Foundation, 2050 Claire Ct., Glenview, IL 60025 would be appreciated. For information, please contact **Davenport Family Funeral Home**, Barrington, 847-381-3411. For online condolences please visit, www.davenportfamily.com.



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Nagy, Elizabeth Garver 'Betty'

On December 3, 2018, Elizabeth "Betty" Garver Nagy, watercolor painter, died at the age of 90 in Pisgah Forest, North Carolina. Betty was born on January 14, 1928 in Martinsville, Illinois to Evelyn Fasig and Ralph Tibbs Garver. After graduating from the Studio School of Advertising Art in Cincinnati, OH, Betty worked as a fashion illustrator at Wolf and Dessauer in Fort Wayne, IN. She then pursued transparent watercolor painting. She was an organizing founder of the Western Ohio Watercolor Society, and held merited memberships with Watercolor West, The Midwest Watercolor Society, the Philadelphia Watercolor Club, the Artist Guild of Chicago, and the Transylvania Art Guild. A prolific painter, with work in many private collections, Betty dedicated her life to creating things. Her work has appeared in 60 museums and galleries nationally. Fiercely independent Betty is preceded in death by her first husband William Achleman, second husband Stephen Nagy, sister Patricia Cundiff, and brother Ralph Tibbs Garver II. She is survived by her children Stephanie Nagy Agren, Patricia Nagy (Marc) Adelman, Shelly Achleman Nagy and Todd Achleman Nagy; sister, Bonnie McCash and five grandchildren. Private burial will be held at a later date.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Nazimek, Lorraine Antonette

Lorraine Antonette Nazimek, nee Czeszochowski, age 95, of Niles, passed away December 10, 2018. Beloved wife of the late Edward J. Nazimek, dear cousin of Edward Chester (Anne), the late James Chester (late Linda) and Ronald Chester (Carmen), step-mother of Larry E. Nazimek, sister of the late Walter G. Czeszochowski, daughter of the late Agnes, nee Scheliga, and late Aloysius Czeszochowski. Graduate of St. Hyacinth Grade School and Holy Family Academy Class of 1942. Retired Executive Secretary, Department 609, Sears, Roebuck and Co. Past President of the Ladies Auxiliary, Knights of Columbus, Fr. John J. Dussman Council #3731. Member of St. Catherine Laboure Parish, past leader of the Rosary Group and Bingo worker. Visitation Sunday, December 16 from 2 to 6 PM at **N.H. Scott & Hanekamp Funeral Home**, 1240 Waukegan Rd. (just south of Lake Ave. on west side), Glenview. Visitation will also be held Monday, December 17 from 9:30 AM until time of the Mass at 10:30 AM at St. Catherine Laboure, 3535 Thornwood Ave., Glenview. Entombment St. Adalbert Cemetery. Funeral information 847-998-1020.



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Pechous, John M. 'J.P.'

John M. Pechous, October 19, 1934 - December 13, 2018 John is survived by his wife, Nancy (nee Kucera), his daughter Kris (Ron), granddaughter Jade, and two of his five brothers: Donald (late Carla), and Kenneth (Pam). Services are private.

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Petty, Richard J. 'Jeff'

Richard J. "Jeff" Petty age 66, passed away peacefully at his home in Chicago after a lengthy illness. Beloved husband for 44 years of Cynthia L. (nee Kissane). Loving father of Jessica Lynne (Ethan) Smith. Cherished grandfather of Adrian and Vivian Smith. Dear brother of Janice (Bill) Carpenter, Roger (Carol) Petty, Judy (Don) Calhoun, Raymond (Lynne) Petty, Jeanne (Greg) Hansen and Jennifer Fox and brother-in-law of William (Debbie Jo) Kissane and Thomas Kissane. Special cousin of Amy Hiller and Mike Davis. Fond son-in-law of Henry (Carmen) Kissane. Dear uncle of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Sunday from 2-8 p.m. Funeral Monday 9:00 a.m. prayers from the Montclair-Lucania Funeral Home, 6901 W. Belmont Avenue Chicago, IL to St. Tarcissus Church, 6020 W. Ardmore, Chicago, IL for Mass at 10:00 a.m. Interment will be held privately. In lieu of flowers memorials made to the American Heart or American Lung Association would be appreciated by the family. For information please call 1-773-622-9300 or visit www.montclairlucania.com

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Pollard, Andrew J.

Andrew J. Pollard, age 94, beloved husband for nearly 68 years of Marianne, nee O'Neill; loving father of Ellen Elias, Michael (Moira), Mary Kay (Dave) Buysse, Patrick (Rose), and Daniel (Jorie) Pollard; proud "Poppy" of Matt (Laura) Elias, Nora (Matt) Bloom; Drew, Megan (Matt) LaTronica, Katie, and Emily Pollard; Bridget (Tim) Lackie, Clare (James) Marsh, Maggie, and John Buysse; Michael and John Pollard; Timothy, Brian, and Maggie Pollard; and eight great-grandchildren. Andrew was the cherished son of the late Michael J. (native of Co. Tipperary, Ireland) and Ellen (nee Greene) Pollard (native of Co. Kilkenny, Ireland); loving brother of Kathleen Fahey and dear friend and brother-in-law of the late Edward Fahey, Sr. Andy was preceded in death by his dear brothers and sisters, Thomas, Michael, Anne Chwalisz, John, Richard, and Helen Peters. He was a loving uncle of dozens of nieces and nephews. Andrew served in the U.S. Navy aboard the aircraft carrier USS Bennington in the South Pacific during World War II. He was a devoted employee of the Archdiocese of Chicago Catholic Cemeteries, having served there for 56 years, most recently as Director of Finance, until his retirement at age 82. He was awarded the Cross Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice by Pope Benedict XVI in 2005 for distinguished service to the Catholic Church. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 18, from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m., at **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, 1025 W. 55th St., Countryside. Family & friends asked to meet directly at St. John of the Cross Church, Western Springs for 9:45 a.m. Mass on Wednesday, Dec. 19. Interment Holy Sepulchre. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Mercy Home for Boys and Girls are appreciated. Info: 708-352-6500 or hjfurnerals.com.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Porter, James Joseph

James Joseph Porter, 88 of Chicago was born February 21, 1930 in Oak Park and passed away December 7, 2018. James was the beloved husband of Jeanne Porter; loving father of Susan R. Porter, Joseph G. Porter, and Elizabeth Porter Soldani; cherished grandfather of Isabella E. Soldani, Sophia A. Soldani, and Claire J. Porter; dear brother of the late Joanne Porter Pendleton. While growing up in Kenilworth, IL Jim Porter was a state ranked swimmer for New Trier High School. He played football and enjoyed golf. After graduating from New Trier, he attended Williams College before joining the Marine Corps to fight in the Korean War. Upon his honorable discharge from the service, he completed his studies closer to home earning a degree at Northwestern University in Evanston. He was an employee of Harris bank for over 40 years. He will be missed dearly by many. All services are private.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Qualiardi, Cora

Cora Qualiardi, of Morton Grove, beloved wife of the late Alfred; dedicated and loving mother of Terry Willis, Jeanine (Michael) Gibbons, DDS, Peggy (Jimmy) Hopkins, Al and Bill (Therese); cherished grandmother of Jaime (Grant), Gina, Carrie, Kevin and Brett; fond sister of the late Mary (Charles) Lang, and Albert (Montee), Charles (Loretta) and James (Jean) Vanderbosch; dear cousin of Gay Bartsch; devoted aunt of many. She was a master seamstress, excellent cook, loved reading and writing; she was a strong and independent woman of style and grace who was a longtime faithful parishioner of St. Martha Church. Funeral from **Simkins Funeral Home** 6251 Dempster St. Morton Grove Tuesday 9:30 a.m. to St. Martha Church, Mass 10 a.m. Interment All Saints Cemetery. Visitation Monday 4 to 8 p.m. Sign online guestbook at www.simkinsfh.com 847-965-2500

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Raida, Dean C.

Dean C. Raida, age 81, of Park Ridge. Beloved husband of the late Ellie. Loving father of Michael D. (Estelle) Raida. Caring brother of the late Doug Raida. Cherished son of the late Jack Delmas and Adele Raida. Memorial Service Saturday, January 12, 2019, 10 a.m. at Park Ridge Presbyterian Church 1300 W. Crescent Ave. Park Ridge, IL 60068. Those desiring may make memorial contributions to The Foundation Fighting Blindness (blindness.org). Arrangements entrusted to Montclair-Lucania Funeral Home, for info call 773-622-9300.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Rasmus, Robert Nelson 'Bob'

Bob Rasmus, our amazing father, mentor, and friend, passed away recently at 93. He made the most of those many years, and every phase of his life: as a happy, energetic son to his parents, Edith and Walter, and brother of Marjorie; Eagle Scout, tuba player, and ham radio enthusiast as a teenager; double Bronze Star infantryman in World War 2; brilliant engineering student at University of Illinois and Cornell; loving husband to his wife, Annette Avery Rasmus, for 58 years; successful manager and businessman in Ohio, St. Louis, Mississippi, California, and Chicago; Fortune 500 CEO at Masonite Corporation, and numerous boards of directors; birdwatcher, photographer, and philosopher in retirement; generous dad and lifelong role-model to his sons, John and Richard; head of the family and good friend to his five remarkable granddaughters, Caroline, Julia, Grace, Natalie, and Amy, and his wonderful caregivers, Marta Garcia and Maria Cabrera.

Bob left this world with the same strength and determination he showed throughout his life, fighting through numerous health issues until the end, when he died peacefully on November 30 at Evanston Hospital. His was a life well, and fully, lived. Well done, Dad. We'll love and miss you always.

A memorial gathering will be held in Glencoe, Illinois in spring 2019. Contact John.rasmus@gmail.com for further information.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Richard, James H.

James H. Richard, 89, of Hilton Head, SC, formerly of Wilmette and Glenview, IL, died Nov. 29, 2018 at his home. He was born Aug. 7, 1929 in Exeter, NH to Edna and Sylvère Richard. He was predeceased by his parents and three brothers. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Sheila Walsh, of Hilton Head; a daughter, Sarah Magner (T. Gerald III, Rusty),

of Northfield; two sons, Robert K., of Evanston and James S. (Krista), of Northfield, IL; 11 grandchildren; two brothers in law, E. Locke Walsh and K. Breaux Walsh, both of Lake Forest, IL and nieces and nephews. A memorial mass will be held at 10:30 a.m. Dec. 29, 2018 at Sts. Faith, Hope and Charity church, 191 Linden St. Winnetka, IL. Visitation at 10 a.m. www.KeithFuneral.com

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Rowe, Roger W

Roger W. Rowe, 81, Dec. 8 2018. Longtime resident of Northbrook; Loving husband of 50 years to Marcia, nee Lovelace; devoted father to Betsy (Tim) Womack; Proud grandfather to Reese and Molly. Dear son to the late William T. and Margaret S. Rowe; Brother to the late Thomas H. Rowe and the late Margaret J. Rowe. Beloved Uncle Roger to all his

"favorite" nieces and nephews and their children. A graduate of Michigan State University, varsity swimmer and member of Sigma Nu fraternity. Served in United States Army Security Agency during Berlin Crisis; an eternal Spartan fan with a long career in the insurance industry. Roger will be remembered for loyal friendships spanning decades, his love of animals, sports, swimming, jogging, making popcorn and homemade dark beer, Chicago, jazz music, playing the drums, looking for shells in the Gulf, his ability to fix anything and his bright, wonderful laugh and witty sense of humor. Family memorial and interment private. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Heartland Animal Shelter, Northbrook, IL. Funeral information 847-998-1020.



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Rubenstein, Elizabeth J. "Libby"

Elizabeth J. "Libby" Rubenstein, age 77, formerly of Lombard, IL and Oak Park, IL; beloved wife of Stephen A. Ferrara; loving mother of Alec (DeAnn) & Matthew Rubenstein, Kierth (Eric) Kurth, and Jason (Jennifer) Ferrara; dear grandmother of Emma & Eli Rubenstein, Julia & John Kurth, and Joseph & Nicholas Ferrara; fond sister of Kenneth (Donna) Marsh, Pelley (Dr. Stephen) Brown, and the late Jordan Marsh; daughter of the late William & Dorothy Marsh and Milton & Pauline Rosen. Libby will be fondly remembered as a creative writer, a detail-oriented editor, and a passionate reader. She was a fun-loving sun worshipper, whose laugh was infectious and her smile both sweet and devilish. Services will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations in Libby's name are appreciated to the Southern Poverty Law Center, 400 Washington Ave., Montgomery, AL 36104; www.splcenter.org. Other arrangements entrusted to **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, Countryside; 708-352-6500 or hjfurnerals.com.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Santamour, Barbara Eysaman

Barbara Eysaman Santamour, formerly of Wyomissing, PA, passed away peacefully on Monday, December 10th, 2018, in her home in Chicago. She was the widow of William John Santamour, who died in 1998. They were the parents of Bill Santamour, Martha (Al) Beimer, John (Pat) Santamour, Gretchen (Brian) Orteler and Calise (Ralph) Townsend. The grandparents of Maria, John (Marie), Karla (Mark), Grace, William, Robin, Christopher, Caroline (Matt) and Sam. Very close family member, Dennis Roszak. Also, she is survived by 7 great-grandchildren and a big loving family of sisters-in-law, brothers-in-law, nieces, nephews and many, many good friends who loved her. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her memory to the Alzheimer's Association (www.alz.org).



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Sarring, Grace Lucille

Grace Lucille Sarring (nee Thiele), 95; nurse, lifelong volunteer, mobile traveler; formerly of Vernon Hills, IL; passed away peacefully at home in Riverside, California. Beloved wife of the late Ernest James Sarring, devoted mother of Kevin Lee Sarring, Kay LeAnn (Charles Byrd) Sarring, and Kayn Lyn Sarring. Preceded in death by parents Paul Henry Thiele and Lena Louise Hirschfeld, and sisters Ruth (Arthur) Koch and Dorothy (David) Hanford. Fond aunt, cousin, and friend of many. Arrangements by **Cremation Society of Illinois**, 773-281-5058 or www.cremation-society.com.



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Sawyer, Jean

Jean Sawyer, 91 of Chicago, passed away Dec. 8, 2018. Beloved wife of the late Norman; loving mother of Scott (Debbie), Sally (the late Garry) Gitcho, Tom (Nancy) and Steve (Rita) Sawyer; proud grandmother of 5; dear great-grandmother of 3. Info: 708-406-7500 or OrlandFuneralHome.com

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Schoen, Robert E.

Robert E. Schoen, 72, of Glenview, passed away December 1, 2018. Beloved husband for 48 years of Nicole "Niki" Schoen nee Bouxsein, loving father of Rebecca "Becky" (Lee) Williamson; cherished grandfather of Nathan, Ava and Nick Williamson. Mr. Schoen was a retired attorney for Deutsche Credit Corp. where he served as Senior Vice President, Secretary and General Counsel. Robert was a US Army veteran who served during Vietnam. Memorial visitation will be held, Saturday, January 19, 2019 from 10am until time of funeral mass at 11am at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 1775 Grove St. (at Church St.) Glenview. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to Benedictine Sisters of Chicago, 7430 N. Ridge Blvd, Chicago, IL, 60645. Funeral information 847-998-1020.



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CHICAGO WEATHER CENTER

chicagoweathercenter.com | BY TOM SKILLING AND WGN9



SUNDAY, DEC. 16

NORMAL HIGH: 34°

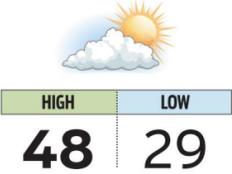
NORMAL LOW: 20°

RECORD HIGH: 60° (1984)

RECORD LOW: -12° (1951)

Mild pattern may continue the rest of the month

LOCAL FORECAST



- Great weather for holiday shopping and preparations.
- A frosty start with daybreak temperatures hovering near 30. Patchy fog.
- Unlimited sunshine as temperatures climb into the middle and upper 40s, more than 10 degrees above normal.
- West-southwest winds 8-15 mph.
- Fair and a bit colder overnight as winds shift northwest. Lows dip to the 20s in the suburbs, with low 30s downtown.

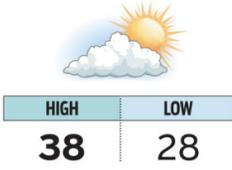
NATIONAL FORECAST



Despite the city's snowy and chilly November and early December cold spell, the season's lowest official temperature has been just 16 degrees, recorded on both Dec. 7 and 10. Since then, a milder weather pattern has established itself across much of North America. December's early-month temperature deficit has been eradicated with the month now running nearly a degree above normal. So far, December has produced just 0.3 inch of snow, with just a trace on the books since Dec. 3.

On Saturday afternoon, high temperatures reached the middle and upper 40s with a few locations even reaching the lower 50s. Readings in the upcoming week should continue to register above normal, and with the exception of some wet snow or flurries Thursday night, no snow is expected.

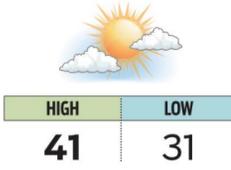
MONDAY, DEC. 17



Not as mild. Even though northwest-north winds 10-15 mph allow cooler air to seep into the area, readings still top out a few several degrees above normal.



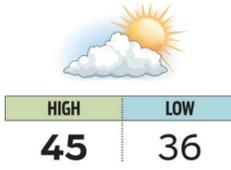
TUESDAY, DEC. 18



High pressure dominates, bringing tranquil conditions and ample sunshine that helps boost temps into the lower 40s. Clouds start to roll in overnight. Low temps hold around freezing.



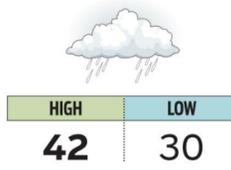
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 19



Milder air arrives ahead of the next weather system. Despite a lot of clouds, highs reach the middle 40s. Southwest winds 12-22 mph. Some showers possible at night. Lows hold above freezing.



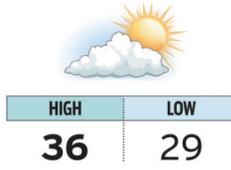
THURSDAY, DEC. 20



Mostly cloudy, rather windy and turning colder. Some sprinkles or light showers. Temps peak in the low 40s early, then slowly fall back into the 30s. Gusty northwest winds 20-30 mph. Some wet snow/flurries at night.



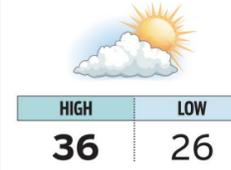
FRIDAY, DEC. 21



Some lingering clouds and flurries early. Windy and chilly. Clouds thin as sunshine increases in the afternoon as gusty northwest winds diminish to 10-15 mph. Temps peak in the middle 30s.



SATURDAY, DEC. 22



Some morning sunshine, then clouds increase as the next weather system approaches. Brisk southwest winds shift into the northwest at night.



ASK TOM

Dear Tom,
 It seems the Chicago area had fewer thunderstorms in 2018 than in previous years. Is that correct?
 Margaret Robertson, Chicago

Dear Margaret,
 Actually, it's not true. Including the thunderstorms that raked the area on Dec. 1, the city has logged 46 days with thunderstorms in 2018, well above the annual normal of 38 days. This year's total was buoyed by an extremely thundery August with storms on 12 days and May with nine. If no more thunder occurs this month, the 46 days in 2018, while shy of the 51 in 2017 and the 50 in 2016, will be the most in Chicago since 2008 when 48 days were logged. Citing thunderstorm records dating back to 1871, Chicago weather historian Frank Wachowski reports that the city's thunderstorm day extremes range from 66 days in 1975 to just five in 1875 and 1879.

Write to: ASK TOM
 2501 W. Bradley Place
 Chicago, IL 60618
 asktomwhy@wgnv.com

WGN-TV meteorologists Steve Kahn, Richard Koeman, Paul Merzlock and Paul Dailey, plus Bill Snyder, contribute to this page.

Hear Tom Skilling's weather updates weekdays 3 to 6 p.m. on WGN-AM 720 Chicago.



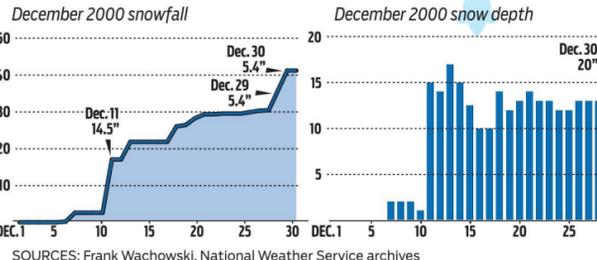
Dec. 2000: More than a whole season's snowfall in one month

To date this December has been nearly snowless and the latest forecasts indicate little, if any snowfall expected in the days leading up to Christmas. This stands in extreme contrast to December 2000, when the city received a snow blitz that delivered as much snow as it typically receives in an entire season.

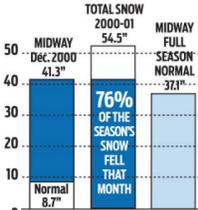
LACKLUSTER 2000 SNOW SEASON UNTIL DEC. 11 BLIZZARD HIT

Chicago's snow season in 2000 was quiet until a major blizzard struck on Dec. 11. Midway Airport received 14.5 inches that day, a daily snowfall record. Nine more inches fell in the seven days after that storm. A series of light snows followed until Dec. 29-30, when another major storm brought up to an additional foot across the area. December 2000 ended with 41.3 inches — the most snow in any month at Midway since 1928. More snow fell in Chicago in that month than in about 2/3 of all winters here since 1884-85.

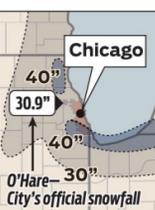
TRACKING THE SNOW AT MIDWAY AIRPORT



COMPARING DEC. 2000 SNOWFALL



CHICAGO AREA SNOWFALL TOTALS



JANUARY 1918: CITY'S SNOWIEST MONTH ON RECORD: 42.5"

MIDWAY SNOW CLIMATOLOGY (1928-2017)			Snowiest months		
NO.	MO./YEAR	SNOW	NO.	DEC.	SNOW
1.	Dec. 2000	41.3"	1.	2000	41.3"
2.	Jan. 1979	40.4"	2.	1951	33.3"
3.	Jan. 2014	37.0"	3.	1978	31.4"
4.	Dec. 1951	33.3"	4.	1950	27.1"

STEVE KAHN AND JENNIFER M. KOHNKE/WGN-TV

CHICAGO DIGEST

SATURDAY TEMPERATURES					
LOCATION	HI	LO	LOCATION	HI	LO
Aurora	50	26	Midway	48	31
Gary	45	37	O'Hare	49	21
Kankakee	48	34	Romeoville	51	30
Lakefront	43	33	Valparaiso	48	34
Lansing	46	36	Waukegan	43	25

CHICAGO PRECIPITATION			
PERIOD	2018	NORMAL	
Sat. (through 4 p.m.)	0.00"	0.07"	
December to date	1.52"	1.26"	
Year to date	47.43"	35.90"	

CHICAGO SNOWFALL			
PERIOD	O'HARE	MIDWAY	
Sat. (through 4 p.m.)	0.0"	0.0"	
Season to date	13.0"	9.4"	
Normal to date	4.9"	4.9"	

LAKE MICHIGAN CONDITIONS			
SUNDAY		MONDAY	
Wind	SW 10-15 kts.	NW 10-20 kts.	
Waves	1-2 feet	2-4 feet	
Sat. shore/crib water temps	36°/35°		

U.S. SNOW COVER			
DEC. 15	2018	2017	
Area covered by snow	28.69%	27.9%	
Average snow depth	1.7"	1.5"	

TRACKING THE COLD			
SINCE OCT. 15	O'HARE	MIDWAY	
Sub-32° highs	4 days	5 days	
Subzero lows	0 days	0 days	

CHICAGO AIR QUALITY			
Saturday's reading	Moderate		
Sunday's forecast	Moderate		
Critical pollutant	Particulates		

SUNDAY RISE/SET TIMES			
Sun	7:12 a.m.	4:21 p.m.	
Moon	12:55 a.m.	12:18 a.m.	

SUNDAY PLANET WATCH			
PLANET	RISE	SET	
Mercury	5:24 a.m.	3:09 p.m.	
Venus	3:23 a.m.	2:01 p.m.	
Mars	11:46 a.m.	11:19 p.m.	
Jupiter	5:55 a.m.	3:19 p.m.	
Saturn	8:15 a.m.	5:26 p.m.	

BEST VIEWING TIME DIRECTION			
Mercury	6:00 a.m.	5:5° ESE	
Venus	5:45 a.m.	22.5° SE	
Mars	5:30 p.m.	43.5° S	
Jupiter	Not visible		
Saturn	Not visible		

SOURCE: Dan Joyce, Triton College

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USDA CHOICE
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- 32 oz. Scalloped Potatoes
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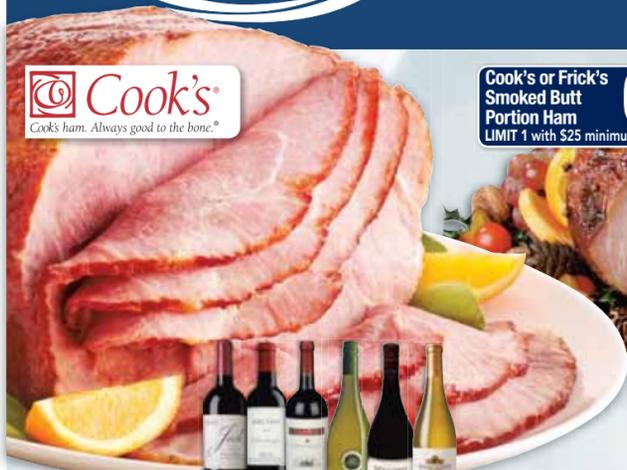
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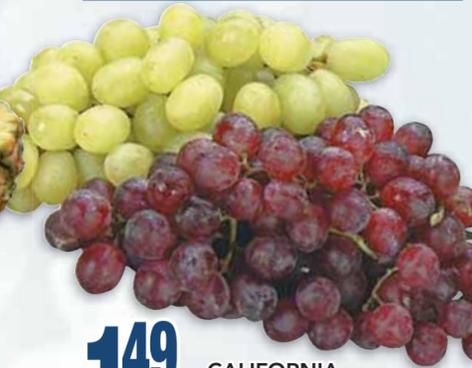
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ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Chef and owner Mary Masticola, right, and Jose Luis cook in the kitchen at La Petite Folie on Wednesday.

Culinary crunch

Chicago's restaurant boom has caused a kitchen labor shortage, and small operators feel especially squeezed

BY ALEXIA ELEJALDE-RUIZ
Chicago Tribune

New Year's Eve last year found Mary Masticola in a bind.

She had booked 80 people for a four-course prix fixe dinner at La Petite Folie, her French restaurant in Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood. But with two employees recently resigned and others unavailable to work the holiday, there was almost no one around to cook and serve it.

So Masticola pulled the evening off assisted only by her loyal dishwasher-turned-cook and a University of Chicago pediatric pulmonologist who moonlights as a pastry cook in the restaurant's kitchen.

"It was nutcase," Masticola recalled.

She expects better staffing as she prepares for this year's New Year's menu — but that crazed feeling has



Max Raden cuts onions in the kitchen at La Petite Folie on Wednesday.

become familiar.

A huge boom of new restaurants in Hyde Park and throughout Chicago has left Masticola competing not only for customers but for employees, who are quick to alight to larger restaurants that can afford to pay more.

The revolving door has led to the executive chef working 17 hours some days, taking out trash or scrubbing pots when employees don't show up for their shifts or quit without notice.

Turn to *Kitchen*, Page 3

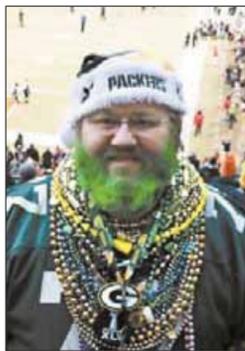
Packers fan's court bid against the Bears denied

BY CORILYN SHROPSHIRE
Chicago Tribune

A die-hard Packers fan has lost his court bid to don his Green Bay gear and stand on the sidelines before Sunday's Chicago Bears-Packers game.

A federal court judge in Chicago on Thursday denied the temporary restraining order and injunction sought by Green Bay resident Russell Beckman against the Bears. That means on Sunday, Beckman, 56, will not be allowed to wear his Packers jersey and accessories at a pregame event on the Bears sidelines.

In June 2017, Beckman



RUSSELL BECKMAN PHOTO

filed a federal lawsuit in Chicago against the Bears, alleging that in 2016 the team barred him from the pregame event at the Bears-Packers game because of his

Packers gear; he sought to prevent that from happening again. The suit also named the National Football League as a defendant, but the NFL was successful in its bid to be removed from the case.

The lawsuit is pending. But with the Bears-Packers showdown looming, Beckman was trying to ensure he'd make it on the field this time.

Beckman's attorneys argued in court earlier this week that he should be allowed to wear his Packers jersey and accessories because Soldier Field is a public space maintained by the Chicago Park District.

Judge Joan Gottschall disagreed. "Being on the

opposing team's side line implies an association with the opposing team while standing in the end zone mere feet away from Bears players warming up suggests to the average football fan something much more out of place," she wrote in the ruling.

Michael Lieber, an attorney for Beckman, said Beckman's legal challenge will continue. "The judge today said the parties' arguments to the Court were essentially a tie ball. But a tie ball goes to the home team at this juncture. This case is in its early stages," Lieber said in an email.

crshropshire@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @corilyns

Genetic test kits under the tree

Perfect gift or a choice with risky consequences?

BY LISA SCHENCKER
Chicago Tribune

This holiday season, Nicole Gemmato hopes to settle a long-running family feud, once and for all.

What is her family's heritage? Is her family Irish, Swedish, German, French, Italian, Dutch or all of the above? Her relatives have argued about it for years.

The Highwood woman plans to give genetic testing kits to her cousin and sister as gifts. They'll each spit in a tube, mail it off to be analyzed, and get some answers.

"I just think it will be interesting to see what we are for real," said Gemmato, 41. "We don't really know what we are."

In recent years, direct-to-consumer genetic tests have grown in popularity, including as holiday gifts. Companies that sell the tests tout them as ideal presents and offer seasonal discounts on their websites.

Some tests tell a person where his or her ancestors lived 1,000 years ago and can potentially help the person connect with distant relatives. Other tests reveal quirky, if not terribly useful, information, such as a possible preference for sweet or salty foods, earwax type or whether a man is genetically inclined to have back hair.

More serious genetic issues can be uncovered too, such as whether a person has genetic variations associated with a higher risk of late-onset Alzheimer's disease, breast cancer and Parkinson's disease.

Tangled up in all this are issues of privacy, emotional well-being, insurance eligibility and health.

Uncle Steve, for example, might not feel comfortable giving his genetic information to a third party. Cousin Leticia might not want long-lost relatives to find her. And Grandma might not want

to know if she's at higher risk of developing a serious, incurable disease — especially as a Christmas present.

It's a gift that's not quite as straightforward as a new pair of socks.

But an increasing number of people are gifting the tests. Ancestry said it sold a record number of AncestryDNA kits in November, a month that included major holiday shopping days Black Friday and Cyber Monday.

The market for direct-to-consumer genetic tests is expected to grow to \$611 million by 2026, up from \$117 million in 2017, according to Credence Research. This time of year, the price of the kits can range from less than \$40 to more than \$200. Many of the kits advertised as holiday gifts sell for \$50 to \$70.

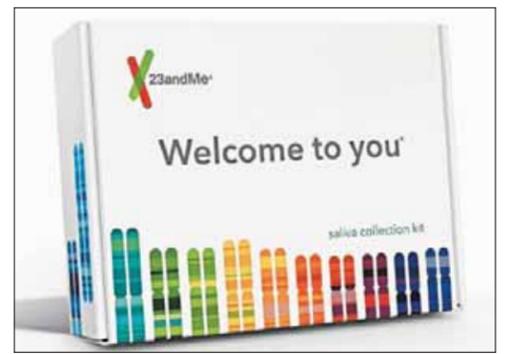
"It's a pretty unique experience," said Stacey Detweiler, a medical affairs associate and genetic counselor at 23andMe, which doesn't disclose sales. "Some people are really interested in looking toward maybe the past, maybe their ancestry, where they're from. Other people are maybe a little more interested in the future."

23andMe, founded in 2006 and one of the more well-known companies, offers tests that can tell a person how much of his ancestry can be traced to Neanderthals, the time at which he's mostly likely to wake up in the morning (without an alarm clock) and whether his hair is likely to get lighter in the sun, among other things.

The test can't tell a person whether he has those traits for sure, but rather how likely he is to have them. Other companies also test for traits.

Similarly, a number of the tests also can tell a person if he or she has certain genetic variants associated with higher risk of certain diseases. But doctors and the testing companies warn that having those variants doesn't mean a person will get the disease. Other factors play

Turn to *Genetic*, Page 4



23ANDME

Companies such as 23andMe are promoting genetic testing as a gift item. At this time of year, the price can range from less than \$40 to more than \$200.

Sears gets OK for up to \$25.3M in bonuses to top employees

BY LAUREN ZUMBACH
Chicago Tribune

A U.S. Bankruptcy Court judge signed off Friday on Sears' request to pay up to \$25.3 million in bonuses to top executives and other high-ranking employees even as the company reported losing nearly \$1.9 billion in the first three quarters this year.

Hoffman Estates-based Sears Holdings Corp., which filed for bankruptcy protection in October, said it needs to be able to offer the extra cash to encourage key employees to stick with the company as it attempts to restructure, according to court filings.

The company's proposal offers bonuses totaling up to \$8.4 million to 19 executives if the company achieves certain financial targets over the next six months. Those

employees also would be eligible for bonuses if the company is on track to hit those targets when it's sold, an attorney for Sears said at the hearing.

The retailer also got permission to set aside up to \$16.9 million in retention bonuses for a separate group of 315 senior employees. Each could receive a cash award equivalent to 30 to 40 percent of his or her salary, split into quarterly payments over the next year.

Since filing for bankruptcy, the company already raised base salaries for certain executives, including three tapped to form the Office of the Chief Executive after former CEO Edward Lampert departure stepped down. Lampert remains the company's chairman, and his hedge fund, ESL Investments, has offered to buy many of the



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Hoffman Estates-based Sears Holdings Corp. said it needs to be able to offer the extra cash to encourage key employees to stick with the company as it attempts to restructure.

retailer's remaining assets for \$4.6 billion.

"Under these circumstances, it would be understandable if many key employees are asking themselves whether they should be seeking other opportunities," Sears said in a court

filing last month. However, the retailer "cannot afford this uncertainty — however understandable it may be," according to the filing.

The company has already "suffered significant employee attrition" in the past month, including the depart-

ture of the chief operating officer of its Sears Home Services business and five other employees who would have been eligible for bonuses, Sears said in a separate court filing this week.

Bonuses at companies in bankruptcy are getting more scrutiny than in years past due to concerns about executives receiving extra compensation for just for doing their jobs at the expense of a company's unsecured creditors, said Craig Barbarosh, a partner at law firm Katten Muchin Rosenman.

But as long as a company can show it has a good reason for incentives and is at risk of losing key employees, "it's become fairly typical," he said.

At a Friday hearing in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York, Judge Robert Drain said he believed the

targets Sears set for earning the bonuses were "not a layup."

Just one day prior, Sears reported racking up nearly \$1.9 billion in losses during the nine months ending Nov. 3. More than half of those losses came during the final three months, during which Sears filed for bankruptcy protection, according to a quarterly financial report filed Thursday.

The company did report a 4.3 percent rise in sales during the last quarter at its Sears and Kmart stores that had been open at least a year.

But even that apparently positive sign was "driven by liquidation sales in the stores that were announced for closure," Sears said in a regulatory filing.

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Bad review? It's an opportunity

Business owners told to address online concerns

By Joyce M. Rosenberg
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Brad Schweig thought he had a satisfied customer when a woman who bought outdoor furniture in March 2017 posted a five-star review online. Less than a year later, it was down to one star after a squirrel chewed a hole in one of the cushions.

Many business owners have faced the same uncomfortable situation since the advent of online review sites — a negative review, out there for potential customers to see.

Schweig, co-owner of Sunnyland Furniture in Dallas, did what marketing experts recommend and tried to make amends in an online response.

"We apologized, and said, 'We'd be glad to work with you on a replacement at discount,'" Schweig says. "We explained, 'This can happen with nature.'"

Negative reviews are likely inevitable for many companies, especially those that cater to the public.

Even a company whose customers are almost universally happy will be panned by someone who wound up with a defective product or had a bad experience or misunderstood a situation. Marketing consultants and owners say the best way to handle these reviews is to acknowledge that the customer is unhappy and offer to discuss the problem offline, either on the phone or via email.

The malcontents who are easily angered and impossible to placate tend to be rare, says Ryan Goff, chief marketing officer at MGH, a marketing firm in Owings Mills, Md. Most negative reviewers respond well if a



LM OTERO/AP PHOTOS

When faced with a bad review, Brad Schweig, top, co-owner of Sunnyland Furniture in Dallas, did what marketing experts recommend and tried to make amends in an online response. Right, Sunnyland Furniture displays a video screen that runs through online reviews of the business.

company is sincere in trying to right a situation, he says.

"I would say, 'We understand completely you had a negative experience,'" Goff says.

The next step: "We are going to do everything in our power to address this, and we want a full understanding of what happened."

If the customer is eventually satisfied, owners should ask for an amended review or to have the angry one deleted.

Schweig never heard back from the customer, whose review said the outdoor furniture "should withstand a squirrel." But he believes his was the right response, not only for that customer, but also for potential buyers.

"It might not make the reviewer change their mind, but we know others

are reading it and can see that we either care about resolving the issues, or it can make them realize the skewed ones aren't as they seem," he says.

Companies that post on social media need to be vigilant about checking for replies, and not just from unhappy customers, says Hank Yuloff, owner of Yuloff Creative Marketing Solutions in Sedona, Ariz.

"You have to scroll down and look at the comments being made and answer all. Even if they're positive, say 'thank you' and build relationships," Yuloff says.

Some owners may encounter reviews they believe are libelous or false.

"If it's outright slanderous and untrue, then you can reach out to the platform where the review was published and see if they'll investigate it and poten-



tially take it down. It could also be the basis for legal action," says Rex Kimball, owner of marketing firm Mirex Marketing, based in Gilbert, Ariz.

Many of the negative reviews Todd Fetterly's three mobile phone stores have received had nothing to do with the phones he sells.

Instead, customers often are unhappy with phone service providers but vent at

Fetterly and his staff. Still, Fetterly, whose Cell Phone Centre stores are in the Ottawa, Ontario, area, responds immediately.

"Because we are in such a commoditized market, customers have choices of where to go to purchase their devices," he says.

Most reviewers don't get back to Fetterly, so there's no opportunity for their reviews to be amended or retracted. So, he works to

counter the negative postings by encouraging happier customers to post reviews — staffers routinely ask them to give positive feedback online.

The strategy also includes using a company that solicits reviews. If a review is negative, it's not automatically posted; Fetterly can contact the customer and try to get it changed.

A negative review posted 10 years ago is still reverberating at Mary Nisi's company, Toast & Jam, which supplies disc jockeys for weddings and other events.

While the company has hundreds of five-star reviews on several websites, Nisi still is asked about the customer who said Toast & Jam canceled less than a month before the wedding; Nisi says the couple never signed a contract or responded to her emails.

"The worst thing you can say about a wedding vendor is they canceled two weeks before," says Nisi, who's in Chicago.

When couples ask about the review, she notes her ratings at or near five stars, and says, "if we canceled all the time, that would be coming out all the time in our reviews."

Franchise companies must be proactive about bad reviews because a complaint about one location can have a negative impact on others.

At Children's Light-house, an early education company with 49 locations, the home office in Fort Worth, Texas, monitors and responds online to reviews for the entire chain.

"We apologize and say, 'Please call the office. We'd like to talk to you directly,'" Marketing Director Monica Brown says.

If customers are satisfied after discussing the problem with staffers, the company asks if they're willing to delete the review.

"Most of the time they do take it off," Brown says.

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Restaurant boom causing kitchen labor shortage

Kitchen, from Page 1

"Someone has to fill the gap and it's almost always me," Mastricola said. "There is an exhaustion that sets in that makes it hard to even be civil."

Restaurateurs for years have complained of the difficulty of finding good workers, but they say the labor crunch has intensified with a surge of new openings, a smaller pool of immigrant workers and more opportunities for cooks in non-restaurant jobs with saner hours.

The squeeze is particularly profound at small independent restaurants without the allure of big-name backing or room in their budgets to absorb higher pay.

But even famous chefs say the struggle is real.

"We overbuilt restaurants for the labor force we had," said Rick Bayless, owner of Frontera Grill, Lena Brava and other celebrated eateries. "There's just not enough people."

The number of full-service restaurants in Cook County jumped 12 percent between 2012 and 2016, to 4,074, and the number of employees working in them surged 20 percent, to more than 95,000 people, according to the most recent census data. Those numbers don't capture the boom that continued in the years that followed or the 7.5 percent job growth that the National Restaurant Association predicts for Illinois over the next decade.

For the past three or four years, during the busy summer months, the talent shortage has been so dire that restaurants routinely offer competitors' employees an extra dollar per hour over what they are currently making, Bayless said. His restaurant group now pays prep cooks 25 percent more than it did three years ago.

Opportunities are so plentiful that some of Bayless' help wanted ads get zero responses. This summer 60 to 70 percent of people didn't show up for stage (pronounced "staaj"), an unpaid internship that is a training tradition at high-end restaurants, he said.

"Sometimes a job interview will go like this: Instead of me saying, 'Tell me about your experience,' they say, 'What are you paying an hour?'" Bayless said.

That's good news for low-wage workers as they contend with rising costs of living, but small restaurants, in particular, are feeling pinched.

"There is a structural inequality here," said T. William Lester, associate professor of urban planning at University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. "What happens when the higher-revenue places can attract better workers because they can pay a higher wage? Then the smaller restaurants will have a higher turnover and will have to train more workers, which takes time and money. It becomes a really big bind."

The reasons for the labor crunch go beyond the heightened competition from new restaurants.

Many culinary students opt to work in corporate kitchens or go into research and development, options that afford them easier hours and often benefits, said Bill Reynolds, former provost at Washburne Culinary Institute, which is part of Chicago's community college system. Upscale grocery stores like Whole Foods and Mariano's that highlight prepared food and in-store dining options provide additional nonrestaurant opportunities.

Culinary school closures and declining enrollment also may be affecting the pipeline, as students with dreams of becoming the next celebrity chef realize that their expensive investment will actually yield years of low-paying jobs in unglamorous environments, Reynolds said.

"Many of our graduates weren't in the industry five years later because they didn't like the lifestyle or they couldn't afford to stay in it," he said.

Meanwhile, fewer teens are working, opting instead to spend their summers interning or traveling. A third of 16- to 19-year-olds had summer jobs last year, compared with half in 2000, and



ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Keith Whitten, left, manager of Daisies restaurant, has his front staff taste wine Thursday before opening for the evening.

earlier starts to the school year make it even harder to staff up during peak season, Reynolds said.

Sam Toia, CEO of the Illinois Restaurant Association, blames toughened immigration policies for striking at "the backbone" of the hospitality industry, which historically has relied heavily on immigrants to staff kitchens. Immigrants, who make up 13 percent of the U.S. population, account for 31 percent of hotel workers and 22 percent of food service workers, according to a report last year by the Chicago Council on Global Affairs.

"The pool (of immigrants) is shrinking and you're not filling that pool anymore," Toia said.

Toia predicts restaurants will face additional staffing hurdles if Illinois makes recreational marijuana legal, as the same people who work in restaurants might want to work in weed-related businesses.

"You think we're squeezed now, we're going to be squeezed more," he said.

Mastricola, who opened her 64-seat classic French restaurant in a Hyde Park shopping center nearly 20 years ago, said being a small operator presents additional challenges.

She doesn't have the economies of scale that help larger restaurants save on food prices. Chicago's minimum wage, which has been inching up for the past three years to \$12, and reaches its goal of \$13 an hour in July, has made it hard for her to reward top performers with extra pay.

But it's not just about money.

Mastricola's efforts to recruit workers from surrounding South Side neighborhoods, where unemployment is high, have run into numerous issues. One young man had to travel two hours by bus and train to get to work from his home on the Far South Side, which proved unsustainable. Others get off track because of childcare and other personal responsibilities.

"You can tell they're trying," Mastricola said. "It's heartbreaking."

She recalls one good employee who didn't show up for work one day, and after several days she had to replace him. When he finally appeared he explained he had been picked up by police while walking home from work at night, and couldn't make a phone call from jail.

"It takes an emotional toll," she continued. "How do you fire people who you know are having trouble?"

Being short-staffed means Mastricola has left business on the table. There are nights she turns down customers even when the restaurant is not full because she doesn't have enough staff to give them a good experience.

Time spent scrambling for and training new hires means she has little left to find new ways to recruit. And too much energy, she said, is spent hounding employees to pull up their pants and put down their phones.

It wasn't always like this. For her first 10 to 15 years in business, when she was one of the few high-end dining options in the neighborhood, people would knock on the back door to inquire about job openings. She enjoyed a relatively stable workforce led by her long-

time sous chef, who resigned two years ago on the advice of his doctor; she still hasn't replaced him.

Mastricola owes her restaurant's continued survival to the loyalty of her customer base and a community committed to supporting local businesses, though the explosion of Hyde Park restaurants means those dollars are being spread thinner.

Still, she isn't contemplating retirement — though limited savings would make that difficult anyway.

The burst of competition in Chicago is one reason Bruno Abate, owner of the Italian restaurant Tocco in Wicker Park, said he plans to close the restaurant in February or March after a decade in business. In addition, rent is too high, the building is for sale and he can't afford to buy it.

Abate plans to open a new Tocco in north suburban Winnetka, and will continue to run and expand Recipe for Change, a nonprofit that trains inmates at Cook County Jail in pizza making and prepares them for food service jobs. But fighting glitzy new downtown restaurants for employees, let alone customers, no longer appeals.

"It's a zoo, people jumping from one place to another," Abate said. "There is no loyalty."

Talent challenges have increased over the past three years with the rise in openings, he said. Servers who can make, on average, \$800 to \$900 at Tocco per week in tips are leaving for busier restaurants where they can make \$2,000, he said. Restaurants tend to be busiest in their first year, so when sales decline those servers will eventually leave for newer newcomers, he said.

Kitchen staff also is becoming more expensive. He pays his dishwasher \$17 an hour. Line cooks with minimal experience are asking \$20 to \$22 an hour, he said.

Abate, who is not open for lunch, has noticed many job applicants are looking for daytime hours, which he thinks is because it's dangerous to return home to some neighborhoods late at night. He has hired numerous people who went through his jail program but some left when they found daytime jobs.

The challenges are presenting opportunities.

The AARP is seeing more restaurants — mostly big chains — posting openings to its job board for older workers as they "start to wake up to the fact that they need to look outside the box," said Susan Weinstock, vice president of financial resiliency programming at AARP.

"Employers say they are looking for workers with soft skills, and one of the ways you get soft skills is by being in the workforce for a long time," she said.

Rick Bayless is launching a job training program, called The Culinary Core Institute, to teach basic prep work, knife skills and cooking techniques to 18- to 24-year-olds who have finished high school or chose not to finish. It will be housed in The Hatchery, a \$34 million food and beverage incubator with space for some 100 startups, which opened this month in the East Garfield Park neighborhood on Chicago's West Side.

The program, slated to

launch in April, serves the double purpose of addressing the industry's labor shortage and the high unemployment plaguing parts of Chicago.

"I believe there are a whole lot of diamonds in the rough out there," Bayless said.

Some small restaurateurs are trying to set themselves apart by offering employees better lifestyles than they usually find in the industry.

Joe Frillman, chef-owner of Daisies in Logan Square, stays closed two consecutive days a week so that he and his employees can have a proper weekend.

Frillman had worked so many 60- to 80-hour weeks in kitchens during his career that he was considering leaving the industry when

investors approached him about opening his own place. Recently married at the time, with a baby on the way, he insisted on the two-day weekend so that he could spend time with his family.

Daisies also adds a 2 percent service charge to every customer check to help pay for full health benefits for employees, an idea Frillman says he borrowed from chef-owner Jason Vincent at nearby Giant. Customers can opt out of the extra fee, and some have, but most get behind the mission, he said.

Health benefits are rare in small restaurants, and it's a perk he never had before he got on his wife's insurance.

"I'll never forget going to the dentist after seven years

of not going to the dentist," said Frillman, who said he faced a \$3,000 bill after that visit because his teeth were such a mess.

The health surcharge only covers about a quarter of the benefit costs; employees who want insurance pay \$50 per paycheck, which covers another quarter, and Frillman picks up the rest.

It isn't cheap, but Frillman said he trims elsewhere in his budget. He also expects the investment to save him money in the end by reducing turnover and training costs.

Frillman offers other perks, including a \$1,200 referral fee to any employee who brings on a new hire who stays at least a year. And he touts the learning opportunities of a smaller kitchen, where he and his sous chefs can give staff more individualized attention.

"People tend to gravitate toward bigger restaurants with big names," he said. "We are trying to flip that to make the independent restaurant more captivating."

Feedback from employees has been positive, he said. Most of the workers who helped him open the restaurant a year and a half ago are still there.

Still, he said, people aren't paid enough for the effort they put into making high-end food. He hopes to see higher menu prices so wages can rise.

"The industry is changing," Frillman said. "If you want to keep people everyone is going to have to adapt to it or they are going to close."

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Flexibility allows you to capitalize on promotional CDs that may have unconventional terms. Banks and credit unions tend to have a standard menu of traditional-duration CDs always on tap. But many will offer a special certificate from time to time, one with a much better rate and perhaps an unusual term. It's not uncommon to see promotions for 5-month, 17-month or 21-month CDs.

Being open to odd-term CDs and adjusting your plan based on what you unearth will help you build a CD portfolio that may not look like what you originally plotted out, but will maximize what you earn from your CD investments.

Another kind of flexibility is also useful, and that's flexibility of timing. Promotional CDs tend to pop up without warning, and are often available for a limited time. So patiently shopping over time, instead of on a single day, will lead you to more special offers. Funds flexibility will then enable you to jump on a great deal when you find one.

The most lucrative CD portfolios are seldom predictable, perfectly tidy collections. But for savers willing to shop over time and move when they turn up a winner, bottom lines are rewarded.

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Genetic test kits are popular gifts

Genetic, from Page 1

a role as well, and there's no test that can explain all those factors, said Dr. Peter Hulick, medical director of NorthShore University HealthSystem's Mark R. Neaman Center for Personalized Medicine.

Also, the absence of those genetic variations doesn't mean a person won't get the disease.

"Genetics isn't destiny," Hulick said.

Before taking tests, people should also consider the emotional consequences of finding out they might be at higher risk of getting certain diseases, especially illnesses with no cure, such as Alzheimer's or Parkinson's, said Sonia Suter, a law professor at The George Washington University who studies law and genetics.

"I do feel that a lot of people are getting these tests because it seems like a fun cocktail-party thing to do," said Suter, who worked as a genetic counselor before becoming a lawyer. "But do you want to know if you have a predisposition to Alzheimer's? Is this information really going to be of value to you?"

Ideally, someone who takes the tests will consult a doctor or genetic counselor about the results, said Lori Frank, a member of the Alzheimer's Foundation of America's Medical, Scientific and Memory Screening Advisory Board. Some companies, such as Helix, include genetic counseling with their tests. Others, such as 23andMe, do not.

Another consideration before wrapping up the kits as gifts: privacy concerns. 23andMe raised eyebrows earlier this year when pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline announced that it had invested \$300 million in 23andMe as part of a collaboration aimed at developing new medications using 23andMe's data. The companies plan to share in the proceeds from any new medications or treatments



ANCESTRY

Ancestry said it sold a record number of its AncestryDNA kits in November.

that come out of the partnership.

23andMe lists a number of other collaborators as well, including the University of Chicago, pharmaceutical company Pfizer and biotechnology company Genentech.

23andMe says that it doesn't share, sell or lease any data to its collaborators' without customers'

"That tiny sample can disclose the biological building blocks of what makes you you."

— Leslie Fair, FTC Bureau of Consumer Protection senior attorney

explicit consent. When it does have permission to share data, the data is not personally identifiable and is shared in aggregate, according to the company. Ancestry also allows data to be used for research only with consumers' permission, said Jennifer Utley, its director of research.

Still, the Federal Trade Commission warned in a blog post last year that consumers should recognize the risks of handing their genetic information over to a company, saying "hacks happen."

"That tiny sample can disclose the biological building blocks of what makes you you," FTC Bu-

reau of Consumer Protection senior attorney Leslie Fair wrote in the post. "The data can be very enlightening personally, but a major concern for consumers should be who else could have access to information about your heritage and your health."

That's part of the reason Victoria Ghanem, of Lincoln Square, still hasn't

taken a genetic test she bought months ago. She purchased one for her husband as a gift and one for herself. The tests are sitting unused in her kitchen cupboard.

She thought it would be fun to learn more about her ancestry, but she started having second thoughts after the tests arrived. "Even if they promise privacy, you see all these companies having data breaches," Ghanem said. "You can change your credit card number. You can't change your DNA. It's out there forever."

Some people also worry that their genetic test results might be used against

them or their family members.

Earlier this year, police found the Golden State Killer, who had eluded them for decades, by placing his DNA information on a genealogy website. They used the killer's DNA to find his relatives in the database, and ultimately to identify him.

Some results could also hurt a person's ability to get certain types of insurance. A federal law, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act, keeps health insurers and employers from obtaining a person's genetic test results or making decisions based on those results. But that law doesn't apply to life insurance or long-term care insurance. And Illinois law would be housed, among additional protections when it comes to those types of insurance, Suter said.

Still, people don't have to give — or burden — their family members with revelations about their health that they might not want. The genetic testing companies typically offer a number of options, including tests that stick to ancestry or more frivolous matters, such as freckles or ability to match musical pitch. Recipients of 23andMe kits, for example, can also opt out of receiving the more ominous test results.

Samantha Marwick gave her parents genetic testing kits as gifts, but her mom only focused on finding out about her heritage, not the medical results. "It freaked her out too much," said Marwick, of Glenview.

Her parents liked the kits, though, so Marwick, 39, is giving one to another relative for Christmas this year.

"I thought, 'What do you get someone who has everything?'" Marwick said. "I think it's kind of an interesting gift, as long as you feel someone would be open to it."

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Verizon takes \$4.6B media business write-down

By HAMZA SHABAN
The Washington Post

After buying AOL and Yahoo for nearly \$9 billion last year, Verizon recently announced that it will write down the goodwill value of its media business by \$4.6 billion, a massive drop the company attributes to stiff competition in the digital ad market and a failure to realize benefits from the combination of the two legacy companies.

Not long after Verizon acquired Yahoo, the company unveiled Oath, a media and tech business under which Yahoo and AOL would be housed, among other brands, to challenge Silicon Valley's dominant position in online advertising.

But according to a Securities and Exchange Commission filing, Verizon said the value of Oath's goodwill — the intangible assets it purchased in the AOL and Yahoo acquisitions — has plummeted. Verizon had valued Oath's goodwill at \$4.8 billion, the filing said, but after the write-down it sits at just \$200 million.

"Verizon's Media business, branded Oath, has experienced increased competitive and market pressures throughout 2018 that have resulted in lower-than-expected revenues and earnings," Verizon said in the filing, adding that the merger of AOL and Yahoo under one company didn't turn out as expected.

The company said it lowered its financial projections after completing a review of Oath's business prospects over the next five years.

Joanna O'Connell, a research analyst at Forrester Research, said Oath had the makings of a valuable advertising platform, at least in theory, but failed to keep up with a competitive media landscape.

On paper, Oath possessed key ingredients for success: its own media assets, advertising technology and a huge base of users tied to crucial data, she said.

What's less certain is why those components never cohered into something more, she explained, perhaps owing to a lack of buy-in from leadership, organizational weakness or the awkward marriage of AOL and Yahoo underneath Verizon.

"The thing that is clear is they seemed to have failed."

The remarkable loss of value in Verizon's marquee brands also underscores the challenges of competing in the market for online advertising.

Google and Facebook, the two dominant players, claim 58 percent of digital ad revenue this year, according to eMarketer. But further down the rankings, ad companies are being outmaneuvered by another tech giant, Amazon.com.

The e-commerce company will double its digital ad revenue this year, according to eMarketer projections, overtaking Oath and earning the No. 3 position behind Google and Facebook, at 4.1 percent of market share.

Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos owns The Washington Post.

Former AOL chief executive Tim Armstrong announced the reorganizing of Verizon's media properties and the creation of Oath last spring.

"Billion+ Consumers, 20+ Brands, Unstoppable Team," he said in a Twitter post, which was mocked at the time, with social media users ribbing Oath's name and what they took as the strained rebranding of legacy Web companies past their prime.

But to Verizon, Oath was the culmination of its new advertising strategy.

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INVESTING

Stocks Recap



Gold -9.80 \$1,237.00

Silver -0.06 \$14.51

Crude Oil -1.41 \$51.20

Natural Gas -0.66 \$3.83

10-year T-note +0.04 2.89%

Euro +0.092 to 113.87/\$1

Yen +0.65 to 113.29/\$1

WEEKLY PERFORMANCE

52-WEEK HIGH	LOW	INDEX	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	YTD %CHG	1YR %CHG
26951.81	23344.52	Dow Jones industrials	24828.29	23881.37	24100.51	-288.44	-1.2	-2.5	-2.2
11623.58	9485.95	Dow Jones trans.	10026.08	9485.95	9514.11	-437.05	-4.4	-10.4	-8.5
762.97	647.81	Dow Jones utilities	762.26	740.28	757.85	+4.34	+0.6	+4.8	+0.6
13637.02	11696.58	NYSE Comp.	12075.04	11696.58	11755.38	-186.55	-1.6	-8.2	-7.4
6222.14	4953.95	NYSE International	5113.95	4953.95	5005.65	-34.20	-0.7	-13.6	-12.1
7700.56	6164.43	Nasdaq 100	6867.66	6534.33	6594.96	-18.31	-0.3	+3.1	+2.0
8133.30	6630.67	Nasdaq Comp.	7197.29	6878.98	6910.66	-58.59	-0.8	+0.1	-0.4
2940.91	2532.69	S&P 500	2685.44	2583.23	2599.95	-33.13	-1.3	-2.8	-2.8
2053.00	1727.85	S&P MidCap	1798.73	1727.85	1732.81	-48.13	-2.7	-8.8	-8.2
30560.54	26293.62	Wilshire 5000	27645.77	26652.58	26749.34	-394.52	-1.5	-3.8	-3.6
1742.09	1407.11	Russell 2000	1471.96	1407.11	1410.81	-37.28	-2.6	-8.1	-7.8
403.72	338.79	Dow Jones Stoxx 600	351.31	338.79	347.21	+1.76	+0.5	-10.8	-10.6
7903.50	6673.57	FTSE 100	6908.48	6719.17	6845.17	+67.06	+1.0	-11.0	-8.6

Most active

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE
Gen Electric	7.10	+0.09
Bank of America	24.48	-0.05
AT&T Inc	30.22	-0.98
Chesapeake Energy	2.33	-0.39
Ford Motor	8.52	-0.30
Wells Fargo & Co	46.54	-3.72
Weatherford Intl Ltd	4.3	-0.08
Pfizer Inc	43.80	-0.12
Citigroup	55.02	-3.33
Twitter Inc	35.87	+3.04
Oracle Corp	46.60	+0.60
Sthwstn Energy	3.80	-5.59
JPMorgan Chase & Co	100.29	-3.00

NASDAQ STOCK MARKET

STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE
Adv Micro Dev	19.90	+4.44
Apple Inc	165.48	-3.01
Microsoft Corp	106.03	+1.21
Synergy Pharma	.08	-2.8
Micron Tech	34.20	-1.11
Sirius XM Hldgs Inc	6.17	-0.05
Cisco Syst	45.82	-0.62
Intel Corp	47.86	+1.62
New Age Beverages Cp	5.94	+1.25
Facebook Inc	144.06	+6.64
Comcast Corp A	36.34	-1.07
Caesars Entertain	7.45	-0.13
Helios and Matheson	.02	-0.00

EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS

STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE
Alps Alerian MLP	9.50	+0.04
Barc iPath Vix ST	40.55	+0.25
iShares Brazil	38.33	-0.33
iShs China Large Cap	41.13	+0.55
iShs Emer Mkts	39.83	-0.05
iShares EAFE ETF	60.46	-0.29
Invesco QQQ Trust	161.08	-0.30
ProShs UltraPro SHTQQ	15.45	+0.02
SPDR S&P500 ETF Tr	260.47	-3.10
SPDR Financial	24.24	-0.87
US Oil Fund LP	10.82	-0.29
VanE Vect Gld Miners	20.12	-0.08
Vanguard FTSE DevMkt	38.19	-0.29

Largest Companies

Based on market capitalization

STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE
AT&T Inc	30.22	+0.08
Alibaba Group Hldg	149.00	-4.06
Alphabet Inc C	1042.10	+5.52
Alphabet Inc A	1051.71	+5.13
Amazon.com Inc	1591.91	-37.22
Arheuser-Busch InBev	69.70	-1.07
Apple Inc	165.48	-3.01
Bank of America	24.48	-0.95
Berkshire Hath A	300320.00	-7354.02
Berkshire Hath B	200.00	-4.88
Boeing Co	318.75	-4.47
Chevron Corp	113.83	-1.66
China Mobile Ltd	47.57	-1.71
Cisco Syst	45.82	-0.62
Citigroup	55.02	-3.33
CocaCola Co	49.34	+0.25
Comcast Corp A	36.34	-1.07
Disney	112.20	+2.22
Exxon Mobil Corp	75.58	-2.06
Facebook Inc	144.06	+6.64
FEMSA	83.65	+1.15
HSBC Holdings PLC	40.90	+0.05
Home Depot	172.29	-0.50
Intel Corp	47.86	+1.62
JPMorgan Chase & Co	100.29	-3.00
Johnson & Johnson	133.00	-12.43
MasterCard Inc	195.33	-1.17
McDonalds Corp	183.29	+0.33
Merck & Co	76.48	+0.31
Microsoft Corp	106.03	+1.21
Novartis AG	87.39	+0.31
Oracle Corp	46.60	+0.60
PepsiCo	113.95	-1.87
Pfizer Inc	43.80	-1.12
Procter & Gamble	96.64	+4.19
Royal Dutch Shell B	59.51	-1.22
Royal Dutch Shell A	58.23	-1.08
Taiwan Semiconductor	36.53	+0.01
Total SA	54.36	+0.16
Toyota Mot	120.10	+1.73
Unilever NV	55.64	+0.15
Unilever PLC	54.00	-0.04
UnitedHealth Group	265.02	-4.16
Verizon Comm	57.08	-0.60
Visa Inc	135.09	-2.02
WallMart Strs	91.85	-1.34
Wells Fargo & Co	46.54	-3.72

How the region's Top 100 companies fared

Ranks based on market capitalization of public companies headquartered in Illinois and north-west Indiana as of Friday, December 14, 2018

Market capitalization in millions of dollars

RANK/COMPANY	CAP	CLOSE	WEEK	1-YR
1 Boeing Co	181,013	318.75	▼ -4.47	
2 McDonalds Corp	141,300	183.29	▲ +3.33	
3 AbbVie Inc	128,775	85.61	▼ -1.35	
4 Abbott Labs	124,278	70.76	▲ +0.81	
5 Caterpillar Inc	74,807	126.77	▲ +3.22	
6 Walgreen Boots Alli	74,471	78.74	▼ -2.45	
7 CME Group	63,952	187.64	▲ +5.3	
8 Mondelez Intl	63,314	43.55	▼ -2.25	
9 Kraft Heinz Co	57,874	47.46	▼ -1.25	
10 Deere Co	47,932	149.01	▲ +1.75	
11 Exelon Corp	45,507	47.06	▲ +1.0	
12 ITW	43,479	131.04	▲ +1.57	
13 Baxter Intl	34,961	65.70	▲ +0.68	
14 Allstate Corp	27,314	79.30	▼ -4.51	
15 Equity Residential	25,768	69.94	▼ -1.73	
16 Arch Dan Midl	25,010	44.61	▲ +1.15	
17 United Contl Hldgs	23,905	87.74	▼ -0.49	
18 Ventas Inc	22,300	62.56	▼ -2.91	
19 Discover Fin Svcs	20,769	61.82	▼ -3.02	
20 Motorola Solutions	20,710	126.65	▼ -3.1	
21 Nthn Trust Cp	19,121	86.37	▼ -2.01	
22 Grainger WW	16,017	284.41	▼ -5.02	
23 Ulta Salon Cosmetics	14,641	246.85	▼ -7.62	
24 Gallagher AJ	13,623	74.18	▼ -0.34	
25 CDW Corp	13,155	87.71	▼ -3.77	
26 CNA Financial	11,912	43.79	▼ -0.65	
27 ConAgra Brands Inc	11,712	29.89	▼ -0.95	
28 CBOE Global Markets	11,320	100.89	▼ -3.45	
29 Dover Corp	11,168	76.32	▼ -3.18	
30 TransUnion	10,923	58.95	▼ -1.58	
31 IDEX Corp	10,168	132.56	▼ -1.08	
32 NiSource Inc	10,164	27.49	▲ +3.5	
33 CF Industries	9,707	42.06	▲ +1.03	
34 Zebra Tech	9,248	171.89	▲ +6.55	
35 Equity Lifesty Prop	9,063	100.99	▼ -1.57	
36 Packaging Corp Am	8,829	93.44	▲ +1.28	
37 LKQ Corporation	7,827	24.60	▼ -1.03	
38 GrubHub Inc	7,183	79.20	▲ +2.40	
39 US Foods Holding	6,912	31.81	▼ -0.02	
40 Ingredion Inc	6,764	95.68	▼ -1.53	
41 Old Republic	6,479	21.41	▼ -1.4	
42 Aptargroup Inc	6,302	100.34	▲ +5.7	
43 Hill-Rom Hldgs	6,229	92.59	▲ +0.03	
44 CDK Global Inc	6,142	47.70	▼ -2.28	
45 Middleby Corp	6,106	109.35	▼ -0.02	
46 Jones Lang LaSalle	6,071	133.25	▼ -1.15	
47 USG Corp	6,013	43.03	▼ -0.1	
48 Fortune Brds Hm&Sec	5,715	40.42	▼ -2.17	
49 Morningstar Inc	4,881	114.42	▼ -0.79	
50 Kemper Corp	4,280	66.11	▼ -3.69	
51 Littelfuse Inc	4,255	169.14	▼ -3.44	
52 Brunswick Corp	4,040	46.58	▼ -2.99	
53 Tribune Media Co A	3,975	45.36	▲ +3.37	
54 First Indl RT	3,974	31.47	▼ -0.41	
55 Wintrust Financial	3,803	67.45	▼ -4.40	
56 Equity Commonwth	3,792	31.22	▼ -0.35	
57 Stericycle Inc	3,660	40.40	▼ -3.53	
58 Teleph Data	3,625	34.32	▼ -0.32	
59 Paylocity Hldg	3,352	63.49	▲ +1.42	
60 MB Financial	3,320	39.42	▼ -2.74	
61 RLI Corp	3,185	71.61	▼ -0.93	
62 TreeHouse Foods	3,125	54.01	▲ +3.89	
63 Adtalem Global Educ	3,003	51.13	▼ -1.63	
64 Hyatt Hotels Corp	2,891	67.62	▼ -1.81	
65 US Cellular	2,849	53.82	▲ +1.15	
66 GATX	2,777	73.98	▼ -3.15	
67 Retail Prop Amer	2,701	12.54	▼ -2.28	
68 Navistar Intl	2,547	25.77	▼ -2.92	
69 Cabot Microelect	2,405	94.33	▼ -2.34	
70 Envestnet Inc	2,357	51.57	▼ -0.57	
71 John Bean Technol	2,235	70.73	▼ -3.79	
72 Fst Midw Bcp	2,195	20.64	▼ -1.49	
73 Anixter Intl	1,911	57.68	▼ -1.22	
74 Allscripts Hlthcare	1,815	10.39	▲ +0.90	
75 Groupson Inc	1,792	31.41	▲ +0.04	
76 Stepan Co	1,739	77.25	▲ +2.24	
77 Tenneco Inc	1,588	27.82	▼ -2.34	
78 Horace Mann	1,542	37.68	▼ -2.4	
79 AAR Corp	1,425	40.69	▼ -2.3	
80 Tootsie Roll	1,305	33.79	▼ -2.23	
81 Knowles Corp	1,242	13.77	▼ -0.53	
82 Federal Signal	1,239	20.57	▼ -0.59	
83 First Busey Corp	1,232	25.23	▼ -1.40	
84 Hub Group Inc	1,231	36.65	▼ -3.64	
85 Huron Consulting Gp	1,154	51.21	▼ -0.90	
86 Navigant Consult	988	23.22	▼ -0.64	
87 Avard HomeCare	955	72.94	▼ -1.46	
88 Career Education	881	12.64	▼ -0.21	
89 Methode Electronics	827	22.38	▼ -1.63	
90 Consolidated Comm	800	11.23	▼ -0.39	
91 Coeur Mining	760	3.82	▼ -4.0	
92 Century Aluminum	714	8.15	▼ -0.45	
93 Acco Brands Corp	694	6.76	▼ -0.46	
94 Enova Intl Inc	669	19.52	▼ -0.59	
95 SP Plus Corp	642	28.24	▼ -1.09	
96 Heidrick & Struggles	635	33.53	▲ +1.54	
97 ANI Pharma	628	53.04	▼ -0.46	
98 OneSpan Inc	620	15.42	▼ -2.6	
99 Global Brass Copper	614	27.67	▼ -1.05	
100 Echo Global Logis	600	21.03	▼ -1.53	

Largest mutual funds

Based on Total assets

FUND	NAV	CHG IN \$	1-YR %RTN	FUND	NAV	CHG IN \$	1-YR %RTN
American Funds AMCPA m	31.00	-0.27	+2.2	T. Rowe Price EqInc	28.39	-3.18	-5.0
American Funds AmrcnBala m	26.53	-0.17	-2	T. Rowe Price GrStk	59.25	-5.51	+2.8
American Funds AmrcnMutA m	40.52	-0.37	+1.6	T. Rowe Price HlthSci x	70.17	-5.52	+7.3
American Funds BdfAmrcA m	12.47	-0.01	-1.2	T. Rowe Price InsLgCpGr	39.71	-0.23	+7.8
American Funds CptWldGrncA m	46.02	-1.15	-7.1	T. Rowe Price MdcPGr	78.71	-10.16	+2.2
American Funds CptInclBldrA m	57.80	-0.13	-5.0	T. Rowe Price NewHorizons x	49.87	-7.76	+9.3
American Funds EuroPacGrA m	46.96	-0.35	-12.4	T. Rowe Price NewInc	9.08	-0.01	-1.6
American Funds FdmTllnvsA m	58.86	-3.28	-2.4	T. Rowe Price Rtr2020	21.71	-1.13	-2.9
American Funds GrfAmrcA m	49.61	-0.32	+1.5	T. Rowe Price Rtr2025	16.87	-1.11	-3.3
American Funds IncAmrcA m	22.09	-0.07	-2.4	T. Rowe Price Rtr2030	24.75	-1.18	-3.6
American Funds InvAmrcA m	38.05	-0.17	-2.1	T. Rowe Price Rtr2035	18.04	-0.14	-4.0
American Funds NewWldA m	59.16	-2.1	-9.5	T. Rowe Price Rtr2040	25.84	-2.0	-4.2
American Funds NwPrsctvA m	41.48	-1.0	-2.7	T. Rowe Price Val	31.69	-3.73	-5.6
American Funds SmCpWldA m	51.64	-0.79	-5.2	Vanguard 500IdxAdmrl x	239.87	-4.26	-1
American Funds TheNewEcoA m	43.66	-0.18	-1.3	Vanguard 500IdxInv x	239.88	-4.21	-2
American Funds WAMtllnvsA m	44.57	-0.38	+1.1	Vanguard BaildixAdm			

For the working (and unemployed), now is no time for a winter nap

John Randolph loves the month of December. Sure, he's a fan of holiday cheer, but the real reason the architect is a fan of the last month of the year is that it's when he can concentrate on more than just his regular deadlines.

"All year long, I'm busting my butt to get information to our clients and to keep our associates moving," he says. "But things slow down in December. I get to stop and smell the coffee a little, if that's an expression. I get to take some time and do some planning for the next year."

Randolph isn't alone in his appreciation for the 12th month of the year. For many, December is a chance to take a breath, clear their plate and make some concrete plans for the year ahead.

Found time

"It's like those days when you think you have to have your kids at soccer by 10 in the morning and then realize the game's been called because of rain," says Nancy Hanquist, a career consultant in New York and a former HR specialist with PepsiCo. "You get a little extra time to do some of the things you can't quite fit in during the year."

Hanquist says December can offer employees a brief respite from the 9-to-5 grind and help them cleanse their palate for the future. "People tend to think that everyone works fewer days in December, but in reality, they work as much but their workload shifts. They're not as consumed with working with outside clients and with other day-to-day operations," she says. "Instead they spend a significant amount of time planning and assessing. They do a lot of the creative work they didn't have time for in the previous months."

Bryan Lindberg, a real estate developer in Columbus, Ohio, says he has a box of magazine pages and printouts under his desk that he goes through every week. Well, at least in theory he does. But the reality is that Lindberg goes through a few pages a month and uses December to tackle his idea box. "I am one of those avid page tearers when it

comes to magazines like "Fast Company" and "Wired," but I don't always have the time to go through what I've collected, so when I get a little bit of breathing room, I dive right in."

While Lindberg admits that much of what he finds is no longer relevant to him or his business, he says he gets "more than enough ideas" to make his December ritual worthwhile. "I sit there with a notebook and my laptop and go to town," he says. "I find things that fit into what I'm doing now and ideas that could work in the future. And I find a lot of strategies for working with others. That stuff is huge. Those are the types of ideas I don't have time to ponder in my busy seasons."

Open for hire

Hanquist says it's important for job seekers to keep their engines running throughout the holiday season. "There's a myth that no hiring take place between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, but that's false," Hanquist says. "While some HR departments certainly slow down a bit, there are more managers who take a hands-on approach to hiring in December."

Hanquist says that's because many managers want to start the year off strong, so they want to be prepared with a full slate of employees when January begins. "If you have big plans for the upcoming months, you'll need to be properly staffed," she says. "Why wait on hiring someone in December just because it's Christmas season? That's counterproductive. Your competitors may be working overtime to find the best talent out there, so you need to stay proactive."

And if companies are being proactive, it only makes sense that job seekers share the same enthusiasm about looking for work. "There is no time off when you don't have a job," Hanquist says. "You take a few days off and the job of your dreams may be posted and filled while you're experimenting with cookie recipes. Don't be a slacker. Don't get lulled into enjoying an extended Christmas vacation because you have no Christmas vacation. Keep looking, keep working, keep connecting and good things will happen."



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Labronese. Mix of Labrador Retriever & Bernese Mountain dog. Available for Christmas. Good seeing eye or service dog. Soft coat. puppies4everyone@yahoo.com

Poodle 630-805-3029
Willowbrook, IL \$900 F
Miniature Teacup, 2 F Blk w. Yt Stripe, Avail Dec 18th. Text Preferred.

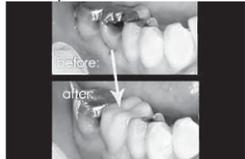
Poodle Randy 417-288-2893
Lebanon \$800 Males
ACA Register Standard Parti Poodles. puppies4everyone@yahoo.com

Poodle 405-481-5588
Chicago 800 M/F
Teacup Tiny Toy & Toy. \$800-\$1500 Can deliver.

Schnauzer Randy 417-288-2893
Lebanon \$2000-2500 Only Males
AKC Registered Giant Schnauzer. Champion blood line. Soft or hard coat. puppies4everyone@yahoo.com

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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ASSUMED NAMES

Notice is hereby given, Pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State" as amended, that a Certification was filed by the Undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County

File No. D18155961 on the **Date: November 20, 2018**
Under the Assumed Name of: **Brown School of Health**

with the business located at:
304 Queens LN Thornton, IL, 60476

The true name and residence Address of the owner is: **Cornelius Brown & Tailetha Brown**
304 Queens LN Thornton, IL, 60476

Notice is hereby given, Pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State" as amended, that a Certification was filed by the Undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County

File No. Y18000099 on the **Date: December 12, 2018**
Under the Assumed Name of: **Monsse's Hair Design**

with the business located at:
5647 N Ashland Ave Chicago, Illinois, 60660

The true name and residence Address of the owner is: **Maricela Vega**
5647 N Ashland Ave Chicago, Illinois, 60660

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

NOTICE
Notice of action by IL State Superintendent Tony Smith pending against Laquisha T. Leathers to revoke Illinois Professional Educator License.

Title: In the matter of the Revocation of the Professional Educator License of Laquisha T. Leathers, PEL ID #2090204.

Tribunal: Illinois State Educator Preparation and Licensure Board (SEPLB), Springfield, Illinois, SEPLB Secretary: Emily Fox
Name of Licensee/Respondent: Laquisha T. Leathers. Penalty may be entered against Laquisha T. Leathers on or after: JAN 16, 2019.

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES

Trine Construction Corp., 27W364 North Ave., West Chicago IL 60185 (630-668-4626) is seeking disadvantaged businesses for the Village of Indian Head Park Water Main Replacement Program. Subcontracting opportunities are in the following areas: trucking, aggregates, water main materials & landscaping.

All disadvantaged businesses should contact, IN WRITING (return receipt) Mr. Jeff Truax to discuss subcontracting opportunities. All negotiations must be complete prior to bid opening date 1/7/19. Proposals will be evaluated and awarded based on price, qualifications and availability.



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ACCOUNTING >>

Manager-Attest Services IT

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GRANT THORNTON LLP - has mltiple openings for Manager-Attest Services IT based out of HQ in Chicago, IL. May live anywhere in US; roving pstrn up to 60% trvl. Plan, conduct & help manage SOC readiness assessments, assess the design of controls, assess the fair representation of controls, testing of controls as of a point in time & over a period of time & report writing/development. Req: Bach deg or frgn equiv in Acct, MIS or rel & 5 yrs exp. Apply online: <http://jobs.grantthornton.com/> & search: Manager- Attest Services IT (042189).

ADMINISTRATIVE >>

Executive Assistant

Chicago, IL jobs@viennabeef.com
VIENNA BEEF LTD - Provides diverse & adv. admin. duties for the CEO. Acts as an ext. of and enhance the executive's effectiveness by providing info. management support; anticipating the CEO's needs & representing the executive to others.

CONSTRUCTION >>

Carpenter

Chicago, IL [5119717](mailto:5119717@viennabeef.com)
Mail Resumes
 -- Construction carpenter for residential new construction and remodeling company req'd: 1yr experience, 6mos training. Resume to HR, Fajczyk Company, 600 N. Vista Drive, Algonquin, IL 60102

Carpenter

Chicago, IL [5107367](mailto:5107367@viennabeef.com)
Mail Resumes
 -- Carpenter for garage contractor: framing, siding, shingles. Req'd 2yrs experience. Resume to Chris Pura, Chris Construction and Garage Design, Inc., 2440 Forest Glen Trail, Riverwoods, IL 60015

CUSTOMER SERVICE >>

Retail Customer Support Specialist

Chicago, IL jobs@viennabeef.com
VIENNA BEEF, LTD - This person will act as the retail team's primary Customer Service contact. support & be an integral member for managing customer success in all areas of the retail business and have responsibility managing communication between Vienna Beef customers & our retail sales team.

DRIVERS >>

Independent Contract Couriers

Waukegan, IL [630-930-5227](tel:630-930-5227)
RELIABLE EXPRESS TRANSPORT: UP TO 1000 - 2000 COMM. PER WK - Independent Contract Couriers with 14ft box truck, full size cargo van. Daily/on demand deliveries available. AM shift. Clean bkgrd, MVR & drug test. Fluent in English. 630-930-5227. (Dedicated AM cars routes available)

ENGINEERING >>

Principal Engineer

Chicago, IL Mail to Apply
CARDINAL HEALTH - Cardinal Health seeks Principal Engineer for the Quality Engineering dpt. in Chicago, IL. The position is responsible for prdct and svc quality planning, evaluation and control. Develop and implement prevention based methodologies. Develop and implement quality programs and ensure prdct and process quality. Apply preventative and corrective actions to overcome barriers to quality improvements, and acquire and analyze data using appropriate standard quantitative methods to facilitate process analysis and improvements. Requires a BS in an Engineering and 5 yrs of progressive post-baccalaureate exp in the medical device industry or a MS in Engineering and 3 yrs of exp in the same. Exp must include design control under FDA regulations and GMP (21CFR820) and ISO 13485 standards. Must have statistical knowledge of sampling plans and control charts; internal and external audit experience; and ASQ Certification such as CQE, CMQ/QE, or CQA/CBA. Resumes: T. Willis; 7000 Cardinal Place, Dublin, OH 43017.

Senior Solutions Engineer

Aurora, IL Apply Online
XPO LOGISTICS MANAGED TRANSPORTATION, LLC - Develop back-end databases using SQL server that fulfills the analytics, savings, metrics, and financials requirements and MS Access/Excel and Microsoft Power BI; develop front-end using VBA for providing end-user access to data; setup ad hoc logistics engineering processes using a combination of SQL Server and MS access to satisfy ad hoc requirements. Requires: (1) Masters + 2 yrs. exp. OR (2) Bachelors + 5 yrs. exp. XPO Logistics Managed Transportation, LLC. Please apply online at: https://jobs.xpo.com/US/job/Aurora-Senior-Solutions-Engineer-IL-60502/519977500/?locale=en_US

Software Engineer

Northbrook, IL e-imo.com/careers
IMO - (Northbrook, IL) seeks Software Engineer to design/develop/implement & maintain software applications/support the lifecycle of application development, using scrum management processes in agile environment. Apply at <https://www.e-imo.com/careers>, Job ID: 148

Weld Engineering Specialist II

Plainfield, IL Apply by mail
CB&I LLC - Oversee scheduling & execution of welding procedure qualifications & various technical projects performed in welding lab. Travel: International & Domestic travel up to 50% annually. Apply: Mail resume to Patricia Na at 757 N. Eldridge Parkway Houston, TX 77079 w/job # 1892.668

FINANCE >>

Advisory Manager, Financial Management

Chicago, IL Apply by mail
PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS ADVISORY SERVICES LLC - Advisory Manager, Financial Management (Mult. Pos.), PricewaterhouseCoopers Advisory Services LLC, Chicago, IL. Improve companies' transactional & decision support processes, enhance underlying technologies, & refine organizational designs req to make each indiv process more effective & operate in an efficient manner. Req: Bach's deg or foreign equiv in Fin. Acctng. Bus Admin or rel + 5 yrs post-bach's progressive rel work exp; OR a Master's deg or foreign equiv in Fin. Acctng. Bus Admin or rel + 3 yrs rel work exp. Travel req. up to 80%. Apply by mail, referencing Job Code IL1930, Attn: HR SSC/Talent Management, 4040 W. Boy Scout Blvd, Tampa, FL 33607.

Controls Advisory-Senior Associate-Business Process

Chicago, IL Apply Online
GRANT THORNTON LLP - seeks multiple Controls Advisory-Senior Associate- Business Process in Chicago, IL. May live anywhere in US; roving pstrn up to 80% trvl. Devises systems & processes to monitor validity of risk modeling outputs; gathers risk-related data from internal or external resources; & identifies & analyzes areas of potential risk to the success of organizations. Req: Bach or frgn equiv or equiv thru ACCA mbrshp. in Busn Admn, Finance, Acct, IT, or rtd & 2 yrs exp. Apply @ <http://jobs.grantthornton.com/> & search: Controls Advisory- Senior Associate- Business Process (042205).

Designer

Chicago, IL Apply by mail
STANTEC ARCHITECTURE INC. - Stantec Architecture Inc., Designer (Mult. Pos.), Chicago, IL. Prepare constr. drawings & detailing using comp.-aided drafting eqpt. Reqs: incl: Master's deg or foreign equiv. in Architecture, or rel. field + 2 yrs of rel. work exp.; OR Bach's deg or foreign equiv. in Architecture, or rel. field + 5 yrs of post-bach's, progressive rel. work exp. Travel up to 10% req'd. Any suitable combo. of edu., training, or exp. is acceptable. Interested applicants email CV to HRApp ly@stantec.com & specify job title in subj. line.

Financial & Tax Specialist.

Chicago, IL [5043437](mailto:5043437@goodtimes.com)
GOOD TIMES HOLDINGS LLC - Financial reports, direct investments activities, cash mgmt strategies, & legal structure for real estate investments. Req'd: B.A. in finance or accounting. Knowledge of corp. tax; financial accounting; real estate taxation & contracts; auditing. 5 yrs exp job duties. M-F, 9-5:00. Send resume to Job #5 - Good Times Holdings LLC - 3352 N. Sheffield, Chicago, IL 60657

Project Mgr. II

Chicago, IL Apply by Email
ROLAND BERGER LLC - In Chicago, IL seeks Project Mgr. II. Masters or for. equiv. in Econ., Fin., Mgmt., Chem. Eng. or related + 3 yrs. exp., or Bach. or for. equiv. in Econ., Fin., Mgmt., Chem. Eng. or related + 5 yrs. exp. req'd. Conduct econ. analyses & prep. econ. impact rpts. 80% travel req'd to various client sites. Emp. will accept any suitable comb. of ed., trng or exp. Send resume: careers@rolandberger.com & ref. job title & job code "DSD2018" in subject line.

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Senior Quantitative Risk Management Associates

Chicago, IL Apply by Mail
CHICAGO MERCANTILE EXCHANGE, INC. - is seeking Senior Quantitative Risk Management Associates for its Chicago, IL location to conduct risk model designs & running empirical studies to make recs on margin levels, modeling issues & other risk-mitigation measures. Enhance existing risk models as well as design/prototype new models across diff asset classes like OTC & Futures, (e.g. Pricing, VaR, Backtest, Stress, & Liquidity). Pos also reqs up to 5% of nat'l & int'l travel. To apply, please mail resume to Katy Hurvitz/CME, 20 S. Wacker Dr., Chicago, IL 60606. Please refer to job ID 18645. EEO.

VP Quantitative Services Senior Professional

Chicago, IL Apply by mail
BANK OF AMERICA, N.A. - to formulate & apply mathematical modeling & other optimizing methods to develop & interpret info used in decision making or policy formulation. Reqs: Master's degree & 2 yrs exp. in: Performing regression analysis & machine learning techniques to build & validate pricing models; & Measuring market risk for equities or fixed income futures & options trades to adjust model parameters to improve model perf & stability. Job site: Chicago, IL. Ref #2774411 & submit resume to Bank of America, N.A., NY1-050-03-01, 50 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY 10020. No phone calls or e-mails. EOE.

GENERAL >>

Elderly Care Aide

Chicago, IL [5119691](mailto:5119691@viennabeef.com)
Mail Resumes
 -- Assist elderly person with cleaning, meal preparation, medication, bathing and grooming. \$21,195/yr. Req'd: 3mos experience, positive reference. Resume to Sigrid, 1260 N. Astor St., Unit 11, Chicago, IL 60610

HEALTHCARE >>

Occupational Therapists

Bensenville, IL Apply by email
REHABCARE GROUP EAST, LLC - RehabCare Group East, LLC. Is currently recruiting full-time Occupational Therapists to provide services in Bensenville, IL with additional coverage at other facilities in the DuPage/Cook metropolitan statistical area. US or foreign Master's Degree in Occupational Therapy. Must possess a State of Illinois occupational therapy license. To apply, please e-mail your resume to Nichole Brewer at nichole.brewer@rehabcare.com

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY >>

Advisory Manager, Application Technology

Chicago, IL Apply by mail
PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS ADVISORY SERVICES LLC - Advisory Manager, Application Technology (Mult. Pos.), PricewaterhouseCoopers Advisory Services LLC, Chicago, IL. Help clnts determine the best apps for their bus. needs & integrate new & existing apps into their bus. including Mobility Integration. Req. Bach's deg or foreign equiv. in Comp Sci, Info Tech or rel. + 5 yrs post-bach's progressive rel. work exp.; OR a Master's deg or foreign equiv. in Comp Sci, Info Tech or rel. + 3 yrs rel. work exp. Travel req. up to 80%. Apply by mail, referencing Job Code IL1919, Attn: HR SSC/Talent Management, 4040 W. Boy Scout Blvd, Tampa, FL 33607.

Advisory Manager, Insurance Technology

Chicago, IL Apply mail
PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS ADVISORY SERVICES LLC - Advisory Manager, Insurance Technology (Multi. Pos.), PricewaterhouseCoopers Advisory Services LLC, Chicago, IL. Deliver Robotic Process Automation (RPA) solutions to clients to leverage enabling technologies to support business processes. Req. Bach's deg or foreign equiv. in Comp. Sci, Info Systems, Data Analytics or rel. + 5 yrs post-bach's prog. rel. work exp.; OR a Master's deg or foreign equiv. in Comp. Sci, Info Systems, Data Analytics or rel. + 3 yrs rel. work exp. Travel req. up to 80%. Apply by mail, referencing Job Code IL1905, Attn: HR SSC/Talent Management, 4040 W. Boy Scout Blvd, Tampa, FL 33607.

CDS Workday Sr Consultant

Lincolnshire, IL Apply by mail
ALIGHT SOLUTIONS LLC - Incl's but not limited to actively participating in all stages of Workday project lifecycle, from planning & design phases thru testing & deployment. Must have Bachelor's or equiv in CS, Math, or rel field + 5 yrs consulting exp implementing sys's such as Workday, Peoplesoft, or other SaaS softw solutions, or rel field. Must have: Exp w/Workday HCM Core & Workday Integration. Demonstrated knowl of Workday product suite. Demonstrated knowl of Workday project lifecycle, from planning & design phases through testing & deployment. Exp understanding bus req'ts, configuring & deploying solution to end clients. Exp handling mult clients/projects & prioritizing conflicting demands. Exp w/Workday bus. process. Employer will accept any amount of exp w/req'd skills. Telecommute / work from home permissible. To apply, send resume to Alight Solutions LLC, Box DC-CR-1218, 220 W 42nd St, 12th Flr, NY, NY 10036 & ref. Job # R-5163.

Comp Systems Analyst & Comp Analyst/Programmer

Chicago, IL Apply by mail
ZENSAR TECHNOLOGIES, INC. - Computer Systems Analyst & Computer Analyst/Programmer
 Zensar Technologies, Inc. has openings in Chicago, IL. All positions may be assigned to various, unanticipated sites throughout the US. Job Code US182 Computer Analyst/Programmer (Diagrams/Testing): evaluate user requests & prep docs. Job Code US183 Computer Systems Analyst (Req.s/Data Science): prepare design docs + testing. Mail resume to: Prasun Mahatara, 2107 North First Street, Suite 100, San Jose, CA 95131. Include job code & full job title/s of interest + recruitment source in cover letter. EOE

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CONSULTANTS

Chicago, IL Apply by mail
CLARITY SOLUTION GROUP, LLC - CONSULTANTS
 Positions available for each job title at Clarity Solution Group, LLC (dba Clarity Insights). Senior Consultant in Chicago, IL. Analyze/develop data engineering solutions for client business needs. Principal Consultant in Chicago, IL. Direct/supervise onsite/offsite teams in the analysis and development of business intelligence and data solutions for client business needs. Clarity Insights staffs these positions at our corporate headquarters, our various offices across the United States, and our client-sites; thus, relocation to various unanticipated company and client sites throughout the United States may be required. Mail resume to Clarity Solution Group, LLC, Attn: Sharon Hankins, 150 S. Wacker Dr., Ste. 2750, Chicago, IL 60606. Refer to the job title and this job posting for consideration.

Core Assurance Senior Associate

Chicago, IL Apply mail
PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP - Core Assurance Senior Associate (Mult. Pos.), PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, Chicago, IL. Examine actng records, docs, & tangible equipment of clients. Req. Bach's deg or foreign equiv. in Acctng, Bus Admin or rel. + 3 yrs rel. work exp.; OR a Master's deg or foreign equiv. in Acctng, Bus Admin or rel. + 1 yr rel work exp. Must have a US CPA license or foreign equiv. Travel up to 20% req. Apply by mail, referencing Job Code IL1908, Attn: HR SSC/Talent Management, 4040 W. Boy Scout Blvd, Tampa, FL 33607.

Embedded Systems Engineer, Sr.

Mount Prospect, IL Apply Online
ROBERT BOSCH LLC - seeks an Embedded Systems Engineer, Sr. in Mount Prospect, IL. REQS: Bach, or frgn equiv in Comp Sci, Comp Eng, Elec Eng, or rtd +5 yrs work exp in appl. SW dev. Apply online at www.boschjobs.com, search Embedded Systems Engineer (REF36897Q).

HRIS Project Manager

Downers Grove, IL Apply by mail
DOVER CORPORATION - Downers Grove, IL - HRIS Project Manager - Develop, create, and modify general computer applications software or specialized utility programs. Responsible for providing integral support for numerous SuccessFactors modules. Min Req: Bachelor's degree in Food Science, Business Administration or a related field and 5 years of experience in the meat industry. Min Req: Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Management Information Systems, or a related field and 5 years of experience in the job offered or related occupation. Requires 5 years of experience with each of the following: full project implementation for SuccessFactors from planning to configuration through go-live; planning and managing SuccessFactors project timelines; conducting end-to-end testing for new changes; planning and leading UAT sessions; communication skills with both technical and non-technical functions; and XML configuration. Also requires SuccessFactors certification in at least three of the following SuccessFactors modules: EC, Recruiting (RCM & RMK), Onboarding, Performance & Goals, Succession, or LMS. Qualified applicants send resumes to: Megan Roose, Job Code: HRIS1, Dover Corporation, 3005 Highland Parkway, Suite 200, Downers Grove, IL 60515.

IT Analyst, IT Adv., Insurance

Chicago, IL Apply online
ERNST & YOUNG U.S. LLP - IT Analyst, IT Adv., Insurance (Guidewire-Data)-FSO (Mngr) (Mult. Pos.), Ernst & Young U.S. LLP, Chicago, IL. Provide technology consulting services to insurance clients. Requires travel up to 80%, of which 20% may be international, to serve client needs. Employer will accept any suitable combination of education, training, or experience. For complete job description, list of requirements, and to apply, go to: ey.com/us/jobsearch (Job Number - CH1007PD).

IT Position

Chicago, IL Apply by mail
AMAZON WEB SERVICES, INC. - IT Position - Multiple positions available in Chicago, IL. Amazon Web Services, Inc. seeks candidates for the following position: Professional Services II - Big Data Consultant, Job Code "PSBDC-CHI-GM-2018" -Collaborate with external customers and partners on key engagements to develop and deliver proof-of-concept projects, technical workshops, and support implementation projects that focus on customer solutions such as HPC, batch data processing, Big Data and Business Intelligence. Approximately 50-60% travel to Amazon offices and clients sites nationally. Interested candidates should respond by mail referencing specific job code to: Amazon, PO BOX 81266, Seattle, WA 98108.

IT Sr Sys's Admin

Lincolnshire, IL Apply by mail
AON SERVICE CORPORATION - Incl's but not limited to supporting dbase ops across several dbase technologies. Must have Master's or equiv in CS, or rel field + 5 yrs exp in dbase Technology, or rel exp. Must have exp w/: (1) DB2 for LUW; (2) SQL; (3) Oracle; (4) EMC DDBost; (5) Avamar; (6) Linux; (7) IBM Director; (8) Netbackup; (9) TSM dbase; (10) MS Windows OS; (11) high availability disaster recovery (HADR) errors; & (12) Replication. Employer will accept any amount of prof'l exp w/ req'd skills. To apply, send resume to Aon Service Corporation, Box BP-CTR-1118, 220 W 42nd St, 12th Flr, NY, NY 10036 & ref. Job # 2018-26882.

Programmer Analysts (Multiple Openings)

Schaumburg, IL Mail to Apply
NEXTROW, INC. - Specify code(s) in cov ltr: JV, Adobe, Tools; Require min. Master's degree or equiv. degree in computer science/applications, engineering, computer/MIS, info/computer technology/systems, math, electrical/electronics or related field. Work Place: Schaumburg, IL and/or any unanticipated locations in the U.S. Must be willing to travel or relocate nationwide. 40 hrs/wk. Duties may include analyzing, developing, testing, maintaining, creating, reviewing, programming, tuning, supporting, etc. software applications and/or requirements. All positions require knowledge with proof using some of the following in each category or combination of categories: JV-Java, J2EE, Spring, Struts, Eclipse, Hibernate, MVC, Tomcat, Jboss, Ajax, SOAP, Servlet, JSR, JSTL, Web Services, CSS, Angular, OSGI, XML, HTML, JQUERY, Java Script, Bootstrap, Apache Tomcat; Adobe-Adobe AEM, Tools-Maven, GIT, Hudson, Jenkins, LDAP, Junit, Subversion. All positions require knowledge in databases: (MySQL, DB2, MongoDB and/or SQL) & operating systems: (Windows, Vista, Unix and/or Linux). Proof of knowledge required. Mail resume: HR, NextRow, Inc. 475 N. Martingale Rd, Ste 570, Schaumburg, IL 60173.

SAP FICO Business Analyst 4

Warrenville, IL Apply online
LSC COMMUNICATIONS US, LLC - SAP FICO Business Analyst 4 (LSC Communications US, LLC; Warrenville, IL) Analyze and develop integrated SAP solutions to resolve customers' technical and business issues. Reqs: Must have a Master's degree in Computer Science, Accounting, Engineering, Information Technology, Business Administration, or a related field, plus 7 years of work experience within the information technology industry; OR a Bachelor's degree in Computer Science, Accounting, Engineering, Information Technology, Business Administration, or a related field, plus 9 years of post-baccalaureate progressively responsible experience within the information technology industry. Apply online at <https://lsc.com.taleo.net/careersection/ex/jobsearch.ft?lang=en> (Job # 180002YK).

Senior IT Operations Engineer

Chicago, IL Apply by Mail
FXCM GLOBAL SERVICES - Chicago, IL. Min Requirements: M.S. in IT or related. 3 yrs exp in the position offered or 3 yrs as QA Analyst and/or Network Admin. Exp must include: designing and implementing new systems utilizing Kickstart; performing day-to-day UNIX & Linux administration/support. Mail resumes to Amy Napolitano, Managing Director, HR, FXCM Global Services, LLC, 55 Water Street, 50th Floor, New York, NY 10040

Senior Software Engineers

Chicago, IL Apply by Mail
CHICAGO MERCANTILE EXCHANGE, INC - seeks Senior Software Engineers in Chicago, IL to be responsible for application analysis, development, & support of self-service app, BPM, RPA & other apps w/in CME group. Develop apps to meet process need specs. Responsible for development activities using RPA techs & Java/J2EE/DB techs. Pos req 10% nat'l & int'l travel. To apply, mail resume to Katy Hurvitz/CME, 20 S. Wacker Dr., Chicago, IL 60606. Refer to job ID 18616.

Senior Software Engineering Technician(s)

Chicago, IL Apply by mail
NETWORK NINJA - for software development company. Requires 4 years' experience building Object Oriented PHP, JavaScript and HTML/CSS for development and implementation of web-based software applications using MySQL and Postgres including providing support for legacy procedural PHP systems based on PEAR libraries and Smarty templates and performing requirement analysis, unit and integration testing, technical documentation and system implementation using Git and SubVersion. The position is managed out of Chicago, IL headquarters but allows the individual to live anywhere in the U.S. and allows for the option to work from a home office. This position requires up to 5% travel to customer sites in various unanticipated locations throughout the U.S. and may require travel to Canada. Send resume to Network Ninja, Attn: Andy Plax, 1286 N Milwaukee Ave, Suite #1, Chicago, IL 60622. Please indicate SSET in subject line.

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Holiday lunch tips

This is the season for the holiday lunch. There are a few hazards. Here are a few things to keep in mind if you are looking to advance your career over a Cobb salad:

1. **Be mindful of what you order.** Finger foods have a time and a place but the "let-me-impress-you" lunch may not be the appropriate setting for that messy pulled pork sandwich. It's probably best to order something that requires the use of utensils.

2. **Put your phone away.** This isn't a speed-dating lunch or an after-work beer with your co-worker. This is an opportunity to gain some leverage with the boss. Your lunch partner may have his or her phone on the table but that doesn't mean you should. Be attentive.

3. **Be an active listener.** Although you'll want to tell your lunch partner about all the great work you've done and what you can bring to the company in the months and years ahead, you're there to learn. Lunches can be difficult to manage when you have a lot to say but you'll need to show some restraint. If your lunch partner has something to say, let him or her speak.

4. **Don't linger.** When both the meal and conversation have come to a logical end, make sure you wrap things up.

5. **Pick up the check.** If you invite someone to a meal, the bill is your responsibility. It's probably not a bad idea to hand your credit card over to the waiter ahead of time to avoid that awkward verbal tug-of-war when the check arrives at the table. It's also a good idea to avoid using the company plastic unless you truly believe that your boss will be extra impressed when he realizes two weeks from now he needs to approve the lunch on your expense report.

6. **Be kind and courteous to the wait staff.** We get it — your water hasn't been topped off in 10 minute. Guess what? You'll survive. But being rude and dismissive to a waitress? There's a chance you may have just punched a ticket to worker-bee limbo.

9 to 5



"Naughty or nice? Compared to whom? Russian hackers? Trump's tweets?"

Senior Software Developer Java

Chicago, IL Apply by Mail
SENIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPER JAVA - Analyze users' needs and software requirements and then design, test, and develop custom software solutions; recommend software upgrades for customers' existing programs and systems; design each piece of an application or system and plan how the pieces will work together; create a variety of models and diagrams (such as flowcharts) that show how information will flow throughout the entire system; develop, create, and modify computer software applications to optimize system efficiency; modify existing software, fix bugs, and improve system performance; ensure that a program continues to function normally through software maintenance and testing; store, retrieve, and manipulate data for analysis of system capabilities and requirements; document every aspect of an application or system as a reference for future maintenance and upgrades; collaborate with other computer specialists to create optimum software. May be required to provide services at unanticipated locations. Req. Bachelors in Computer Applications; Computer Science; or Computer Engineering, 2 yrs exp. working as Software Developer and fully proficient in Java, C#, JavaScript, TypeScript, Spring, Hibernate, SQL. Send resumes to HR Inavante LLC, 1462 Milwaukee Ave., 3d Flr, Chicago, IL 60622.

Senior Software Developer Scala

Chicago, IL Mail to Apply
SENIOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPER SCALA - Analyze users' needs and software requirements and then design, test, and develop custom software solutions; recommend software upgrades for customers' existing programs and systems; design each piece of an application or system and plan how the pieces will work together; create a variety of models and diagrams (such as flowcharts) that show how information will flow throughout the entire system; develop, create, and modify computer software applications to optimize system efficiency; modify existing software, fix bugs, and improve system performance; ensure that a program continues to function normally through software maintenance and testing; store, retrieve, and manipulate data for analysis of system capabilities and requirements; document every aspect of an application or system as a reference for future maintenance and upgrades; collaborate with other computer specialists to create optimum software. May be required to provide services at unanticipated locations. Req. Bachelors in Computer Applications; Computer Science; or Computer Engineering, 2 yrs exp. working as Software Developer and fully proficient in Java, JavaScript, Spring, SQL, and Scala. Send resumes to HR Inavante LLC, 1462 Milwaukee Ave., 3d Flr, Chicago, IL 60622.

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Holiday shopper stories from the retail worker front

Let's face it, there are some miserable people roaming shopping malls during the holidays. They speed down the parking lot to steal that spot you've been waiting for, they push their way to the front of the line at the food court to make sure they get the last serving of orange chicken and they argue with store sales associates for every last penny while leaving a mountain of discarded clothing in their wake.

We wanted to know what lessons, if any, former sales associates learned from dealing with customers during the holiday season. Here is what some of them had to say:

"I think I learned that the customer isn't always right. Despite what every manager and every boss tells you when you're working in a retail business, there are many customers who are just plain wrong and who aren't simply worth the time it takes to argue with them. That's something I've taken with me to this day. I know when to cut my losses when dealing with someone who will not be happy no matter what the outcome is." - *Lana Glenn, Rochester, New York*

"I've learned never to work in retail during the Christmas season, that's what I learned. When my daughter came home from school and told me she got a job at one of the clothing stores in the mall by our house, I told her I would just pay her if she helped me organize the basement. She declined my offer and took the retail job and came home every day with this sort of shell-shocked look on her face. I think she regretted her decision." - *Jan Beament, Lisle, Illinois*

"I actually liked working at the mall during Christmas. I worked at Woodfield, which is this huge mall in Schaumburg, and people were friendly for the most part. They were just in a hurry and worried about their budgets. I worked in a toy store and actually liked helping people find gifts for their kids. Sometimes, you could help them find something that wasn't a top-10 gift. You'd talk to them and come up with some ideas and then they'd get something a little different. I liked that. I learned that to really give people what they want, you have to talk to them." - *Victor Kurtzner, Chicago*

"I worked in a small boutique so we never had crowds tearing through the place ripping up every possible display. We certainly had a lot more people come in than usual but for the most part, they were pretty cordial and appreciative of the help. If anything, I learned that specialty shoppers are much smarter than the people who just walk into a store and buy the first thing they see. I know that makes me sound like kind of a snob but that's the way it is." - *Lisa Brown, Arlington, Texas*

"I think what I learned is that you can pretty much skate by if you get a job at a large retail place. I used to work at a big clothing chain when I was in high school and we would hire extra people for the holidays and they would just sort of stand there pretending to fold clothes for an hour or two. I always would make it a point to go up to them and give them some awful job, like clean out the dressing rooms or take out the cardboard for recycling when it was 10 below outside. I learned that if you're hired to do a job, then do the job." - *Sam Farrell, Racine, Wisconsin*

"One of the biggest lessons I ever learned while working was there doesn't really need to be a pecking order when it comes to getting the work done. I worked at a bookstore in Hollywood for Christmas break when I was in college and the managers at this particular store were incredibly helpful. They didn't wait for the lines to get out of hand at the register or they didn't walk past book displays that were just decimated by customers. They fixed things.

It was interesting as a 20-year-old student majoring in business to watch a guy in his 40s or 50s who had a decent job and was making a decent amount of money getting on his hands and knees to pick up books. Most managers, whether they are in a corporate office or in a store, have this glass tower approach to their jobs. They constantly hand down other responsibilities to their underlings. Watching those guys do all that work — that was an eye-opener for me. I had so much respect for them and I realized that one day when I became a manager, that's the approach I would take to my job." - *Sarah Bulich, Los Angeles*

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POWERFUL PEER

YOU CAN LEARN A LOT FROM RESPECTED CO-WORKERS

Chris Silbar remembers being in awe of one of his co-workers at his first job. "When I say it out loud, it sounds like I was a stalker, but I wasn't," says the 42-year-old Dallas resident, who has worked in sales "up and down the supply chain" in construction materials. "I was this kid out of school, and he was very smooth, very professional, but not in a slick, creepy salesman way. He was really effective."

Silbar says he observed his company's star sales rep from afar, all the while noticing that another one of his co-workers was going out to lunch with the star rep and spending most mornings talking about the Dallas Cowboys with him over coffee.

"I was kind of jealous," Silbar says. "I mean, this other guy started killing it in sales, and I was just meeting my quota. Finally, when layoffs came, he got promoted and I was sent packing."

Silbar says that's when he realized his promoted pal was learning from the master.

"We had this great teacher right in front of us, and I was like this shy little kid," he says. "After that, I realized I would take my lessons when and where I'd get them."

You may have a co-worker who has set himself or herself apart from the others in the office but you can't quite pinpoint how or why. If you'd like to learn more and possibly work some of those same strategies into your own approach to the job, it's possible to learn from your peers in ways that won't seem strange, obsessive or worthy of an eventual guest spot on "Dr. Phil."

1. Watch and learn

If there's someone in another department who seems to be valued by her managers and respected by her peers, observe her words and actions to assess what makes her so important to the team. Granted, you won't be able to gather every possible piece of information on your esteemed co-worker, but you can tell a lot about a person by her demeanor.

2. Ask around

What exactly is it about that employee you admire that's so special? You may have your own opinions, but talk to other people as well. Of course, you don't want to come across as a stalker, but if you have even adequate conversation skills, you'll be able to bring up the person you're trying to

emulate in ways that will allow others to chime in with their assessments. Even something as innocuous as "Joe seems like a good guy" could elicit a telling response. Just don't expect everyone to share your admiration. You may come across some people who either don't know much about Joe or have no desire to spread his popularity.

3. Get in on the action

In some cases, it can be easy to find ways to work with the rising stars of the office, especially if they're in your department. It may be a matter of asking to be placed on a project that could help sharpen your skills in other areas of your work. Your boss will probably appreciate the fact that you've taken some initiative to improve your skills and may find other projects where you can help.

Once you've been assigned to work with someone, watch what they do, listen to how they speak to others and observe the way they handle mundane tasks and difficult issues. If you can't work with the people you admire in a departmental way, keep your ears open for companywide projects. Even serving on a United Way committee with someone or helping them set up lunchtime speakers can provide valuable insight into what makes an employee especially effective.

4. Compare and contrast

One of the most effective ways to assess your prowess at work is to note what others do well and compare it to your own skills. Are you a reactionary hothead compared with the calm problem-solver? Are you strolling into the office each day at 9:30 or 10:00 when it's clear that others are already past their morning gossip session? Assess what you do right and wrong and make the appropriate changes.

5. Ask for assistance

People enjoy knowing that others value their work, and in most cases, they like talking about how they approach their jobs. If you have a commonality or have recently worked together on a project, ask your co-worker to lunch. Tell him or her you admire how they work and that you'd like to get some insight into what they do and why they do it. Career books can be helpful, but they can't compare with a little one-on-one interaction. It may be intimidating to take that step, but if you want to learn about your co-worker, you'll need to spend some time learning from that co-worker.

— Marco Buscaglia, *Careers*



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You may have a co-worker who has set himself or herself apart from the others in the office but you can't quite pinpoint how or why. If you'd like to learn more and possibly work some of those same strategies into your own approach to the job, read these tips.

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GM Hahn calls Alonso trade strictly a 'baseball deal.' [Page 9](#)

Chicago Tribune
CHICAGO SPORTS

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

BEARS

Matt Nagy & the Gadget Factory

From 'Willy Wonka' to 'Oompa Loompa' to 'Freezer Left' to 'Santa's Sleigh,' coach's trick plays are giving the Bears more than just points on the scoreboard

By **RICH CAMPBELL** | Chicago Tribune

Dirty diapers don't wait for Daddy to score a touchdown, especially when Daddy is a backup offensive tackle.

So when the Bears-Rams field-goal fest Sunday night at Soldier Field mercifully reached halftime, Brad Sowell's wife, Jessica, took their 5-month-old son from the stands down to the Bears family room to freshen him up.

Thank goodness there was a TV in there.

She was able to see her husband make a leaping touchdown catch on the latest gadget play dialed up by first-year coach Matt Nagy, a play called "Santa's Sleigh" that also included four defensive linemen in the formation.

She was able to see Brad — all 6-foot-7 and 312 pounds of him — do the touchdown dance he practiced with their 5- and 6-year-old daughters in their Chicago hotel room that afternoon.

It was an unforgettable moment for Sowell and his family, while the Bears got six points they needed in a 15-6 win that solidified

Turn to **Bears, Page 4**

GAME 14 | Packers at Bears

Noon Sunday, FOX-32

- Biggs: Best bet is to make Trubisky a game manager. [Page 3](#)
- Three keys, Fill in the Blank and staff predictions. [Back Page](#)

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PHIL ROSENTHAL

This fan's sideshow sidelined

This Bears' court fight with a Packers backer who wants to wear his team's garb on the field before Sunday's game at Soldier Field isn't about football or preserving some perceived competitive advantage.

It's show biz, baby. Imagine you've won a charity auction and paid to be an extra in the musical "Hamilton." Insist on wearing a 1970s pastel leisure suit in the background rather than the expected Revolutionary War costume, and you've thrown away your shot.

Producers will tell you politely but firmly that what may pass for a fashion statement in the seats is disruptive on stage — and it's their show, not yours.

The Bears are working from a similar playbook here. They prevailed this week in federal court to keep Packers fan Russell Beckman from wearing his green-and-gold gear during pregame festivities on the field because it's their pageant, not the fans'.

The case, filed last year after Beckman was denied field access in 2016, may remain in play. But Beckman was unable to get a temporary restraining order and injunction that would have had allowed him on the field before Sunday's game.

Bears season ticket holders can use loyalty points to effectively buy their way onto the turf before a game. The Bears, however, have the right to control everything from your conduct to your attire because they have a show they're trying to produce and you're just a background player.

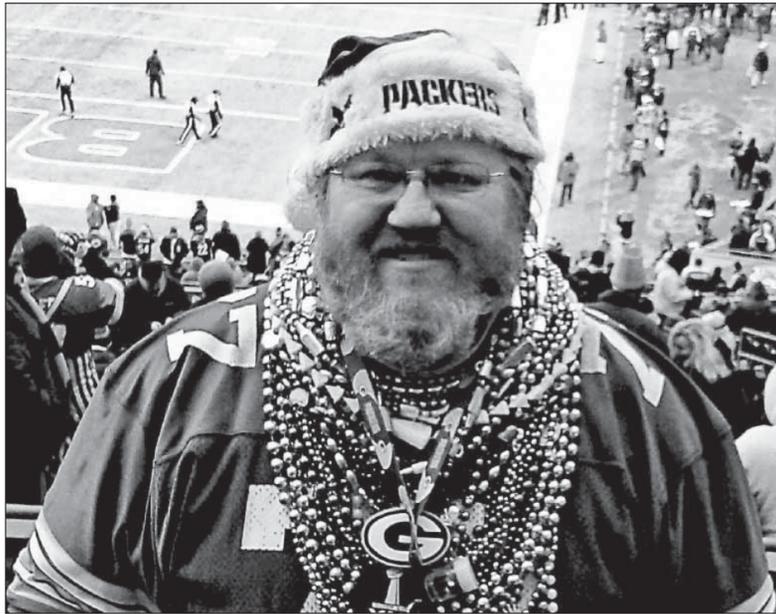
It seems a bit silly juxtaposed with the macho marketing of pro football, but the Bears are trying to create a mood. From the time gates open and players come out of the locker room to warm up all the way to kickoff, everything is timed out and choreographed.

So there's the video Dick Butkus narrates that makes Bears football seem like the Greatest Generation waging World War II to save democracy.

There's smoke and fireworks, the rollout of absurdly large flags and military flyovers during the national anthem.

You buy a ticket to a game, you're a spectator. Cheer for whomever you want. Paint your face. Doff your shirt. Wear what you wish.

But step on the field — whether you're



RUSSELL BECKMAN

A court ruled Russell Beckman cannot wear his Packers gear on the Soldier Field sideline.

paying for the privilege, someone's guest or working — and you're part of the show.

The fans helping with the flags, as well as standing around the periphery of the field, wear Bears blue and orange or neutral colors to blend together as a group in the background.

"Being on the opposing team's sideline implies an association with the opposing team while standing in the end zone mere feet away from Bears players warming up suggests to the average football fan something much more out of place," U.S. Judge Joan Gottschall wrote in rejecting Beckman's request.

Even if all the world's a stage, there are some places you can be told what costumes you must wear.

This isn't Elaine Benes of "Seinfeld" raising hackles by sitting in George Steinbrenner's box seats at a Yankees game in her Orioles hat. Unless explicitly banned, that may be an etiquette faux pas at worst.

This would be akin to Kramer of "Seinfeld" jumping into the fountain to splash around with Ross, Rachel and the rest of

the "Friends" gang in their opening credits, so that the audience is distracted by the discordant weirdness of it all well into the first commercial break.

If you buy similar on-field access with a college sports team — such as at the University of Wisconsin — officials not only are apt to restrict the colors you wear, they may crack down on flashing rival sports-gear logos.

Nike garb often doesn't fly at a school under contract with Under Armour or Adidas.

Even attire aligned with the school can get you in trouble.

Picture the reaction from University of Illinois officials if some fan wanted to go on the field during pregame dressed up as discarded mascot Chief Illiniwek.

On the field — even on the sidelines, even if you paid to be there — it's the players who are supposed to stand out, not the extras.

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BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Stadium dining not without risk

Going to a sporting event can carry an inherent risk: You leave happy if your team wins; you leave disappointed if it loses.

Or, according to an ESPN "Outside the Lines" report, you could leave sick.

ESPN reviewed more than 16,000 food-safety inspection reports from 2016 and 2017 for the 111 professional football, baseball, basketball and hockey venues in North America. The study found that at "28 percent of the venues, half or more of the food-service outlets incurred a high-level violation — one that poses a potential threat for food-borne illness."

Among Chicago's venues, Soldier Field fared the worst, ranking 91st with 59.2 percent of high-level violations per inspection. Guaranteed Rate Field was next at 87th with a 55.8 percent rate, while Wrigley Field was 47th at 30.77 percent. The United Center had the best rating in Chicago at 11th with a 10 percent violation rate.

Overall, the sites with the worst rates were: the Spectrum Center in Charlotte, N.C. (92 percent); Palace of Auburn Hills near Detroit, since closed, (86.1 percent); American Airlines Center in Dallas, (83.1 percent); and Bank of America Stadium in Charlotte (82.6 percent).

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, according to ESPN's story, estimates that 48 million people get sick, 128,000 are hospitalized and 3,000 die from foodborne disease each year in the U.S. In 2017, Sports Illustrated did a similar study of food safety at Major League Baseball stadiums. Wrigley Field was ranked eighth safest and Guaranteed Rate 18th.

—Chicago Tribune

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BEARS



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

After Mitch Trubisky threw his third interception against the Rams on Sunday, the Bears called only one more pass play the rest of the game.

Mitch the manager

As playoffs draw near, let defense win games, ask less of Trubisky



BRAD BIGGS
On the Bears

With the Bears closing in on their first NFC North title in eight years, it's worth wondering if the time has come for coach Matt Nagy to push the pause button on Mitch Trubisky's development and essentially make him a game manager for the remainder of the season.

The Bears would clinch the division and a playoff berth with a victory over the Packers on Sunday at Soldier Field, and with the defense surging after a 15-6 upset of the Rams last week, Nagy could play to his team's strength with the idea that defenses win championships. Look no further than last year's Eagles for proof of that.

It's possible Nagy already started the process against the Rams. After Trubisky's third interception, which set up the Rams at the Bears 27-yard line with 3:58 remaining in the third quarter, the defense responded with an immediate takeaway to preserve the nine-point lead. From there, Nagy went conservative. The Bears ran 12 offensive plays before two kneel-downs at the end: nine designed runs, two handoffs on run-pass options and one called pass that turned into a Trubisky scramble on third-and-6.

The defense was throttling quarterback Jared Goff and the Rams offense, field position was paramount and Trubisky's throws were off the mark. He explained this week how he was out of sorts in his 23rd career start after missing two weeks with a right shoulder injury. He didn't blame rust or any lingering shoulder issues.

"I was just excited to be back out there with my guys," he said. "I was focused on the wrong things — trying to make big plays and trying to do too much. I should have had a more focused mind-set of, OK, I just need to do my job. I need to find completions. I need to catch the snap, do my footwork and get the ball to

BEARS SCOUTING REPORT PACKERS RB AARON JONES

Information for this report was obtained from NFL scouts.

Aaron Jones (5-foot-9, 208 pounds) is in his second season with the Packers, who drafted him in the fifth round in 2017 out of UTEP. Despite not getting a solid workload until Week 8, Jones leads the team with 720 rushing yards and eight touchdowns.

Jones ranks third in the NFL in yards per carry at 5.6, and his best game came in a Nov. 11 victory over the Dolphins in which he rushed for 145 yards and two touchdowns. He tied a season high last week with 17 carries in a win over the Falcons and has a rushing touchdown in five consecutive games, two shy of the franchise record set by Hall of Famer Paul Hornung in 1960. The Bears' second-ranked run defense has allowed only four rushing touchdowns through 13 games.

"He is probably the best back they have had in a while, and that's why it is surprising he didn't get more volume (carries) earlier," the scout said. "Going back to last year, I don't think he was very good in pass protection, and that might have been a reason he wasn't getting as much work earlier in the year once he came off the (two-game) suspension. But there is no question about his ability. He runs with speed through the hole, and the thing that jumps out is he runs with exceptional balance. I'm talking about the point of contact, when his shoulders are square and he has to push through contact, he is a strong finisher. That also allows him to slip tackles and tack on extra yardage. Very good vision, and that's valuable because he's not going to hesitate very often. He's going to make a cut and can get downhill in the power game, but he's at his best as a zone runner, and that's where his vision and that slashing, one-cut ability come into play.

"He's not a dynamic receiver but he can catch the ball out of the backfield. He needs a big opportunity to really get going. He needs the Packers to invest in him for the future in terms of touches. Looking ahead to 2019, he should be the featured back because they can win with him. If he stays healthy and they commit to him, he's no doubt a 1,000-yard guy and can help you a little out of the backfield. He should have 15 to 20 touches a game, and with Aaron Rodgers 35 (years old), maybe lean on the run a little more. It all depends on who they hire as a coach, who the coordinator is. Look at the top quarterbacks: Drew Brees has an excellent run game. Philip Rivers has an excellent run game. Tom Brady, they've done much more run-heavy personnel groupings in New England this year and they got a first-round running back as well. Jones can be a good player but they've got to commit to him a little more."

my playmakers rather than being too amped up about being out there with my guys and trying to make all-world plays."

The Bears don't need "all-world plays" from Trubisky to win. When he plays with better composure and takes advantage of his athleticism, he does just fine. While the label "game manager" can have a negative connotation, implying he isn't a playmaker, Trubisky has shown at times he can be a dynamic performer.

But with an elite defense that is third in runs allowed, second versus the run and third on third down, the Bears can't be blind to their strength. That doesn't mean the long-term vision of Trubisky as a top-tier quarterback has expired. It's about maximizing the potential of this season after proving they can

soundly defeat the team with the NFC's best record.

The Bears lead the NFL with 34 takeaways and are 10 away from their best seasons under Lovie Smith (44 in 2006 and 2012). But they also have 21 turnovers, tied for seventh-most. Trubisky has two touchdown passes and five interceptions in his last two games, and winning a playoff game, particularly on the road, would be difficult with another three-pick outing.

Nagy has to find the balance between not affecting Trubisky's confidence and the march toward the postseason and featuring a running game that produced a season-high 194 yards against the Rams. That can be a fine line, and if the Bears clinch a playoff spot Sunday, they could turn it loose the next week in San Francisco. But if you're going to lean

more on a running game that has been sporadic, maybe it's best to find a groove.

While prioritizing field position, it's a great time to ask Trubisky to stay within himself with an eye toward eliminating dangerous throws. As optimistic as the Bears are about Trubisky's progress and career arc, and as involved as everyone is in his development, you also have to understand what you have. Did Nagy stumble across the recipe for playoff success against the Rams, a team the Bears could meet again in the postseason?

The Bears threw a ton at Trubisky as they installed the offense this season, determining what worked and what didn't the only way you can: through trial and error. Now they need to home in on what works best.

"We don't want to put him in a position where we're running some plays in the pass game or run game where there's a little gray," Nagy said. "And right now with where he's at, if there's gray then I feel like that's on the coaches. We want it to be black and white, nice and clean, so he can play fast.

"That's one of the neat parts of us molding into our identity in this offense is learning. So that's going to take some time and we're getting there, but there are so many variables that go into the offensive play. You take that now and you take it into our defense in a game like that. I need to do my job of making sure of, regardless of who the quarterback is, knowing the situation that we don't put our defense, as good as they were playing, in a bad position."

There's an in-game balance as Nagy attempts to find a rhythm, and it will be interesting to see his game plan for the Packers given last week's results.

"Every play matters," offensive coordinator Mark Helfrich said. "Every play is important and you don't know if that third down in the second quarter is going to decide the game. You don't stop the game and say: 'Hey, guys, this is it right here. It's going to be a turnover and you have to do the right thing.'

"Certainly you're going to play through your QB — what he has confidence in, his mind-set, all those things. Then you have to play with the pieces around him."

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Playoff picture

Here's the full Week 15 playoff picture in the NFC and a guide to games that affect the Bears.

NFC standings

(Top two seeds get first-round byes; division winners are top four seeds; seeds 5 and 6 are the wild-card teams)

- 1 Saints (11-2) at Panthers
- 2 Rams (11-2) vs. Eagles
- 3 Bears (9-4) vs. Packers
- 4 Cowboys (8-5) at Colts
- 5 Seahawks (8-5) at 49ers
- 6 Vikings (6-6-1) vs. Dolphins

IN THE HUNT

7. Panthers (6-7) vs. Saints
8. Eagles (6-7) at Rams
9. Redskins (6-7) at Jaguars

NFC scenarios

BEARS: Would clinch the NFC North title with: 1. Win OR 2. Vikings loss OR 3. Tie PLUS Vikings tie

Would clinch a playoff berth with: 1. Tie OR 2. Redskins loss or tie.

SAINTS: Already clinched NFC South title. Would clinch first-round bye with: 1. Win PLUS Bears loss or tie OR 2. Tie PLUS Bears loss

RAMS: Already clinched NFC West title. Would clinch first-round bye with: 1. Win PLUS Bears loss or tie OR 2. Tie PLUS Bears loss

COWBOYS: Would clinch NFC East title with: 1. Win OR 2. Tie PLUS Eagles loss or tie PLUS Redskins loss or tie OR 3. Eagles loss PLUS Redskins loss

SEAHAWKS: Would clinch playoff berth with: 1. Win OR 2. Tie PLUS Vikings loss PLUS Panthers loss or tie OR 3. Tie PLUS Vikings loss PLUS Eagles loss or tie PLUS Redskins loss or tie OR 4. Tie PLUS Panthers loss or tie PLUS Eagles loss or tie PLUS Redskins loss or tie

Scoreboard watching

Dolphins at Vikings, Sunday, noon: If the Vikings lose, the Bears would clinch the NFC North title regardless of their result against the Packers.

Redskins at Jaguars, Sunday, noon: If the Redskins lose, the Bears would clinch at least a wild-card berth regardless of their result against the Packers.

Rams vs. Eagles, Sunday, 7:20 p.m.: The focus here is on the Rams (The Bears already have clinched a tiebreaker over the Eagles by virtue of a superior record against NFC opponents, 7-2 to 4-6). The Bears still could catch the Rams for the No. 2 seed and first-round bye. A Bears win over the Packers and Rams loss Sunday night would raise the stakes for the final two games of the season.

Cowboys at Colts, Sunday, noon: The Cowboys probably are going to win the NFC East, so this game is about playoff seeding. The Bears lead the Cowboys for the No. 3 seed by one game, and, given how the conference is stacked, I see significant advantages to being seeded third instead of fourth. The Seahawks have won four straight and are streaking toward the No. 5 seed. The third-seeded team would avoid them in the first round and instead play whatever team hobbles into the No. 6 seed, likely the Vikings, Panthers or Eagles. That's a long way of saying the Bears would benefit from breathing room resulting from a Cowboys loss.

Saints at Panthers, Monday, 7:15 p.m.: If you think the Bears could erase the Saints' two-game lead to secure a first-round bye, root for the Panthers. If you want the Panthers to beat out the Vikings for the final playoff spot, root for the Panthers. If you'd prefer the Bears to play the Vikings in the 3-versus-6 wild-card game, root for the Saints.

Seahawks at 49ers, Sunday, 3:05 p.m.: This game doesn't really affect the Bears, but the Seahawks are worth monitoring as a potential wild-card opponent in a No. 4-versus-No. 5 scenario. Since leaving Soldier Field after their Week 2 loss, they've lost to only two teams: the Rams and Chargers. Their defense suddenly looks dangerous again.

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BEARS



BRIAN CASSELLA / CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Reserve offensive lineman Brad Sowell (79) and his Bears teammates celebrate his touchdown catch against the Rams last Sunday on a play called "Santa's Sleigh."

Trick plays go beyond points

Bears, from Page 1

their playoff chances.

But there's more to it. As Nagy has dug into his bag of tricks, guided by a mix of panache and bravado, the Bears are realizing a value in them that exceeds points on the scoreboard. Call it team chemistry or morale or excitement that breaks up the grind of a long season.

"This is a little kid's game blown up on a bigger stage, and these plays make it fun," Sowell said. "It actually keeps you in it because you come in here like, 'Oh, boy, I can't wait to see who's about to get the unlikely play this week.'"

This, of course, is all by design. Nagy decided long ago that when he became a head coach, he would try to energize his team with gadget plays, some of which deploy unconventional personnel. Use a defensive end as a running back. Put two quarterbacks in the backfield for a forward-toss play. Have three players touch the football before throwing it.

Let the players name them, like "Freezer Left," "Willy Wonka" and "Oompa Loompa." Not by chance did all three plays result in touchdowns.

Success with style — this, we've come to realize during the Bears turnaround, is the essence of Matt Nagy.

"You see the excitement on the players," Nagy said. "I don't know ... if they think, 'This coach is crazy,' or if they think that, 'No, this is pretty good.' But ... if you have a 'why' behind why you do it, then it makes sense."

By now, this is no fluke. Players, fans and, most important, the opposing defense are left to wonder what's coming next.

Whatever Nagy dials up Sunday against the Packers could help complete the Bears' run to the NFC North title. The coach and several team members hinted that new tricks have been crafted for this potentially historic game.

The Packers should consider themselves warned.

A beautiful, open mind

Come to think of it, though, the Packers already know. They were the first to learn.

On Sept. 9 at Lambeau Field, Nagy's first play call of the season was "Papa Bear Left." This quarterback-centric coach introduced himself to Chicago and the NFL with a T-formation run that doubled as a tip of the cap to George Halas.

It also gained 7 yards. That's no footnote. It's a crucial reminder that these plays are much more fun when they work. They're more effective when they're effective.

"You've got to make sure it's something that you feel like can be worthwhile and not foolish," Nagy said. "There's that balance there."

He calls it the "why" behind a play. As Nagy conceives them, they're rooted in a player's skill or trait that gives the Bears an advantage. There's more venom in these plays than simply getting a defense to ask, "What the heck?" when four defensive linemen jog onto the field.

It's the difference between gimmickry and gadgetry. Or, as Nagy explained, it's what differentiates a sound play call and design from one a critic might pan as being too cute.

"That's the key — there's right and wrong times to do it, no doubt about it," he said. "If we feel like it's the right time, we're going to do it."

Take Sowell's third-and-goal catch, for example. He's one of five brothers in a family that didn't have much money growing up in Hernando, Miss., near Memphis, Tenn. Their daily entertainment consisted of playing some type of ball.

"Every one of my brothers and myself all have this crazy ability to throw and catch,"



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Defensive lineman Akiem Hicks bulls across for a TD on a play called "Freezer Left."

he explained. "I don't even really need it at this point as an O-lineman."

Until he did. Nagy's mind is perpetually loaded with kindling. All it needs is a match. One ignited when Nagy noticed Sowell's hands during his pregame routine of playing catch with Khalil Mack.

And that's just one instance. Offensive coordinator Mark Helfrich, whom Nagy hired for his strategic prowess, quickly came to appreciate how Nagy's creative fire burns.

"Once we start talking about one thing, it kind of dovetails or offshoots into a million other possibilities," Helfrich said. "It's usually him going, 'How about this?' And then two hours later it's, 'Wait, how about this?' And it's completely different — and good."

The range of possibilities is wider because of Nagy's background in the Arena Football League, where many players play on both sides of the ball.

As Nagy points out, most NFL players were stars on their high school teams, and many played both ways. So when he had defensive lineman Roy Robertson-Harris run a drag route as the second read on the pass to Sowell, it's not as though Robertson-Harris was doing something foreign. He was a tight end in high school.

"You tell me to line up on the line and run a route, it's not rocket science," Robertson-Harris said. "It's football."

The simplicity is part of the brilliance. Because now there are at least a dozen legitimate candidates for Nagy to grab out of a defensive meeting room and work into the offense. It's Nagy's version of "The Price Is Right" at Halas Hall.

Eddie Jackson, come on down! You're the next contestant...

"He'll use any guy in this locker room," Sowell said. "He just wants to score the points. You show him you can do something, and he'll have 100 percent confidence in you."

The most fun

Sowell went to breakfast early Sunday at the team hotel near Soldier Field. One of the first people he saw was Nagy.

"Be ready," Nagy told him. "It's prime time, and the play is up."

Sowell gave the thumbs up. But internally he doubted Nagy would rely on a play-action pass to a backup tackle using three defensive linemen as decoys. Especially not on national TV in a playoff race. Plus — if you can believe it — the Bears had not practiced the play at full speed against a defense.

It was part of the previous Friday's practice script, but Nagy nixed it when the NBC crew arrived to watch practice (a courtesy commonly offered to broadcast crews but no other media). He refused to risk tipping his hand.

Players, however, know the success of a play depends on its details. And the likelihood of error increases with guys in unusual roles. So they stayed after practice and walked through the play several times.

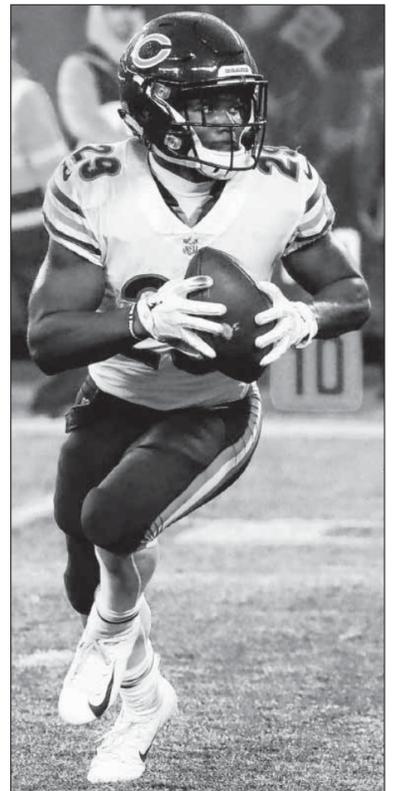
The fake handoff to defensive end Akiem Hicks was critical to allowing Sowell to slip out into a pass route. Given that Hicks scored on a handoff Dec. 2 against the Giants, he was bound to command the defense's attention if he properly sold the run fake.

The key? Left arm up in pretending to accept the ball. "I had double-digit reps," Hicks recalled with a smile.

Sowell knew he needed to delay his release a split-second longer than he did on the ill-fated pass attempt to him on Oct. 21. The Patriots covered that one too well.

The disappointment of that play stuck with Sowell enough that he didn't even tell his parents "Santa's Sleigh" was ready for takeoff against the Rams.

No wonder, then, that Sowell's father was almost asleep on his couch in Hernando when the Bears had third-and-goal from the 2 on their opening possession of the



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

RB Tarik Cohen sets to pass to Anthony Miller on a play called "Oompa Loompa."

second half.

Five of the world's least aerodynamic reindeer trotted onto the field, making a beeline to the referee to declare themselves eligible receivers.

Meanwhile, as fans double-checked their eyes, the buzz in the stadium crescendoed. NBC analyst Cris Collinsworth was surprised, too, exclaiming: "They've got all kinds of defensive players in the game right now!"

Seconds later, Sowell was dancing. Wiggling his knees, first with his right arm out in front of him, then with the left, then again with the right. His daughters had wanted him to do The Floss, but he didn't quite get it down enough to unveil it on national TV.

"Oooooowie!" Mack said afterward. "My dawg Bradley got the sweetest hands on the team, man!"

As Sowell's teammates mobbed him, Nagy showed no expression as he held up one finger. The Bears would kick the extra point.

"They're not all going to work," he said. "There's going to be some where I'm going to be standing up here and you (media) are going to be saying, 'You're an idiot!' But that's inevitable. I'll accept that."

Sowell was named one of the players of the game by NBC's "Sunday Night Football" telecast. His on-field postgame interview aired for his deliriously disbelieving dad and the rest of the country to see.

"Whenever you have a special season, there's always special stuff that happens," Sowell said Wednesday after it all sank in. "The whole story of this season is going to be special, and this is just going to be one of those parts of it."

That feeling can't be bought in free agency or drafted in the first round. The new coach has cultivated it.

"He has been the most fun coach I've ever played for," Robertson-Harris said. And Sowell?

"I would do anything for Nagy," he said. There are more of the first-place Bears who feel that way.

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BEARS



NFC FROM A TO Z

49ers
George Kittle has 1,103 receiving yards, a record for 49ers TEs and second most at his position in the NFL this season. The Chiefs' Travis Kelce has 1,159.

Bears
They lead the NFL in turnover differential at plus-13 and interceptions with 25. LB Khalil Mack is tied for the league lead with six forced fumbles.

Buccaneers
In the last three weeks they have forced 10 turnovers, including seven INTs, after going seven games without a take-away on defense.

Cardinals
Rookie Josh Rosen completed a career-high 26 passes against the Lions last week after going three games with 12 or fewer completions.

Cowboys
Amari Cooper's 642 receiving yards in six games is more than any player during that stretch. His 217 vs. the Eagles were a career high.

Eagles
Nelson Agholor returns to the Coliseum, where he played for USC and also set his pro-career high with eight catches vs. the Rams last season.

Falcons
Julio Jones is the first player with 1,400 receiving yards for five straight seasons. He needs 443 in three games to break his 2015 career high of 1,871.

Giants
Alec Ogletree has four interceptions in the last four games and five overall. The sixth-year linebacker had six career picks entering the season.

Lions
Matthew Stafford has 3,187 passing yards through 13 games. He hasn't finished with fewer than 4,000 since playing in only three games in 2010.

Packers
They are 0-6 on the road but this week play the Bears at Soldier Field, where Aaron Rodgers and company have won eight straight.

Panthers
If they win out, the Panthers will have back-to-back winning seasons for the first time in their 24-year history. They are 6-7 after going 11-5 in 2017.

Rams
Todd Gurley has 1,203 rushing yards and needs 103 for a career high. He's seven TDs from Marshall Faulk's record of 26, set in 2000.

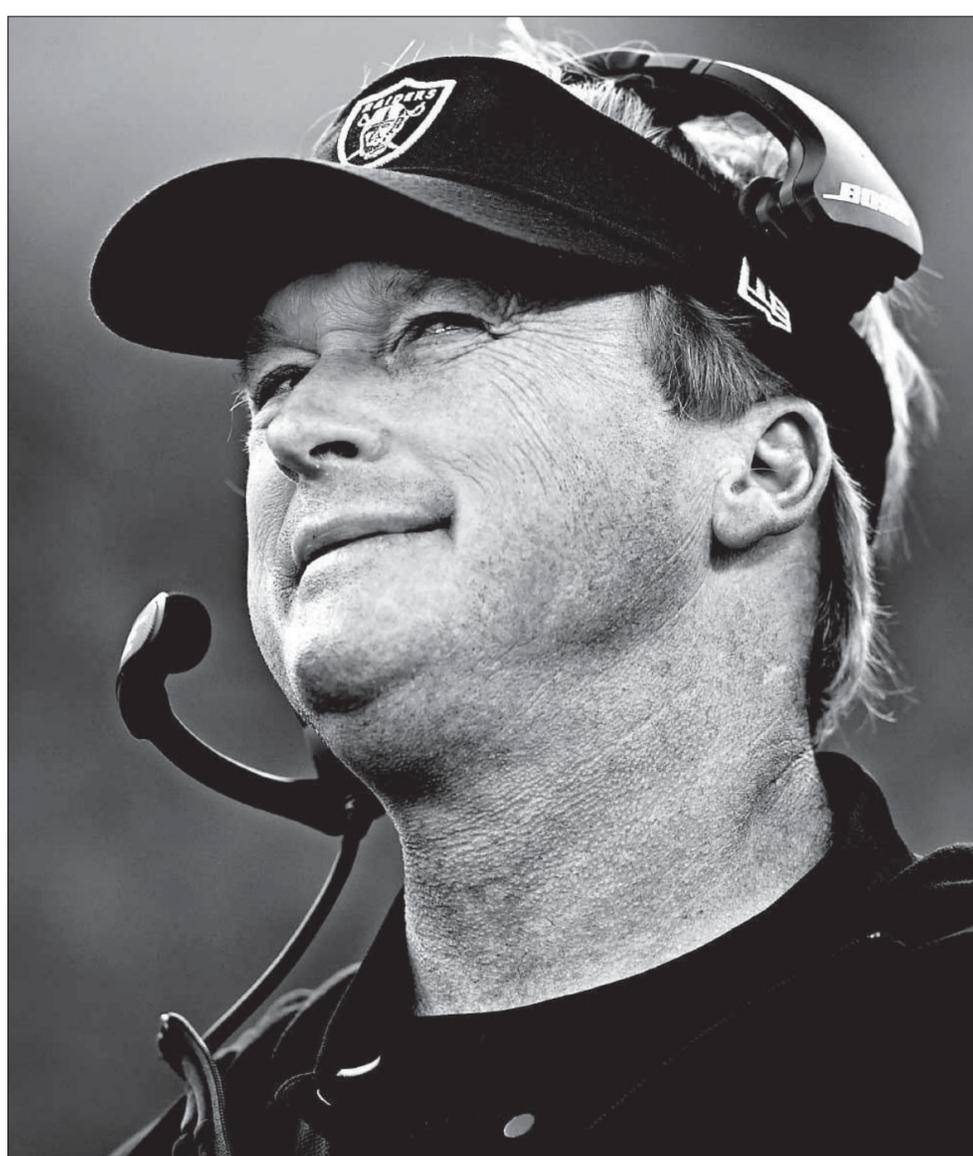
Redskins
Ryan Kerrigan leads the team with nine sacks. He had four the last time he played this week's opponent, the Jaguars.

Saints
Michael Thomas has 298 catches in his first three seasons, an NFL record. Odell Beckham Jr. and Jarvis Landry held the previous mark of 288.

Seahawks
Michael Thomas has 298 catches in his first three seasons, an NFL record. Odell Beckham Jr. and Jarvis Landry held the previous mark of 288.

Vikings
Adam Thielen had 100 receiving yards or more in each of the first eight games. He has reached that mark once in the last five.

— Los Angeles Times



GAIL BURTON/AP

The Raiders lured Jon Gruden out of the broadcast booth with a reported 10-year, \$100-million deal.

He's in control — for better or worse

Gruden created 2 playoff teams in his return — but neither is the Raiders

By MARK MASKE
Washington Post

As the NFL season winds down and Jon Gruden's first year back in coaching comes to a close, the Raiders still matter. Unfortunately for them, it's for all the wrong reasons.

"We're 3-10," the Raiders' Mark Davis said at this week's owners meeting in Dallas, "but for some reason we're still relevant."

The Raiders still matter because they, along with the league and its 31 other franchises, were sued this week by the city of Oakland, which is seeking damages and alleging that the team's pending move to Las Vegas violates antitrust laws.

The Raiders still matter because, even in mid-December, no one seems to have any idea where they'll be playing next season.

The Raiders still matter because the two standout players they traded this year, pass rusher Khalil Mack and wide receiver Amari Cooper, have helped their new teams, the Bears and Cowboys, become playoff-bound NFC heavyweights.

They still matter because they just fired their general manager, Reggie McKenzie, in a move that made official what was already apparent: Gruden has the power on the football side of the operation. And that's important because it's clear Gruden, and probably Gruden alone, will decide what to do with the trio of first-round picks that the Raiders possess in the 2019 draft, including one from the Bears in the Mack trade and one from the Cowboys in the Cooper deal.

Is Gruden having that kind of authority over the roster a good thing for the Raiders? Davis handed Gruden a 10-year contract

worth an estimated \$100 million to leave ESPN's "Monday Night Football" broadcast booth and return to the sideline. And while the intensity and the trademark "Chucky" grimace have remained the same, little else that Gruden has done this season has been reminiscent of the Super Bowl-winning coach he once was.

Asked this week to evaluate Gruden's first season, Davis said: "It's not over."

Technically, that's true. The Raiders have three games left beginning Sunday against the Bengals in Cincinnati. They actually are coming off their best victory of the season, an improbable triumph over the Steelers at home last Sunday.

But the competitive portion of the Raiders' season ended long ago, amid their 1-8 start. That raised questions about whether Gruden, who last coached in the NFL with the 2008 Buccaneers, still had it.

The decisions to trade Mack and Cooper certainly haven't helped. Mack, a former NFL defensive player of the year, is the centerpiece of a superb Bears defense that has them atop the NFC North. Cooper, a two-time Pro Bowl performer for the Raiders, has been a key part of the Cowboys' turnaround that has them leading the NFC East.

Maybe the Raiders were, as they have said, unable to meet Mack's contract demands. Perhaps Cooper simply did not fit into Gruden's offense, as Davis suggested last week. Cooper said publicly that Davis was behind the trade with the Cowboys. But would Davis have overruled his \$100 million coach if Gruden really had wanted to keep Cooper? That seems implausible. Whatever the case, the Raiders now are in the position of having to hit — and hit big — on their first-round picks just to break even. And it is Gruden who will make the calls.

"One of the issues we have right now is that when you're dealing with player personnel and general managers, they're on a different schedule than the football team is," Davis said of the Raiders' GM search. "The general manager's season ends basically in April and May, after they've drafted the players and gone through the first series of free agency. So right now there are a lot of people that are on other teams that may be suitable for the Raiders. But we can't talk to them until May or so. So we're limited to talking to people who are not on other teams or in the college ranks or something of that nature."

Of the decision fire McKenzie, Davis said: "I don't want to get into the decision-making process. I'm so grateful for everything he's done for our organization. He came into a very tough situation and was very unselfish, didn't make the quick moves or things that could have maybe looked good for the short term. He tried to create a long-term plan. He really did a really good job of getting the (salary) cap and everything in good (shape). I can't say enough about him."

The Raiders are engulfed in uncertainty. There is no way of knowing at this point whether the Christmas Eve game against the Broncos will be their final game in Oakland. Davis did not rule out playing another season in Oakland, even with the lawsuit, before the move to Vegas in 2020. But he also did not rule out playing in San Diego, Santa Clara, Calif., San Antonio or a temporary site in Las Vegas.

And wherever they play, there is no way of knowing whether the team the Raiders put on the field will be any better than this season's version.

In Gruden they trust? The Raiders don't have any other choice at this point, do they?

NFL ROUNDUP

Hopkins' late TD ruins Darnold's day

Associated Press

Deshaun Watson threw a 14-yard touchdown pass to DeAndre Hopkins with 2 minutes, 15 seconds left, lifting the Texans to a 29-22 comeback victory over the Jets on Saturday in East Rutherford, N.J.

After Sam Darnold and Jets took their first lead of the game on Elijah McGuire's 2-yard touchdown run, Watson and the Texans (10-4) answered right back.

Watson completed passes of 20 and 3 yards to Demaryius Thomas and 7 yards to Hopkins to get to the Jets 14. Watson then found Hopkins

down the left sideline and launched a pass that the receiver somehow came down with despite Morris Claiborne tightly covering him.

Watson finished 22 of 28 for 294 yards and two touchdowns to Hopkins, who caught 10 passes for 170 yards.

Darnold was 24 of 38 for 253 yards and two touchdowns. Henry Anderson had three of the Jets' six sacks.

Browns 17, Broncos 16: In Englewood, Colo., Baker Mayfield capitalized on the Broncos' depleted cornerback corps and dubious deci-

sions, keeping alive the Browns' slim hopes of ending the NFL's longest playoff drought.

Mayfield's 2-yard touchdown toss to Antonio Calloway with just less than 12 minutes left provided the winning margin for the Browns (6-7-1), who snapped an 11-game skid to the Broncos. Mayfield was 18-for-31 for 188 yards with two touchdowns and an interception.

Improving to 3-28 on the road over four seasons, the Browns still have a shot at their first winning season since 2007 and first playoff berth since 2002 thanks to their first win in the series since 1990.



AFC FROM A TO Z

Bengals
Second-year RB Joe Mixon had a career-high 31 touches last week. He carried the ball or was the intended receiver on 10 of the first 13 plays.

Bills
Josh Allen is the first QB in the Super Bowl era with back-to-back 100-yard rushing games and the only QB to run for 90 yards three games in a row.

Broncos
Bradley Chubb had two sacks last week against the 49ers to bring his season total to 12. That broke Von Miller's team rookie record of 11½, set in 2011.

Browns
WR Jarvis Landry had rushing and receiving TDs in the same game for the first time last week. His only other rushing TD came in 2015.

Chargers
Mike Williams had the first rushing TD of his career, plus two TD catches and another for a two-point conversion, in a win over the Chiefs on Thursday.

Chiefs
TE Travis Kelce has been held under 85 receiving yards in each of his 10 games against the Chargers. He also is without a touchdown.

Colts
Eric Ebron has a career-high 12 TD catches. The fifth-year tight end needs four to break Marvin Harrison's team record for a single season.

Dolphins
Ryan Tannehill's 105.7 passer rating is well better than his career high of 93.5 from last season. Dan Marino set the franchise record of 108.9 in 1984.

Jaguars
DT Malik Jackson got a six-year, \$85 million deal in 2016 but lost his starting role this season. "I don't see too much future for me (here)," he said.

Jets
Elijah McGuire's one-yard TD run vs. the Bills last week was the Jets' first go-ahead score on fourth down in the final two minutes of a game since '98.

Patriots
They are a victory away from their 16th consecutive season with 10-plus wins, which would tie the record the 49ers set from 1983-1998.

Raiders
They were called for their first three facemask penalties of the season in a span of 13 plays last week.

Ravens
Joe Flacco threw for a career-high five touchdowns the last time the Ravens played the Bucs. This time he will be rookie Lamar Jackson's backup.

Steelers
Struggling kicker Chris Boswell's job appears to be safe — for now — even though the Steelers worked out two potential replacements this week.

Texans
Deshaun Watson has thrown at least one TD pass in 18 consecutive games and has 13 TD passes and two interceptions in his last seven.

Titans
They have racked up more than 400 yards in each of their last two games; they haven't had a three-game streak since October 2000.

— Los Angeles Times

BLACKHAWKS

Finding home for himself

Strome adjusts to life with Hawks, out to reach potential

BY JIMMY GREENFIELD
Chicago Tribune

It didn't take long for Dylan Strome to realize he couldn't live with Alex DeBrincat and his girlfriend forever.

The maxim that holds true on the ice also holds true for friendships: Sometimes it's better to take a short shift.

So a week or so after coming to the Blackhawks in a trade, Strome made a change.

"I got my own place, actually," Strome said. "His building though."

Strome is living on his own for the first time in his life, which is not rare for a 21-year-old. But given his tumultuous NHL journey it's easy to forget he's still a kid and not a grizzled veteran.

What nobody seems to forget is that Strome was the No. 3 pick in the 2015 draft, a pedigree he will always carry with him. But for the first time in Strome's career it isn't weighing him down.

Strome isn't producing at nearly the same clip as the Oilers' Connor McDavid or Sabres' Jack Eichel — the two players taken before him in the draft — but Strome is scoring goals at a respectable pace. He had seven in 48 career games before coming to the Hawks along with forward Brendan Perlini in a Nov. 25 trade that sent Nick Schmaltz to the Coyotes.

Strome has four goals in 10 games since the trade and hasn't gone more than two games without finding the back of the net.



NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Center Dylan Strome, left, has four goals and an assist in 10 games since the Blackhawks acquired him from the Coyotes on Nov. 25.

"I'm playing a good amount of minutes and trying to produce with what I'm given," Strome said. "I'm playing around 15-16 — sometimes more — minutes a night and you're going to get more opportunity, more chances. I've been playing around 20 shifts a game as opposed to 13-14, maybe even more than 20 shifts. If you're out there for six or seven positive shifts you're probably going to create two, three more chances than you would before."

"You've got to bear down on your chances in this league. It's obviously a production league. If you get the shots and you get the chances, eventually they're going to go in."

Coach Jeremy Colliton didn't waste any time reuniting Strome with DeBrincat, who found incredible success playing on the same line for three years in juniors with the Erie Otters.

Colliton has been searching for the right

UP NEXT
Sharks at Blackhawks
6 p.m. Sunday, WGN-9

line combinations, making little changes every game. But he hasn't had to worry about DeBrincat and Strome, who instantly renewed the chemistry they had in Erie.

"They definitely have an understanding out there and feel comfortable together," Colliton said. "They've been able to give us a lot offensively almost every game. It's nice when you build a lineup to have that combo."

Despite his personal success, Strome joined the Hawks at a difficult time. He was part of eight straight losses to start his career in Chicago before finally seeing the other side Wednesday in a 4-3 win over the Penguins.

"Definitely a relief," Strome said.

Life has been coming at Strome fast over the last few weeks. From the trade to meeting new teammates to living on his own, he's getting used to the idea that his life has changed.

"It was a little weird when I came to Chicago," Strome said. "I went from the airport to practice and everyone was already on the ice so I didn't really get to meet guys the first time I got here. Then I got to meet them after practice and got to know some guys."

"Once you play in a game you get to know everyone in the dressing room and the locker room. After one or two games you pretty much adapt and feel right at home."

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BULLS

BULLS 98, SPURS 93

Positivity for a change

Rally step in right direction after some turbulent times

By K.C. JOHNSON | Chicago Tribune

SAN ANTONIO — When the buzzer sounded and the Bulls had concluded their rally from 21 points down for an improbable 98-93 victory, Spurs coach Gregg Popovich wrapped Jim Boylen in a hug and offered what looked like some demonstrative encouragement.

Boylen didn't want to elaborate on the moment. Popovich did.

"I give Chicago a lot of credit," Popovich said. "Coach Boylen had them ready and the character and fortitude they showed being down at half by 19 or whatever, it was a real tribute to what they're trying to establish."

Who knows where Saturday's victory will take the Bulls? But with Zach LaVine back in Chicago to have his left ankle examined further and his absence expected to be measured by the week, not the day, the Bulls needed a night of positivity after a turbulent two weeks.

Thanks to clutch plays by several — most notably Kris Dunn — they got it.

Dunn scored the Bulls' final six points, including a floater with 38.8 seconds left, a pullup jumper with 8.3 seconds left and the icing free throws with 3 seconds left. In his first start and third game back from his left knee injury, he finished with 24 points, seven rebounds, three assists and two steals.

"He's proven, last year and then tonight, that he can close," Boylen said. "And that's important."

Bobby Portis pushed the Bulls ahead for good with a driving bank shot with 1:39 left and then blocked Rudy Gay's driving layup. That play marked a stout second-half defensive effort that featured the Spurs scoring just 31 points on 30.8 percent shooting. The Bulls had 12 steals overall.

"Our conditioning showed up," Boylen said. "We competed."

Boylen said LaVine, who also will miss Monday's game against the Thunder in Oklahoma City at the very least, is limping and in a walking boot after spraining his deltoid ligament in Thursday's loss to the Magic in Mexico City. The Bulls have no official timeline for LaVine's absence.

But there's widespread belief in the organization that LaVine, the team's lead-



ERIC GAY/AP

Kris Dunn, who scored the Bulls' final six points and finished with 24, shoots over Spurs forward LaMarcus Aldridge during the second half Saturday night.

ing scorer at 23.8 points per game, will miss time beyond Monday. Early indications are that he will need to rest the injury

for at least a week and possibly two but that surgery isn't required.

"We are going to consult with some

"He's proven, last year and then tonight, that he can close. And that's important."

— Bulls coach Jim Boylen on Kris Dunn

other specialists and try to figure out exactly what's going on and create a plan of action," Boylen said. "We're disappointed and sorry that he was hurt. But we're hopeful we can get a good evaluation and get moving toward recovery."

Limping out of Mexico City Arena late Thursday, LaVine said he "felt something pop" that he thought "was just some fluid or something."

The Bulls didn't leave Mexico City until Friday afternoon and waited until they arrived in San Antonio to perform the MRI. They want their specialists to read the results, which is why LaVine returned to Chicago.

Dunn rallied from shooting a memorable air ball from 3-point range that came up several feet short in the first quarter to play with a swagger down the stretch. He shouted into the crowd following his jumper.

"Multiple people hit big-time shots," Dunn said. "My team believes in me. It was a great team win."

Chandler Hutchison returned from missing one game with a stomach illness but played less than a surprise appearance from Cameron Payne. This meant Jabari Parker drew his first "Did Not Play — Coach's Decision" of the season. Parker, the team's second-leading scorer and rebounder, fell out of Boylen's rotation last game.

In a more active performance that featured drives and post-ups instead of just perimeter shots, Markkanen finished with 23 points.

"I just tried to be aggressive," Markkanen said. "I know I haven't been playing at my own level lately. I know it takes time to get back. I feel I'm kind of getting my legs back. It's a lot easier to drive when you feel quicker."

"It shows a lot of heart from the team to climb back. It takes a lot of energy. It just shows what we can do. If we play like that, we have a chance to beat anybody."

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BULLS NOTES

Parker takes high road as Bulls gauge trade interest

By K.C. JOHNSON | Chicago Tribune

SAN ANTONIO — Jabari Parker became trade-eligible at 11:01 p.m. Friday. Saturday marked the first full day that free agents who signed in July could be dealt.

In advance of the date, the Tribune reported on Friday that the Bulls already had begun making calls to gauge Parker's trade value and that Parker was open to a deal. That possibility gained momentum, sources said, when Parker's representative, Chicago-based Mark Bartelstein, expressed interest in working with the Bulls to find an amicable resolution to Parker's situation.

New Bulls coach Jim Boylen removed Parker from the rotation because of poor defensive effort and individual offensive play, sources said. Several teams have contacted the Bulls to express interest in Parker and begin preliminary talks, sources said. With both sides amenable to a trade, there's incentive to finalize a deal sooner rather than later.

Until then, Parker has stayed on the high road.

"I chose to come here," Parker said of his two-year, \$40 million free-agent contract that carries a team option for the second season. "I did everything I can to prove that I belong here. And I'm going to continue to do that. My job is to be ready to be on the court. My agent's job is to just be my defense and be that voice for me that I'm not able to say."

Parker said he leans upon his father, former NBA player Sonny Parker, for support.

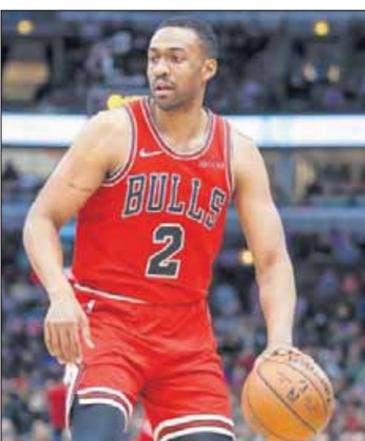
"I take it upon myself to do what I can first and foremost. But my person that I go to as my mentor is my father because my father played in the league. Everything I know comes from him. My basketball credentials are very credible because of my dad," Parker said. "He tells me the truth. He tells me what it takes. He never feeds me negativity. It's always what I can control. It's never pointing a finger. That's what I love so much about my father."

Boylen said Parker has "done a great job" handling his surprising new situation.

"It's not easy," Boylen said. "I've been direct and honest with him about what I expect and what I hope he can continue to work on."

Parker is the team's second-leading scorer and rebounder. This was supposed to be a happy homecoming for the former Simeon standout. Instead, he has seen his role change from starter to reserve to starter to reserve to out of the rotation.

"It's bigger than anything that I'm given.



KAMIL KRZACZYNSKI/AP

Jabari Parker's time with the Bulls may be limited as they look for trade interest after removing him from the regular rotation.

I only deal with Jim, and I just have to take his word for it and trust what he's telling me," Parker said. "I can have as many opinions as possible, but that doesn't matter. It doesn't matter how I feel. It is what it is."

"I was given the expectation I was out of the lineup. Until somebody says otherwise, I'm still in that position."

Turning tables: Since landing the job of head coach, Boylen has sung the praises of Spurs coach Gregg Popovich, for whom Boylen worked for two years, including the 2014 championship season. Popovich returned the gesture to Boylen, who joked that his old boss chewed him out this week for having a full voicemail.

"He doesn't need my counsel," Popovich said. "He's been coaching a long time, and he knows what it takes to win. It's always tough to take over a program without a training camp and do everything you want to do."

Popovich said he hired Boylen because he liked his toughness, sense of humor and knowledge of the game.

"He's a pretty straightforward, honest individual, and he'll do it the way he thinks is best for that group," Popovich said. "And he'll be fair, he'll be demanding, and he will try to make everything clear so whatever system he wants to employ will get across."

"I've learned as much from him as he's learned from us here."

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COLLEGES

NOTRE DAME 88,
PURDUE 80Irish stop
skid with
'huge' winBY MICHAEL MAROT
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Notre Dame finally played the way coach Mike Brey wanted.

The Irish worked hard and shot well Saturday — and delivered a knockout punch too.

John Mooney scored 21 points and grabbed seven rebounds and D.J. Harvey matched his career high with 19 points to lead Notre Dame past Purdue 88-80 in the first game of the Crossroads Classic at Bankers Life Fieldhouse.

"This is huge for us," Brey said. "We lost to two good teams away from our building. If we go 0-3 we're digging out of a hole for a while. If there are must-wins in December, we were staring at one today."

The Irish (7-3) snapped a two-game losing streak by becoming the first in-state school to beat Purdue since February 2016. And though they never trailed over the final 35 minutes, it wasn't easy.

One day after news that freshman Robby Carmody would miss the rest of this season with a torn labrum in his left shoulder, the Irish suffered another big blow when senior Ref Pflueger crumpled to the floor with 5 minutes, 36 seconds to play, clutching his left knee. He was carried to the locker room and later returned to the bench with the knee packed in ice. He finished with seven points and a career-high 10 assists.

"It didn't look good," Brey said, adding that the starting guard will have an MRI.

Purdue (6-5) got 27 points from Carsen Edwards and 15 from Ryan Cline. The Boilermakers have lost four of five and had their nine-game winning streak against in-state schools snapped.

"We just had too many breakdowns defensively," coach Matt Painter said. "When you're just trying to outscore somebody, you're not going to win too many basketball games."

Indiana 71, Butler 68: Rob Phinisee hit a buzzer-beating 3-pointer, and Juwan Morgan scored a career-high 35 points to lift the Hoosiers (9-2) to their fourth straight victory in the second game.

With Indiana scrambling to get a shot off before time ran out, Phinisee wound up with the ball and threw up the decisive 25-footer as time expired. Romeo Langford added 13 points.

Sean McDermott made a career-high six 3s, scoring 20 points, and Kamar Baldwin had 16 to lead Butler (7-3).

ILLINOIS 73, ETSU 55

Big 1st half,
Frazier's 25
carry Illini

Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN — Trent Frazier scored 25 points Saturday afternoon at State Farm Center to lead Illinois past road-weary East Tennessee State 73-55.

Giorgi Bezhaniashvili scored 15 points for Illinois (4-7), and Kipper Nichols added 14. Aaron Jordan had a game-high 10 rebounds and scored six points.

Starting Illini guard Ayo Dosunmu and backup guard Alan Griffin dressed but didn't play because they were late to the morning shootaround, team officials said.

ETSU (8-4) was led by Daivien Williamson's 19 points.

The Buccaneers had travel problems. After being forced to fly to Chicago's Midway Airport on Friday night because central Illinois was covered with heavy fog, their bags didn't make the trip. To top things off, ETSU's bus broke down on its way from Chicago to Champaign.

The Illini dominated the first half, going on a 14-0 run at one point and leading 43-18 at the break. Frazier hit five 3-pointers before halftime to lead the charge.

"I liked today," Illinois coach Brad Underwood said. "We played well from top to bottom, at both ends of the court."

Illinois shot 43 percent (26-60) from the field, while ETSU shot 35 percent (18-52). The Illini hit 10 of 25 3-pointers, the Bucs 6 of 22.

The Bucs adjusted to the Illini's swarming man-to-man defense in the second half and slowly started to crawl back into the game, outscoring Illinois 37-30 after halftime. But 3-pointers by Da'Monte Williams, Frazier and Jordan kept Illinois' lead intact.

"That first half was the best we've played all year," Underwood said.

Illinois won consecutive games for the first time this season against their difficult nonconference schedule.

"Their record is not indicative of who they are as a team," Bucs coach Steve Forbes said. "They've played a tough schedule, no puffy games at all."

Illinois has another week off before its next game, the Braggin' Rights showdown against Missouri in St. Louis.



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Things haven't been as smooth for coach Porter Moser's Loyola squad this season.

LOYOLA

5 ways to fix
the Ramblers

BY SHANNON RYAN | Chicago Tribune

It was unrealistic to think Loyola would pick right up from the Final Four and carry the same type of magical play into this season. With three key players departed and the Ramblers relying on four newcomers, growing pains were inevitable.

Still, a 5-5 start to the season is jarring after last season's 32-6 record, even with two ranked opponents on the schedule. Loyola has lost four of its last five entering Sunday's game against Norfolk State at Gentile Arena.

Here are five ways the Ramblers can turn it around:

1 Find more depth.

Loyola had its go-to players last season but didn't rely on any one player. The options off the bench included Aundre Jackson, who graduated as the school's all-time leader in field-goal percentage (62 percent), and Lucas Williamson, who averaged 4.7 points and provided solid defense in 20 minutes per game as a freshman.

Now Jackson is gone. Williamson was a starter before getting sidelined with a broken hand. And the depth just isn't there.

Aher Uguak has moved from the starting lineup to a reserve role, and expectations for the athletic forward who transferred from New Mexico haven't come to fruition. He has made only 16 of 46 field goals (34.8 percent), including 1 of 13 3-pointers. He does have the ability to get to the line, where he contributed nine points total in over the last two games.

Junior guard Bruno Skokna, also injured, had not taken an expected leap either.

He averaged 3.2 points in 11 minutes per game last season and shot 47 percent. In eight games this season before suffering a sprained thumb, he made only 3 of 19 3-pointers and was shooting 30.8 percent overall.

Freshman guard Cooper Kaifes moved into a starting role when Williamson went down after looking like a nice spark off the bench for the first seven games, but he went 1 of 10 from 3-point range in losses to Ball State and Maryland.

2 Get healthy.

About those injuries to Williamson and Skokna. They have messed with rotations and depth.

Williamson will be out until some point in January. It's the same injury Ben Richardson suffered last season, and he came back without missing a beat. So there's hope.

But in the meantime, the Ramblers miss Williamson's defensive presence and heady play.

Take up his scoreless game against Nevada in which he was injured, and Williamson was averaging 10.3 points and shooting 51.1 percent.

While Skokna wasn't delivering offensively, he still provided the experience of being in coach Porter Moser's system for three seasons.

3 Buckle down on defense.

The Ramblers ranked 17th nationally during the Final Four season in Kenpom.com's adjusted defensive efficiency ratings. They've dropped to 38th this season. During the NCAA tournament, Loyola allowed only one opponent to shoot better than 45 percent and held three to worse than 26 percent 3-point shooting. No team reached 70 points.

This season opponents are shooting 41.4 percent, hitting 33 percent of their 3s and scoring nearly 65 points per game. Boston College, Nevada and Ball State each dropped at least 75 points on the Ramblers.

4 Get more from the big three.

Nobody can watch the Ramblers and doubt their determination, especially returning starters Clayton Custer, Marques Townes and Cameron Krutwig. While it must be frustrating going from a team on which everything clicked to one on which the timing with new players is skewed, Moser has said he needs more leadership from the trio.

Custer, the Missouri Valley player of the year last season, is scoring at about the same rate (13.5 points per game, up from 13.2), but his shooting percentages are down overall (52.8 percent to 44.6) and from 3-point range (45.1 percent to 32.1).

Likewise, Townes is scoring more (14.2 points per game, up from 11.1), but his shooting has dropped from 51.4 percent overall and 38.7 percent on 3s to 46.6 and 29 percent, respectively.

With less around them, they need to do more until other players heal and develop.

5 Jell during conference play.

Let's be honest. Most mid-major teams need to win their conference tournament to earn an invitation from the NCAA tournament selection committee. Even Final Four teams. It stings that Loyola missed the chance for quality victories against Boston College, Nevada and Maryland, who have a combined 26-4 record. But in all likelihood, the Ramblers would have had to win the Missouri Valley tournament anyway to get in this season. So the focus now should be on finishing strong in MVC play and winning the conference tournament.

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COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Clemson
offense big
test for IrishNotre Dame defense must
be ready for multiple threatsBY LAMOND POPE
Post-Tribune

SOUTH BEND, Ind. — Clemson's defense draws a lot of attention — and deservedly so.

The Tigers are tied for second nationally in scoring defense and fourth in total defense, anchored by All-American line-men Clelin Ferrell and Christian Wilkins. But the Clemson offense also presents plenty of challenges for Notre Dame.

The third-ranked Irish (12-0) play the second-ranked Tigers (13-0) in a College Football Playoff semifinal Dec. 29 in Arlington, Texas. The winner of the Cotton Bowl matchup will face the Alabama-Oklahoma winner for the national championship Jan. 7 in Santa Clara, Calif.

"(Travis) Etienne is as good a running back we've seen since (last year) against Georgia," Notre Dame coach Brian Kelly said Saturday. "He has that kind of talent."

Etienne ranks fifth nationally with 1,463 rushing yards. And he's not the team's only threat.

"The quarterback (Trevor Lawrence) is really good," Kelly said. "He has great arm talent. He's tall (6-foot-6) and can see the field. The receiving corps is on par with a USC receiving corps. That's a pretty dynamic offensive set."

Clemson is fifth in total offense, averaging 529.8 yards per game, and fifth in scoring offense at 45.4 points per game.

"When you have so many weapons and a quarterback that can get the ball to those weapons, you are forced to make decisions every snap of the game, where you're helping and where you're not," Notre Dame defensive coordinator Clark Lea said. "That's the part of it as we get into the game, we'll have to be on our toes to adjust as we figure out how they want to attack us."

Lawrence, a freshman, has thrown for 24 touchdowns to only four interceptions.

Lots of Love: Love, a junior, was named a consensus All-American, making the first team on four of the five lists associated with the honor — he was a second-team selection by the American Football Coaches Association.

"I'm extremely proud and happy to be consensus," said Love, a Nazareth graduate who leads the team with 15 pass breakups and is fifth with 61 tackles.

Said defensive backs coach Todd Lyght: "The thing I love the most about him is he wants to do great for the team and has a team-first mindset. For us, it's not about the individual accolades. It's about graduating our players and winning championships."

"All those goals are still in front of us."

Expansion chatter: Count Kelly among the group in favor of expanding the playoff field.

"There's probably, from a commissioner's standpoint, an appetite to begin dialogue," Kelly said. "But I'm just standing here as the football coach of Notre Dame. I don't have any inside information to share with you, but I can tell you there is an appetite for conversation about it."

"How that all figures into the grand scheme of things, who really knows? I sure am one that would register a vote on expanding the playoff."

Kelly said eight teams would be ideal.

"That gives the Power Five (conferences) their champions and opens up much more opportunities for at-large (teams)," Kelly said.

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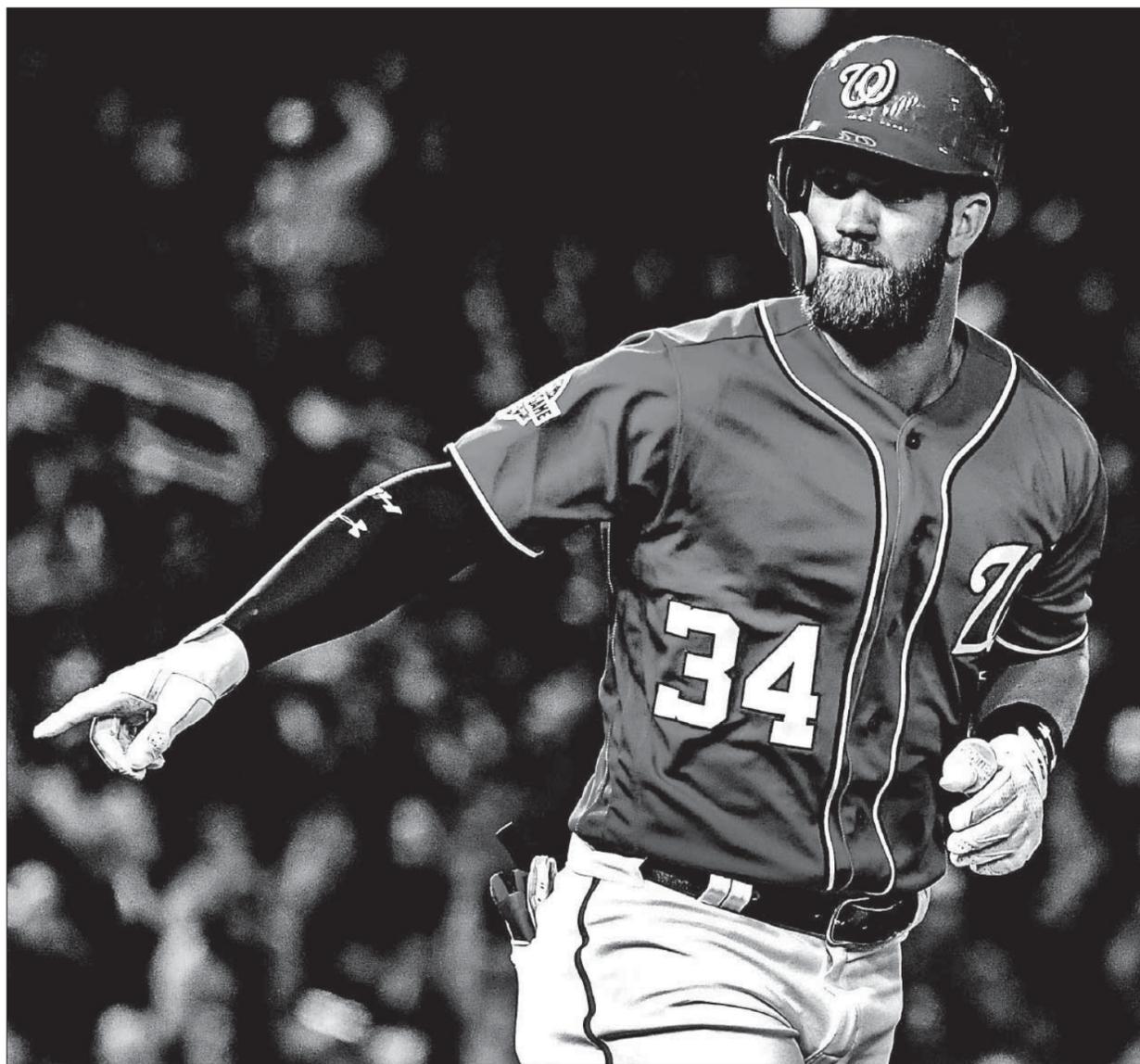
COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF

Cotton Bowl | Dec. 29
in Arlington, TexasNo. 2 Clemson (13-0) vs.
No. 3 Notre Dame (12-0), 3 p.m., ESPNOrange Bowl | Dec. 29
in Miami Gardens, Fla.No. 1 Alabama (13-0) vs.
No. 4 Oklahoma (12-1), 7 p.m., ESPNNational championship game
7 p.m. Jan. 7 in Santa Clara, Calif., ESPN

MIKE MCCARN/AP

Clemson's Travis Etienne ranks fifth nationally with 1,463 rushing yards.

BASEBALL



TONI L. SANDYS/WASHINGTON POST

Bryce Harper wasn't the only marquee free agent available after the largely uneventful winter meetings, which seem more and more irrelevant.

Idea frozen in time

With technology omnipresent, have winter meetings become irrelevant?

Another year of baseball's winter meetings has come and gone, and most of the top free agents remain available.

In addition to the two competing for the biggest contract — Bryce Harper and Manny Machado — there's Craig Kimbrel, who reportedly hopes to become the first nine-figure reliever, and potential closers Zach Britton and Andrew Miller. Among the available hitters are Nelson Cruz, Michael Brantley, A.J. Pollock, DJ LeMahieu and Marwin Gonzalez.

A smorgasbord of talent is there for the taking, almost two months into the offseason.

All of them will sign sooner or later, just like in last year's slow market. But the lack of movement during the annual meetings, which MLB Network televises almost nonstop, makes the affair seem anachronistic. How many times can you listen to reporters discuss the possibility of a J.T. Realmuto deal?

Only 16 official moves were announced during the three days in Las Vegas: six waiver claims, six signings, three trades and one player (Troy Tulowitzki) released. It was a snoozefest from



PAUL SULLIVAN
On baseball

start to finish.

"There's a buzz today," one TV host said Wednesday, clearly trying to create interest with an absence of real news.

It makes you wonder whether the meetings are even necessary in this day and age, when team executives can text or teleconference with each other or with agents from their offices instead of traveling across the country to talk.

Red Sox President Dave Dombrowski came up with a good idea, suggesting baseball should consider an offseason deadline for making moves, which would force teams and agents to work quicker to get things done.

"I don't really know what's happened where it has changed," Dombrowski said, according to masslive.com. "It just doesn't seem to be very important for people. I have suggested that the game needs to look at that."

"The reality is that if you're a general manager or an assistant general manager, there is no downtime for people. ... Everybody needs a break at that point. They need to change the rules or something where there's some downtime. Every other

sport has it other than ours. It goes longer and longer."

The July 31 trade deadline is one of the best days in baseball. The winter meetings have become three of the dullest.

"It's amazing how people work toward deadlines," Dombrowski said.

Money matters

Baseball's luxury-tax threshold is \$206 million in 2019 and rises to \$208 million in 2020 and \$210 million in 2021. That doesn't give the Cubs much operating room the next three seasons unless they shed some salary, and it's why they're not expected to get into the mix for Harper, who was rumored last season to be interested in the Cubs, according to Peter Gammons.

The White Sox, on the other hand, are able to do whatever they want this offseason. They ranked 29th in payroll at \$71.3 million before rosters expanded Sept. 1. The only team behind them was the Rays (\$70.5 million).

Declining James Shields' option and non-tendering Avisail Garcia gave them even more room to maneuver, which is why a Harper or Machado signing is a real possibility, even if both players are asking for a contract averaging \$35 million or more.

It seems too early in the rebuild for the Sox to put all their

eggs in one basket, but it's not unprecedented. The Tigers signed premier free agent Ivan Rodriguez to a four-year, \$40 million deal after a 119-loss season in 2003. Rodriguez said he thought the Tigers were on their way up.

"Pudge said to me: 'I know that division. That division could be mine,'" Rodriguez's agent, Scott Boras, said.

By 2006, the Tigers were in the World Series. Boras is also Harper's agent.

Looking at the American League Central, Harper can see the Sox could contend sooner than later. Jeff Samardzija theorized in the spring of 2017 that the Sox decided to rebuild knowing that.

"Detroit is probably getting a little older and Cleveland is hot right now," Samardzija said. "So maybe let that train die down a little bit and then come in (and contend) in a couple years."

Two years later, the Tigers are in the early stages of a rebuild, while the Indians have dealt Edwin Encarnacion and might have to deal Trevor Bauer or Corey Kluber for budgetary reasons.

The Sox might not contend in 2019 or '20 even with Harper or Machado, but they definitely would narrow the gap with the Indians.

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Sox chase Harper as Cubs stay quiet

By MARK GONZALES
Chicago Tribune

LAS VEGAS — Cubs President Theo Epstein's declaration that "you guys will be busy" during the winter meetings didn't materialize fully. In fact, the Cubs didn't complete a transaction, unless we count the naming of the player to be named in the Tommy La Stella trade.

The Cubs did manage to plant some seeds for potential moves, but the White Sox compensated for the lack of action by their Chicago counterparts and many of the other 28 teams.

Here are five takeaways from the relatively quiet meetings at the spacious Mandalay Bay Hotel:

1 Shades of 2015? The Sox's pursuit of Bryce Harper is similar to the Cubs' chase for left-handed pitcher Jon Lester four years ago in that each rebuilding team attempted to accelerate their timetable for success.

One difference is that the Sox's path to winning the American League Central could be enhanced should the three-time defending division champion Indians dismantle their roster.

Landing Harper would give the Sox a formidable 1-2 punch with Jose Abreu, who is entering perhaps his final season in Chicago. Adding slugging prospect Eloy Jimenez to the mix could give the Sox even more power to help provide their young starting pitchers with more run support.

2 Delay of game: Many observers were mystified by the Cubs' lack of action, especially after their season ended a month earlier than they expected.

But the slow thawing of the free-agent market could help the Cubs as they wait for asking prices to drop to their liking as spring training approaches.

The Cubs still need quality at the back end of their bullpen, with closer Brandon Morrow likely to miss the season's first month.

3 Protect the kids: The Sox's acquisition of right-handed pitcher Ivan Nova in a trade with the Pirates was the first step in alleviating pressure of young starters Reynaldo Lopez, Lucas Giolito and Carlos Rodon.

The next step will be adding another pitcher in the Miguel Gonzalez mode of 2016-17. Sox general manager Rick Hahn hasn't ruled out a return by James Shields.

In an ideal situation, Lopez, Giolito and Rodon continue their progress while Kodi Medeiros, Dane Dunning and Dylan Cease succeed before earning late-season major-league promotions.

4 Brain power: New Cubs pitching coach Tommy Hottovy assertively has stated his goal. He seeks to bring the best out of the entire pitching staff and not focus exclusively on the struggles of a few relievers.

Filling the bench coach vacancy created by the departure of Brandon Hyde to become the Orioles manager could be a daunting task as manager Joe Maddon enters the final year of his five-year contract.

Epstein and Maddon are focused exclusively on winning in 2019, and there's little margin for error with a new staff exploring various ways to communicate better with a wide range of players.

5 Harold's horror: The acrimony over Harold Baines' election to the Hall of Fame by the Today's Game Era committee persisted throughout the winter meetings. It merely intensified after Tony La Russa's profanity-laced defense of his former White Sox player to host Chris Russo on the MLB Network.

If La Russa is going to use Baines' game-winning RBIs as a case for election, then a case can be made for Pat Tabler, who batted 489 (43-for-88) with the bases loaded during his 12-year career.

Regardless of the debate and the politics of the election, the hope is that Baines can enjoy his honor without being bothered by extremists on both sides.

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WHITE SOX

Hahn: Alonso trade strictly 'baseball deal'

By MARK GONZALES
Chicago Tribune

All in the White Sox family. Despite Yonder Alonso being the brother-in-law of marquee free agent Manny Machado, White Sox general manager Rick Hahn said he had no ulterior motive to the acquisition of Alonso from the Indians.

"Fundamentally, this is a baseball deal," Hahn said Saturday during a conference call to elaborate on the trade of Alonso for minor-league outfielder Alex Call. "We feel this makes us better. We feel Yonder fits in between the lines, in the clubhouse and helps further what we're trying to accomplish in 2019 and beyond."

"The potential ancillary benefits to it, in terms of relationships with others, really can't be part of pulling the trigger and making the decision to acquire a big-league player — especially a veteran one with this type of contract commitment."

Hahn never mentioned Machado or Bryce Harper, the other major free agent on the

"We feel this makes us better. We feel Yonder fits in between the lines, in the clubhouse and helps further what we're trying to accomplish in 2019 and beyond."

— White Sox GM Rick Hahn on Yonder Alonso

market, by name. But it's no secret the Sox are pursuing each star player, despite the club having lost 100 games in 2018 and facing stiff competition from well-financed teams.

Nevertheless, the trade late Friday created some curiosity because Machado is married to Alonso's sister — and Alonso, 31, plays the same position as slugger Jose Abreu, who is entering the final year of his contract.

But Hahn insinuated Abreu and Alonso can co-exist, adding that Abreu was happy with the trade and that he and Alonso are friends who exchanged text messages Friday night after they learned of the deal.

"We feel (Alonso) provides a nice balance in our lineup and

has nothing but a great reputation in terms of his game preparation, his professionalism and the element of veteran leadership that he will add to our clubhouse," Hahn said.

"We envision both he and Abreu getting the bulk of the (at-bats) between first base and the (designated hitter) spots. How that exactly breaks down will be a managerial decision and something Ricky (Renteria) can get into more detail with ... over the course of the season as things evolve."

Alonso's contract includes an option for 2020 — for \$9 million or a \$1 million buyout — that vests automatically if he has 550 plate appearances in 2019 or a combined 1,100 plate appear-

ances in 2018-19. Alonso had 574 plate appearances in 2018, batting .250 with 23 home runs and 83 RBIs.

"We do view him as a nice fit over the both the 2019 and 2020 season," Hahn said.

Meanwhile, Hahn said Daniel Palka, who smacked 27 home runs and drove in 67 runs during his rookie season, could play more in the outfield. The 6-foot-2, 220-pound Palka started 40 games as the DH, 40 in right field and 22 in left last season and has worked this offseason to get in better shape to play the outfield, Hahn said.

"I know Daniel, at 27, doesn't want to be a full-time DH," Hahn said. "He still believes he can contribute on the defensive side."

The Sox and Indians started discussing Alonso only after Hahn and the Sox's contingent left the winter meetings in Las Vegas on Thursday. The Sox had been interested in Alonso since his college days at the University of Miami in 2006-08. The Reds selected him with the seventh pick in the 2008 draft — one pick ahead of Gordon Beckham.

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SCOREBOARD

CALENDAR

TEAM	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	GB Noon FOX-32, AM-780						
		@OKC 7 WGN-9, AM-670		BKN 7 WGN-9, AM-670		ORL 7 NBCSCH, AM-670	
	SJ 6 WGN-9, AM-720		NSH 7 NBCSCH, AM-720		@DAL 7:30 NBCSCH, AM-720	@COL 8 NBCSCH+, AM-720	

SUNDAY ON TV/RADIO

MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Noon	West Virginia vs. Rhode Island	CBSSN
1 p.m.	Central Conn. State at Providence	FS1
2 p.m.	Saint Louis at Houston	ESPNU
2:30 p.m.	Dayton vs. Tulsa	CBSSN
3:30 p.m.	Wagner at St. John's	FS1
4 p.m.	Green Bay at Michigan State	BTN
4 p.m.	Indiana State at TCU	ESPNU
6 p.m.	Oklahoma State vs. Nebraska	BTN

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL

2 p.m.	South Carolina at Purdue	ESPN2
2 p.m.	Gonzaga at Missouri State	NBCSCH+

NFL

Noon	Packers at Bears	FOX-32, WBBM-AM 780
3:25 p.m.	Patriots at Steelers	CBS-2
7:20 p.m.	Eagles at Rams	NBC-5, WSCR-AM 670

GOLF

10 a.m.	PNC Father/Son Challenge	Golf Channel
2 p.m.	PNC Father/Son Challenge	NBC-5

NHL

4 p.m.	Sabres at Bruins	NHL Network
6 p.m.	Sharks at Blackhawks	WGN-9, WGN-AM 720

BUNDESLIGA SOCCER

8:30 a.m.	Leipzig vs. Mainz 05	FS1
11 a.m.	Eintracht Frankfurt vs. Leverkusen	FS1

PREMIER LEAGUE SOCCER

7:25 a.m.	Brighton & Hove Albion vs. Chelsea	NBCSN
9:55 a.m.	Liverpool vs. Manchester City	NBCSN

SERIE A SOCCER

5:25 a.m.	SPAL 1907 vs. ChievoVerona	ESPN2
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COLLEGE FOOTBALL

DATE	BOWL	SITE	TEAMS	TM
Sat	Celebration	Atlanta	NC A&T 24, Alcorn St. 22	
Sat	Cure	Orlando	Tulane 41, La.-Lafayette 24	
Sat	New Mexico	Albuquerque	Utah State 52, N. Texas13	
Sat	Las Vegas	Vegas	Fresno St. 31, Arizona St. 20	
Sat	Camellia	Montgomery, Ala.	Ga. Southern 23, E. Michigan 21	
Sat	New Orleans	New Orleans	Appalachian St. 45, MTSU 13	
Tue	Boca Raton	Boca Raton, Fla.	UAB (10-3) vs. N. Illinois (8-5)	6
Wed	Frisco	Frisco, Tex.	San Diego St. (7-5) vs. Ohio (8-4)	7
Thu	Gasparilla	St. Petersburg, Fla.	Marshall (8-4) vs. USF (7-5)	7
Fri	Bahamas	Nassau	Toledo (7-5) vs. FIU (8-4)	11:30*
Fri	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, Tex.	Houston (8-4) vs. Army (10-2)	2:30
D22	Dollar General	Mobile, Ala.	Buffalo (10-3) vs. Troy (9-3)	6
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)	8
D27	Independence	Shreveport, La.	Temple (8-4) vs. Duke (7-5)	12:30
D27	Pinstripe	Bronx, N.Y.	Miami (7-5) vs. Wisconsin (7-5)	4:15
D27	Housatonic	Houston	Baylor (6-6) vs. Vanderbilt (6-6)	8
D28	Music City	Nashville	Purdue (6-6) vs. Auburn (7-5)	12:30
D28	Camping World	Orlando	W. Virginia (8-3) vs. Syracuse (9-3)	4:15
D28	Alamo	San Antonio	Florida St. (8-4) vs. Wash. St. (10-2)	8
D29	Peach	Atlanta	Louisia (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.	Notre Dame (12-0) vs. Clemson (13-0)	3
D29	Orange	Miami Gar., 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, Tex.	Stanford (8-4) vs. Pittsburgh (7-6)	1
D31	Redbox	Santa Clara, Calif.	Michigan St. (7-5) vs. Oregon (8-4)	2
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.	Wash. (10-3) vs. Ohio St. (11-2)	4
J1	Sugar	New Orleans	Hogkins 14 pass from Watson (Fair-bairn kick), 83.	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	Collegiate	Pasadena, Calif.	American vs. National	3
J26	Senior	Mobile, Ala.	North vs. South	1:30

FCS PLAYOFFS

Saturday's semifinal	Washington 50, Maine 19
Championship, Jan. 5	at Toyota Stadium, Frisco, Texas, 11 a.m.
North Dakota State (14-0) vs. E. Washington (12-2)	

NFL

NFC NORTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
BEARS	9	4	0	.692	359	247
Minnesota	6	6	1	.500	282	291
Green Bay	5	7	1	.423	315	307
Detroit	5	8	0	.385	271	319

AFC EAST

NFC SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
y-New Orleans	11	2	0	.846	447	283
Carolina	6	7	0	.462	324	332
Tampa Bay	4	8	0	.385	323	363
Atlanta	4	9	0	.308	316	367

AFC WEST

NFC WEST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
y-L.A. Rams	11	2	0	.846	425	313
Seattle	8	5	0	.615	340	266
Arizona	3	10	0	.231	178	327
San Francisco	3	10	0	.231	275	350

AFC NORTH

AFC EAST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
New England	9	4	0	.692	364	293
Miami	7	6	0	.538	278	333
Buffalo	4	9	0	.308	201	320
N.Y. Jets	4	10	0	.286	292	359

AFC SOUTH

AFC WEST	W	L	T	PCT	PF	PA
x-Kansas City	11	3	0	.786	499	380
x-L.A. Chargers	12	0	0	.786	395	298
Denver	6	8	0	.429	306	299
Oakland	3	10	0	.231	244	388

WEEK 15

SATURDAY'S PLAYOFF SPOT: y-division
SATURDAY'S RESULTS
Week 4, Tucson 2
Laval 4, Syracuse 6
Charlotte 3, Hartford 2
Rocheester 2, Cleveland 1 (OT)
Brighton 5, Springfield 3
Bridgeport 3, Belleville 1
Providence 6, Hershey 2
Grand Rapids 5, Milwaukee 4 (SO)
Texas 3, Rockford 2 (OT)
Toronto 5, Stockton 0
Char/Scranton 5, Lehigh Valley 2
Bakersfield 1, Staughton 0
Colorado 4, Ontario 3 (OT)
San Diego 4, San Jose 3 (SO)
SUNDAY'S SCHEDULE
Tucson at Wales, 3
Utica at Charlotte, noon
WB/Scranton at Bridgeport, 2
Hershey at Springfield, 2:05
Iowa at San Antonio, 3
Grand Rapids at Rockford, 5
San Jose at Ontario, 5

AHL

WESTERN CONFERENCE	CENTRAL	W	L	OL	SOL	PT	GF	GA
Milwaukee	16	9	4	1	37	64	81	
Iowa	14	6	4	3	35	96	76	
G. Rapids	15	9	2	2	34	90	90	
WOLVES	14	9	2	1	31	100	87	
Texas	14	9	2	1	31	87	92	
Rockford	12	10	0	0	24	80	80	
Manitoba	11	14	2	0	21	65	83	
San Antonio	11	15	1	0	23	68	81	

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Wolves 4, Tucson 2
Laval 4, Syracuse 6
Charlotte 3, Hartford 2
Rocheester 2, Cleveland 1 (OT)
Brighton 5, Springfield 3
Bridgeport 3, Belleville 1
Providence 6, Hershey 2
Grand Rapids 5, Milwaukee 4 (SO)
Texas 3, Rockford 2 (OT)
Toronto 5, Stockton 0
Char/Scranton 5, Lehigh Valley 2
Bakersfield 1, Staughton 0
Colorado 4, Ontario 3 (OT)
San Diego 4, San Jose 3 (SO)

SUNDAY'S SCHEDULE

Tucson at Wales, 3
Utica at Charlotte, noon
WB/Scranton at Bridgeport, 2
Hershey at Springfield, 2:05
Iowa at San Antonio, 3
Grand Rapids at Rockford, 5
San Jose at Ontario, 5

LATEST LINE

NBA	SUNDAY
<i>pregame.com</i>	Atlanta
at Brooklyn	8 Philadelphia
at Cleveland	Off New York
at Indiana	11½ La Lakers
at Washington	1 Sacramento
at Dallas	5 La Lakers
at New Orleans	7 Miami
at Denver	Off Toronto

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

at Illinois St	10½ Cleveland St
at UTEP	8 UC Riverside
at W Kentucky	10½ Troy
at Houston	8 Saint Louis
at San Fran.	14½ Cal State
at TCU	15½ Indiana St
at Michigan St	26½ Green Bay
Pacific	6 at CS Northridge
N. Kentucky	7½ Miami (Ohio)
Nebraska	7 at Oklahoma St
W. Virginia	7 Rhode Island
Dayton	3½ Tulsa
Quinnipiac	1 Drexel

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

BOCA RATON	2½	N Illinois
FRISCO	8	WEDNESDAY
GASPARILLA	3	San Diego St
MARSHALL	2½	South Florida
BAHAMAS	6	FRIDAY
TOLEDO	6	FIU

FAMOUS IDAHO POTATO

BYU	12	W. Michigan
BIRMINGHAM	DEC. 22	Wake Forest
ARMED FORCES	3½	Houston
DOLLAR GENERAL	3½	Houston
HAWAII	2	Troy
FIRST RESPONDER	1	Louisiana Tech
BOISE ST.	3	Boston Coll.

QUICK LANE

CHEZ-IT	5½	Minnesota
TCU	Pk	California
INDEPENDENCE	DEC. 27	Duke
PINSTRIPE	4½	Duke
TEXAS	4	Wisconsin
VANDERBILT	4	Baylor
MUSIC CITY	DEC. 28	Purdue
AUBURN	3	Purdue
W. VIRGINIA	1½	Syracuse

ALAMO

WASH ST	3½	Iowa St
ARKANSAS	DEC. 29	Nevada
ARIZONA	1½	Nevada
MICHIGAN	7½	Florida
BELK	4½	Virginia
CFP SEMIFINAL	4	Oklahoma
NOTRE DAME	3	Notre Dame
MILITARY	6	Virginia Tech
SUN	6½	Pittsburgh
STANFORD	3	Pittsburgh
LIBERTY	8	Oklahoma St
HOLIDAY	7	Northwestern
GATOR	6	NC State
TEXAS A&M	6	NC State
OUTBACK	JAN. 1	Iowa
MISS. ST.	7	Iowa
PENN STATE	6½	Kentucky
FIRST	7½	UCF
OHIO STATE	6½	Washington
SUGAR	12½	Texas

NFL

WEEK 15	SUNDAY
at Bears	5½ Green Bay
at Minnesota	7½
at Cincinnati	3 Oakland
at Baltimore	7½ Tampa Bay
at Indianapolis	3 Dallas
at Buffalo	2½ Detroit
Tennessee	1 at NY Giants
at Jacksonville	7½ Washington
at Atlanta	10 Arizona
at Seattle	3½ at San Fran
New England	2½ at Pittsburgh
at LA Rams	13 Philadelphia

GOLF

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	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	Dec. 9 LAR Won 15-6	Dec. 16 GB ▼	Dec. 23 @SF 3:05 FOX-32	Dec. 30 @MIN Noon FOX-32
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Packers at Bears

NOON SUNDAY AT SOLDIER FIELD | FOX-32 | BEARS BY 5½ (O/U 47)

THREE KEYS

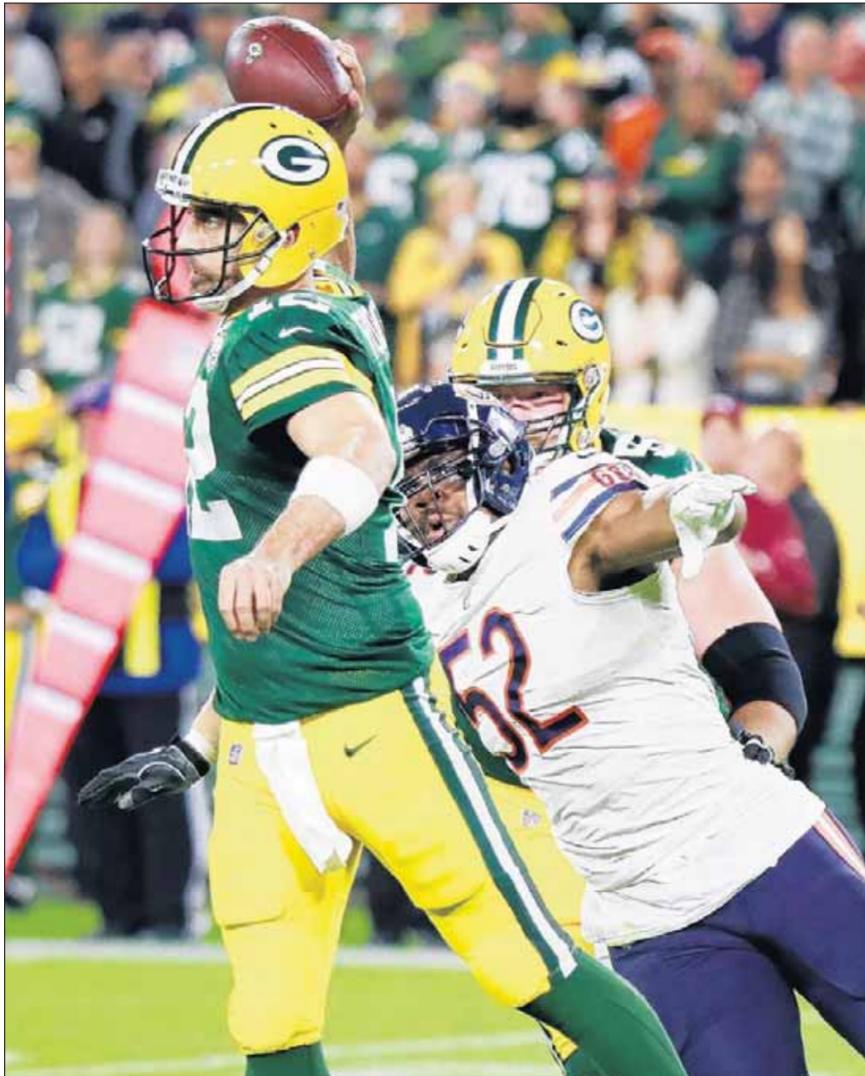
Offense must do its share of work

The Bears are on the verge of earning their first playoff berth in eight years and would love nothing more than to check that box Sunday with a win over the Packers at Soldier Field. Who would have imagined those words being written 14 weeks ago when Matt Nagy's team left Green Bay with a crushing 24-23 loss in the season opener? Since then, though, the Bears have won nine of 12 games. The Packers, meanwhile, have won only four times since their rousing comeback victory. Can the Bears clinch their postseason invitation and win their fourth straight division game? Here are our three keys for Sunday's game.

1 More from Mitch.
Pregame analysis: Quarterback Mitch Trubisky won his last two starts, both big-stage prime-time games against good opponents. But to be more accurate the Bears defense won those games for Trubisky, whose stats in the victories — 36-for-61, 275 yards, two touchdowns, five interceptions and a 46.8 rating — leave a lot to be desired. Trubisky also sputtered in these teams' first meeting in September, leaving the door open for the Packers to rally from 20 points down for a win. With a defense this good, the Bears don't need a highlight-reel performance from Trubisky in most weeks to win, just good decision-making, ball security and situational awareness. On Sunday, however, the second-year quarterback likely will have to make a few big plays and play one of his better games of the season.

2 Intercept Aaron Rodgers.
Pregame analysis: Also, solve world hunger and cure cancer. Rodgers' last interception came in the second quarter of a Week 4 win over the Bills on Sept. 30. That, by the way, is also his only interception this season sandwiched between 126 pick-free passes to begin the year and a current streak of 368 attempts without an interception. That's an NFL record, but the Bears, with a league-high 25 interceptions this season and only one game without one, are more likely than anyone to bring an end to that streak. Eleven Bears have recorded an interception, with Kyle Fuller's seven picks leading the league. Adding Rodgers to the victim list will be a tall order but definitely not impossible. "I think our guys will be up for it," Nagy said. "Coming off of the way they just played against the Rams, their confidence will be high."

3 Air traffic control
Pregame analysis: Packers receiver Davante Adams is enjoying a career year. He ranks fifth in the NFL in catches (92), seventh in receiving yards (1,196) and is tied for the league lead in receiving touchdowns (12). Adams had 88 yards and a 12-yard touchdown in Week 1, and the Bears are well aware of his knack for consistently getting open. Packers interim coach Joe Philbin calls Adams "one of those sneaky-fast guys. ... He may set you up with a little inside move and then all of a sudden he's behind you, and you say, 'Jeez, he doesn't even look that fast.'" — Dan Wiederer



NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

FILL IN THE BLANK

Clinching the NFC North title by beating the Packers of all teams would be _____.

BRAD BIGGS

Extremely satisfying to the McCaskeys and the fan base.

But I get the sense this Bears team — from the front office to the coaching staff to the players in the locker room — has its sights set on bigger things this season than exacting a little revenge for the Week 1 loss at Lambeau Field and getting a rare victory over Aaron Rodgers. According to players, coach Matt Nagy has emphasized over and over the importance of protecting their home turf. The Bears have accomplished that with a 6-1 record at Soldier Field so far, the only blemish a loss to the Patriots. Defeating the Packers, who are looking to the future as coach Mike McCarthy was fired less than two weeks ago, would be sweet, and the Bears need to start beating the Packers regularly to turn the tide in the rivalry.

RICH CAMPBELL

Sweet for the Bears.

That's especially considering how the Packers have flipped the all-time record between the rivals since the Bears last won the division in 2010. And even after the Bears won the division that season, they still lost to the Packers at Soldier Field in the NFC championship game. It has been a bumpy, painful ride since. They're on their fourth coach, third general manager and second franchise quarterback. Now with the Bears ascending under first-year coach Matt Nagy and the Packers trading water with interim Joe Philbin, Sunday is a chance for the Bears to savor reaching the division summit.

COLLEEN KANE

Cathartic for Bears fans.

The Bears' recent results against the Packers have been brutal. The Packers have won 15 of the last 17 in the regular season and postseason overall and 21 of the last 25 at Soldier Field. Rodgers is 17-4 all-time against the Bears, and even Bears defensive lineman Akiem Hicks seemed a little annoyed this week when recalling how Rodgers pointed out last month that the Packers have won "a number of times" in Chicago. Of course, the Bears have bigger goals than beating the Packers, but squashing them on the way to achieving those goals would be extra sweet for fans.

DAN WIEDERER

Fulfilling.

The Bears are running out of boxes to check on our 2018 "return to prominence" checklist. We asked them to win three games in a row for the first time in a half-decade; they did that in September and then tore off a five-game streak in October and November. We asked them to snap a 10-game NFC North losing streak; they took care of that by winning three division games in 12 days last month. We asked them to punch a ticket to the playoffs for the first time since 2010; they need one win in the final three games to do so. And, oh yeah, there's that little mission of finally getting the best of a Rodgers-led Packers team, something that has happened only four times in 21 tries. Avenging Rodgers' magic act in that galling 24-23 defeat in Week 1 would not only be truly satisfying for these Bears, it would add another page to the 2018 storybook.

PREDICTIONS

Believe it! Bears will sack Pack

Brad Biggs (10-3)
Aaron Rodgers remains a dangerous opponent and the Packers, after a long search, appear to have a solid running back in Aaron Jones. But the Bears defense should close out this game — unlike the opener.

24-17
Bears

Rich Campbell (8-5)

The Bears offense hasn't done anything over the last four games to inspire confidence it could win without major help from the defense. That will be tough to come by against Aaron Rodgers, who has thrown only one pick this year. But why would the Bears fairy tale end now?

26-18
Bears

David Haugh (10-3)

Pass the torch in the NFC North from Aaron Rodgers to Khalil Mack — or, more likely, Mack will rip it from Rodgers' grip. Defense rules again in the division and will for the foreseeable future.

30-19
Bears

Colleen Kane (8-5)

The Bears defense absolutely dominated the Rams offense, but can it do the same to Aaron Rodgers? I wouldn't bet on four interceptions this time, but they should slow him enough to let a better-than-last-week Mitch Trubisky lead the way to a division title.

24-21
Bears

Phil Thompson (10-3)

Familiarity between these rivals breeds contempt, but it also blunts what appears to be a Bears mismatch on paper. An opportunistic defense still faces a stiff challenge against Aaron Rodgers, who leads all qualified quarterbacks with a 0.2 interception percentage.

24-21
Bears

Dan Wiederer (8-5)

Aaron Rodgers doesn't give the ball away, so the Bears will have to find a new victory formula. That ups the pressure on Mitch Trubisky, who is more than a month removed from his last good game.

24-20
Bears

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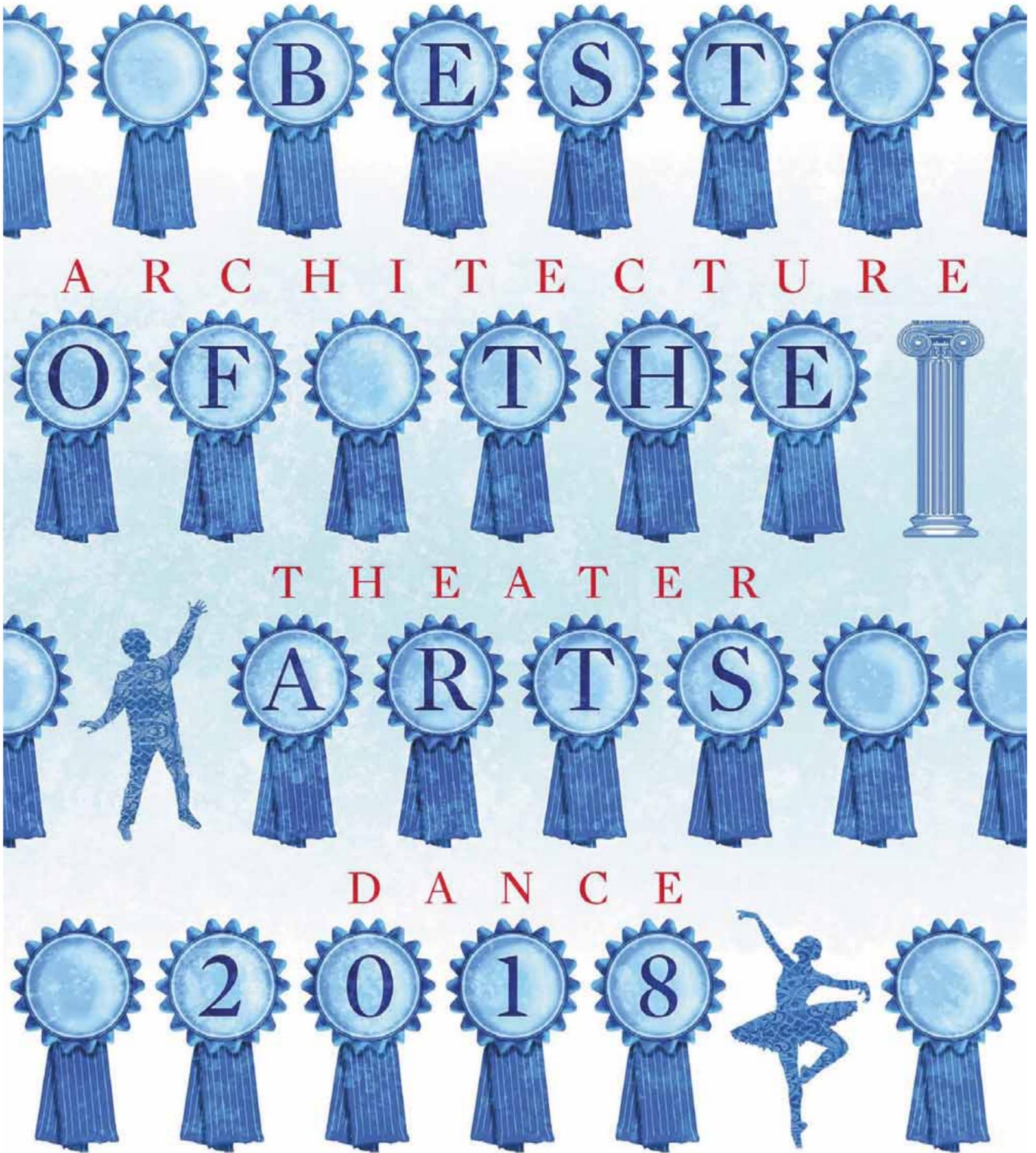
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Chicago Tribune
A+E
 Sunday



This Sunday continues our year-end “best of” lists of the arts in Chicago, with a focus on best stage performances, as well as best in architecture. (Best in visual art has been rescheduled to Dec. 23.) Maybe a favorite of yours is here.

- Best Chicago theater**
by Chris Jones. [PAGE 5](#)
- Best of Broadway**
by Chris Jones. [PAGE 4](#)
- Best Chicago dance**
by Lauren Warnecke. [PAGE 8](#)
- Best in architecture**
by Blair Kamin. [PAGE 6](#)

STILL TO COME

- Best from Chicago museums**
by Steve Johnson. [DEC. 20 IN A+E.](#)
- Best local recordings**
by Greg Kot. [DEC. 21 IN ON THE TOWN](#)
- Best movies**
by Michael Phillips.
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Best visual art

- by Lori Waxman. [DEC. 23 IN A+E](#)
- Best jazz and classical performances**
by Howard Reich and John von Rhein.
[DEC. 26 IN A+E](#)

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www.chicagotribune.com/bestof2018

Boxed sets deepen our understanding



HOWARD REICH
On Music

The compact disc is losing ground to the digital download, which in turn is succumbing to streaming – but the mighty boxed set endures.

There’s something about having the life’s work of a musician – or least a significant part of it – in one place that still appeals to collectors, scholars and fans.

This year, three such sets prove indispensable:

“**The Art Ensemble of Chicago and Associated Ensembles**” (ECM). Here’s the heavyweight of this year’s offerings, a

21-CD monolith that traces the work of the Art Ensemble of Chicago (and disciples) from 1978 to 2015. Art Ensemble devotees will know, of course, that the group predates the 1978 starting point for this package, its early work documented on such landmarks as the five-CD set “The Art Ensemble: 1967-68” (released on Nessa Records and made before the band added its hometown to its name); the two-CD set “A Jackson in Your House” (Charly Records), which includes three albums the group recorded live in Paris in 1969; and “Art Ensemble of Chicago: Live” (Delmark), which captures the band’s historic return home in 1972 after a European residency that made it famous and trumpeted the importance of Association for the Advancement of Creative Musicians (to which the Art Ensemble belongs).

The new ECM package builds magnificently on that foundation, the label presenting this as a curtain-raiser for its 50th



FIN COSTELLO/REDFERNS

The Art Ensemble of Chicago: Expanding the definition of what music could be.

anniversary next year.

From today’s perspective, it’s difficult overstate how radical, visionary and significant was the emergence of the Art Ensemble. The collective startled audiences before it played a note, its Afro-centric clothing and African-inspired face-paint-

ing signaling an explicit allegiance to cultural antiquity. The music was still more daring than the visuals, the musicians embracing the ancient tones of traditional flutes and hand-held drums alongside

Turn to **Boxed**, Page 3

Six directors talk craft

Influences and legacies, Netflix and iPhones, James Bond and Auto-tune

BY AMY KAUFMAN,
MARK OLSEN
Los Angeles Times

One of the many joys of watching movies – in any format, on any platform – is the way in which they can make the world seem both vast and intimate, able to take in wildly divergent stories while depicting them with vivid, up-close emotions.

This year's Envelope Directors Roundtable features Greek-born Yorgos Lanthimos discussing his subversive English costume drama "The Favourite," English-born Josie Rourke with her historical tale of a Scottish queen in "Mary Queen of Scots," Brooklyn's Spike Lee with his fact-based period satire on race and bigotry with "BlacKkKlansman," Mexican-born Alfonso Cuarón with a personal story drawn from his childhood in "Roma," Los Angeles-based Karyn Kusama with an intense L.A.-set crime story in "Destroyer," and Oakland-born Ryan Coogler with his sharp, transcultural upheaval of superhero conventions in "Black Panther."

This eclectic group of directors found much common ground to discuss, from social and political messaging in film to the impact of Netflix and shrinking screens, to James Bond and the horror that is Auto-tune.

Here's an excerpt of their conversation, edited for length and clarity.

Spike, in "BlacKkKlansman," there's a scene of people watching a movie, and it really brings up the idea of finding a space for yourself in the history of cinema. Do you feel like that's something you've been trying to do throughout your career?

Spike Lee: Well, I don't know about throughout my career, but definitely with this new film. I mean, the film begins with "Gone With the Wind." And then we go into "Birth of a Nation," films that are supposedly the greatest American films ever made in cinema. So my first semester in NYU grad film school, we were shown "Birth of a Nation." And we were told of the many innovations of D.W. Griffith, but they never brought up the social-political ramifications. The Klan was dormant. That film made the Klan come alive. Black people got lynched because of that movie. I also remember third or fourth grade, they reissued "Gone with the Wind." It was a class trip and the teacher did not do anything to speak about the [racism in it]. So those two films are very personal to me.

Karyn, your last couple of films were made independently at the same time you've been directing television. Do you feel that you've had to consciously carve out a space for yourself outside of the studio system?

Karyn Kusama: I feel like as a director I've learned through some painful give-and-take that I just function best with a sense of creative authority



KIRK MCKOY/LOS ANGELES TIMES

Film directors, from left, Josie Rourke, Yorgos Lanthimos, Ryan Coogler, Alfonso Cuarón, Karyn Kusama and Spike Lee.

on set and then beyond in the post phase. And then ideally in the marketing phase, it's important to feel like you're still a part of the voice of the film at all stages. And the lower my budgets are, the more possibility I feel to have that control. It's just the decision I've made.

And Josie, "Mary Queen of Scots" is your first feature film. Was the experience of making that movie as you expected?

Josie Rourke: The thing that really struck me is that it's an athletic act. I mean I had never been paid to work outdoors when I went to the highlands of Scotland and shot this movie. But, you know, it's not just about physical athleticism or endurance. It's also about a political athleticism. And it's about a rigor and holding on to what you really believe in and giving clarity. It's not that theater's not like that, but there's a gigantic difference of scale, and also there's just the plurality of voice I think in [the film] space that you have to learn to negotiate and that takes enormous strength.

Alfonso, your small, personal black-and-white film ended up at Netflix. Why did you feel like this was the right home?

Cuarón: Well, maybe you just defined why. You know, this is a film that due to finances is a Mexican film in Spanish, black-and-white, that if you see it through that filter – in a conventional market, particularly – it's very challenging nowadays and very complex, the market for foreign films. And you start facing a lot of limitations. And what Netflix offered that was amazing is they saw the film past those filters. They went into the emotional core. And they're doing an amazing job so far about taking it to theaters and then hopefully giving it a great life on the platform later on.

Lee: It's very exciting and not just Netflix. I mean this is a good time to be a filmmaker ... the more places that stream, they

need product. They need people, they need young people. And it gives filmmakers an opportunity because there's just more outlets.

But do you get hung up on this sort of existential crisis of like what is a movie, does Netflix redefine that?

Cuarón: I don't understand why the definition of one of these platforms means not theatrical. I think that both things could be absolutely compatible. So in the best-case scenario, in a film that is highly successful in terms of economics like Ryan's film ... How many months was "Black Panther" in theaters?

Ryan Coogler: Maybe four. Don't hold me to that because I'm not sure, but around four.

Cuarón: Let's say four months and that is an amazing run, amazing. But in the context of 20 years, 30 years – what I'm saying is that there was [always a limited film run] in theaters. And then now our films are going to live on in platforms no matter what. I think that if anything creates new options as Spike is saying because it's not only about films from different cultures. It's also about exploring different forms, different formats, maybe even different lengths.

Rourke: It's so funny to have everyone say "theater," "theater," "theater" when you know, that's the medium I spent my life in. I know you're from that world as well, Yorgos, and you know we're a 2,000-year-old medium. When they started that, they were like, "It's a religious act. You need an amphitheater." And then over the course of the next 2,000 years you can see a play in an 81-seat storeroom in Chicago. I've done a play in the Park Avenue Armory, which is the size of a block. One of the things that actually starts to push our craft forward as theater directors is to think about the different spaces in which we're making that work. And so that's a fascinating thing about cinema. It's such a young medium, and that's thrilling to think that this is the beginning of this change.

Yorgos, how do you feel that your background in theater informs the work you're doing now in cinema?

Yorgos Lanthimos: What I learned and what I appreciate is you don't have to come in with a very fixed idea of what you want to do and then, you know, set it up and show it. You can experiment. You can make mistakes. You can go in a different direction. You can learn with the people that you work with. The downside with film with all those different platforms is that you make a film that will be seen from, you know, an iPhone to a huge screen to a laptop.

Lee: I'm a professor of film [at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts], and the first day of every semester I have a list of films. And I ask my students to raise your hand if you've seen this film. And especially David Lean films – "Bridge on the River Kwai," "Lawrence of Arabia," "Doctor Zhivago" – they say, "Yeah, I saw it, Professor Lee, but I saw it on my iPhone." I'm like, "Oh, my God! I saw '2001' on my iPhone?" And then they watch it vertical.

Cuarón: So just like the little strip like this?

Rourke: Yes, like a post-age stamp.

Coogler: But you can't – Spike, you can't ...

Lee: I'm sorry. Call me a dinosaur, an old fuddy-duddy.

Coogler: I'm not going to call you that. I'm saying, you gotta see it from their perspective. Nobody's screening "Bridge on the River Kwai" in Oakland right now.

Cuarón: Yeah, but why on the iPhone?

Coogler: That's how they watch stuff. That's their world. I got a brother who's six years younger than me and he does stuff, like just six years' [difference] and he does stuff I just would never understand.

Lee: It's like Auto-Tune. I know, I know, but what happened to people singing? Aretha Franklin. James Brown.

Coogler: It's just an instrument, a new instrument.

Cuarón: I don't like it, but remember that people also said sound is killing cinema. Let's see what these new masters create with [the iPhones].

Rourke: You know what Alexander Graham Bell said about the telephone. He said, "Years from now there will be one of these in every town." You can't predict what it's going to do when you give, particularly young people, a new piece of technology. What was interesting for me going from theater to cinema, like, can I feel the audience? In theater you can really feel it. And for me that act of assembly, particularly when your work has a mission and a political life behind it and a drive, to sit among a group of people and watch that thing is tremendously important.

Kusama: This idea of a sustained experience that we agree to participate in together. Yes, you can sit in theaters where people are on their phone or they're talking, but you're there together for two hours and you're not getting up and walking away and reheating dinner. You're there together, sharing the time together.

Cuarón: But there's another element of this [streaming idea]. The actress of "Roma," Yalitza [Aparicio], she's so happy the film is going on Netflix. And when you ask her why,

she says, "Because I want my communities to see the film. And otherwise we'll have to travel more than three hours to go to a theater, and we don't have the resources for that." You know, it's how much you want to democratize the spread of your films.

Ryan, in your movie, "Creed," there's a moment where people are watching a James Bond movie and then in "Black Panther," you've essentially sneaked a James Bond movie into the middle of the story with this cool casino fight and car chase. Do movies that you watch and love inform your filmmaking?

Coogler: I wanted to be a filmmaker because I love the way watching movies made me feel. So like this gentleman here [motions to Lee], legend has it in 1992 he said, "When 'Malcolm X' comes out, every black father should take his kid to see this movie." Something along those lines?

Lee: It wasn't just black families.

Coogler: My dad listened to this and took me to see "Malcolm X." I was very, very young; I sat on his lap because the theater was packed. And I became very emotional while I was watching it. When Denzel [Washington] points his hand and all of the other people turn, I'd never seen a black man photographed like that. I'd never seen a black man that powerful on a hundred-foot screen. And when he got killed, both me and my dad, along with a lot of other people in the theater, cried. So now when I think about "Malcolm X" and I watch it, I think about my dad. That medium is so powerful, that's the reason that I wanted to do it.

And the only way that I get the motivation or the confidence that maybe I can make a film work is by looking at other films that made a similar story work. So I do my homework when I get into making a certain type of film. When I sat down with Kevin Feige at Marvel Studios and they were talking to me about "Panther" and they said, "You know, we figure this could be our version of James Bond." And I got really excited about that, like an African king who was also like a James Bond.

Lee: Which "James Bond," though? Sean Connery!

Coogler: Have you watched any Sean Connery movies lately? Like, that couldn't fly.

Rourke: No, that would no— [laughter]

Spike, what does that mean to you when you hear someone like Ryan or maybe some of your students at NYU talk about your influence on them?

Lee: I'm honored to hear that. And for me it's a cycle. We just gotta keep going. I was very lucky to work with the great Ossie Davis and knew Gordon Parks and so those were people who I saw their films. Just keep it going. [To Coogler] Besides you, I was the second most happiest ... about the success of your film. I mean, it's a game-changer and it's not about race or anything. This is just a [huge impact] in the industry no matter who you are.

Kusama: But also I think this idea of legacy and diversity that you bring up, like when I think about you, Spike, I think about "She's Gotta Have It" and I think about seeing a movie in college in which I was able to see a woman with agency kind of wreak havoc in so many other people's lives. And I was like, "Oh, God, I really like her." I don't know if this is the forum for how conscious you were of that being a somewhat radical choice to have Nola Darling exist.

Lee: It wasn't all like that. It was half the black women saying it was misogynistic. So I was getting it from both sides on that.

Kusama: Complicated work often has to endure complicated conversations. But then cut to watching "Black Panther" in the theater with my son who is 11, and have him want to collect the action figures of all the female characters because he thought they were the coolest.

Coogler: Oh man. ["Black Panther"] is not just about stepping into the one single hero role but into something more expansive. It's what "Roma" is asking us to do, step into a character we never really get access to. We don't get to see life from that perspective. That's what movies can do.

Yorgos, all of your movies have been about power dynamics, and in the "Favourite," it's very specifically about power dynamics among these three women. Did that feel distinct for you?

Lanthimos: We started this film like nine years ago, so back then I didn't feel like I was doing something along the lines of the times. I just had read about this story about these three women and I went like, "Oh interesting, you can make a film with three female leads and you can create these complex characters." Just normal stuff that you were supposed to be seeing in cinema but for whatever reason, it wasn't there. I'm glad that that's now happening and this film feels more relevant now, but at the same time, I tried to not make any comment about the fact that there's homosexual relationships or anything like that. I just wanted to approach it as they have this power and how their relationships and their behavior and their decisions affect millions of other people. That's what was more interesting.

Josie, your film is also a period piece about powerful women. Did you feel like you wanted to bring out some of the more feminist characteristics?

Rourke: There's been a sudden outbreak of looking more carefully, and this just happens to be where I've been directing my attention for my career. There are people of color playing characters we know historically were white in "Mary Queen of Scots." That was just something I was really clear about with Focus [Features] and Working Title: "I will not make an all-white period drama. I would not do that in the theater. I will not do that in this film." And they were cool about that, but partly because there is "Creed" and because there is "Hamilton" and because they understand that other people are shifting that cultural conversation.

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Enjoy the Theater Tonight

Boxed set experience

Boxed, from Page 1

modern car horns, electronic megaphones, shrieking whistles, found and invented instruments and what-not. It was as if a whole galaxy of sound had been unleashed, all of it signifying the credo of the AACM: "Great Black Music, Ancient to the Future."

What did ECM bring to an Art Ensemble revolution well underway in the late 1960s? Its famous devotion to depth and clarity of sound.

"When we started ECM, I wanted to work with these young players from Chicago, particularly after witnessing incredible Art Ensemble concerts, in Paris and elsewhere, where the poly-stylistic complexity of the music was paralleled by the uniqueness of the presentation, with movement, costumes, face-paint and billowing clouds of incense smoke," writes ECM founder Manfred Eicher in the set's aptly mammoth 296-page accompanying book.

There's no missing the splendor of the music nor the warmth of the recording techniques right from the start of this set, in the album "Nice Guys." Lester Bowie's sometimes dusky, sometimes piercing trumpet utterances dart about Malachi Favors Maghostut's bass lines, Joseph Jarman and Roscoe Mitchell's woodwinds and Famoudou Don Moye's buoyant "sun percussion," as Moye called it. Bracingly avant-garde dissonances, hummable/danceable tunes, abstract improvisation, bluesy swing and much more radiate from these tracks, thereby summing up the expressive breadth, historic erudition and stylistic daring of the Art Ensemble.

Subsequent Art Ensemble of Chicago albums on ECM — such as "Full Force," "Urban Bushmen" and "The Third Decade" — attest to the musicians' restless creativity and inventiveness. Thanks to their innovations, uncouth artists felt similarly liberated, leading to still new sounds. Some of it is captured here in albums featuring Art Ensemble of Chicago members, including Leo Smith's "Divine Love" (with Bowie), Bowie's "The Great Pretender" and "All the Magic" (among others), and Jack DeJohnette's "New Directions" and "Made in Chicago" (the latter a thrilling live date during the Chicago Jazz Festival in 2013.)

Why has this music endured?

"In the ancient tradition of art and black music, a musical presentation was not just about music," Moye said in 1981 (as quoted in the boxed set's accompanying book).

"It was about all the different elements of life. These days, music is just considered entertainment. But we think of it as more than that. We think of it as an emotional, or even religious, experience. It can be education, too. And then we can get down and get funky. So it's all those things."

And more, as this set affirms.

"The Complete Cuban Jam Sessions" (Craft Recordings). In the late 1950s and early '60s, Cuban musicians convened in Havana (and, later, New York) to improvise freely, their sessions establishing a large part of the lexicon of what would become Afro-Cuban jazz. Now these recordings, spanning 1956 to 1964, have been gathered for the first time in one box.

The five CDs attest to the profound musicianship, exalted technique and joyous spirit of artists led by pianist Julio Gutierrez, tres player Nino Rivera, flutist Jose Fajardo and, most important of all, bassist Israel "Cachao" Lopez. Granted, the recording fidelity is not ideal. But the brilliance of the soloists and the Afro-Caribbean rhythmic feel of the ensembles are impossible to resist.

The "Descargas" album stands as the jewel of the lot, with Cachao leading colleagues in music that conveys the exuberance of spontaneous music-making, plus remarkably complex interplay among instrumentalists.

Anyone who wishes to know what jazz in Cuba sounded like in the middle of the 20th century can find the answers here. But the set also stands as a precious historical document indicating how Cuba influenced, and was influenced by, American jazz.

"A Rhapsody in Blue: The Extraordinary Life of Oscar Levant" (Sony Classical). Pianist Levant was celebrated for his roles in film musicals such as "An American in Paris" and "The Bandwagon," but there was so much more to his art than those appearances suggest. For quite aside from his sardonic persona and piano-pounding solos on film, Levant happened to be a virtuoso capable of considerable sensitivity and insight, especially in repertoire of his time (he was born in 1906 and died in 1972, at age 65). This eight-CD set proves it, bringing back to the spotlight Levant's probing interpretations of music by Maurice Ravel, Claude Debussy, Francis Poulenc, Ernesto Lecuona, Aram Khachaturian and other leading 20th century composers. Like all the great pianists, Levant's interpretations are singular; even his unabashedly romantic view of a Bach Partita, in a lush arrangement by Harold Samuel, commands attention and respect.

So this boxed set, newly nominated for a Grammy Award as best historical album, deepens and heightens our appreciation of Levant's gifts. And it leaves us with but one regret: that Levant didn't go into the studio to record even more of his large repertoire.

Howard Reich is a Tribune critic.

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BEST OF THE ARTS | 2018

BROADWAY

Shining light on human condition

By **CHRIS JONES**
Chicago Tribune

Mortality was on the Broadway menu this year — most all of the best works of the calendar year shed light on the pain of the human condition, especially once we're past the first blush of youth. Whether the observer was Eugene O'Neill, Edward Albee or Kenneth Lonergan, the works that lingered the most were the explorations of our constant inability to deal with our own limited time on the planet.

We can get angry of course. But Broadway had that covered too. Better, perhaps, just to make like SpongeBob and make every day the best day ever.

Here are the 10 best Broadway shows of 2018, ranked:

1. "Three Tall Women": After the death of Edward Albee in 2017, the great writer's estate could have decided merely to maintain Albee's resistance to high-concept treatments of his precisely penned works. But they chose instead to give directors and designers more freedom to interpret Albee's profound explorations of the human condition. Joe Mantello's superb spring revival of "Three Tall Women," a revelatory production of a terrifying play about life, death and how old we have to get before we know anything worth knowing, proved the wisdom of that decision. Actors such as Glenda Jackson and Laurie Metcalf allowed for no escape from the existential chills; a life-changer, for those willing to listen. This was the best Broadway production of 2018.

2. "The Ferryman": A sprawling, Shakespearean, unruly masterpiece of a play that will be around long after its critics are dead and buried, this work by Jez Butterworth looked at

the battle between the Irish Republican Army and British loyalists not as a relatively contemporary political matter but as the latest manifestation of the warmongering human tendency, coupled with unbridled lust for power. Sam Mendes' imported production caught all of the messiness of life, of how domestic happiness can co-exist with dread, love with brutality. Here was further evidence of the "Hamilton" lesson — audiences lust for shows with scale and ambition, works that connect the moment to timeless currents of human behavior.

3. "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child": No, we're not safe in the world. Children understand this from the moment their brains start to compute complexity, which is why they quickly tire of the bromides fed them by their parents, and gravitate to works like the iconic Harry Potter series by J.K. Rowling. By the time Rowling and Jack Thorne's theatrical sequel arrived on Broadway, there was evidence of Potter fatigue and resistance to further brand extension. But that did not change the masterful theatricality of John Tiffany's epic production, a fabulously entertaining and life-affirming show that embraced all the quirks of Potterdom while focusing relentlessly on what matters most — the populist storytelling, the character with dilemmas like the ones we face every day, and the dispensing of timeless Rowling wisdom to arm you against the vicissitudes of life.

4. "The Iceman Cometh": Of all Denzel Washington's recent appearances on Broadway, nothing compared to his volcanic work as Theodore Hickman atop Eugene O'Neill's chronicling of just how far down



BRIGITTE LACOMBE PHOTO

Alison Pill, from left, Glenda Jackson and Laurie Metcalf contributed to existential chills in "Three Tall Women."



JOAN MARCUS PHOTO

"The Ferryman," a look at the battle between the IRA and British loyalists, caught all the messiness of life.



MANUEL HARLAN PHOTO

"Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" embraced all the quirks of Potterdom.

booze can take an unsuspecting person. George C. Wolfe's production (overlooked by some in a crowded spring) had the best ensemble cast of the season — a bevy of deep-diving thespians ready to hit bottom so that others might float. Washington clearly knew all about his man's reliance on a smile and a shoeshine and the severity of his potential fall. This was a gorgeous, self-effacing performance that wanted only to belong to



JULIETA CERVANTES PHOTO

Denzel Washington gave a volcanic performance in "The Iceman Cometh."

the terrifying whole.

5. "Carousel": Decent human beings crave nothing as much as the chance to correct their own mistakes, especially those that cause misery for those they love. In 1945, Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II wrote a musical about the agony of running out of time, making terrible choices and trying to recover. Despite its astonishing melodies and other beauties of form, "Carou-

sel" fundamentally is a musical about human frailty and our timeless propensity to screw up that which matters the most. And for all its flaws, Jack O'Brien's vulnerable, honest revival understood that fragility and thus what matters most in any "Carousel." And the likes of Jessie Mueller and Lindsay Mendez had hearts big enough for you to want to lean forward to catch hold of their feelings.

6. "Lobby Hero": Heroism requires a cause — but for some of us, the world remains no bigger than an anteroom. That's what Kenneth Lonergan's 2001 play — a work that arrived on Broadway 17 years after its debut — is all about. Trip Cullman's revival, which starred Michael Cera, Brian Tyree Henry, Bel Rowley and Chris Evans, was a strikingly profound and well-acted meditation on how power imbalance throws off morality and chokes human interaction. The production understood that the show looks at life with a glancing blow — and all its wisdom lies therein.

7. "Network": Bryan Cranston's devastating, highly flammable performance was at the center of Ivo van Hove's revival of a 1976 movie that seemed to anticipate both the anger of our current moment and our inability to fully articulate its cause. "Network" had its flaws, but this was still a notable attempt to contextualize just how much the search for ratings — or clicks, or likes — has undermined the moral underpinnings of American society. By inflicting upon us a dizzying array of stimulating images and experiences, "Network" reminded us that our anger long has been cultivated, harnessed and harvested for someone else's profit.

8. "The Waverley Gallery": The greatest Broadway performance of the fall came from none other than the octogenarian Elaine May, making her first major stage appearance in decades and revealing the fragility of old age and the American inability to help our most senior citizens grow old with anything approaching grace. The play might not seem like a Broadway offering, but May turned an observational work by Kenneth Lonergan into an agonizing exploration of one honest woman's mortality. It is a performance that has been impossible to shake.

9. "Mean Girls": The score had some issues, and the musical version of one of the best movies ever made about teen tribalism wasn't entirely sure whether to belong in the past or the present. But none of that stopped Tina Fey, still the gold standard when it comes to warm-centered satire and lucid American social commentary, from writing what was far and away the funniest book to a musical in 2018.

10. "The Prom": The best musicals — even the silly ones — can offer a meditation on what is worrying America. "The Prom," wherein Broadway stars headed off to Indiana to save America, wasn't grounded in much hinterland knowledge. But its heartbeat was the need to unify this divided nation, to have each side understand the other a little better and join together in a big, fat show-tune. And if Broadway doesn't believe in its own societal destiny, then who will?

Chris Jones is a Tribune critic.

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BEST OF THE ARTS | 2018



LIZ LAUREN PHOTO

The Emcee (Joseph Anthony Byrd) and cast in the Kit Kat Club in "Cabaret" at the Paramount Theatre in Aurora.

CHICAGO THEATER

From 'Downstate' on down

BY CHRIS JONES
Chicago Tribune

Wither forgiveness in a year of constant American division?

That question was at the core of many of the best Chicago shows of 2018 as this theater-loving city explored questions of guilt, pondered who gets to write whose story, and worried over what the punishing of the fallen really means. The best work was mostly dramatic — serious times, these — and embracing of human complexity.

Nelson Algren once described Chicago as "the place built out of Man's ceaseless failure to overcome himself." If you nixed the dated, sexist language, that quote summed up the year in theater here as well as any reductive observation ever could.

Since there is a separate Broadway list, I've not included tryouts or tours, otherwise there would be room for "Hello Dolly" (sorry, Betty Buckley), "Tootsie" (your day will come), and several of the superb international shows that came to Chicago Shakespeare Theater, most notably "Big Mouth" and "Waiting for Godot." So here, ranked in order, are my picks for the best ten made-in-Chicago shows of 2018.

1. "Downstate," Steppenwolf Theatre Company: Steppenwolf was nervous about producing a play inarguably sympathetic toward the plight of sex offenders, grouped together under a cloud of irredeemable guilt. But the irascible playwright Bruce Norris proved himself willing to walk down dangerous, unfashionable roads in what has been a career-long determination to undermine liberal complacency. "Downstate" was, at its core, an extraordinarily rich and complex piece of writing, and a perfect vehicle for a formidable group of Steppenwolf actors to drive up to the peaks and down the valleys of abiding human imperfection.

2. "Father Comes Home From the Wars (Parts 1, 2 and 3)," Goodman Theatre: Suzan-Lori Parks' Homeric triptych from 2014 is, speaking both politically and formatively, one of the richest American plays of this young 21st century. The work is a profound counter-narrative to decades of triumphalist Civil War storytelling ignoring the black experience, and a work that understands how hard it can be for the emancipated to trust and embrace their own freedom. As directed by Niegel Smith, the Goodman's Chicago premiere was everything this play deserved. Superbly acted and unstinting of theme, it pulsed, danced and bled with both hope and the stench of original sin.

3. "All My Sons," Court Theatre: Although often revived, Arthur Miller's post-war moralistic drama, set in an Ohio backyard, remains a definitive exploration of how our need to thrive under all-American capitalism often compromises our personal morality. Director Charles Newell's production, though, was anything but predictable. He approached the work as it were a Greek tragedy, a chronicling of human failings as inevitable as they are devastating. This superbly acted "All My Sons" felt like a deconstruction of the limitations of the father-and-son system of patriarchy, a majestic exploration of the terrible consequences of love, fear and distrust.

4. "The Wolves," Goodman Theatre: The director Vanessa Stalling had an extraordinary 2018 in Chicago, helming not only Sarah DeLappe's funny, moving and potent look at the travails of surviving on a girls' soccer team, but also the excellent "A Shayna Maidel" at TimeLine Theatre. "The Wolves" was a serious show about the high-achieving roar of modern girlhood, but also a funny and accessible production filled to the goalposts with stand-out per-



MICHAEL BROSILOW PHOTO

"Downstate" at Steppenwolf Theatre, with Francis Guinan and K. Todd Freeman.



LIZ LAUREN PHOTO

Sydney Charles (Second), Jacqueline Williams (Leader), Ernest Perry Jr. (The Oldest Old Man), Michael Aaron Pogue (Fourth), Ronald L Conner (Third) and Kamal Angelo Bolden (Hero) in "Father Comes Home From the Wars (Parts 1, 2 & 3)" at the Goodman Theatre.



MICHAEL COURIER PHOTO

E. Faye Butler as Rose in "Gypsy" by Porchlight Music Theatre.

formances from emerging actresses. Working Chicago-style, Stalling embraced both the excitement of the sports metaphors, yes, you could really believe, these were soccer players—and the import of how a game can mean anything and everything, especially when you're dying to win.

5. "The Steadfast Tin Soldier," Look-

inglass Theatre: A beautiful little holiday gift from the imagination of Mary Zimmerman, "The Steadfast Tin Soldier" was an unexpected gem of a show, as fully comprehensible by a two-year-old as any self-appointed sophisticate. The metaphors were fresh not cloying, the images kind not cute, the ambiance inclusive not pretentious. And the overall feeling

that emerged in the audience after little more than an hour in the presence of a courageous metal dude with challenges to overcome was, well, the kind of communal appreciation for fortitude that we all wish we experienced every day. And no one needed to utter a word.

6. "Cabaret," Paramount Theatre of Aurora: Wowing an audience with the John Kander and Fred Edd masterpiece is not difficult, old chums — but profoundly moving them represents far more of a challenge. But with the help of the formidable newcomer Kelly Felthous in the lead role of Sally Bowles, that is precisely what director Katie Spelman's emotional production achieved. Fluid, dynamic and innovative, this was a "Cabaret" that did not seek applause so much as an audience shocked into complicit silence. Guilt and beauty rarely have co-existed in the theater with such effect.

7. "Gypsy," Porchlight Theatre: Such was the passion for the role of Madame Rose felt by the remarkable E. Faye Butler that a potentially routine revival of this ubiquitous musical was transformed into a rich and innovative meditation on the relationship between passion, talent and opportunity. Everyone involved in director Michael Weber's deftly wrought production raised their emotional game to match the power of the star — and the result was the best show in Porchlight's long history.

8. "Cry It Out," Northlight Theatre: The early years of motherhood — joyous, exhausting, debilitating — have been much under-explored in the American theater, given how many women go through the complexities of that experience. But Molly Smith Metzler addressed the topic in a rare, generous play that was all about the feelings of the audience, not the views of the playwright. Beautifully directed by Jessica Fisch, this was a vulnerable, humane piece as sure of its specifics as the universals. And you didn't need to be a new mom to cry it out at the theater, and then go home better armed.

9. "Radio Golf," Court Theatre: The director Ron O.J. Parson's revelatory Chicago production of August Wilson's final play was sufficient to undermine the common assumption that this was the weakest of the Pittsburgh Cycle. It might have felt that way in its premiere, but Parson's show revealed not just hidden depths but the remarkable prescience of the work. And viewing it at Court as the South Side pondered the likely gentrifying impact of the Obama Presidential Center only made the intensity more acute. If only Wilson could have been there.

10. "Mies Julie," Victory Gardens Theatre: Racial inequality is at the heart of Yael Farber's explosive South African adaptation of August Strindberg's throbbing naturalistic classic. But with the help of the fired-up Heather Chrisler in the title role, the director Dexter Bullard made this a startlingly passionate lean and piece, revealing of how sexual desire can and does thrive amidst the chronic imbalance of power. As bodies fell toward their fate through time and space, nobody dared look away for long.

Ten more, in alphabetical order: "A Shayna Maidel," TimeLine Theatre; "Birdland," Steep Theatre; "Buried Child," Writers Theatre; "The End of TV," Manual Cinema; "Haymarket," Underscore Theatre Co.; "In the Canyon," Jackalope Theatre; "Jesus Christ Superstar," Lyric Opera of Chicago; "Lettie," Victory Gardens Theater; "The Light," New Colony; "Once," Paramount Theatre of Aurora.

Chris Jones is a Tribune critic.

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BEST OF THE ARTS | 2018



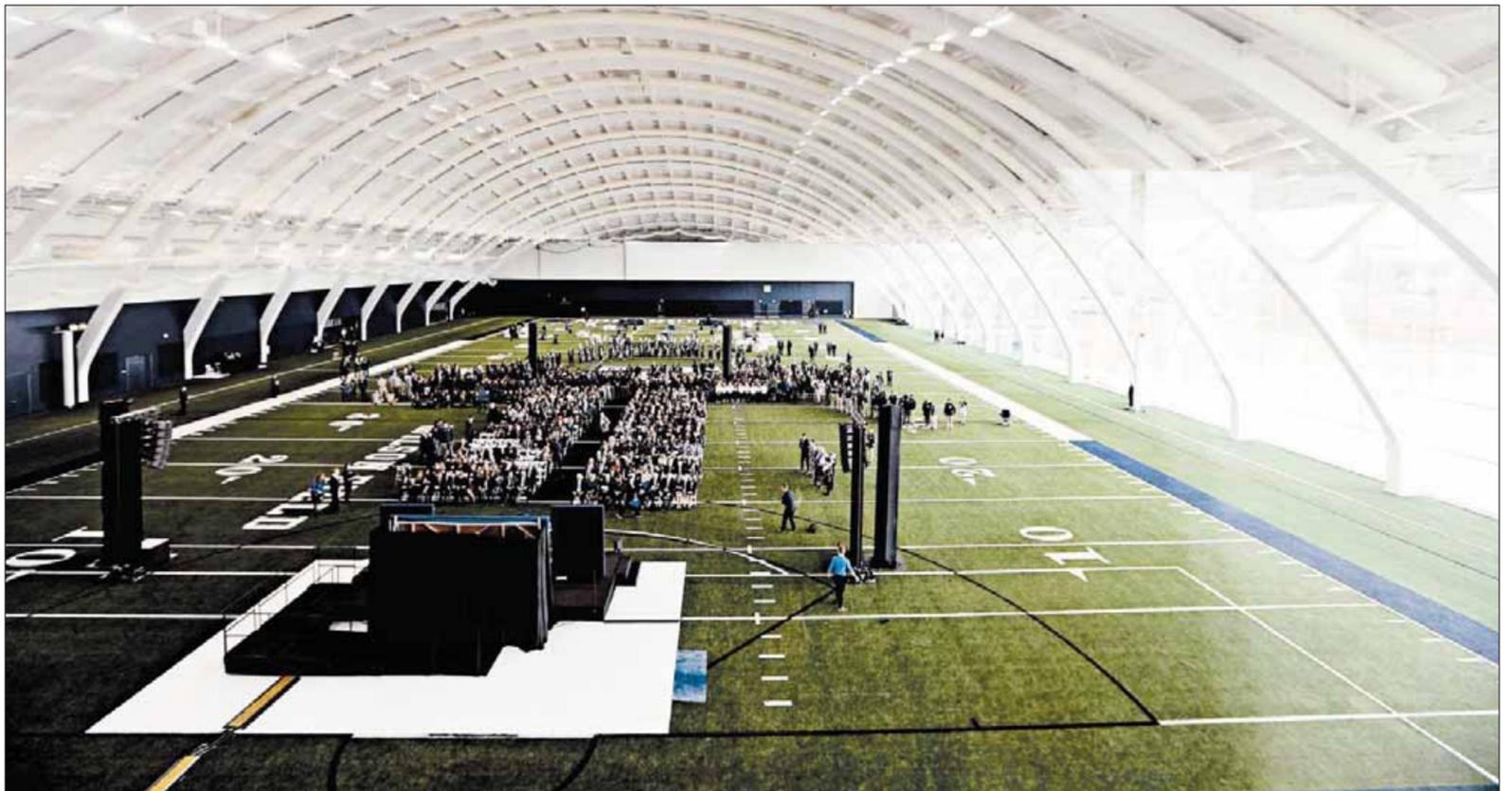
ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Japanese architect Tadao Ando designed the new exhibition space at 659 W. Wrightwood, in Lincoln Park.



GATEWAY ARCH PARK FOUNDATION

The new museum entrance beneath the Arch in St. Louis is wedged into the slope leading to the monument.



The opening ceremony for the new Ryan Fieldhouse on the Evanston campus of Northwestern University was held in April.

CHRIS WALKER/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

ARCHITECTURE

A vital year in surprising places

BY BLAIR KAMIN
Chicago Tribune

Construction cranes filled the skyline, but much of the best work in Chicago and the Midwest in 2018 was tucked away in settings far from the high-rise commercial maelstrom. Here are some of the year's finest projects:

The 'People's House,' a mess no more: Republican Gov. Bruce Rauner lost his bid for re-election to Democrat J.B. Pritzker, but Rauner and his wife Diana still leave an important architectural legacy: An elegant, privately-funded renovation of the previously decrepit Illinois Governor's Mansion.

Chicago's Vinci-Hamp architects, whose work on the project was led by principals Laura Hochuli and Phil Hamp, not only made the mansion functional. They brought a sense of order to its eclectic architecture and worked with Springfield landscape architects Massie & Associates to free the mansion from the thicket of trees and shrubs that long made it invisible to the public.

The Gateway Arch, improved: The Eero Saarinen-designed landmark, a glistening, gravity-defying tribute to America's westward expansion, reopened with a crisply-designed, expanded underground museum. New landscaping, including a broad land bridge that spans a highway, better connects the once-isolated monument to downtown St. Louis.

Brooklyn-based landscape architect Michael Van Valkenburgh, whose firm led the changes, is on the design team for the Obama Presidential Center in Chicago's Jackson Park.

Northwestern's jock Taj Mahal: Most college football practice facilities have all the architectural drama of a warehouse. On Northwestern's Evanston campus, the Ryan Fieldhouse and Walter Athletics Center rose several cuts above this banal norm with a domed indoor practice field enlivened by soaring arches and captivating views of Lake Michigan.

Designed by Ralph Johnson of Perkins+Will, the jaw-droppingly expensive (\$270 million) facility was built after the University of Michigan in 2011 tried to lure Northwestern football coach Pat Fitzgerald. This year, Northwestern quarterback Clayton Thorson cleverly nicknamed it the "Fitz Mahal."

A place in the sun for 'Solstice': Energy-saving buildings once were visual bores. Not Solstice on the Park, by Jeanne Gang of Studio Gang, an apartment high-rise just north of the Museum of Science and Industry.

The slanted windows of the 27-story building's southern wall serve as sun shades, reducing heat gain in summer. Their angled glass should admit lots of daylight in winter, increasing passive solar warming. All green architecture should



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Solstice on the Park by architect Jeanne Gang is a paragon of green architecture.

look this good.

Interior drama, part one: The Chicago Architecture Foundation got a new name, the Chicago Architecture Center, and a fitting new home — a striking, two-level interior at 111 E. Wacker Drive, practically alongside the dock for its popular Chicago River tour boats.

Designed by Gordon Gill of Adrian Smith + Gordon Gill Architecture, the spare yet lively interior is highlighted by giant skyscraper models that are displayed, like oversized mannequins, in its windows. It's a big move up for the center, which also organizes Open House Chicago.

Interior drama, part two: Pritzker Prize-winning Japanese architect Tadao Ando brilliantly transformed a four-story

Lincoln Park apartment building into an exhibition space whose foyer features a corkscrewing stair in Ando's famously smooth exposed concrete.

Like a ship in a bottle, the project inserted a new steel and concrete frame inside the building's original brick walls. Credit Chicago communications mogul Fred Eychaner for backing this spare-no-expense labor of love, which is called Wrightwood 659.

Chicago makes a splash in Venice: Building on the success of the first two editions of the Chicago Architecture Biennial, academics from Chicago institutions curated the U.S. pavilion at the Venice Architecture Biennale for the first time.

The curators — Ann Lui, assistant professor at the School of the Art Institute and Niall Atkinson, associate professor at

the University of Chicago, who worked with Los Angeles-based Mimi Zeiger — explored new meanings of what it means to be a citizen. Their show, titled "Dimensions of Citizenship," will appear at Wrightwood 659 from Feb. 15 to April 27.

Upbeat news for the Uptown Theatre: The long-shuttered theater, a Spanish Baroque Revival dazzler designed by C.W. and George L. Rapp, is finally on the road to renovation, ensuring that it won't suffer that fate of Adler & Sullivan-designed Garrick Theater, which came down in 1961.

With backing from Mayor Rahm Emanuel, restoration partners Jam Productions and Chicago-based Farpoint Development will helm a venture, backed by public and private money, that's supposed to reopen the theater, located at 4816 N. Broadway, for events by early 2021. The Chicago architectural firm of Lamar Johnson Collaborative and a team of consultants are handling the details.

The people speak in Evanston: Kudos to the tireless Evanston activists who spearheaded an election campaign that sent a strong message to the city's leaders: Save the Harley Clarke mansion, a graceful, city-owned Tudor Revival lake-front home. The leaders listened.

In an advisory referendum, about 80 percent of voters opted in favor of preserving the vacant 1927 mansion at 2603 Sheridan Road. The outcome put pressure on Evanston's City Council to chart an alternative course to the one advocated by a group of residents who offered the city more than \$400,000 to tear down the structure and replace it with parkland. On Monday, the Council effectively reversed itself and halted the demolition plan.

Fond farewells: The architecture world lost several figures, none more significant than postmodernist Robert Venturi, the Pritzker Prize-winning Philadelphia architect who led a revolt against the cool, sleekly abstract forms of mid-20th century modernism with his 1966 book "Complexity and Contradiction in Architecture" and his cheeky epigram — "less is a bore."

In Chicago, notable deaths included preservation architect and bookseller Wilbert R. Hasbrouck, co-owner of the now-closed Prairie Avenue Bookshop; Wilmont "Vic" Vickrey, who founded and led the Chicago-based architectural firm VOA Associates; and former Sara Lee Corp. CEO John H. Bryan Jr., a driving force behind the creation of Millennium Park and a leader of a 2003 fund-raising drive that kept Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's Farnsworth House at its original site in Chicago's far southwest suburbs.

Blair Kamin is a Tribune critic.

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WATCH THIS: SUNDAY



Demi-Leigh Nel-Peters

"2018 Miss Universe" (6 p.m., FOX): Daytime Emmy Award winner Steve Harvey returns as host for this long-running beauty pageant, airing live this year from Bangkok, Thailand, which previously hosted the event in 1992 and 2005. Following the familiar format, the three-hour telecast will feature nearly 100 women from countries around the world competing in swimwear and evening gown categories, along with an interview round. The reigning Miss Universe, Demi-Leigh Nel-Peters, will crown her successor.

"The Sound of Music" (6 p.m., ABC): Julie Andrews' sweet voice fills the hills in this Academy Award-winning 1965 musical based on the true story of Austria's Von Trapp family. Andrews plays Maria, the convent-trained governess of a wealthy Austrian's (Christopher Plummer) children. The score features such songs as "Edelweiss" and "My Favorite Things."

"A Gingerbread Romance" (7 p.m., Hallmark): Architect Taylor Scott (Tia Mowry-Hardtrick) is tingling with anticipation over a pending promotion that comes with a transfer to Paris, but first she must complete one more high-stakes task: creating a larger-than-life gingerbread house for a holiday competition against a professional rival, to be judged by the mayor. She enlists the somewhat wary professional help of pastry chef Adam Dale (Duane Henry) on the project, and the pair begin to strike some romantic sparks as they set to their challenging assignment.

"Hometown Christmas" (7 p.m., 11:01 p.m., Lifetime): Back in her Louisiana hometown for Christmas, Noelle Collins (Beverly Mitchell, "7th Heaven") feels driven to revive the town's once-popular living Nativity scene that her late mother always loved to coordinate each year. After Noelle has an awkward reunion with Nick Russell (Stephen Colletti), her old flame from high school, both of them are startled to discover their parents have been dating.

"God Friended Me" (7:30 p.m., CBS): Miles (Brandon Micheal Hall) is stunned and bitter when the God account sends him contact information for the person he probably least would like to meet: the drunk driver who killed Miles' mother 17 years earlier. Cara and Rakesh (Violett Beane, Suraj Sharma) quickly move to support their friend as he revisits the most brutal loss in his life, in a bid to move forward.

"Holiday Gingerbread Showdown" (8 p.m., 11 p.m., Food): Season one of this new yuletide kitchen competition draws to a close with "Ultimate Holiday Celebration," a title that suggests the theme for the three finalists' biggest scenes to date. The sky's the limit for these artists, who are free — and even encouraged — to add their own quirky touches to their elaborate creations, as well as tasty treats for the judges. Ultimately host Marcela Valladolid announces which contender walks away with the \$25,000 grand prize, plus a feature in Food Network Magazine.

"Small Town Christmas" (8 p.m., HMM): Author Nell Phillips (Ashley Newbrough) is exhausted at the end of a book tour to promote her novel "Small Town Christmas," but her publisher presses her to make one last stop: Springdale, Wis., which was the model for the town in her book. She's skittish about the visit, because Springdale is the hometown of Emmett Turner (Kristoffer Polaha), a former New York colleague with whom she shared a promising romance.

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

SUNDAY EVENING, DEC. 16

		MOVIES							
	PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	
BROADCAST	CBS	2	• (6:30) 60 Minutes (N)	God Friended Me: "17 Years." (N) ©	NCIS: Los Angeles: "Joy-ride." (N) ©	FBI: "Pilot." ©			
	NBC	5	• Football Night (N)	(7:20) NFL Football: Philadelphia Eagles at Los Angeles Rams. (N) (Live) ©					
	ABC	7	• (6) The Sound of Music (G,'65) **** Julie Andrews, Christopher Plummer. A governess weds an Austrian widower with seven children. ©				News at 10pm (N) •		
	WGN	9	• (6) NHL Hockey: San Jose Sharks at Chicago Blackhawks. (N) (Live) ©	Blackhawks Extra (N) ©	Weekend News (N)	Instant Replay (N) ©	Chicago's Best		
	Antenna	9.2	3's a Crowd	The Ropers	3's Comp.	B. Miller	Mork/Mindy	Alice ©	Soap ©
	This TV	9.3	In the Heat of the Night	In the Heat of the Night	In the Heat of the Night	In the Heat of the Night	In the Heat of the Night	In the Heat of the Night	Heat/Night •
	PBS	11	Little Women on Masterpiece ©	Victoria on Masterpiece: "A Soldier's Daughter: The Green-Eyed Monster." ©					Check, Please!
	The U	26.1	Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Engagement	Engagement	Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©
	MeTV	26.3	Columbo: "Agenda for Murder." ©				Touched by an Angel ©		Ngt. Gallery
	H&I	26.4	Star Trek ©		Star Trek: Next		Star Trek: Deep Space 9		Star Trek •
Bounce	26.5	• (6) Waist Deep (R,'06) •		Tyler Perry's I Can Do Bad All By Myself (PG-13,'09) ••					
FOX	32	• (6) 2018 Miss Universe (N) (Live) ©				Fox 32 News at Nine Sunday		Fox Chicago Final Word	
Ion	38	• A Prince for Christmas	A Christmas in Royal Fashion (NR,'18) Cindy Busby.					Movie •	
TeleM	44	• (6) Kung Fu Panda 3 •••	Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas ('00) ••					Noticiero	
CW	50	iHeartRadio Jingle Ball 2018 (N) ©	Discontin.	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Mod Fam	
UniMas	60	• Spider 2	The Fault in Our Stars (NR,'14) ••• Shailene Woodley, Ansel Elgort.					•Ay Güey! •	
WJYS	62	Ever Increasing Faith	Truth of God			Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	
Univ	66	(5:00) Noticias 66 FDS (N) (Live)		Premios Univision Depo		República		Noticias (N)	
CABLE	AE	• (6) Ocean's Eleven (PG-13,'01) •••		Ocean's Thirteen (PG-13,'07) •••	George Clooney. •				
	AMC	(7:15) Elf (PG,'03) ••• Will Ferrell, James Caan. ©		(9:15) Elf (PG,'03) ••• Will Ferrell. •					
	ANIM	Crikey! It's the Irwins (N)	Amanda-Res. (N)	The Zoo ©				The Zoo •	
	BBCA	Planet Earth: "Caves." ©	Planet Earth: "Deserts."	Planet Earth: "Ice Worlds."				Earth •	
	BET	Barbershop: The Next Cut (PG-13,'16) ••• Ice Cube, Cedric the Entertainer.						Martin ©	
	BIGTEN	• College Basketball (N)	The B1G	The B1G	The B1G	BTN Football		in 60 ©	
	BRAVO	Housewives-Atlanta (N)	Vanderpump Rules (N)	Dirty John: "Shrapnel." (N)				Watch (N) •	
	CLTV	News at 7	News (N)	News at 8	News (N)	SportsFeed ©		News •	
	CNBC	Shark Tank ©	Deal or No Deal ©	Deal or No Deal ©				The Profit •	
	CNN	CNN Newsroom (N)	The Eighties: "Raised on Television." ©					Nineties •	
	COM	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park •	
	DISC	Alaska (N)	Last Frontier (N)	The Last Alaskans (N) ©				Alaskan (N)	
	DISN	• (6:45) Finding Dory (PG,'16) ••• ©	Party	Bizaardvark	Coop			Raven	
	E!	• (5) Bridesmaids ('11) •••	Bridesmaids (R,'11) ••• Kristen Wiig, Maya Rudolph. © •						
	ESPN	SportsCenter (N) (Live) ©	30 for 30			Boxing From Feb. 10, 1990.		SportCtr (N)	
	ESPN2	• Boxing ©	Woj & Lowe	Road to CFP	Road to CFP	Road to CFP	Road to CFP	Drone •	
	FNC	Scandalous (N)	The Next Revolution (N)	Life, Liberty & Levin (N)				Scandal •	
	FOOD	Gingerbread Showdown	Gingerbread (Season Finale) (N)	Holiday Baking				Cookie •	
	FREE	• Dr. Seuss' How-Grinch	(8:15) Disney's A Christmas Carol (PG,'09) •• © (SAP)						
	FX	The Amazing Spider-Man 2 (PG-13,'14) ••	Andrew Garfield, Emma Stone. ©					Amazing •	
	HALL	A Gingerbread Romance (NR,'18) Tia Mowry-Hardtrick.	A Shoe Addict's Christmas (NR,'18) •						
	HGTV	Hawaii (N)	Hawaii (N)	Bahamas (N)	Bahamas (N)	Island (N)	Island (N)	Hunters Int'l	
	HIST	American Pickers: Bonus Buys: "Rockin' Picks." (N) © •							
	HLN	Forensic	Forensic	Death Row Stories ©				Forensic	
	IFC	The Breakfast Club (R,'85) ••• Emilio Estevez. ©		(9:15) The Breakfast Club ('85) ••• •					
	LIFE	Hometown Christmas (NR,'18) Beverly Mitchell. ©				(9:03) Christmas Around the Corner •			
	MSNBC	Kasie DC (N) ©	Headliners ©	Headliners ©				Date. Ext. •	
	MTV	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	
	NBCSCH	• NBA G League (N Tape)		Postgame		Beer Money	Poker (N)	Football •	
	NICK	SpongeBob	The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie (PG,'04) •••			Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends •	
OVATION	• (6) Amistad (R,'97) ••• Morgan Freeman, Anthony Hopkins.				Glory (R,'89) ••• ••				
OWN	Police Women of Dallas	Police Women of Dallas	Police Women of Dallas				Police •		
OXY	Snapped: "Ashley Hoath."	Dannemora Prison Break ©					Homicide •		
PARMT	Bad Santa (R,'03) ••• Billy Bob Thornton. ©				Bad Santa (R,'03) ••• Tony Cox © •				
SYFY	Iron Man 3 (PG-13,'13) ••• Robert Downey Jr., Gwyneth Paltrow. ©						Super •		
TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Guest Book		
TCM	Meet Me in St. Louis (NR,'44) ••• Judy Garland.				Little Women (PG,'94) ••• ••				
TLC	90 Day Fiancé: "Backed Into a Corner." (N)						Gypsy •		
TLN	Living-Edge	Manna Fest	In Grace	Turning Point ©		Insights	Let Think		
TNT	• Star Wars: Return of the	Star Wars: The Force Awakens (PG-13,'15) ••• Harrison Ford. •							
TOON	Gumball	Gumball	Family Guy	Burgers	Amer. Dad	Family Guy ©			
TRAV	Haunted Case Files ©		Haunted Case Files (N)	Fear the Woods (N) ©			Haunted •		
TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Two Men	Two Men	King		
USA	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order: SVU	Mod Fam •				
VH1	The Wood (R,'99) •• Omar Epps, Taye Diggs. ©				Love & Basketball (PG-13,'00) ••• ••				
WE	Law & Order: "Remand."	Law & Order ©			Law & Order: "Trophy."	Law •			
WGN America	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	M*A*S*H ©		
PREMIUM	HBO	• About Mary (7:45) Blockers (R,'18) ••• Leslie Mann. ©				Sally4Ever	P. Holmes •		
	HBO2	• (6:35) The Prestige (PG-13,'06) ••• Hugh Jackman.				Sally4Ever	GoodFellas ('90) ••• ••		
	MAX	The Hitman's Bodyguard (R,'17) •• Ryan Reynolds.				Paycheck (PG-13,'03) •• Ben Affleck. •			
	SHO	Escape at Dannemora	Ray Donovan (N) ©	Escape at Dannemora (N)			Escape •		
	STARZ	Outlander (N) ©		(8:01) Counterpart (N)		Outlander ©		Counter •	
	STZENC	• (6:30) Zombieland •••		Passengers (PG-13,'16) ••	Jennifer Lawrence.			Dream Hs •	

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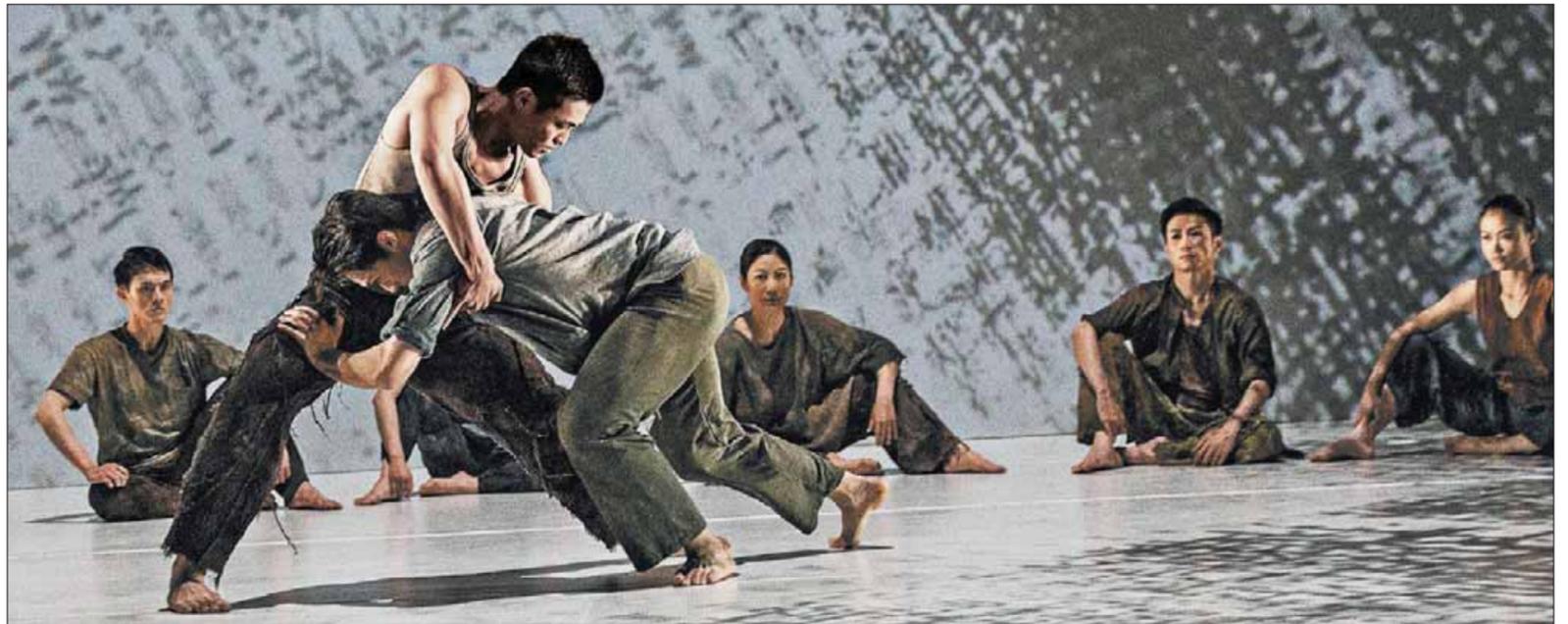
JANIS DEINATS PHOTO

Mikhail Baryshnikov performs "Brodsky / Baryshnikov."



CHRISTOPHE RAYNAUD DE LAGE PHOTO

Choreographer Dorothée Munyaneza presents "Unwanted" at the MCA Chicago.



Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan with "Formosa" at the Harris Theater.

LIU CHEN-HSIANG PHOTO

DANCE

Baryshnikov, old moves made new

BY LAUREN WARNECKE
Chicago Tribune

This year, Chicago's dance stages were filled with bold, ambitious programming, stunning revivals and work which responded to the present by reflecting on the past. It goes without saying that narrowing to a list of ten best performances in any genre is a tricky task, and without a "Best Of..." list for interdisciplinary live arts — performances which aren't strictly dance, theater or music — those defying categorization rarely receive the acknowledgment they deserve. From my perspective as "the dance person," two multi-disciplinary performances selected as part of my top picks represent the best of their kind this year. (Plus one dance pick from Chris Jones.)

"Brodsky/Baryshnikov" at the Harris Theater in January: Most people recognize him as Carrie Bradshaw's love interest on "Sex and the City," but Mikhail Baryshnikov is easily on a short list of the greatest dancers of all time. At age 70, he's still performing, currently staging the poetry of a dear friend, poet Joseph Brodsky, in a stunning production which seamlessly blends text, movement and stagecraft.

Joffrey's "Modern Masters" at the Auditorium Theatre in February: The jewel of Joffrey's winter mixed-rep was Jerome Robbins' "Glass Pieces," a lovingly restored work performed to commemorate what would have been the choreographer's 100th birthday. Paired with George Balanchine's "The Four Temperaments," this program affirmed this company's keen ability to master even the most demanding of those two men's canons.

Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan at the Harris Theater in February: With "Formosa," we witnessed the end of an era, the last of Lin Hwai-min's works as artistic director of Cloud Gate, the company he



CHERYL MANN PHOTO

The Joffrey Ballet presents "Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Auditorium Theatre.

formed in Taipei in 1973. All the signatures of Lin's work — a patient building of intensity, luscious visual landscape and a rich blend of eastern and western movement traditions — were present in this gorgeous tribute to his homeland.

Giordano Dance Chicago's Spring Series at the Harris Theater in March: All flavors of jazz dance were on view in a program which highlighted the exceptional range and ability of this 55-year-old company. It's honestly hard to pick the best of the company's productions this year, but for me, the cherry on top was a revival of "Pyrokinesis," (2007) a lightning-fast crowd-pleaser epitomizing the company's energy and brand.

Bebe Miller's "In a Rhythm" at the Dance Center in April: Bebe Miller was here twice this year. Seeing her, Ishmael Houston-Jones and Ralph Lemon improvise together at the MCA last month was historically monumental, however I'm partial to her company's performance at

the Dance Center, which harnessed complexities of art, politics and race within a study on syntax.

"Midsummer Night's Dream" at the Auditorium Theatre in April: Right on the heels of "Modern Masters" came what I would consider Joffrey's greatest undertaking yet, and certainly the most ambitious in scale. Performing a handful of works by Alexander Ekman in seasons past prepared the dancers for his full-length, wacky "Midsummer;" fish falling from the sky and Derrick Agnoletti dangling 30 feet above the stage — now *that* was a new challenge.

Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's Summer Series at the Harris Theater in June: The Israeli choreographer Ohad Naharin offered Gaga (no Lady) in glorious abundance as part of Hubbard Street Dance's summer program, a fabulously decadent evening that embraced humor, populism, big ideas and the thrilling rush of physical sensation. Here was a program

designed to get loyal dance audiences to think differently about their relationship to their beloved dancers, to throw away the traditional passivity and embrace a new relationship that is far more radical and thus far more exciting. To life! (by Chris Jones)

"Set Free" at Links Hall in August: Links Hall is having an incredible year, and I think the "Set Free" series perfectly encapsulates what goes on there. The shows — intimate and unapologetically unpolished — gives choreographers the chance to develop work in installments, softening the barriers between artists and audiences. This particular run featured Tara Aisha Willis and Emma Draves, whose February full-length "Listen..." at Hamlin Park Fieldhouse was also among my absolute favorites this year.

"Unwanted" at the MCA in October: Some shows stay with you long after the curtain falls. Dorothée Munyaneza's "Unwanted," a heart-rending multidisciplinary performance giving voice to the stories of Rwandan women who endured rape and the murder of their families during the country's civil war in the 1990s, is one I thought about for weeks after. Particularly captivating in its final moments, Munyaneza's mournful duet with vocalist Holland Andrews, their pulsing bodies beating massive, amplified mortars into pestles, still brings chills.

Tere O'Connor at the Dance Center in October: I'm tempted to call O'Connor's "Long Run" one of the year's best examples of "pure dance," but that doesn't quite do it justice. But it was, by far, a more memorable journey than most, as satisfying in its long stretches of stillness as it is in lively moments of dancing.

Lauren Warnecke is a freelance critic.

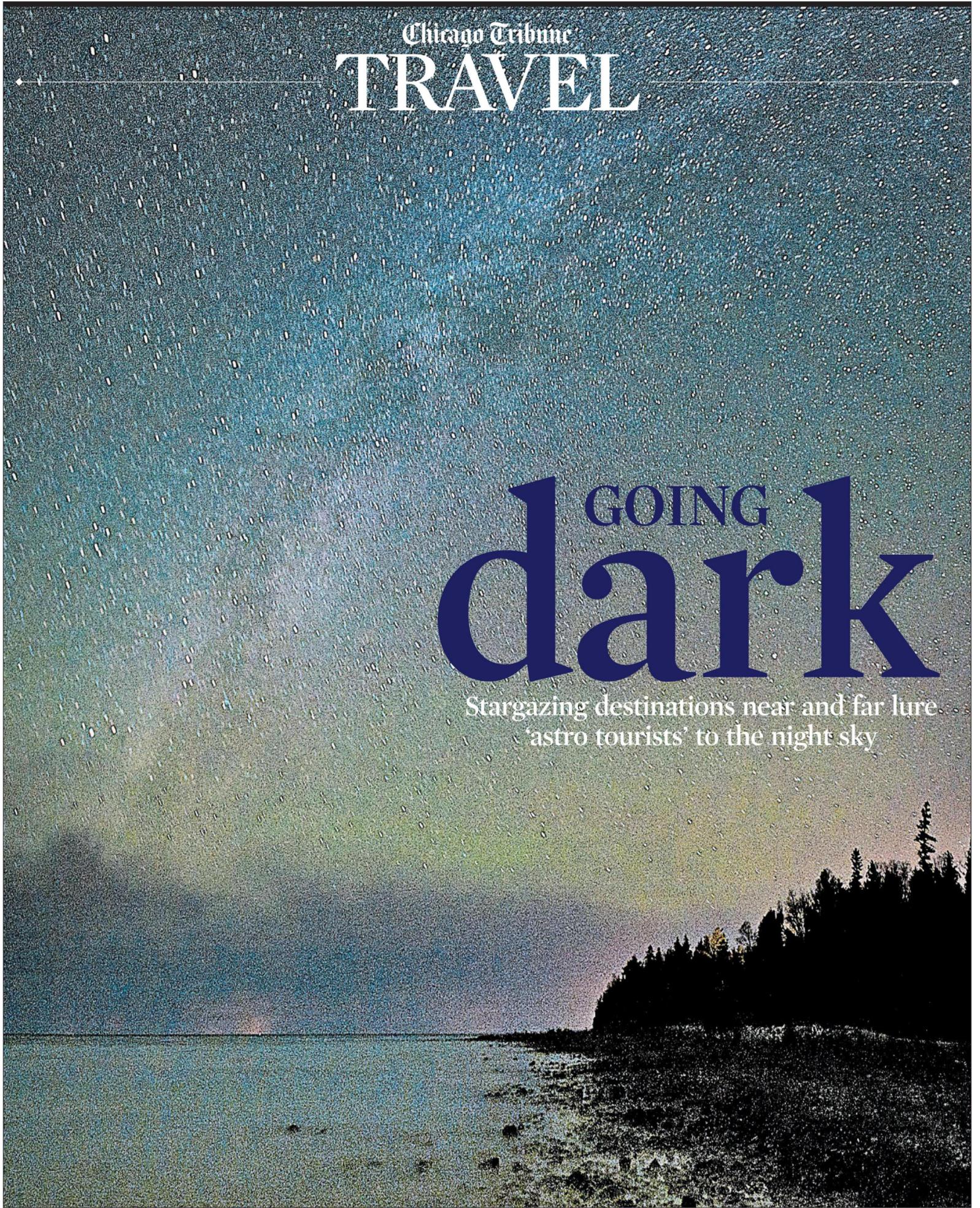
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Bushwackers, brews and more in Pensacola, Fla. Back Page

Which Canadian province lies between Saskatchewan and Ontario? GeoQuiz answer, Page 4



PETOSKEY AREA VISITORS BUREAU

After sunset, the Lake Michigan shore at Headlands International Dark Sky Park, near Mackinaw City, Mich., is a great place for stargazing.

BY TERRI COLBY | Chicago Tribune

The night sky has become a tourist destination. But wait a minute. Can't we see the night sky simply by stepping outside after dark and looking up?

Well, yes. But for most of us, that means seeing the glow from artificial lights reflecting off clouds, water vapor and dust particles in the air. It's called sky glow; the night sky is so bright, it's hard to see the stars.

For most of the time people have lived on this planet, the night sky was inky dark and filled with visible celestial objects. It's inspired poets and dreamers, artists and scientists, linking humankind with its past and perhaps its future, as people looked to the sky to ponder life's mysteries.

It's been only in the last 100 years or so that light and air pollution have diminished those views. And it's been only in recent years that people have started traveling in search of what has

been lost, whether it's seeking out spots close to home in the Midwest or venturing farther afield in the Southern Hemisphere.

"We're seeing dark-sky tourism as a reaction against our increasingly busy, tech-filled lives," said Daniel Levine, a travel trends expert and director of the Avant-Guide Institute, a global trends consultancy. "It's a chance to decompress, be somewhere quiet and be awed by the biggest question in life: Why are we here?"

Hoping for a dark-sky experience of my own, earlier this year I headed to a mountain plateau west of the Andes in Chile's Atacama Desert, one of the driest places on Earth and a mecca for astronomers and stargazers.

I settled in at the small town of San Pedro de Atacama with plans to do some stargazing and to visit the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array. Better known as ALMA, it's billed as the "most complex astronomical observatory ever built on Earth" by the U.S.-based National Radio Astronomy Observatory. In cooperation with the Chilean government, an international partnership among North America, Europe and East Asia built and operates the facility. Scientists from around the world share time on the telescopes for research.

The town is a tourist center with muted lighting and dirt streets lined with restaurants, souvenir shops and

tour operators offering desert adventures. It seemed there was a stargazing operator on every block. I worked with Astronomic Tour Licanantay Observatory, a company that mixes astronomy with culture to explore the night sky and how it was interpreted by the ancient Atacameno people. (Another good option is San Pedro de Atacama Celestial Explorations, or SPACE. Except for the days around the full moon, both companies offer nightly tours leaving from San Pedro.)

A late-night, half-hour bus ride took me out of town into the desert. After climbing out of the bus, I stopped in my tracks. It was so dark I couldn't see the ground. But no one needed to point out the Milky Way: There it was up above, a vast streak composed of billions upon billions of stars, packed so close together, it seemed as though one

Turn to **Stargazing, Page 4**

Japan's time capsule of Western architecture

BY CHARLES FLEMING
Los Angeles Times

INUYAMA, Japan — This nation may have more theme parks per capita than any other country. Besides Disneyland, Legoland and Universal Studios, there are smaller parks featuring a miniature Spain and celebrations of Pokemon.

Then there's Meiji-mura in central Japan — an open-air museum that pays homage to Western-inspired architecture that

appeared in Japan as it opened its borders to foreign trade after 200 years of isolation.

The 250-acre site, open since 1965, is home to more than 60 structures from the Meiji era (1868-1912), including schools, police stations, bus terminals, administrative buildings, churches, private residences and even a prison.

These aren't reproductions. They are actual buildings, each procured, dismantled, moved and painstakingly rebuilt.

The prize is the original lobby and first floor of architect Frank Lloyd Wright's Imperial Hotel, opened in June 1923. It's one of the few major structures to have withstood the 7.9-magnitude Great Kanto quake three months later and the World War II fire-bombing of Tokyo. Wright's masterwork was demolished in 1968, and the park's owners shipped the remnants of the lobby and reflecting pool to their then-new theme park.

I spent five happy hours

last summer traipsing around the park, wondering at the Japanese workers' houses relocated from Hawaii and Brazil. Also lovingly re-created are a lighthouse, several bridges and factories that once produced beer and sake. My favorite might have been the bathhouse, the butcher's shop or the barbershop — all with period-correct vintage equipment and implements — or the Foreigner's House, its interior accurate down to the last 1887 detail.



CHARLES FLEMING/LOS ANGELES TIMES

Meiji-mura preserves historical buildings including the main lobby of the Imperial Hotel designed by Frank Lloyd Wright.

Discovering the remote reaches of Europe



RICK STEVES
Tribune Content Agency

In my early days as a guidebook writer, Europe's undiscovered nooks and undeveloped crannies held the most appeal for me — and they still do.

But with ever more sophisticated travelers armed with enough time and money to see the Europe of their dreams, places I “discovered” a few decades ago are now suffering from Back Door congestion.

Given that, I've come to treasure even more those destinations that still have the feeling of a world apart. Away from the tourist fray, these special spots are backwaters in the best sense of the word, each with its own genuine charm.

It typically takes a little extra effort to reach such places, but the reward is considerable. Gimmelwald, a remote and impossibly idyllic village high in the Swiss Alps, is a classic example. Parking your car in the valley floor and riding the cable car up is like going through a looking-glass.

Your car shrinks, your stomach flip-flops, you look over the valley as though suspended from a hang glider. Then, suddenly, the cable-car doors slide open and you're deposited — as if from a magical glass bubble — into another world. It's a place where the air is clean and sharp; where the only noises are bees, bugs and birds pursuing alpine flowers; and where gnomelike men sucking gnomelike pipes are busy chopping firewood.

Or take Aero Island. Few visitors to Scandinavia even notice this sleepy 6-by-22-mile island on Denmark's



A footpath is all that connects Italy's hill town of Civita di Bagnoregio to the mainland.



Life is good in Switzerland's impossibly idyllic village of Gimmelwald, even for sunbathing goats.

southern edge (it's four hours by train from Copenhagen). The main town, Aeroskobing, is like a village in a bottle, where you can wander down cobbled lanes right out of the 1680s,

when the town was the wealthy home port of commercial sailing ships.

What is there to do in this time-passed place? Not much. Wander the town, or pedal a rented bike into the

essence of Denmark. Enjoy a picnic dinner out on the island's spit as the late summer sun sets, while happy children splash in the warm water. It's a perfect Danish scene that takes “cozy” to enjoyable extremes.

Portugal's beachy south coast is well discovered now, but one bit of old magic still glitters quietly in the sun: Salema. Near the far southwest tip of Europe, this longtime fishing village is at the end of a small road that's only recently been paved. There are a dozen or so restaurants, a few hotels and endless summer sun. Most important, it has a long, broad, gorgeous beach, luxurious with powder-fine sand.

These days, Salema is

just barely a fishing village, with only six or eight working boats. At night, you'll see evenly spaced lights bobbing on the horizon: Those are the fisherman, out in search of squid, sardines and octopi. The catch that flops into the boats is bound for the market and — who knows — maybe onto your beach-front dinner plate. Eating like a “locavore” isn't a trend in Salema; it's the way it's always been.

Far to the north, strewn like limestone chips hammered off Ireland's jagged west coast, the Aran Islands confront the wild Atlantic with stubborn grit. Bleak and beautiful Inishmore, the largest, is 9 miles of weather-beaten rock with one town. Inhabitants

eke out a simple livelihood from a mean sea and less than 6 inches of topsoil.

Tourism is a true boon to the tough economy of the starkly beautiful island, which has one must-see sight: Dun Aengus. This Iron Age stone fortress hangs spectacularly and precariously on the edge of a sheer cliff. Even at the height of tourist season (especially if you come early or late in the day), you can be alone here, high above the crashing Atlantic, feeling like the westernmost person in Europe.

Little Civita di Bagnoregio (an hour north of Rome) is definitely a world apart, teetering atop a pinnacle in a vast canyon. To reach this Italian hill town, you leave your car behind, walk across an elevated path, pass through a cut in the rock made by Etruscans 2,500 years ago and head under a 12th-century arch.

Inside the gate, the charms of Civita are subtle. There are no lists of attractions, orientation tours or museum hours. It's just Italy.

The warm stone walls glow, and each stairway is an invitation to take out a sketch pad or camera. Take a seat on the church steps and observe the scene. They say that in a big city you can see a lot, but in a small town like this you can feel a lot.

With crowds becoming a problem across the Continent, sampling such “world apart” destinations is a smart way to experience Europe. They may be quieter and less flashy than the blockbuster sites, but these little gems are guaranteed to create enduring travel memories.

Rick Steves (www.ricksteves.com) writes European travel guidebooks and hosts travel shows on public television and public radio. Email him at rick@ricksteves.com and follow his blog on Facebook.

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TRAVEL TROUBLESHOOTER

Can I get an extension for Aer Lingus ticket credit?

By CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT | King Features

I bought seven tickets on Aer Lingus to fly from Chicago to Dublin. I also purchased an extra seat for me, since I have hip and spinal issues.

While we were seated on the plane to return to Chicago from Dublin, a flight attendant told my son he had to get out of his seat because it belonged to someone else.

I showed the crew member the email confirmation from Aer Lingus because I couldn't show a ticket for the seat. But there was a reservation in the computer for it. I told the supervisor I needed the seat for the hip and spine issues. She told me they could take me off the plane if I was not medically capable of flying.

The attendant said that Aer Lingus had an equipment change and had moved to a smaller aircraft. As a result, they had to bump four people from the flight. When I returned to the States, I got the refund for the extra seat, plus an e-card worth \$400 that expires next year.

God willing, I'd like to return to Ireland in two years for a family event. I will be 85 in December and sure hope I live a few more years and my body cooperates. I asked Aer Lingus if it would extend the expiration date for the e-card until June 2020. The airline said no.

My kids were upset because their mother was in pain and they couldn't do anything about it. Is there anything else I could do to get Aer Lingus to extend that e-card?

— Maureen Cosentino, Chesterton, Ind.

A: Aer Lingus shouldn't have taken your seat from you. Fortunately, it apologized, refunded the money and offered a credit for a future flight. Unfortunately, it wasn't a credit you could use.

How did you end up on a flight to Chicago, minus one seat? Airlines sometimes swap planes just before a flight, which is called an "equipment change" in airline parlance. When that happens, airlines use an algorithm to determine the seating assignments for the new plane. Sometimes, they come up a few seats short. That's what happened with your flight.

It appears as if the flight attendant and her supervisor believed that removing

your extra seat wouldn't be too much of an inconvenience. After all, three other passengers had to stay in Dublin until the next flight. But they were wrong about that, and in the end, Aer Lingus did the right thing by offering you an apology and a ticket credit.

Airline ticket credits normally last only a year. But you also could have tried a different approach. At one point, your anger at Aer Lingus boiled over, and according to my staff, you said you wanted to "smack" the airline employees. That probably wouldn't have been the most effective resolution. I'm glad cooler heads prevailed and that you took this up with the company when you returned. A

brief, polite email to one of the Aer Lingus customer-service executives was your best approach.

In the end, Aer Lingus wasn't required to extend your ticket. But, given your circumstances, I think you had a strong case. So I asked. Aer Lingus agreed to either extend the ticket credit by another year or offer you a \$400 cash refund. You took the cash. I hope you enjoy your visit to Ireland in 2020.

Christopher Elliott is the ombudsman for National Geographic Traveler magazine and the author of "How to Be the World's Smartest Traveler." You can read more travel tips on his blog, elliott.org, or email him at chris@elliott.org.

CELEBRITY TRAVELER
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Actress finds self through travels

By JAE-HA KIM
Tribune Content Agency

Actress Lindsay Price says her first trip to Maui surprised her because she felt so comfortable. "It was less the surrounding and more the people," she says. "Being mixed growing up, I never really felt like I fit in anywhere. But when I went there for the first time, I felt completely at home. The people are of all different Asian cultures and mixes. They are American. They are Hawaiian. And the Hawaiian culture is all about family. Ohana. I just got it. Also, I learned I am a hapa — half Asian, half white. They have a word for what I am. I was like, 'Yeah. This is my place.'" Price, 41, is one of the stars of the ABC series "Splitting Up Together." She resides with her husband, celebrity chef Curtis Stone, and their children in Los Angeles.

An edited version of our conversation follows.

Q: What is your favorite vacation destination?

A: So far it has been Mallorca, Spain. Other than getting married there and obviously having dreamy memories of the island, there is something magical about the seascapes—the countryside vibe there. It has fairy-tale villages, and there is an artists' haven soul to the island that resonates with me perfectly. It's chic, old-world Europe. The first thing you must do is visit the little town of Valldemossa. Walk the cobblestone streets and absorb the culture a bit.



CRAIG SJODIN/ABC

Follow the steps of Frederic Chopin, who lived there and wrote, (and maybe) gain some inspiration yourself.

Q: What was the first trip you took as a child?

A: It was in an RV with my family (going) from Los Angeles to the Grand Canyon, Yosemite and the sequoias and Mount Zion. Setting out onto the open road with my family with nothing to do but explore and share an adventure was the single joyous thing for me as a kid. Honestly, California alone has some of the most incredible nature and landscape in the world.

Q: What is the most important thing you've learned from your travels?

A: Perspective. It is so important to see the world from outside your own perspective. Travel is the best way to gain empathy for others, to understand your position in the world and have gratitude for your life. There is so much wonder to be seen. I feel it connects me to those that I love. I feel there is nothing like a new shared experience between loved ones. Each time I take a trip, I

don't feel that travel is as much of an escape as it is a return to my true self.

Q: Do you ever spend time away from home during the holidays?

A: The best holiday trip I ever took was last year. We rented a cabin in Mammoth Mountain for 10 days. My dream of being snowed in came true. We had all the people we loved in one place, and no one could leave! (laughs) It was a winter wonderland — lots of fireplace talks and laughs, fuzzy slippers and hot chocolate. It was an absolute dream.

Q: What's on your travel bucket list?

A: I'm dying to see the Northern Lights, maybe in one of those incredible glass-ceiling hotels. Also, I have not explored Italy and France like I need to. I think I might be French deep down. I need to know for sure.

Q: What would be a dream trip?

A: A long stay in the Italian countryside. Also, I would love to ski the Swiss Alps, or maybe Courchevel.

For more from the reporter, visit www.jaehakim.com.

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BARNSELY RESORT

More than 1 million lights sparkle at Barnsley Resort in Georgia's Blue Ridge Mountains.

Give the gift of travel

By PATTI NICKELL
Lexington Herald-Leader

I was recently scrolling through YouTube videos to get an idea of what would be the hot gift ideas for this holiday season.

That's when I stumbled upon a video that suggested giving not an object, but an experience — and a travel experience at that.

It got me thinking about some of the special places I've visited over the years that could be wrapped up in a bow and given to family members and friends.

Get lit

If Christmas just isn't Christmas without a lot of lights, then pack up and head for Barnsley Resort in the foothills of Georgia's Blue Ridge Mountains. On Thanksgiving, they flipped the switch on the more than 1 million lights in the gardens of the resort's Manor House Ruins, turning it into a wonderland of color. The lights will remain twinkling through New Year's Night.

While the lights will surely bedazzle even the Grinchiest Scrooge, there is a host of other holiday activities and themed events, including gingerbread house- and wreath-making classes, cookie decorating and campfire stories in addition to an elaborate holiday dinner buffet.

Barnsley's "Light up the Holidays" promotion includes accommodations in one of the resort's 90 cottages; a \$50 dollar credit that can be used for dining, spa treatments, activities such as clay shooting or horseback riding, even shopping in the well-stocked boutique. Package is valid through Dec. 27.

Giddy up

There's no place like Home for the holidays — the Home Ranch, that is. This 14-room, all-inclusive Relais & Chateaux property outside of Steamboat Springs, Colo., is tailor-made for those who want a Christmas filled with skiing (both downhill and cross country), snow tubing, dog sledding, winter horseback riding and sleigh rides.

The property's 4,000 acres, at an elevation of 7,200 feet, are set against the Western Continental Divide, with the Rockies and Upper Elk River Valley as scenic backdrops.

The Home Ranch offers two holiday packages for snow bunnies. The Christmas Week Package (Dec. 20-27) is a seven-night stay that includes accommodations, all activities and meals, caroling and a live tree in each guest room and cabin (decorations are provided, or you can bring your own favorites).

The New Year's Eve Package (Dec. 27 to Jan. 3)

will feature a full schedule of snowy activities capped off by a festive New Year's Eve dinner and New Year's Day lunch (live music and dancing provided). Each package requires a five-night minimum stay.

Classic Christmas

Spend the holidays in the Big Apple with its iconic tree in Rockefeller Plaza, carriage rides in Central Park and dazzling window displays at Bergdorf-Goodman, Tiffany, Barneys and the like.

You'll want a hotel that's an American classic in its own right, and the Lowell on the fashionable Upper East Side more than fills the bill. This holiday season it's offering the Very Lowell Holiday Package. Immaculately decorated suites will take on seasonal touches like lit trees and stockings hung with care, while other amenities include afternoon tea in the Pembroke Room and VIP tickets to the Wollman Skating Rink in Central Park.

The package also features milk, cookies and a selection of classic holiday storybooks for children and a bottle of Pommery Champagne for adults, along with a daily full American breakfast for four in Majorelle Restaurant or the privacy of your suite.

NEWS TO USE

By PHIL MARTY
Chicago Tribune

Here are some of the more interesting events, deals, websites and other travel tidbits that have come across our desk recently:

■ Master ice carvers will be at work Dec. 27-28 for the 11th annual Shipshewana Ice Festival in Shipshewana, Ind. Cash prizes will be awarded, and the 10th annual Chili Cook-Off will be on the 28th. tinyurl.com/yhh3sex

■ "A Christmas Carol: A Holiday Pantomime" is being presented Dec. 28-30 at the Raue Center for the Arts in Crystal Lake. The production features a cast of seven adult professional actors from the Chicago area and 50 local young actors from Sage Studio's performance workshop classes. tinyurl.com/ycmrsj78

■ An exhibit featuring more than 40 costumes worn by stars in 25 films of the past two decades is being presented by The History Museum in South Bend, Ind. CUT! Costume and the Cinema represents craftsmanship and creativity as interpreted by award-winning costume designers. It's open through Jan. 6. tinyurl.com/y7f5eoyy

■ Search for bald eagles and other birds wintering at McKinley Woods preserve in Channahon, Ill., during the Forest Preserve District of Will County's free Eagle Watch on the River program. Eagle watching will take place 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jan. 4-5. tinyurl.com/ycmrknmt

■ The musical play "Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn" is being presented through Dec. 31 at the Derby Dinner Playhouse in Clarksville, Ind. The musical is based on the classic holiday movie and, as you might have guessed, includes dinner. tinyurl.com/yca84c76



ANDREW ROHRER/BLUE GATE HOSPITALITY

It's almost ice festival time in Shipshewana, Ind., roughly 130 miles east of Chicago. The festival is Dec. 27-28.

■ Driven by Hope is a nearly yearlong exhibit on display at the African American Museum of Iowa in Cedar Rapids. It looks at African-American migration to Iowa from the end of the Civil War to the Great Depression. The stories of modern migrants and immigrants to Iowa also are included. The exhibit is on display through Aug. 2. tinyurl.com/yd8d8hwX

■ If you've always wanted to try spelunking, Cave Adventures in Cable, Ohio, has you covered. Winter weather won't deter you as you crawl, climb and walk through the cave, which has a constant temperature of 54 degrees. www.caveadventuresllc.com

■ "Home for the Holidays" will be presented Dec. 28-31 by the Northern Sky Theater in Fish Creek on Wisconsin's Door County peninsula. The popular show includes seasonal songs and humor. tinyurl.com/ydddmlmk

■ The Land O'Lakes Dog Show will be Jan. 4-6 at the St. Paul RiverCentre in St. Paul, Minn. There will be judging as well as demonstrations, seminars, exhibits and more. www.landolakeskennelclub.org

■ Sister Bay, Wis., will ring in the New Year on Dec. 31 with the second annual

Cherry Drop, featuring a lighted cherry replica. There will be ice skating, fireworks at 8 p.m., a Cherry Drop Party with music beginning at 10:30 p.m. and the big drop at midnight. tinyurl.com/y77vweu2

■ If you want to start the New Year by dunking a line, the Wisconsin Free Fishing weekend will be Jan. 19-20. No license will be required on those dates, and if you don't have tackle, it will be available to use for free at many state parks and Department of Natural Resources regional offices. tinyurl.com/y9ynv2cd

Deals and websites listed here have been checked for availability as of press time. Listings are not endorsements. Send tips at least a month in advance to ChicagoTribTravel@gmail.com.

Phil Marty is a freelance writer.

GEOQUIZ ANSWER

Manitoba. It stretches northward to Hudson Bay and the town of Churchill, a popular spot to see polar bears.

Stargazing

Continued from Page 1

blended into another.

These "envoys of beauty" (Ralph Waldo Emerson) and "jewels of the night" (Henry David Thoreau) that made Vincent van Gogh paint masterpieces were on display for me in a place where the ancient Atacamenos were long-ago astronomers.

About a dozen people on our tour spent the next hour sitting on wooden benches lining a raised platform while a guide pointed out the stars, constellations and planets. He talked about the people who lived here long ago, when there were so many stars twinkling in the skies that people named the dark spaces in between them, similar to the way we name constellations. We had a telescope at our disposal for magnified viewing, but I preferred just looking up and listening to him talk. Before it was over, each of us posed for a photo with the Milky Way as a backdrop, providing a nice souvenir.

The next morning, I got a tour that was decidedly more scientific at ALMA's Operations Support Facility, an engineering marvel open to the public Saturday and Sunday mornings. Admission is free, but it's best to make a reservation well in advance at almaobservatory.org/en. Click on "Outreach" and "Visits."

Perched 6,000 feet above the operations facility, the radio telescopes aren't within view of the public, but people can see the data pouring into computers monitored by scientists. The facility has an extensive education program that can keep visitors entertained for hours.

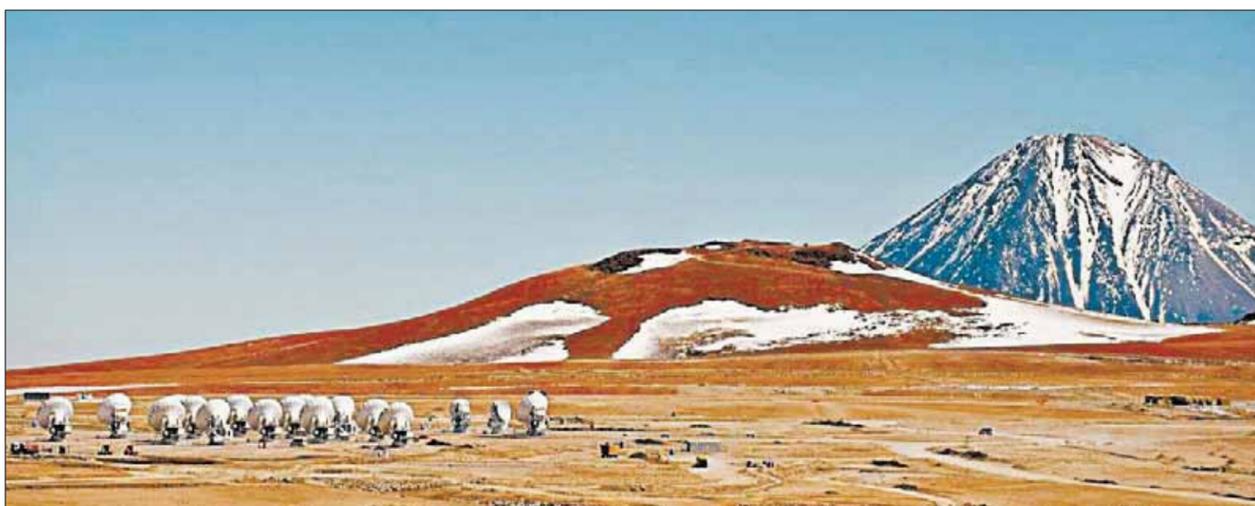
Because most of us don't have access to clear skies like those in the Atacama, destinations offering dark-sky experiences have become tourist attractions. It's part of a larger trend of so-called astro tourism, according to Levine, the travel trends expert.

"We are living in a new age of space awareness," he said. "People are looking to the skies as never before."

Witness the crowds who traveled to see the solar eclipse in 2017, and others taking trips to experience the Northern Lights.

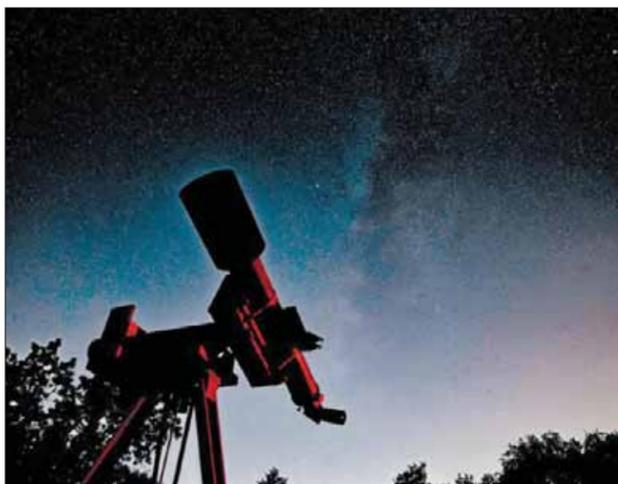
Even before astro tourism took off, the International Dark-Sky Association had raised the alarm that the visible night sky is a vanishing natural wonder.

Formed 30 years ago, the asso-



CARLOS PADILLA/NATIONAL RADIO ASTRONOMY OBSERVATORY

ALMA's Array Operations Site in the Chilean Andes, where the antennas are positioned for the best signals, is within sight of the Licancabur Volcano, an active volcano on the border between Chile and Bolivia.



CHUCK FLORES PHOTO

You can get a good look at the Milky Way by heading to Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore near Beverly Shores, Ind.

ciation has designated more than 100 locales around the world as dark-sky places, ranging from light pollution-minded suburbs like Homer Glen and the small Indiana town of Beverly Shores, where shields on street lighting keep the illumination focused downward, to dark sky parks in the Southwest U.S. and much larger reserves or sanctuaries in places such as Namibia and New Zealand. Utah has the world's highest concentration of IDSA-certified parks, some of which offer regular stargazing events.

In northern Michigan, the Headlands International Dark Sky Park in Mackinaw City gained IDSA certification in 2011. The park includes more than 500

acres of woodlands along 2 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, as well as an events center and a guest house that can sleep 22 people. With miles of hiking trails and kid-friendly outdoor sky exhibits, it's a great place to visit during the day. But at night, it's for relaxing and pondering the cosmos.

The first night I was at Headlands, clouds obscured the scene, and the bugs at sunset were intense.

On our second night, the sky came alive, slowly. The first stars to show up were actually planets, Venus and Jupiter, before sunset. A midsummer night with no moon was perfect for stargazing, but the full sunset was a long time



TERRI COLBY/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Headlands International Dark Sky Park has walking trails with exhibits like this one, explaining the mythology that surrounds Saturn.

coming.

While daylight lingered, a park astronomer guided visitors to a telescope set up on a patio along the lakeshore. As the skies darkened, most folks preferred to just look up and watch as more and more stars surfaced and the pink-tinted, blue-gray sky slowly turned black.

The star show at Headlands wasn't a match for the ideally dry skies of Chile, but for most city residents, it's an extravaganza well worth the trip.

Not many of the official dark-sky places are close to large metropolitan areas, for obvious reasons. That's what makes the Beverly Shores community designation special; it's within reach of

millions of people.

On the banks of Lake Michigan, across the water from Chicago, Beverly Shores is surrounded by the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Just outside of town, in the parking lot for Kemil Beach, amateur astronomers share their telescopes at monthly stargazing events.

"When I was a kid, you could drive out of the city and into the darkness, but these little islands of darkness are disappearing," said Larry Silvestri, who helps run the stargazing at Kemil Beach. "But here, 10 million people in this region can come and see the Milky Way."

Terri Colby is a freelance writer.



EDUCATION IMAGES/UNIVERSAL IMAGES GROUP

A woman goes hiking in the Dr. Seuss-like, almost psychedelically green Waianapanapa State Park on Hawaii's Maui island.

Take a hike on Maui's wild side

Paradise found in island's remote areas

By **KERRI WESTENBERG**
Minneapolis Star Tribune

I wanted to find wild Maui, so naturally, I piled my family into a rental car for a five-hour drive on a narrow road with single-lane bridges and curves so sharp that I sometimes lost sight of the pavement — and oncoming cars.

Horns and brakes get a workout on this roadway. Knuckles turn white. And, still, I decided that it was our path to paradise, remote Maui where Hawaiians outnumber haoles (aka mainlanders), horses graze on oceanside pastures and the landscape drips with verdant beauty.

Our destination, the tiny town of Hana, was all that. Especially the dripping part.

One day, 5 inches of rain fell in an hour. We learned online that some sections of the highway we had braved — the legendary Road to Hana — had closed.

I could think of worse places to be stranded. But we were on Day 3 of our winter escape and had not yet seen the sun. We had swum in a pool overlooking the Pacific, strolled a black-sand beach, climbed a nearby peak — and also reached for rain gear, a lot. The Seven Sacred Pools in Haleakala National Park, where we hiked on red-mud paths, appeared as one big gushing waterfall, the distinct pools drowned. Sunglasses remained tucked in our bags.

The day after the deluge, we high-tailed it to the more populous and, we hoped, sunny side of the island. We were ready to trade wild Maui for better weather. But we soon discovered that we hadn't left rugged scenes and near-empty beaches behind. They were all around us.

Sure, during our drive from Hana to Kaanapali, we hit stop-and-go traffic in Paia, a surfer town, and again in Lahaina, where we inched our way past its busy chain grocery stores and oceanside downtown filled with T-shirt shops and restaurants. Yes, hotels with intensely manicured lawns line the shores of West Maui. But this side of the island — where sunshine generally rules and tourists flock — holds authentic, quiet, untrampled pockets too. And we had found one that very night, Slaughterhouse Beach.

Just 10 minutes after leaving our condo, we parked the car on the highway shoulder, where a small blue sign was our only clue that we had found the beach; it noted that the area is part of a marine life conservation district. We climbed down steep stairs and over thick tree roots to a small cove, where the only other group appeared to be Native Hawaiians.

Jagged rocks dotted the sands. Towering lava cliffs hugged the beach. We watched as turquoise waves curled and crashed.

Clouds hovered, but rain rarely fell during the next seven days. We happened to be in Maui during an unusually wet winter. But on this leeward side of the island, volcanic peaks generally hold clouds on the far side, where our trip began.

"So sad, all this rain. Very unusual," the receptionist at our Hana resort lamented. In the open-air lobby, she handed out umbrellas and sympathy.

Nearby, a list of the day's activities was pinned to a bulletin board. Horseback riding canceled. Outrigger canoeing on Hana Bay: canceled.

Undeterred, we put on raincoats and set off for a hike in the Dr. Seuss-like, almost psychedelically green Waianapanapa State Park. We crossed its black-sand beach and followed an ancient coastal trail across volcanic rock hosting a riot of growth. We were so taken with the park's strange craggy charms that we almost failed to notice we were wet.

We took the Road to Hana — this time beyond the town, where it grows recklessly narrow and passes the churchyard where Charles Lindbergh is buried — to lush Haleakala National Park.

For lunch in town, we walked to the Thai food truck and ate delicious concoctions at picnic tables under a tent, where a lazy dog hoped for scraps.

We even put on swimsuits; then, quickly, sweatshirts over them. At the pool, we had our pick of lounge chairs. We toweled them dry, sat down but soon hopped in the empty pool and settled in the hot tub.

Two friendly middle-aged women — yoga instructors from Lahaina — joined us. One looked at the swirling steam rising from the warm water and spoke of aliens among us; we can't see them because they occupy a different dimension, she explained. Then she turned our attention to something grounded in our world. Motioing to the ocean roiling with whitecaps, she said, "Such force and power. There's nothing but ocean between us and South America."

I checked a map later. She would be right — on the geographic claim — if it weren't for Mexico, the first land mass east of Hana. No way to verify the aliens.

One morning, we chartered a whale-watching sail on the Scotch Mist, which we boarded at Lahaina Harbor.

Our captain and his skipper looked like bandits, their faces covered to their sunglasses with



GETTY

Honolua Bay is a spectacular spot to snorkel on Maui's north shore.



REED SAXON/AP

A humpback whale leaps out of the water in the channel off the town of Lahaina on the island of Maui in Hawaii. In Maui, boats are forbidden from approaching within 100 yards of humpback whales.



BETHANY JEAN CLEMENT/SEATTLE TIMES

The lookout over Honomanu Bay, near mile marker 14 on the famed Road to Hana, does its best to take your breath away.

neck gaiters. "You can't put on enough sunscreen when you're on the water all day," the skipper told me. We were just happy to see the sun.

Soon, we were gliding out to sea on a gentle breeze, black giants tantalizing us in the distance.

A mother and calf appeared, rising to the surface and flipping tails. The baby breached several times, jumping from the water and slamming back down. Then came the real close encounter.

The captain pleaded with a humpback to spare the boat's

keel, a shaft that goes deep below the sailboat. The rest of us peered over the sides in awe as a 40-foot-long behemoth descended below the water on port and reappeared on starboard. An escort — a male who accompanies a mother and her baby to ward off predators — had come to spy on us, just as we were spying on him.

The ukulele music pouring from the sound system may have intrigued the whale, or maybe it was the sailboat's rounded wooden hull. One thing is clear: He kept his distance from the other

sightseeing boats on the water, metal monsters with vibrating motors.

In Maui, boats are forbidden from approaching within 100 yards of humpback whales. Of course, they can come to us.

Our visit from the whale was a highlight of the vacation, but we had daily brushes with natural wonders.

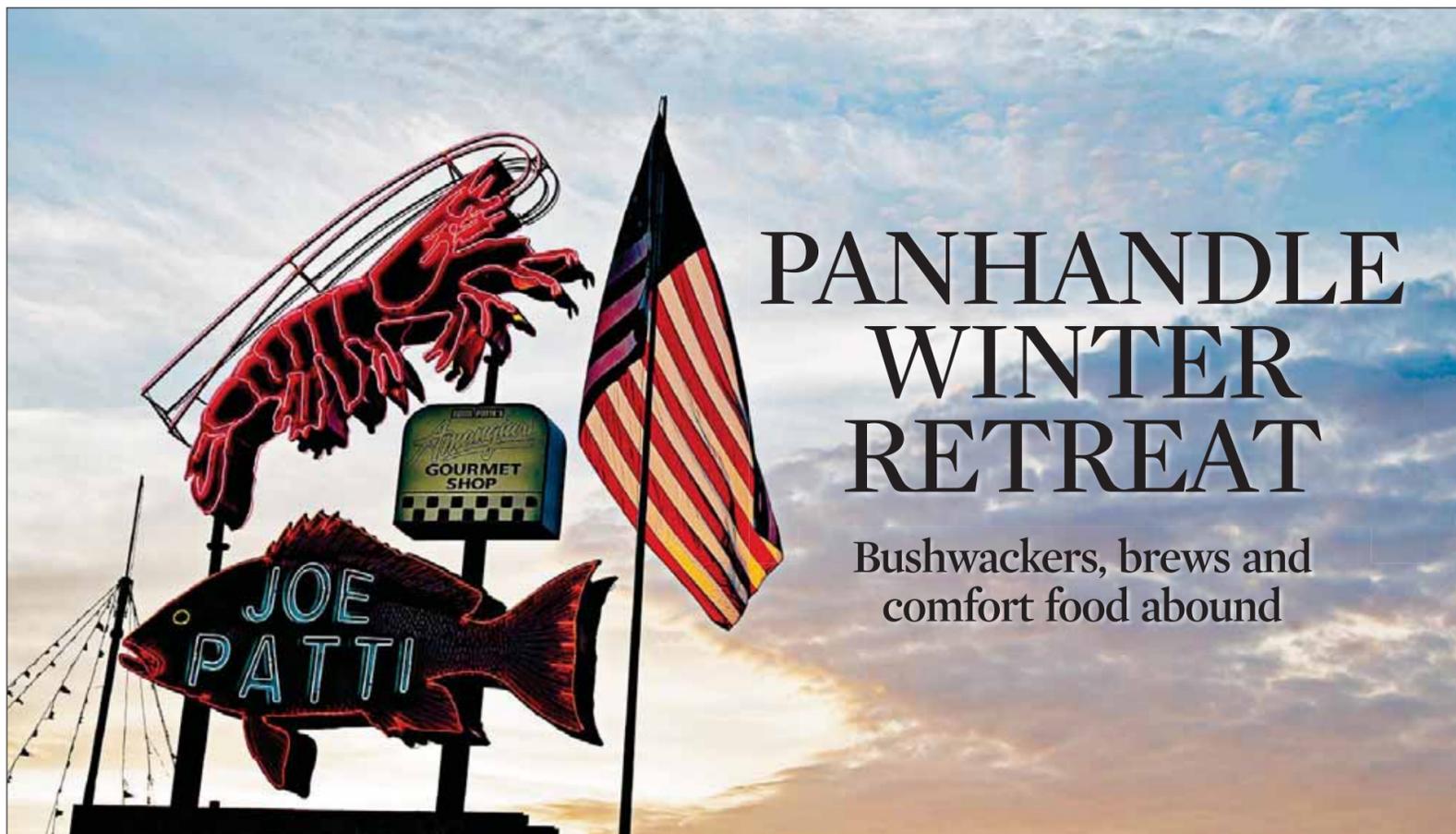
We saw few other hikers during a windblown walk on the Kapalua Coastal Trail.

On a blustery day, we watched a lone windsurfer jump waves from our perch at wide-open Oneloa Beach.

On several occasions, we snorkeled at Honolua Bay, marveling at the abundance of fish; the waters are part of the same marine life conservation district as Slaughterhouse Beach. Across the street, beside a creek, we ate curries and acai bowls from a food truck staffed by cheerful, tattooed millennials.

The day we wound our way to the Nakalele Blowhole, we got a sober reminder of how the astounding can turn ugly. Near the parking lot stood makeshift memorials for people who have lost their lives by falling into the hole or getting hit by a wave on the low-lying lava coast. We hiked down, but kept a careful distance as ocean waters burst skyward like a geyser.

FORK IN THE ROAD



PANHANDLE WINTER RETREAT

Bushwackers, brews and comfort food abound

MEGGAN HALLER/PHOTOS FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

The iconic Joe Patti Seafood sign stands out against the setting sun in Pensacola, Fla.

By Sarah Kaufman
The Washington Post

PENSACOLA, Fla. — Past the shops and eateries that line Palafox Street downtown, a wedding reception fills one of several restored historical buildings with light and laughter on this Saturday evening.

Guests spill out onto the sidewalk, while out back, couples dance on a terrace overlooking Pensacola Bay. Fireworks burst against the starry sky; they're set off at the nearby stadium after every home game, win or lose, played by the Blue Wahoos, the city's minor-league baseball team.

There's a quieter, more romantic vibe as I skirt the wharf and stroll past the boats. On the deck of one sailboat, lovers slow-dance in the shadows to Ed Sheeran's "Perfect."

I ran into this mix of peaceful intimacy and full-on partying throughout my stay in Pensacola. My husband and I came here for our niece's wedding and quickly succumbed to its eclecticism.

Nestled on the western edge of the Florida Panhandle, Pensacola has a small-town feel. This is "Deep South" Florida, not spring-break-college-destination Florida. It's a slower-paced alternative to a typical Florida winter retreat, with the overt friendliness of folks who like to live it up and want to share the fun.

Day drinkers, here's your haven — some happy hours start at 11 a.m. or even earlier. And cheese grits are always an option.

Sandshaker

A colorful retro sign at the foot of the Bob Sikes Bridge points the way to Pensacola Beach. It's topped with a striped sailfish and the proclamation "World's Whitest Beaches." You can spot sharks, dolphins, manatees and rays from the pier, a popular spot for sunset-watching and fishing.

The beach boasts all the routine human comforts — seafood restaurants, hotels, paddle board and water scooter rental shops. But don't miss its unique feature: the famous healing waters. By this I mean the slushy alcoholic milkshake called a bushwacker.

Recipes for this dangerous brew include rum, vanilla ice cream, coconut cream, Kahlua — you get the idea. I poked into Sandshaker before noon on a Sunday, by which time the bartender told me she had already mixed dozens, including one she whipped up before the bar opened for a guy waiting outside.

Goat Lips

Larry Cowan likes to quote an old Southern saying, used to calm people down: "Don't worry, it's going to come together like goat lips." He says it so often that when he opened his deli-turned-beer-garden, friends dared him to call it Goat Lips. He did.

He regretted it at first: "It's just not appetizing. But it's turned out to be an asset. It's memorable."

Thus was Goat Lips Chew & Brewhouse born. It houses a small "nanobrewery," which turns out a half-dozen or so beers on tap. The most unusual — and my favorite — is the jalapeno cream ale.



Diners enjoy open mic night at Goat Lips Chew & Brewhouse, which turns out a half-dozen or so beers on tap.



Diners dig into a lunch of fried seafood at Captain Joey Patti's Seafood Restaurant. It's next to an enormous seafood market.



People stroll down Palafox Street in downtown Pensacola.

Most breweries don't offer food, but Goat Lips has a full menu, featuring giant muffuletta sandwiches — a half fills a plate and rises, oh, 4 to 6 inches on a base of Gambino's bread delivered from New Orleans, with layers of mortadella, salami, provolone cheese and olive relish. Then it's baked, so the edges of the meat get crispy.

The shrimp Creole is peppery and rich; the menu also features comfort-food staples, meatloaf, pot roast. Goat Lips has a mellow, casual vibe.

Cowan likes bonfires and makes them big enough to withstand even a light rain. The covered back deck is a popular spot for live bands and a weekly Trivia Night — which my husband and I stumbled upon and were immediately swept up in.

Out back, there's a statue of a goat carved out of cypress wood, elevated on a little platform.

Says Cowan with a laugh, "I'm afraid it's going to be my tombstone one day."

Paradise Bar & Grill

"You turn the lights on, and they come every which way, like roaches," says Renee Mack, speaking with crusty affection of

her customers at Paradise Bar & Grill. "They come by boat, by foot, by golf cart, by Jet Ski."

Paradise is an authentic little hideaway on the bay side of Pensacola Beach, a restaurant, bar and vintage motel. You can swim up if you like. Bring a wet dog. Hang up your own hammock or lounge at one of the picnic tables under an umbrella.

Paradise has an old-Florida feel. There's no view of the high-rises, just a good look at that gentle bay surf. Evenings, locals gather to hear a live band and dance in the sand of the private beach.

Mack moved to Pensacola in 1984 from New Orleans and brought some Big Easy traditions with her, such as a penchant for the blues and oyster po' boys, featured on the menu.

Her biggest seller is Renee's Shrimp Salad, from her grandmother's recipe, made with fresh, wild-caught Gulf shrimp. It's kicky Cajun flavor comes from fresh herbs.

The special sauce in her bushwackers? "We put in a lot of liquor — a lot of rum. And real soft-serve ice cream — none of that powdered stuff."

Mack, as you might gather, likes to keep things simple. Bad

weather gets a shrug. "We roll," she says. "We don't close down."

5 Sisters Blues Cafe

A sidewalk aroma tells you all you need to know about the fried-chicken haven that awaits you inside the 5 Sisters Blues Cafe.

This stylish restaurant serves up comfort food galore: The black-eyed peas are soft and velvety; the collards have a tart punch; the grits are so creamy they're like an emotion. Sweet potatoes raise to ambrosial heights, honeyed and warm. Wash them down with the bloody mary of your dreams: Garnished with okra and a fried chicken wing.

"It's your fix for the day," says co-owner Jean-Pierre N'Dione with a laugh.

Born in Senegal, raised in France, he's lived in Pensacola for 20 years. With his cocktails, food, live music on many evenings and a Sunday jazz brunch, he strives to evoke the spirit of the restaurant's Belmont-DeVilliers neighborhood. Historically, it was an African-American hot spot during segregation.

"We owe it to those people," N'Dione says, "to re-create that atmosphere."

Captain Joey Patti's Seafood

Seafood restaurants crowd the waterfront, but the bustling Joe Patti's Seafood market stands apart, under a towering neon shrimp sign.

Enter by the beignet wagon, and you'll find an enormous fish market, which is worth a visit just to gape at the sea-dwelling varieties and their sizes.

The humble restaurant next door is Captain Joey Patti's Seafood Restaurant. This low-ceilinged blue bunker has no view of the water. It has no atmosphere. Ceiling fans whirl overhead. You eat over paper place mats with plastic utensils.

Start with the thick, fiery seafood gumbo, but leave room for heaping platters of fried fish. Mullet — you might know it elsewhere as a bait fish — is a rich-flavored specialty.

"Did y'all get coleslaw?" our server asks, sliding crisp, sweet bowls of it across the table.

Everything here is fresh. Stick a fork in the fried oysters, and juice jumps out; the oysters melt in your mouth.

Did the cheese grits descend from heaven? Maybe so; they are that luscious.

Chicago Tribune
**LIFE+
STYLE**
Sunday

Balancing Act

Family's holiday card tradition becomes joyful 25-year journey, Heidi Stevens writes

Books

Books of 2018: Notable Chicago reads, plus the Biblioracle Awards

Candid Candace

Billy Corgan among the guests at the PAWS Fur Ball, which raised \$1.2 million for its no-kill animal rescue mission



Priceless portraits

Rencie Horst provides free photography for struggling new moms during the holidays

2
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ask amy

By AMY DICKINSON

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

Wife learns she isn't his beneficiary

Dear Amy: I am nearing 70 years old. My friends and family consider me a very smart woman whom they frequently seek out for advice. Now I need some advice.

I married in my teens, was divorced in my 30s and remained single for over 20 years. I dedicated those years to my children, and they are fine, family-oriented, responsible adults. In my late 50s I met a man whose company and conversation I enjoyed. He's tall, dark, handsome, financially responsible and passionate. Five years later, in our 60s, we got married. We've enjoyed our life together.

Recently I found out that my husband's first wife is the beneficiary on his pension. He says that because of government intervention in their plan, this can't be changed! I am hurt and distraught. I don't want to live my golden years worrying that I won't be able to take care of myself financially if my husband dies first. He has no life insurance, and he gets my pension if I die first. What bothers me the most is that he acts like he doesn't care!

I want to leave him, but I don't want to make such a big change at this age. I can't think clearly about this. Any suggestions?

— Upset

Dear Upset: Your husband might have agreed to this beneficiary arrangement as part of his divorce settlement with his former wife. You should confirm whatever legal obligation he has made to her.

Because of your ages, you two should see a lawyer and/or accountant with expertise in estate planning. You should have full knowledge of your mutual assets. I am not a lawyer, but I do not believe that your husband cannot change beneficiaries. With my own retirement account and company pension, it is easy to do. And as your husband's legal spouse, you might automatically be considered his beneficiary. You need to find out.

Dear Amy: Do dinner hosts have an obligation to warn guests that they are sick and contagious? My dear friend "Sandra," hosts a dozen or so guests for Thanksgiving dinner each year.

We have an adult daughter who is bedridden with a severe chronic illness that makes her very fragile. My husband and I care for her, with help from hired caregivers. Sandra knows how fragile my

daughter's health is and what lengths I go to every day to avoid bringing home germs that could make her gravely ill. Even a cold could require hospitalization.

This Thanksgiving, when we arrived at Sandra's house, she greeted us by saying, "Don't get too close; I have a cold." Shortly thereafter, her husband entered and announced how sick he was. Everyone glanced around uncomfortably. I said, "Wouldn't you feel more comfortable in bed?" He responded that he didn't want to miss Thanksgiving dinner. We stayed about an hour, socializing but trying to avoid contact with the hosts. When I saw the chairs crowded around the dining table, I realized there was no way to avoid being in close contact with Sandra and her husband. I knew in my gut that the risk was too high, so I quietly, politely and apologetically told Sandra that we had to leave, and why.

My husband says I should've made up an excuse, but, I wonder whether Sandra should've called me to let me know that she and her husband were contagious, giving us a chance to bow out in advance.

— Cold Carrier

Dear Carrier: You did the right thing by exiting politely and by telling the truth regarding your reasons. Given the severity of what you are coping with, why should you make up an excuse?

Yes, "Sandra" should have called you, giving you the option of making an informed choice about whether to attend. But as the hosts of a large dinner, she and her husband were likely distracted and might have simply forgotten the impact of their health on your family.

Dear Amy: I want to weigh in on whether friends and family should disclose knowledge of an affair to the affected spouse. I went through this. After years of being cheated on, I discovered my husband's infidelity and we divorced. I felt betrayed that others didn't tell me.

— Recovered

Dear Recovered: I agree with disclosure, handled gently.

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To contact Life + Style: Questions? Ideas? Comments?

Send what's on your mind to lifelandstyle@chicagotribune.com



balancing act

By HEIDI STEVENS

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Family stages festive cards in photo booths

Themes run from Merry Kiss-mas to 'The Wizard of Oz'

Twenty-five years ago — before marriage, before kids, when they were just a couple of young love-birds who met at a show at Links Hall on Western Avenue — Mark Miller and Anne Cousineau sat down in a vintage photo booth in the old Woolworth department store in downtown Evanston and grinned for the camera.

The results — a strip of boxy, black-and-white pictures — became the first holiday card they sent out as a couple.

(Such a milestone! The merging of contact lists! The co-signing of names! The shared purchasing of stamps!)

When the holidays rolled around the following year, the couple headed to Ed Debevic's, the now-defunct shake-and-burger place on Wells Street where folks used to stand in line for hours to experience the pleasure of being insulted and marginalized by the faux-surlly waitstaff.

They sneaked a fully lit menorah and a string of holiday lights into the restaurant's photo booth.

"I come from a Catholic background, and Mark comes from a Jewish background," Cousineau explained. "We wanted to both represent."

There was a Santa hat and a yarmulke.

"The trick," Miller said, "was to get the timing just right. So we had all these props at our feet."

One of which was in actual flames.

"We got a lot of looks," Miller said.

That became their second holiday card.

This year — 22 years married, two kids, still a couple of love-birds who met at a show at Links Hall — Miller and Cousineau will send out their 25th annual holiday card, each of which incorpo-



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Mark Miller and Anne Cousineau show off some of their photo booth holiday cards in their Evanston home.

rated a vintage photo booth.

"It's our family's history," said Cousineau, an artist and home stager.

Every year, as December approaches, the couple and their kids — Eli, a sophomore at the Chicago Waldorf School, and Zoe, a freshman at Oberlin College — go to breakfast at a nearby cafe and decide on a theme.

"We've tried to make them tell our story," said Miller, an architect.

For years, Eli had his heart set on the family dressing up as the members of Kiss — the crazy black-and-white face paint, the hair, the whole nine yards.

"I'm like, 'If you can think of something that relates to Christmas or makes it relevant,'" Cousineau said. "He goes, 'Merry Kiss-mas!'"

"So that's what we did," Miller said.

That was year 20.

They've shot the photos at the Heartland Cafe in Rogers Park, Schubas Tavern, a hot dog place in Arlington Heights, the Double Door, Waveland Bowl.

This year, year 25, got tricky. The Heartland had sold its photo booth. Double Door had closed. More and more photo booths, if you can even find them, use digital prints, which don't lend themselves to the sort of art projects the couple like to create.

Plus Zoe's at Oberlin, adding another logistical hurdle.

The family, including Zoe, spent Thanksgiving at Cousineau's parents' home in southeast Michigan, so Miller logged onto photobooth.net, a comprehensive resource for photo booth enthusiasts that includes a map of vintage photo booths around the United States. (The Miller/Cousineaus are mentioned on the site.)



He found one in an Ann Arbor, Mich., tavern.

Miller contacted the owner to ask if he'd allow them to set up a rather elaborate "Wizard of Oz"-themed photo shoot in his bar. He said no. No kids allowed.

Miller offered to bring in his family 30 minutes before the place opened. He offered to bring some frozen Lou Malnati's. The owner said yes.

Cousineau contacted her photographer friend who lives in Ann Arbor to shoot photos of the family — dressed as Dorothy, the

Scarecrow, the Tin Man and the Cowardly Lion — entering and exiting the photo booth.

"We got ready in a Starbucks around the corner," Miller said.

Why "The Wizard of Oz?"

"I think Mark just really wanted to dress up like Dorothy," Cousineau said.

"To show off my legs," Miller replied.

When Miller was 2 years old, his dad died of a heart attack. He was 36, the age Miller was when Zoe was born.

"I spent that whole year sweating bullets," Miller said, "thinking, 'Should I pass away, how can I keep loving her from heaven?'"

"So that's been the other piece of this," he said. "This has been our documentation of the fun of our family. I want them to have a strong memento of our fun."

One year, they made the card look like a photo booth strip turned on its side — four images of the family painting graffiti (not really) on a Metra embankment with an actor friend dressed as a cop reprimanding them.

Miller had that one blown up and framed for Zoe to take to college.

One year, the photo strip came with 3D glasses, which made the photo strip pictures of Eli doing capoeira and Zoe playing volleyball pop out at you.

They send out 220 cards. Some of their friends save every card.

"The big question is what's going to happen when our kids start having kids?" Miller said.

"Are they going to come back and keep doing our cards? Are they going to break off and come up with their own tradition?"

Whatever decision they make, it will be rooted in a tradition of joy and affection and laughter. An awfully good road map for the holidays.

Join the Heidi Stevens Balancing Act Facebook group, where she hosts live chats every Wednesday at noon.

LAST IN A SERIES

Activists born in the kitchen

Students of color advocate for health through cooking

BY DARCEL ROCKETT
Chicago Tribune

The terms “health” and “wellness” are often used interchangeably. And while they certainly coexist under the well-being umbrella, they are indeed different.

The World Health Organization defines health as “a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being,” while wellness aims to enhance said well-being. According to WHO, social, economic and environmental factors can affect a person’s health, but maintenance and improvement depend on their efforts and lifestyle choices.

Juarez High School senior Julissa Villegas understands this. As the daughter of a former culinary worker, the 17-year-old Back of the Yards resident is herself interested in a culinary career to change the perception — and path — of the food of her heritage.

“I live in a Mexican community, and it’s really heavy on fattening foods and fast-food restaurants,” she said.

According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 1 in 5 school-age children in the U.S. are obese, with Hispanic and black students affected at higher rates than their white peers (14.1 percent) — 25.8 percent and 22 percent, respectively — and that trend continues into adulthood. University of Chicago researchers also found a connection between elevated blood pressure and obesity and growing up in a neighborhood with a high violent crime rate.

Some local groups, such as the Healthy Schools



ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Curie Metro High School students wait for their results during the Healthy Schools Campaign cooking competition among Chicago high school students last month. Healthy Schools focuses on low-income communities of color in its efforts to improve negative health trends among those communities.

Editor’s note: A new school year brings new hopes. Hope that mental and emotional growth are exponential. That test scores soar. That everything just clicks. Students of color might consider themselves lucky if just one of those items can be checked off the list. In this four-part series, we’ll look at common educational hurdles faced by students of color and shed light on ways some members of the community are overcoming them.

Campaign, are working to shift those trends. The nonprofit has hosted a cooking competition among Chicago high school students since 2007. Villegas participated in November. She said her father has Type 2 diabetes, which has

made healthy food choices a struggle for their family.

“It’s been really hard for him because he can’t eat certain foods anymore, and he’s always going in and out the hospital, getting check-ups,” she said. So Villegas, a member of the culinary

program at Juarez, brings the healthy recipes she learns at school home to her family. She said she doesn’t want others to endure what her father has simply because they lack healthy food options.

“I don’t want to see people struggling at finding things to eat because of how heavy the foods are now,” she said. In the Cooking Up Change challenge, Villegas and her teammates had to create a meal on a \$1.40 budget. The meal by the winner (not the Juarez team) was featured on the CPS lunch menu.

Sara Porter, Healthy

Schools Campaign vice president of external affairs, said the organization focuses on low-income communities of color.

“In order for students to make the most of their time at school, they need to be able to focus,” she said. “We know there are many variables around that, and we want to help remove as many of those variables as we can — that connection between health and education and wellness and education is a very important one. All of our programs have that focus in mind.”

But wellness must go beyond food, says Camesha

Jones, a social worker and founder of Sista Afya, a mental wellness support organization for millennial black women. Diagnosed with bipolar disorder while getting her degree, Jones said she didn’t have support or information specific to her experience as a black woman. She created the community-based organization so others didn’t have to navigate the health care system alone and without guidance.

Among the mental wellness challenges Jones believes the black community faces: representation, affordability and accessibility



ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Julissa Villegas, right, and classmates design a menu board at the Healthy Schools Campaign contest. Villegas wants to change the food of her heritage with the culinary arts.



KRISTAN LIEB/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A healthy lifestyle is about “making one choice at a time,” said Dr. Gameli Dekayie, right, co-founder of Quench Wellness with Dr. Chantale Stephens-Archer.

of mental health resources. According to Center for Promise researchers at Boston University, fear and inequitable access to social supports put young people of color at increased risk for poor health outcomes. They surveyed young people in five cities; those in Chicago specifically cited neighborhood safety as a major concern.

“Because we are in survivor mode, mental well-being is something that we don’t think about, but sometimes we know that our survival mode is causing an impact on our mental well-being,” said Jones, a 27-year-old Hyde Park resident. “There are a lot of people identifying that they are having challenges with mental wellness, but they’re verbalizing it in a different way. I think,

sometimes, young people might not understand that not taking care of your mental well-being can actually defer you from living out your fullest potential.”

The same holds true for physical wellness. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recently released its 2018 Physical Activity Guidelines: Children 3 to 5 years old should be physically active throughout the day; kids 6 to 17 should have an hour per day of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity.

“This is not just public health people trying to put out a message so that maybe people will do it. This is based in data. Doing some moderate amount of physical activity has health benefits,” said University of Illinois at Chicago associ-

ate professor of kinesiology and nutrition Dr. David Marquez, one of 17 experts on the HHS advisory committee. “In trying to think about how can people in challenging environments make ‘wellness’ happen: Work it into your daily life,” he said.

Pilsen resident Cesar Ramirez, 17, who also participated in the Cooking Up Change competition, said “wellness” means being stable in your environment with the resources you have — and learning to improve and improvise when necessary.

“It doesn’t take a lot to live a healthy lifestyle,” said Dr. Gameli Dekayie, an emergency room physician and co-founder of Quench Wellness in the South Loop. “It may seem overwhelming. It may seem like a lot of choices. But when you really think of it as making one choice at a time — a meal at a time, a night’s sleep at a time, a cup of water at a time — it just becomes a habit. And that’s what we’re really trying to preach and practice more and more. If you make it a habit, it becomes a lifestyle, and you don’t even realize that you’re doing it. It just becomes part of who you are.”

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Chicago adults weigh in on concerns for city’s children

BY ALISON BOWEN
Chicago Tribune

Results of a survey released Monday found that Chicago adults consider drug abuse, obesity, and child abuse and neglect the biggest problems facing the city’s children.

Among those surveyed, 64 percent cited drug abuse as a problem, followed closely by the 62 percent who thought obesity was a major issue and 61 percent concerned about child abuse and neglect. Other concerns included stress, depression, smoking and alcohol abuse, teen pregnancy and parents’ health problems affecting children’s health.

“Many of these public perceptions also match what we know from public health and from health care to be major challenges facing children,” said Matthew Davis, senior vice president and chief of community health transformation at Lurie Children’s Hospital.

The report was conducted by Lurie and the Chicago Department of Public Health. The 3,310 adults were surveyed from households across Chicago’s 77 community areas.

“We are seeing a growing level of concern about the behavioral health challenges that are facing children and adolescents,” Davis said. “What we’re hearing from adults across Chicago is that the public understands that as well.”

Davis said Lurie is trying to reduce waitlist times for mental health services and help train primary care doctors to feel comfortable and confident managing behavioral health issues for children who come for checkups.

“More mental health care workers to address children’s needs would be a big step forward,” he said.

The adults’ biggest concern was drug abuse.



PIXELFIT/GETTY

A study of more than 3,000 adults released by Lurie Children’s Hospital shows what adults in Chicago think are the main issues affecting children in the city.

The report noted that high school students in Chicago were more likely than those elsewhere to use marijuana; a 2017 survey of high school students found that about 24.7 percent of Chicago high school students use marijuana, compared with 19.8 of U.S. high school students. Chicago high school students were also more likely to have been offered or sold an illegal drug at school.

Alcohol abuse ranked seventh in the list of top concerns. The same 2017 survey showed that 23.9 percent of Chicago high school students reported using alcohol, and 9 percent said they were binge drinkers.

Concern about obesity, another issue cited by adults, is echoed by health experts. In 2013, a report on Chicago Public Schools students showed weight as an issue across grades — 36.5 percent of kindergartners, along with 48.6 percent of sixth-graders and

44.7 percent of ninth-graders were overweight or obese.

Child abuse was a top concern; 1 in 4 kids experience abuse or neglect, according to the report.

“There’s a growing appreciation that children who are neglected or abused early in life can have mental health challenges and physical challenges for their entire lives,” Davis said, adding that this can also be a factor in alcohol and drug use.

Davis said he was glad to see that Chicagoans are aware of problems affecting the city’s young people. “The challenges facing children and adolescents in Chicago are not only on the minds of parents, they’re on the minds of grandparents and neighbors and aunts and uncles and teachers who also care deeply about children’s well-being.”

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A week of things to do with the kids

Tuesday

'Q BROTHERS CHRISTMAS CAROL'

This super-fun beatbox version of Dickens' classic, written by the Q Brothers Collective, returns to dazzle and delight. The 75-minute, intermission-free show is geared for ages 12 and up — although if you don't mind a racy joke or two, your 10-year-old should also love it. Through Dec. 30 at Chicago Shakespeare Theater's The Yard, 800 E. Grand Ave. \$38-\$52. tinyurl.com/y9e6ehxv

Wednesday

CAROLING WITH CHICAGO CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Come for the sing-along, stay for the nature! The Rogers Park Neighborhood Choir, a subset of the renowned Chicago Children's Choir, leads an evening of caroling at Indian Boundary Park. 6 p.m. at Indian Boundary Park, 2500 W. Lunt Ave. Free. tinyurl.com/y9t5wd8r

'T'WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS'

Santa needs help, stat! When the jolly old soul's "Naughty or Nice" list disappears, a girl and a mouse team up to find it. Emerald City Theatre returns to the Magnificent Mile with this holiday show, which runs a brisk 45 minutes without intermission. Matinee performances run daily (except Christmas Day) through Dec. 30. Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place, 175 E. Chestnut St. \$17-\$27.50. tinyurl.com/y7tnykrq

Thursday

SELFIES WITH SANTA AT SKYDECK CHICAGO

Skydeck Chicago, also known as the 103rd floor of Willis Tower, hosts the jolly old man in red. He'll be posing with visitors on The Ledge, so have your camera and phones ready. Meet Santa from noon till 5 p.m. Thursday through Sunday (with caroling from Merit School of Music singers Sunday afternoon), at Skydeck Chicago, 233 S. Wacker Drive. \$24, \$16 for kids 3-11. tinyurl.com/y8uaybn8

Friday

SUE THE T. REX RETURNS

The Field Museum's most famous fossil is undoubtedly Sue the T. rex, who's been off display for months (but still slaying on Twitter! @SUEtheTrex). Sue

BY WEB BEHRENS | Chicago Tribune



SAM DOYLE PHOTO

The whole family can have fun on skates — or your older kids can occupy themselves while parents sneak in some holiday shopping — at the small outdoor rink at Old Orchard shopping center, near Bloomingdale's. Formerly a regular ice rink, it's now an all-season synthetic rink, open daily through year's end. Skate 3-9 p.m. weekdays and beginning at noon weekends. At Westfield Old Orchard, 4905 Old Orchard Center, Skokie. Typically \$15, but \$10 Mondays and Tuesdays through Dec. 24. tinyurl.com/y9znazfu

returns in glorious fashion Friday in her new permanent home as part of the second-floor "Evolving Planet" exhibit. If you notice that Sue looks different, that's because Field scientists have figured out how to place the gastralia bones, which are basically belly ribs that helped them breathe. Catch the dinos daily at The Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive. \$24, \$21 for students with ID, \$17 for kids 3-11. www.fieldmuseum.org/exhibitions/evolving-planet

JUICEBOX: JODI KOPLIN

Chicago-based musician and jigglegam wizard Jodi Koplin closes down Juicebox 2018 with her high-energy, interactive show. As with all Juicebox events, the all-ages show happens twice: 11 a.m. Friday at the Chicago Cultural Center (Preston Bradley Hall), 78 E. Washington St.; and 11 a.m. Saturday at Garfield Park Conservatory, 300 N. Central Park Ave. Free. tinyurl.com/ybv75cct

'AMERICAN GIRL LIVE'

A brand-new musical based on the beloved doll characters, "American Girl

Live" makes the second stop on its premiere tour in Skokie as a group of girls meet at summer camp. Four performances, this weekend only: 7 p.m. Friday; 1 and 5 p.m. Saturday; 1 p.m. Sunday at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie. \$37-\$47. www.northshorecenter.org/event/american-girl-live/

WILMOT'S SKI WITH SANTA

Check out Santa on skis about 90 minutes north of the city. Look for the Clauses on the slopes or by the fire pit from 3-5 p.m., then inside, hosting dinner at Walt's Tavern (two seatings, 5:30 and 7 p.m.; reservations recommended). Photos and cookies with Santa and company are complimentary. At Wilmot Mountain, 11931 Fox River Road, Wilmot. \$58-\$68 per lift ticket; dinner a la carte. tinyurl.com/yat7e7co

WINTER SOLSTICE BONFIRE

The Forest Preserves of Cook County offers a chance to reflect on the longest night while welcoming the longer days to come. The solstice-evening event

includes a short hike and a Nature Center open house. At 6:30 p.m. At Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center, 9800 Willow Springs Road, Willow Springs; \$4. Advance registration required. fpdcc.com/event/winter-solstice-bonfire/

Saturday

SHEDD'S HOLIDAY BREAKFAST

Of all the odd places to see Santa, perhaps the strangest yes, even more peculiar than riding a sleigh attached to an "L" train is in an aquarium. But here he is, ready to eat breakfast and pose for pictures with your family (bring your own camera). 8-11 a.m. Saturday and Sunday at Shedd Aquarium, 1200 S. Lake Shore Drive. \$55, \$40 for kids 3-10. tinyurl.com/y8srvtvvy

FULL MOON FEST

Stay up late to celebrate the full moon at this museum party, for which the Museum of Science and Industry extends its hours till 9 p.m. The all-ages event offers starry face painting, "space slime" crafts, live performances and more — including telescope viewing outside, facilitated by Adler astronomers (weather permitting). 5-9 p.m. at MSI, 5700 S. Lake Shore Drive. \$22, \$13 for kids 3-11. (\$2 discount per ticket with advance online purchase; additional discounts for Chicago residents.) tinyurl.com/yvc6wsa4

Sunday

NATURAL GIFT-MAKING AT NPV

Come have a green Christmas! At this all-ages, drop-in workshop from the Chicago Park District, kids and grown-ups spend time together making DIY gifts from natural materials. Noon till 3 p.m. at North Park Village Nature Center Park, 5801 N. Pulaski Road. Free. tinyurl.com/y735gs9n

'IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: LIVE IN CHICAGO'

American Blues Theater has carved out its own beloved tradition: an annual "radio production" of the classic Frank Capra/Jimmy Stewart film. The audience experiences a 90-minute, intermission-free version of the story performed as a radio play. Although the production runs through Jan. 5, the 2:30 p.m. Sunday performance is extra special: Santa Claus pops in, bringing small gifts for kids 12 and under. At Stage 773, 1225 W. Belmont Ave. \$29-\$59. tinyurl.com/y788rlh3

Web Behrens is a freelance reporter.

‘The portraits are so meaningful’

Holiday photos for young mothers working to get back on their feet

BY DARCEL ROCKETT
Chicago Tribune

Amid a cacophony of playing children, a buffet of holiday food and a live choir singing Christmas carols, young moms like Davia McDaniels and Tabitha Rogers tried to hold their children still long enough to look in their eyes for a second or two.

The residents of New Moms, a family support organization based in the Austin neighborhood, were partaking in the nonprofit’s annual holiday party, in which professional photographer Rencie “Ren” Horst focuses her lens on the bond between mother and child. The free family portraits provide tangible memories for those who don’t have the means to afford such a luxury.

“I do my best to capture the realism from the family,” Horst said. “I want them to see the happiness that others see in them, and I especially want the moms to see they are doing a great job. I get the most joy after telling the moms about the warrior spirit I see in them and then getting the genuine, glowing smiles from them.”

Saturday marked the second time that Horst, a Portage Park resident, donated her time to New Moms, which provides resources and housing to young new mothers, working with them to break the cycle of poverty.

Rogers, 24, was dressed for the occasion with 1-year-old daughter Kinzie, who donned a black dress onesie with patent leather Mary Janes and a black-and-white dress coat. Horst remembered Rogers from the 2017 photo shoot — Rogers said she has that first portrait in her apartment at the facility.



RENCIE HORST PHOTO

Quinisha Walker and her 2-week-old son, Louis, at New Moms in Chicago.

“The portraits are so meaningful and nice,” she said.

McDaniels, a mother of two, agreed. With the 24-year-old was her 11-month-old daughter, Dakota. The former Cabrini-Green resident has lived at New Moms since last year; she moved out of her mother’s home about three years ago while pregnant with her first child, D’Khari. Both Rogers and McDaniels are working on job skills and saving for a future outside of New Moms in 2019.

“I wanted to take a picture this year,” McDaniels said. “This program has changed my life, because I don’t know where I would be at if I didn’t stay at New Moms. They help you with so many things — further your education, jobs, food.”

McDaniels hopes to move out of the state when her time at New Moms expires. She currently has a job at Macy’s in the Loop, and



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Rencie Horst photographs a family at New Moms Transformation Center during a recent holiday party.



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Horst gets a close-up of Walker and her son at the Austin-based family support organization. Photos are framed for the families.

she’s focused on acquiring employment in Lansing, Mich., where she has family.

Laura Zum Dahl, CEO of New Moms, was on hand during the holiday party, adjusting the timbre of her voice to the room’s excitable volume.

“It’s coordinated chaos, and every year it gets a little bit bigger and bigger,” she said smiling. Having helmed the 35-year-old organization for the last five years, Zum Dahl called the young mothers “leaders” of their families and said New Moms seeks to empower that.

“A mom can’t be successful if her kids are not, and a kid can’t be successful if mom’s not — their success is woven together,” she said. “We work with families for years at a time; it’s not a one-and-done thing. The reality is, interrupting poverty takes time, it takes getting education, skills and a lot of hard work. Our new moms have everything they need in them, they just need coaching, help and support to bring that out. We really want to help them write their story — and their child’s story — in a different way.”

The stories of New Moms’

families can be seen in the hallways of the organization’s headquarters. Dozens of the two-generation holiday portraits taken over the years hang on a wall near the facility’s entrance.

“If you have a good family photo, it’s a really neat, treasured thing,” Zum Dahl said. “Our families get a copy of the pictures, framed. They look forward to it. It’s just one of the extra ways that we can support them, and it’s important for us as parents to capture those moments with our kids.”

Horst, a mother of five and a former single mother of three, can relate to the struggle that single mothers endure, which is why she gives of her time and talent for the cause.

“In today’s world, everyone is so caught up in the ‘selfie’ image and cellphone captures,” Horst said. “I think it has caused us to lose a little bit of what it means to be a part of photographic art; the kind of art that gets passed down for generations — the kind of images that keep our memories alive. I love that I am able to deliver these kinds of priceless images to moms who wouldn’t consider professional portraits.”

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A bountiful year for worthy reads

15 books of note with Chicago ties

Chicago's literary scene continued to thrum in 2018, producing a bounty of worthy reads — a National Book Award nominee among them. Here's a brief list of notable titles.

Nonfiction

“High-Risers: Cabrini-Green and the Fate of American Public Housing” by Ben Austen

Harper, 400 pages, \$27.99



“High-Risers” is a smart, humanistic exploration of Cabrini-Green. Rather than vilify a governmental body, Ben Austen shows how generational poverty, systemic racism, political cronyism and a desperate desire for belonging facilitated the downfall of the

projects' promise. Austen eloquently examines violence in the housing projects while shedding a much-needed spotlight on the people who made Cabrini-Green their home. The residents' stories, Austen argues, are just as much, if not more, vital to understanding Cabrini-Green's legacy. People lived in this housing complex, leading ordinary lives under extraordinarily precarious conditions. The story of Cabrini-Green is not that of a mere symbol of poverty or of political failure or of rampant violence — even if all of those things were wrapped up in its identity. No, the story of Cabrini-Green is that of its people and their lives, both good parts and bad.

“Small Animals: Parenthood in the Age of Fear” by Kim Brooks

Flatiron, 256 pages, \$26.99

When Chicago author Kim Brooks stopped in at Target to run an errand, she was running late for a flight and facing a meltdown from her 4-year-old son. She left the preschooler in the car, raced into the store and made the flight, but later was charged by police with contributing to the delinquency of a minor after someone video-recorded her son waiting alone in the Target parking lot. The incident inspired Brooks to write “Small Animals,” a thoughtful examination of the way social pressures have evolved over the course of a generation to shape parenting — particu-

larly for mothers. It's an era marked by a particularly toxic — and potent — combination of moral judgment and an inability to properly assess risk. It's an important read for any parent.

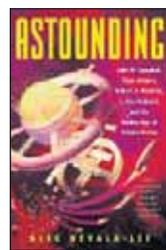
“Ghosts in the Schoolyard: Racism and School Closings on Chicago's South Side” by Eve L. Ewing

University of Chicago, 240 pages, \$22.50

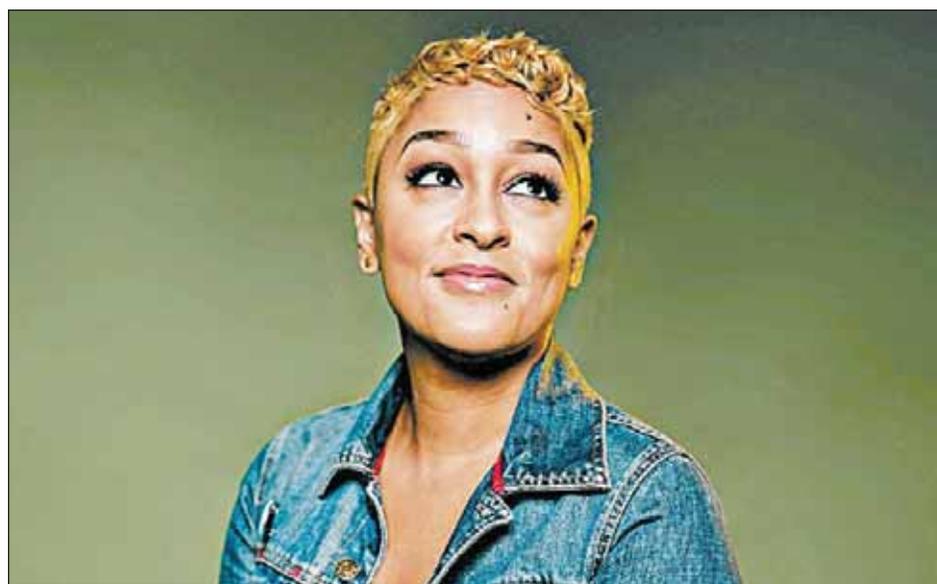
The buzz surrounding University of Chicago poet and scholar Eve L. Ewing continued this year with the release of “Ironheart,” her first installment of a new Marvel comic featuring a black teenage genius from the South Side who reverse-engineers Tony Stark's Ironman suit. As fun as Ironheart is, it shouldn't eclipse her latest scholarly entry: “Ghosts in the Schoolyard: Racism and School Closings on Chicago's South Side.” Underpinned by serious research and informed by personal experience as both a Chicago Public Schools student and teacher, Ewing investigates the controversial 2013 decision to shutter more than 50 schools. The closings displaced thousands of students, 94 percent of whom were poor and 88 percent of whom were African-American. Ewing's nuanced account explores both the systemic failings that precipitated the closings and the people who fought to preserve the schools that played such intrinsic roles in their communities.

“Astounding: John W. Campbell, Isaac Asimov, Robert A. Heinlein, L. Ron Hubbard, and the Golden Age of Science Fiction” by Alec Nevala-Lee

Dey Street, 544 pages, \$28.99



A biography of John W. Campbell, the influential editor of the pulp magazine *Astounding Stories*, forms the spine of Alec Nevala-Lee's account of the golden age of science fiction, which grows far more fascinating and complex as he weaves in the lives of three of Campbell's most important contributors. Nevala-Lee, who lives in Oak Park, has done an awesome degree of research into Campbell, Isaac Asimov, Robert A. Heinlein and L. Ron Hubbard as well as the women who helped shape their writing



NOLIS ANDERSON PHOTO

In her latest scholarly entry, Eve L. Ewing looks at the closing of dozens of Chicago schools.

careers. It reads with the immediacy of a good novel (and at times like a good soap opera). Campbell demanded that science fiction be rational and scientifically valid, and almost single-handedly brought it out of the earlier pulp era of galaxy-busting space wars — but he was also fascinated with later-debunked extrasensory perception experiments at Duke University and was enamored of all sorts of pseudoscientific schemes. In fact, the one tragic arc in Nevala-Lee's tale describes how Campbell's infatuation with Hubbard's ideas eventually alienated both Heinlein and Asimov, and contributed to his rapid decline in influence in the 1950s. “Astounding” is a compelling tale of ambition, idealism and opportunism that should fascinate even those who have never read much science fiction at all.

“The Monarchy of Fear: A Philosopher Looks at Our Political Crisis” by Martha C. Nussbaum

Simon & Schuster, 272 pages, \$25.99

It's hard to imagine Martha C. Nussbaum fearing much. She is among the most influential philosophers in the world, a recipient of more than 60 honorary degrees, and author and editor of a seemingly inexhaustible library of books, on love, on anger, on shame, on aging, on India, on sexual orientation, on the tenuousness of doing good in the world. Her “capabilities” framework for judging a nation's quality of life (developed on the heels of Indian economist Amartya Sen's own measure of a healthy society) has become a fundamental guideline in the promotion of human rights, and two years ago, Nussbaum received the prestigious Kyoto Prize, a kind of Japanese Nobel given to great thinkers as varied as primatologist Jane Goodall and artist John Cage. “The Monarchy of Fear: A Philosopher Looks at Our Political Crisis,”

her latest book, opens with a familiar flash of angst for many, election night 2016, and lands presciently in a summer that's delivered a daily buffet of anxieties, political, social and financial. Like much of Nussbaum's work, it is a philosophy lesson culled from the details of everyday living. And yet what follows is less predictable — a clear-eyed excavation of the foundation of our fears.

“Looking for Lorraine: The Radiant and Radical Life of Lorraine Hansberry” by Imani Perry

Beacon, 256 pages, \$26.95

When Chicago native Lorraine Hansberry's play “A Raisin in the Sun” premiered on Broadway in March 1959, she was just 28 and the first black woman to have a play produced on Broadway. “A Raisin in the Sun,” which centers on one black American family living on the South Side of Chicago, was immediately hailed by *The New York Times* as having “vigor as well as veracity,” further arguing that it was “likely to destroy the complacency of anyone who sees it.” In “Looking for Lorraine,” Imani Perry, a Princeton University professor of African-American studies, sets out to write a biography of Hansberry that thwarts the “persistent flatness” that seems to pervade her public image. “(T)o search newspaper archives for her teasing wit is to feel the crackling excitement of her persona. ... Her voice veers between the studied artifice of elocution and the drawled vowels and rhythm of the Chicago South Side to, finally, the slurring speech of the terminally ill.” Hansberry was a muse to Perry, who told the Tribune earlier this year, “She lived a short life, but was extraordinarily accomplished and there's relatively little that has been written about her in comparison to her contemporaries and closest friends, like James Baldwin and

Nina Simone.” As Perry writes in her deeply personal biography, “*A Raisin in the Sun* sits static. Static things don’t breathe. Or Live. But Lorraine did. Deeply.”

“Let’s Go (So We Can Get Back): A Memoir of Recording and Discarding with Wilco, Etc.” by Jeff Tweedy

Dutton, 304 pages, \$28

As Jeff Tweedy would admit — and more or less does in his new memoir, “Let’s Go (So We Can Get Back)” — his life hasn’t been all that interesting, at least for a rock star. But in his new memoir, the leader of Chicago’s long-running band Wilco isn’t interested in the usual rehashings of life and career. Tweedy, who spends time on the making and rescuing of Wilco’s anointed 2001 masterpiece, “Yankee Hotel Foxtrot,” but barely mentions the albums by the band’s current incarnation, is much more interested in examining the painful lessons he has learned as a songwriter and a family man. In this he succeeds in entertaining and oddly revealing ways, moving with shape-shifting ease from wry self-effacement to what he calls Midwestern sarcasm to naked confession. “Leaving behind as many of the myths surrounding suffering and art as I possibly could was the only path forward,” writes Tweedy, who has coped with life-threatening addiction and his wife’s frightening bouts with cancer. This book is a significant step in that direction.

Fiction

“Hardly Children” by Laura Adamczyk

FSG Originals, 240 pages, \$15

Several stories in Chicago author Laura Adamczyk’s collection, “Hardly Children,” are, in fact, peopled with kids — or, as one character calls them, “smaller, more naive adults.” Others feature juvenile-acting grown-ups, and some, a disturbing lack of children — as in “Too Much a Child,” where kids deemed “bad” are ripped from their beds at night. A striking blend of graceful sentences and eerie premises — a man suspended from the ceiling of an art gallery, a woman scrawling messages with clumps of her own hair — make “Hardly Children” a no-brainer for the experimental imprint FSG Originals.

“Census” by Jesse Ball

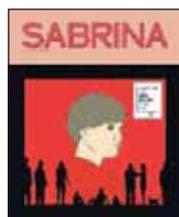
Ecco, 272 pages, \$25.99

The protagonist in “Census” is a doctor who, upon learning of his failing heart, became a census taker. The son with whom he has traveled to towns named A and B and C is not an ordinary son. Instead, he is the kind who showed, “not in speech, but in his daily way, that we are by our nature a kind of measure, that we are measuring each other at every moment.” The son, inspired by Chicago author Jesse Ball’s late brother who had Down syndrome, learns slowly, does differently, attracts cruelty and

has a life “such that he is assured of nothing that continues. He needs a champion.” The beauty in nearly every “Census” passage is devastating. On one hand, this is a pure love story embedded within an travel narrative. On the other, it is an artistic undertaking of the most sophisticated sort — richly imagined, cleverly sequenced, even typographically propulsive as the census towns stamp themselves upon Ball’s literary map. One thinks of W.G. Sebald and Italo Calvino, but the comparators fade. This is Ball.

“Sabrina” by Nick Drnaso

Drawn and Quarterly, 204 pages, \$27.95



In his eerie and astute second graphic novel, “Sabrina,” Nick Drnaso delivers a vivid panorama of the muddled minds and misanthropic deeds of those who choose to fall under a conspiracy theory’s thrall. As is the case in

real life, most of the conspiracy faithful are men. But the title character is a smart and sweet, if slightly directionless, 27-year-old Chicago woman. At first, the narrative seems as though it’s going to be a mystery, and that the reader will spend the rest of the book watching the characters try to solve the conundrum of Sabrina’s disappearance. Instead, we find out early on what happened, and the novel is much richer for Drnaso’s decision to focus not on the question of whodunit but why. Drnaso interweaves a web of storylines that explore with painful realism and poignant emotion the phenomena of paranoia, privacy and mourning, as well as the false comfort, in the face of unutterable confusion, of having a grand theory.

“Certain American States” by Catherine Lacey

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 208 pages, \$26

The characters in Chicago author Catherine Lacey’s first collection of short fiction, “Certain American States,” suffer from a similar condition. In these 12 stories, people are tortured by the mundanity of their lives in Minnesota, North Dakota, Texas and nameless places in between. Many are mourning a loss; others are mired in ennui. One man, a reluctant father who abandons his teenage daughter in a trailer park, says it plainly: “The loneliness of certain American states is enough to kill a person if you look too closely.” “Certain American States” is exactly what you would expect from Lacey: perfect sentences, penetrating insights, devastating epiphanies. Like the most intense chapters of her novels, reading this collection takes an almost physical toll. Each story inflates like a balloon until, with the very last line, Lacey cuts the string tethering it to the ground.

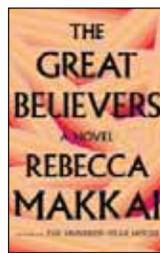


JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Rebecca Makkai’s latest spotlights an era.

“The Great Believers” by Rebecca Makkai

Viking, 432 pages, \$27



Nominated for the 2018 National Book Award, Rebecca Makkai’s magnificent third novel, “The Great Believers,” alternates between an AIDS-stricken circle of friends in mid-1980s Chicago and a handful of straight and gay survivors in 2015 Paris. It doesn’t set a foot wrong.

Archival research and oral histories can take you only so far in writing historical fiction; some unquantifiable alchemy is needed too — and Makkai has it. In “The Great Believers,” she brings a whole era back into view. She’s aware that Big Public Events — the ones that make it into history books — are often mere background noise to those living through them. The Zeitgeist, when it’s on your radar at all, is seen through a haze of tensions with your family, uncertainty about your boyfriend, excitement about a project at work and plans to have drinks with a friend. Things don’t go in a straight line. Vital information arrives in dribs and drabs, often when your attention is elsewhere. Makkai, who lives in Lake Forest, has full command of her multi-generational perspective, and by its end, “The Great Believers” offers a grand fusion of the past and the present, the public and the personal. It’s remarkably alive despite all the loss it encompasses. And it’s right on target in addressing how the things that the world throws us feel gratuitously out of step with the lives we think we’re leading.

“Severance” by Ling Ma

Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 304 pages, \$26

How do you fit a zombie novel inside an immigrant story inside a coming-of-age tale? Ling Ma, an assistant professor of arts at the University of Chicago, accomplished this feat in her gripping and original turducken of a novel, “Severance,” which follows a young Chinese-American as she tries to survive in the wake of a pandemic that kills or “zombifies” most of the U.S. population. Underneath this suspenseful

zombie story is a deeper one about the immigrant experience and growing up. In “Severance,” Ma seems to be linking the process of becoming an American and the process of becoming an adult, and likening both of these processes to a violent severing from the past. The novel was the 2018 winner of the Kirkus Prize for fiction.

“Chicago” by David Mamet

Custom House, 352 pages, \$26.99

This is the new novel — his first in 20 years — by David Mamet, best known for his creations on stage and on screen. He is in this new book on his home turf, comfortably and imaginatively, since the novel takes place long before he was born in 1947, set in the bloody, raucous 1920s. The story hinges on the murder of a Chicago Tribune reporter’s girlfriend, the daughter of a florist who supplies final floral tributes for the funerals of gangsters. Mamet’s Chicago is a harsh and unforgiving place but captured with knowing affection and peopled by a colorful cast, from cops to illegal nightclub owners and their wives and mistresses, safecrackers, crooks, mobsters and hookers. There are no heroes here. Everyone is flawed. But there are real people here, so real as to be unforgettable and thus fully deserving of that spot on your Chicago bookshelf.

“The House of Broken Angels” by Luis Alberto Urrea

Little, Brown, 336 pages, \$27

Family reunions are a staple of fiction. When aging patriarchs, accommodating mothers, quarreling siblings and prodigal sons gather under one roof, they bring both personal baggage and love to the chaos. Resentments and resilience always figure in the action. In “The House of Broken Angels,” Naperville author Luis Alberto Urrea complicates matters by scheduling both a funeral and a birthday party around the same sprawling family get-together. Urrea spins some wonderful phrases as he leads us through his throng of characters, for instance when describing Big Angel’s sexy 60-year-old sister-in-law, dubbed La Gloriosa: “She was as magnificent as a velvet painting of an Aztec goddess in a taco shop.” You couldn’t ask for a more vivid sense of place either, whether you’re talking physical surroundings or the way people think and speak. There’s a telling moment when Little Angel ponders freeway traffic “rushing past the invisible barrio, unaware of the lives up here, the little houses, all these unknowable stories.” “The House of Broken Angels” makes them known.

Christopher Borrelli, Jennifer Day, Britt Julious, Beth Kephart, Rick Kogan, Adam Morgan, Laura Pearson, Darcel Rockett, Kathleen Rooney, Lloyd Sachs, Trine Tsouderos, Michael Upchurch and Gary K. Wolfe contributed.

A few 2018 favorites

Nonfiction that resonated, outraged and shined new light

BY JOHN WARNER

Welcome to the first installment of the Biblioracle Books of the Year Awards, in which I offer entirely idiosyncratic prizes to some of my favorite books of the year. The awards will be named in two, consecutive weekly columns, only because my editor says I'm not allowed to do seven parts. This week, I'll offer my nonfiction picks.

Don't call this a "best books" list. What you're looking at is a snapshot of my year in reading. If you like the look of those pictures, you may want to follow my path, but let's not confuse this with "the best."

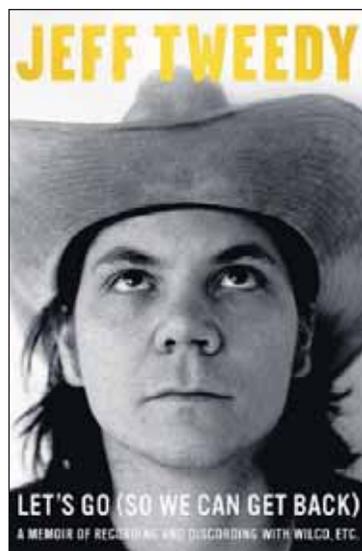
Still, these books are really good. You should read them.

Most Midwestern Book of the Year

"Let's Go (So We Can Get Back): A Memoir of Recording and Discording with Wilco, Etc." by Jeff Tweedy

Dutton, 304 pages, \$28

The story stripped of its telling could be harrowing — rock 'n' roll, addiction, anxiety, breakups, death, cancer — but Jeff Tweedy's authorial persona is so low-key, funny, self-effacing and ultimately charming that you walk away thinking that his remarkable life has been utterly ordinary. Don't believe him. It's a great story.



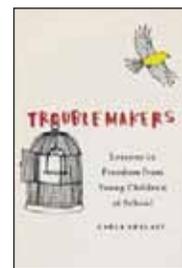
seems to bring another story of some Facebook perfidy against its users? Siva Vaidhyanathan, a professor at University of Virginia, explains how this cycle of abuse is embedded in Facebook's very DNA. A scary book, but a necessary one if we're going to rein in these forces that threaten to rend us apart.

How to Rethink Education Book of the Year

"Troublemakers: Lessons in Freedom from Young Children in School" by Carla Shalaby

New Press, 240 pages, \$25.95

Carla Shalaby shows how students labeled as "disruptive" might be canaries in a coal mine for classroom structures that are ultimately alienating for all students. It caused me to reconfigure my own thinking in radical ways.



Still Furious Months After Reading It Book of the Year

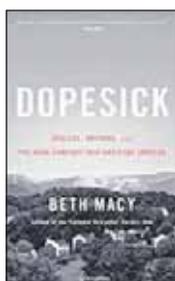
"Dopesick: Dealers, Doctors, and the Drug Company that Addicted America" by Beth Macy

Little, Brown, 384 pages, \$28

"Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup" by John Carreyrou

Knopf, 352 pages, \$27.95

Two tales of greed: "Dopesick" covers the larger tragedy of how the epidemic of opioid-related deaths was entirely avoidable. "Bad Blood" serves as an avatar of the kind of heedless avarice that seems endemic to Silicon Valley culture.



Somebody Told Us So Book of the Year

"Antisocial Media: How Facebook Disconnects Us and Undermines Democracy" by Siva Vaidhyanathan

Oxford University, 288 pages, \$24.95

Speaking of greed, you know how each week

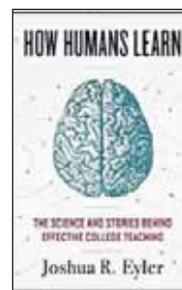


How to Rethink Higher Education Book of the Year

"How Humans Learn: The Science and Stories Behind Effective College Teaching" by Joshua R. Eyer

West Virginia University, 312 pages, \$24.99

Over the 20 or so years I've spent teaching college, I've learned there's no such thing as a one-size-fits-all, silver-bullet solution to learning. My goal, as an instructor, is to have a practice that's informed by science examining how students best learn. Joshua R. Eyer, who directs the Rice University Center for Teaching Excellence, has done all teachers — and all people curious about learning — a major service with this book.



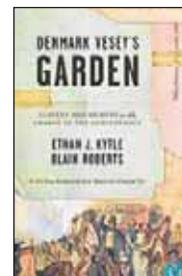
The 'If Only I Had A Time Machine' Book of the Year

"Denmark Vesey's Garden: Slavery and Memory in the Cradle of the Confederacy" by Ethan J. Kytle and Blain Roberts

New Press, 464 pages, \$28.99

Reading this book, I realized I knew almost nothing about the post-Civil War Reconstruction era. The authors show how we were on the road to ending the system of white supremacy that threatened to tear the country apart, until those same dark forces pushed back. We've been living with the consequences ever since.

Next week: Fiction Biblioracle Awards.



John Warner is the author of "Why They Can't Write: Killing the Five-Paragraph Essay and Other Necessities."

Book recommendations from the Biblioracle

John Warner tells you what to read next based on the last five books you've read.

1. "Harry's Trees" by Jon Cohen
 2. "A Gentleman in Moscow" by Amor Towles
 3. "News of the World" by Paulette Jiles
 4. "An American Marriage" by Tayari Jones
 5. "Hotel Silence" by Audur Ava Olafsdottir — Melinda P., Itasca
- This list tells me that Melinda might take to the somewhat unsettling, but compelling, interiors of Rachel Cusk. Start with "Outline."

1. "The Girls in the Garden" by Lisa Jewell
 2. "The South Side: A Portrait of Chicago and American Segregation" by Natalie Y. Moore
 3. "Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine" by Gail Honeyman
 4. "Hillbilly Elegy" by J.D. Vance
 5. "Educated" by Tara Westover — Paula M., Mount Prospect
- "The Book of Night Women" by Marlon James has some emotionally wrenching moments, but the overall effect is undeniably powerful.

1. "The Idiot" by Fyodor Dostoevsky
 2. "The Devil in the Flesh" by Raymond Radiguet
 3. "Like Water for Chocolate" by Laura Esquivel
 4. "The Long Goodbye" by Raymond Chandler
 5. "Cocaine Nights" by J.G. Ballard — Jennifer C., Evanston
- This selection is for a truly unusual book club: Jennifer tells me it's a club of only two people, but maybe this is really the best kind of book club. I can't resist the chance to pick what they read next, particularly given the breadth of what they've read. "The Rebel Angels" by Robertson Davies.

Get a reading from the Biblioracle

Send a list of the last five books you've read to books@chicago.tribune.com.

Introvert doesn't look forward to holiday season gatherings



JUDITH MARTIN
Miss Manners

Dear Miss Manners: I am an introvert. I do not enjoy large gatherings of people. Perhaps this is social anxiety or perhaps I am simply plagued by misanthropy. Because of my preferences, I generally avoid large parties. To others, a large room full of jollity is a joy. To me, it is a chore.

The holiday season is here with the usual cavalcade of celebrations. I intend to avoid as many of these as possible. However, personal or professional obligations inevitably compel attendance at one or two events.

I am generally happiest if I am seen at the event (thus meeting my obligation) but then left to myself, preferably in a quiet corner where no one will bother me, and I will bother no one else.

Is there a graceful way to execute this without engendering accusations of rudeness or interfering with others' ability to enjoy the event?

Gentle reader: Seeing someone standing in the corner completely discouraging all human contact is likely to be a mood-killer. Instead, perhaps you could tell your hosts that you would love to stop by but unfortunately can do so only for a moment.

Miss Manners warns, however, that if you are making only an appearance, you must make it count and engage in some sort of interaction — even if it is just to say a kind word to the other introvert who is cowering in the corner.

Dear Miss Manners:

After I had been at a new company for two weeks, the supervisor sent me an email that was clearly something copied and pasted. It began with, "Dear NAME," which he forgot to change to my name. Is there a polite way to make him aware of this so that he does not do it again? I doubt it will make employees feel valued, as I was rather hurt by it. I considered responding with "Dear NAME, Thanks," but held my tongue — or fingers, in this case.

Gentle reader: You showed restraint. However, as you rightly pointed out, it would be kind to save him from future embarrassment.

"Dear Sir, I seemed to have received a letter for the wrong person. I would be happy to forward this to Mr. Name. I don't think I've had the pleasure of meeting him, but sadly, it seems that now I am too late."

Miss Manners is loath to add the use of an emoticon to punctuate the sentiment, but if ever there were a time to show that you mean it kindly and in jest, this would be it.

Dear Miss Manners: I started attending a new church recently, and everything was wonderful. After a couple of visits, Pastor Kyle announced that the church was in dire need of volunteers to work the holiday snow cone booth. So, right after church, I was the first to sign up. I even sent a follow-up email.

On the day of the event, I showed up early, ready to volunteer. Pastor Kyle told me that there were already enough people working the booth. Then he handed me some tracts that I could go pass out.

I tried to be a good sport and hand out the tracts, but I felt terrible and went home early. Pastor Kyle sent me a text last week inviting my husband and me to a cookout and thanking me for helping out.

What should I have done when I showed up at the booth, and how should I respond to his text?

Gentle reader: Volunteering is an important, but somewhat misunderstood, endeavor. The volunteer is something more than a customer (in your case, a parishioner) and something less than an employee.

Pastor Kyle acknowledged this in announcing the nature of the work in advance, so that parishioners would know what they were volunteering to do. But he presumably asked for volunteers because there was simply too much going on for the regular staff to handle everything.

What then, should he, and you, have done when the help needed changed? The answer is for Pastor Kyle to treat you more like a parishioner and for you to treat him more like a boss. He should have apologized for the change and asked whether you were still willing to help. You might have smiled and cheerfully agreed. Miss Manners reminds you that a volunteer who increases, rather than decreases, the work for the staff does not generally earn the gratitude of a more selfless volunteer.

To send a question to the Miss Manners team of Judith Martin, Nicholas Ivor Martin and Jacobina Martin, go to missmanners.com or write them c/o Universal Uclick, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106.

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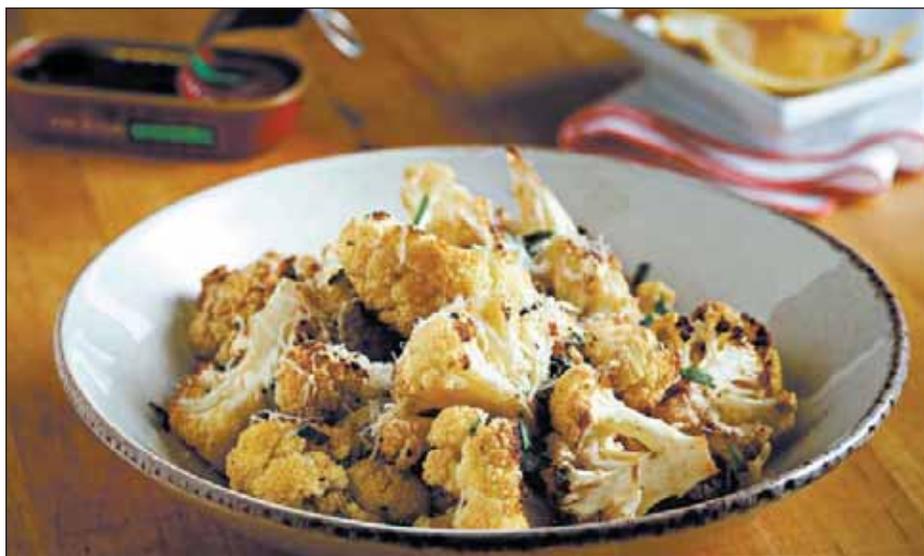
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E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE; JOAN MORAVEK/FOOD STYLING

Garlic, anchovies, lemon and parsley flavor a simple-to-prepare roasted cauliflower dish.

Dinner in white



LEAH ESKIN
Home on the Range

Diner en Blanc — dinner in white — is an enchanting idea. Guests, dressed in their finest whites, learn last-minute the unlikely location of their meal — say, outside Lincoln Center. Exhibiting, in the words of the international organization, “decorum, elegance, and etiquette,” they stage a posh picnic.

I’m all for unlikely, for elegance, for picnic, though in the 30 years since a guy named Francois Pasquier suggested his friends get together in a park, in white, I’ve never attended the event. The secret society meets in Santo Domingo, the Dominican Republic, and Abidjan, Ivory Coast, and other spots I frequent infrequently. Like, never.

In fact, the whole project, while very public — who can miss 10,000 Parisians, in white, dining under the Eiffel Tower — it’s also very private. You have to be invited.

Instead, I pull together my own white night. I prepare an all-white meal — steamed haddock, stewed cannellini beans, slivered endive, roasted cauliflower warmed with garlic and anchovy. I cue up the remastered “White Album.” Dressed in an elegantly distressed white T-shirt, I reveal the location — kitchen table — and enjoy Diner en Blanc, home-style.

leaheskin.com

Cauliflower

Prep: 15 minutes

Cook: 30 minutes

Makes: 4 servings

2 firm heads cauliflower

Olive oil

1 clove garlic

1 teaspoon kosher salt

½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

4 to 6 anchovy fillets

Freshly squeezed lemon juice

2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley

Pecorino Romano cheese, grated, optional

1. Roast: Heat oven to 425. Trim away cauliflower cores; cut the heads into florets. Toss with 2 tablespoons olive oil and spread out on a rimmed baking sheet. Roast until tender and browned in many spots, tossing once or twice, 25 to 30 minutes.

2. Mash: Meanwhile, use a mortar and pestle to mash garlic and salt to a paste. Drop in pepper and anchovies and mash. Work in 2 teaspoons lemon juice and ¼ cup olive oil.

3. Toss: When cauliflower is done, scrape it into a serving bowl. Toss with anchovy sauce. Taste and add lemon juice or olive oil if needed. Sprinkle with chopped parsley and a little cheese, if you like.

Japanese import shochu is a trendy spirit for cocktails

BY LISA FUTTERMAN
Chicago Tribune

Do you shochu? While Japanese treats like mochi, ramen and okonomiyaki have become commonplace on restaurant menus, one Japanese spirit is not so familiar. And we’re not talking about sake. It’s time to try shochu, a delicate clear spirit that has been distilled in Japan for five centuries.

Shochu, often confused with its more mass-produced Korean cousin soju, is an artisanal, small-batch spirit. Working mainly with native ingredients like rice, sweet potatoes or barley, distillers use koji, the same microbe relied on in the fermentation of soy sauce and miso, to break down the starch into fermentable sugar.

Several gorgeous versions of the authentic honkaku-style shochu have recently made their way to the U.S. These farm-to-bottle shochus are frequently distilled from local ingredients like shiso, sugar cane, sweet potato or green tea, in addition to the base starch, adding subtle flavor to an already soft-spoken spirit. The honkaku shochus are distilled just once, for more depth and complexity.

Within the past 20 years, shochu drinking has boomed in Japan, going from traditional sipping to youthful swilling, with national shochu sales surpassing sake sales in 2003. Taken hot, on the rocks, or as a highball or chu-hai mixed with fizzy water, tea or fruit juice, shochu is ordered in pubs all over Japan.

One of the new brands imported into the U.S., Mizu Shochu, came about when college pals Jesse Falowitz and Jeremy Kono worked with master distill-



ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE; SHANNON KINSELLA/FOOD STYLING

Magical Mystery Tour

Makes: 1 cocktail

This cocktail comes from the Ladies Room in Chicago.

1¼ ounce Mizu Green Tea Shochu

Generous ¼ ounce Tempus Fugit Creme de Cacao

Generous ¼ ounce Cocchi Americano

Fill glass with hot water to warm. Once warmed, discard hot water. Add all three spirits to the glass; top with 4 ounces hot water. Garnish with a fresh mint leaf.

ers Hirofumi Okoba and Shinji Wada to create a modern, bolder (and higher proof) style of shochu that the founders felt would respect the honkaku tradition while appealing to international palates.

Their Saga barley shochu tastes silky and earthy, and their lemongrass and green tea versions take advantage of the local harvests with intriguingly subtle flavor created not by infusion but by direct distilling.

Similarly, distiller Rihei Ochiai just introduced a shochu made from 20 percent fresh ginger, 30

percent rice and 50 percent barley.

Chicago bartenders embrace shochu as a delicately delicious base spirit. At Wasabi in Logan Square, they shake up the American Riviera, a chilly mix of shochu, aloe and elderflower liqueurs and fresh lime. Momotaro’s tall Sesame Swizzle combines tequila, pinot gris and shochu, with crushed ice and shiso leaves. Annie Beebe-Tron, beverage director at both Fat Rice and the Ladies Room, says her bartenders love shochu to fulfill orders for a dealer’s choice cocktail.

“When someone requests a light, clean cocktail, we often reach for shochu for its round, earthy richness. It adds umami and unctuousness to cocktails and gives them depth,” she says.

Her popular One Way Ticket to Bangkok, a mix of black raspberry gin, house-made Thai herb bitters and Mizu Lemongrass Shochu, was created collaboratively with chef Abe Conlon as a “floral, aromatic” take on the Aviation. In Beebe-Tron’s new cocktail recipe below, Mizu Green Tea Shochu is warmed with creme de cacao and vermouth to create a mind-bending clear beverage that mimics hot chocolate.

Lisa Futterman is a freelance writer.



puzzle island

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12/16

PENNY ARCADE: Coining some clue phrases

BY FRED PISCOP | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN
(stanxwords.com)

<p>Across</p> <p>1 Off in the distance</p> <p>5 Homer's boy</p> <p>9 Identical</p> <p>13 Big name on <i>Dirty Harry</i> posters</p> <p>18 City north of 27 Across, informally</p> <p>19 Less humid</p> <p>20 Arguing vehemently</p> <p>21 Veronese eloper of fiction</p> <p>22 ConCENTrated study plan</p> <p>24 Former Comedy Central host</p> <p>26 Aspen attire</p> <p>27 City that might be ONION in a cryptogram</p> <p>29 Polishes, as prose</p> <p>30 Oscar actress Hathaway</p> <p>31 Mooring place</p> <p>32 "Street" rep</p> <p>33 Farming major</p> <p>35 About 2.2 pounds</p> <p>36 Untrustworthy ones</p> <p>38 Male turkey</p> <p>41 Iron source</p> <p>42 Fish with an iridesCENT stripe</p> <p>44 Nest-egg letters</p> <p>45 Cropped up</p> <p>47 URL punctuation</p> <p>48 Data on tickets</p> <p>49 Princeton athlete</p> <p>51 Texter's "incidentally"</p> <p>52 Violinmaker of Cremona</p> <p>54 Australian actor Eric</p> <p>55 Temporary, as a committee</p> <p>56 Rubber duck, for one</p> <p>58 Expected outcome</p> <p>60 Italian sonnet's end</p>	<p>63 Arthur — Stadium (U.S. Open venue)</p> <p>64 FluoresCENT art medium</p> <p>67 Urban renewal target</p> <p>70 Singer portrayed by J.Lo</p> <p>72 Blu-ray purchase</p> <p>73 Preordain</p> <p>75 Be relevant</p> <p>77 Ship's backbone</p> <p>79 <i>Gladiator</i> star</p> <p>81 Common bake-sale sponsor</p> <p>82 Despicable character</p> <p>83 Serpent's sound</p> <p>84 Be boastful</p> <p>85 Easy basket</p> <p>87 In support of</p> <p>88 MagnificENT</p> <p>90 Creator of the Finches</p> <p>91 Music genre prefix</p> <p>92 Boston's airport</p> <p>93 Pet pest</p> <p>94 Desolate regions</p> <p>96 Carrying a grudge</p> <p>97 Audacious</p> <p>98 Netanyahu nickname</p> <p>99 Rude remark</p> <p>102 Wipe clean</p> <p>104 Sushi bar beverage</p> <p>108 Sailor's means of asCENT</p> <p>110 President at the biCENTennial</p> <p>112 Battery pole</p> <p>113 Look impolitely at</p> <p>114 Spiral-horned antelope</p> <p>115 Be insistent about</p> <p>116 Illustrious</p> <p>117 Corp. bigwigs</p> <p>118 Drop gradually</p> <p>119 When shadows are shortest</p>	<p>Down</p> <p>1 Initial lessons</p> <p>2 Piece of a place setting</p> <p>3 Exotic smoothie flavor</p> <p>4 Destructive sprees</p> <p>5 Crude one</p> <p>6 Goes public with</p> <p>7 Hi— monitor</p> <p>8 Wavering effects, in music</p> <p>9 Durable game-show guy</p> <p>10 Place for protons</p> <p>11 Prefix for van or bus</p> <p>12 Pilots of 89 Down</p> <p>13 Gooney-middle chocolates</p> <p>14 Moored</p> <p>15 Somali-born supermodel</p> <p>16 Teen comedy stock character</p> <p>17 Day-care attendees</p> <p>19 "No man is an island" writer</p> <p>23 Child's plea for permission</p> <p>25 — firma</p> <p>28 Smartphone image</p> <p>31 Cutting down on the donuts</p> <p>32 Ferris wheel compartments</p> <p>33 Major blood vessels</p> <p>34 AdolesCENT phase</p> <p>35 Pretzel shape</p> <p>36 Former CIA head Panetta</p> <p>37 Formal confession</p> <p>38 RetiCENT</p> <p>39 Crunchy ice-cream ingredient</p> <p>40 Artist Chagall</p> <p>43 Walks heavily</p> <p>45 "Mamma Mia!" quartet</p> <p>46 Erode</p> <p>47 Six Day War hero</p> <p>49 Feline, to Tweety</p> <p>50 Explanatory lead-in</p> <p>53 Airplane — (cellphone setting)</p> <p>54 Toaster-oven setting</p> <p>57 Shoemaker's supply</p> <p>59 Established first</p> <p>61 Provide for permanently</p> <p>62 State of vexation</p> <p>65 City southeast of Mount Rainier</p> <p>66 Built up, as interest</p> <p>68 Loosens, as a 35 Down</p> <p>69 Far from charitable</p> <p>71 Strong drain opener</p> <p>74 Unwilling to compromise</p> <p>75 — Romeo (Italian auto)</p> <p>76 Certain Summer Games setting</p> <p>78 Beach volleyball ailer</p> <p>80 Parks of civil rights history</p> <p>83 Titanic</p> <p>84 Institutions offering admissions</p> <p>86 Jokingly</p> <p>88 In a way, casually</p> <p>89 Strange sightings, for short</p> <p>92 Did absolutely nothing</p> <p>94 Exert, as influence</p> <p>95 Carded, informally</p> <p>96 Nonwoven fabric</p> <p>97 Apt rhyme for 6 Down</p> <p>98 Imbined</p> <p>99 Turkey neighbor</p> <p>100 Taboo, to 17 Down</p> <p>101 Predicament</p> <p>102 Small advantage</p> <p>103 Job-related move, to employers</p> <p>104 — Canaria Island</p> <p>105 Rancho beast</p> <p>106 Thus</p> <p>107 Port of Yemen</p> <p>109 OK Corral nickname</p> <p>111 Inventor Whitney, as an undergrad (!)</p>
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Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island

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46 Erode

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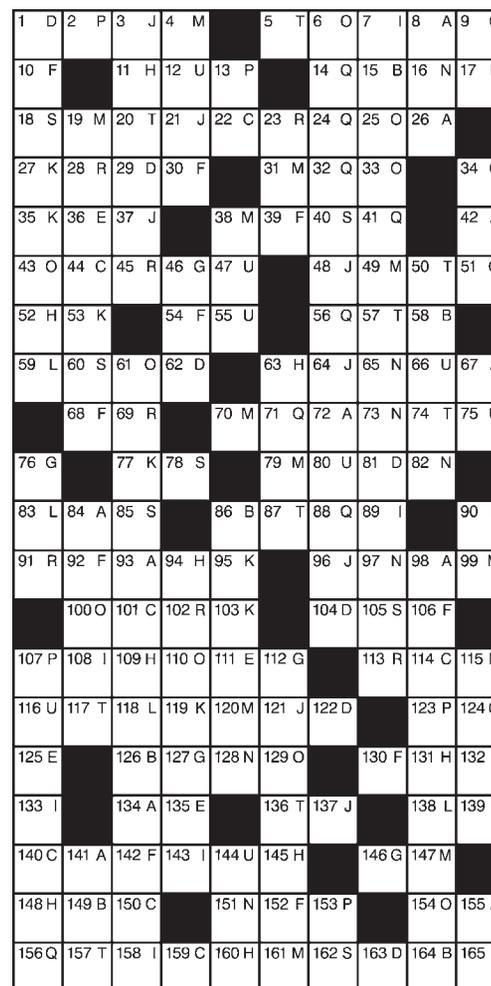
Quote-Acrostic

1. Define clues, writing in Words column over numbered dashes.
2. Transfer letters to numbered squares in diagram.
3. When pattern is completed, quotation can be read left to right. The first letters of the filled-in words reading down form an acrostic yielding the speaker's name and the topic of the quotation.

Clues Words

- A. Celestial reward?: 4 wds. 8 72 155 141 84 134 42 26 67 98 93
- B. Coarse woolen cloth 149 164 86 126 58 15
- C. Never changing 34 140 44 114 22 101 159 9 150
- D. Grade of gas: hyph. 122 163 104 81 62 1 29
- E. Condemned 165 135 17 111 36 125
- F. In general: 3 wds. 106 142 54 39 10 130 30 68 152 92
- G. Loop with a slipknot 46 146 127 76 112
- H. Agreeing or compatible 11 109 63 160 94 145 131 52 148
- I. Entertained 158 7 89 133 108 143
- J. Parasol 121 3 48 21 137 96 64 37

- K. Aslant 95 35 53 139 27 77 103 119
- L. Streep and Hanks 59 90 83 138 118
- M. Secondary result 70 147 38 4 161 99 120 19 49 79 31
- N. Slipper or snake 73 151 16 115 65 82 97 128
- O. Wage 33 100 110 25 43 61 6 154 129
- P. Residence 123 107 2 153 13
- Q. Only: 2 wds. 71 51 56 32 156 124 88 24 14 41
- R. Iranian city known for its architecture 28 113 69 23 91 45 102
- S. Shiite Muslims' holy city 18 60 78 162 105 40 85
- T. Person who fears England 74 132 157 50 20 5 57 87 136 117
- U. Canada's national sport 75 80 116 12 55 66 47 144



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By Erv Kaczmarek.
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.
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Hit the Deck

BY CHARLES PRESTON

Across

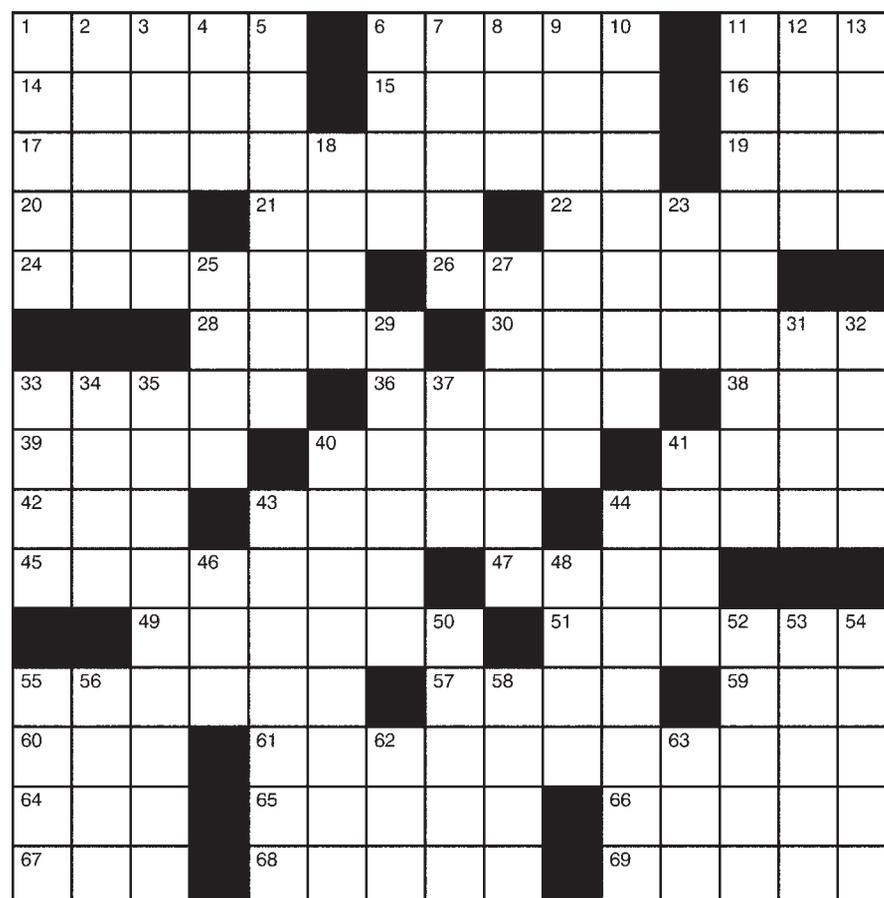
- 1 Foxiness
6 Tender, in Turkey
11 Buffalo lady
14 Gimlet kin
15 Alice Ghostley vehicle
16 Actress Meyers
17 Box office biggie
19 Kurosawa opus
20 Emulate 2 Live Crew
21 Globetrotter's requisite
22 Fiddle_—
24 Cricket team
26 Vexes
28 Hellenic vowels
30 Drained
33 Elevators, to an Etonian
36 Tintinnabulates
38 The Greatest
39 — *Well That ...*
40 Edible
41 Geek, e.g.
42 Ending for pay or gran
43 Ex —: one-sided
44 Nobles
45 Heart contraction
47 Arboretum item

- 49 Whole entity view
51 Fed the kitty
55 Sometimes 11 Across
57 Emilia's spouse
59 —-Magnon
60 Chicken-king connector
61 Library aid
64 Needlefish
65 "T"'s group
66 Sidestep
67 Plus
68 Tweak
69 Cloys

Down

- 1 Key group
2 Beyond exurban
3 Yawning
4 Hardly any
5 Cooks' stands
6 Brings up the rear
7 Machu Picchu denizens
8 Geneticist's concern, briefly
9 Landing strip
10 Soothes
11 Poker pro

- 12 Nuncupative
13 Sommelier's offering
18 Foch or Simone
23 Calendar abbreviation
25 Animal docs
27 Mercury, for one
29 Skyline sights
31 Nobelist Wiesel
32 Brief swims
33 Vientiane's land
34 Badly
35 Teaching aid
37 Gourmandize
40 Confirm
41 Tuneful twosome
43 Skunk
44 Indicates
46 Crag
48 Hindu melody
50 Gold man
52 Acclaim
53 Rub down
54 Venetian magistrates
55 Chronicle
56 Economist Greenspan
58 Pinnacle
62 Cartoonist Gardner
63 Actress Gardner



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In Other Words

By JOE KIDD

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

- 1 Pole, e.g.
 5 Old toon feline with an alley gang
 11 Pro Football Hall of Fame state
 15 Moonwalker Shepard
 19 Pad starter
 20 Stir up
 21 Early sci-fi captain
 22 Travels randomly
 23 EARTH
 25 AIDE
 27 Muss up, as hair
 28 Soup kitchen service
 30 Leave slack-jawed
 32 Shrub with a purple fruit
 34 Lab dish eponym
 38 Workout aftermath, often
 42 Grizzled seafarers
 47 Harmless cyst
 48 Eastern path
 49 CRANED
 51 You take them at your own risk
 52 Kwik-E-Mart owner
 53 Belief system
 54 Bar assn. member
 55 "Strange ___ may seem ..."
 56 Impediment
 57 Sugar portions
 58 Bookstore adjuncts
 60 Inscription on a spine
 61 Ticked pink
 63 Tijuana toast
 64 Nursery rhyme girl
 65 "Snowy" sight in Florida
 66 Edible pockets
 67 Carried on
 68 Starts over
 70 Fixed looks
 71 Vague discomfort
 73 They aren't pros
 74 More fetching
 75 Some court pleas, for short
 76 Forbes rival
 78 Hindu titles of respect
 79 Party or movie ending
 80 City on the Ruhr
 81 Weekly talk with a msg.
 82 "Mad Men" actor Jon
 83 MISO

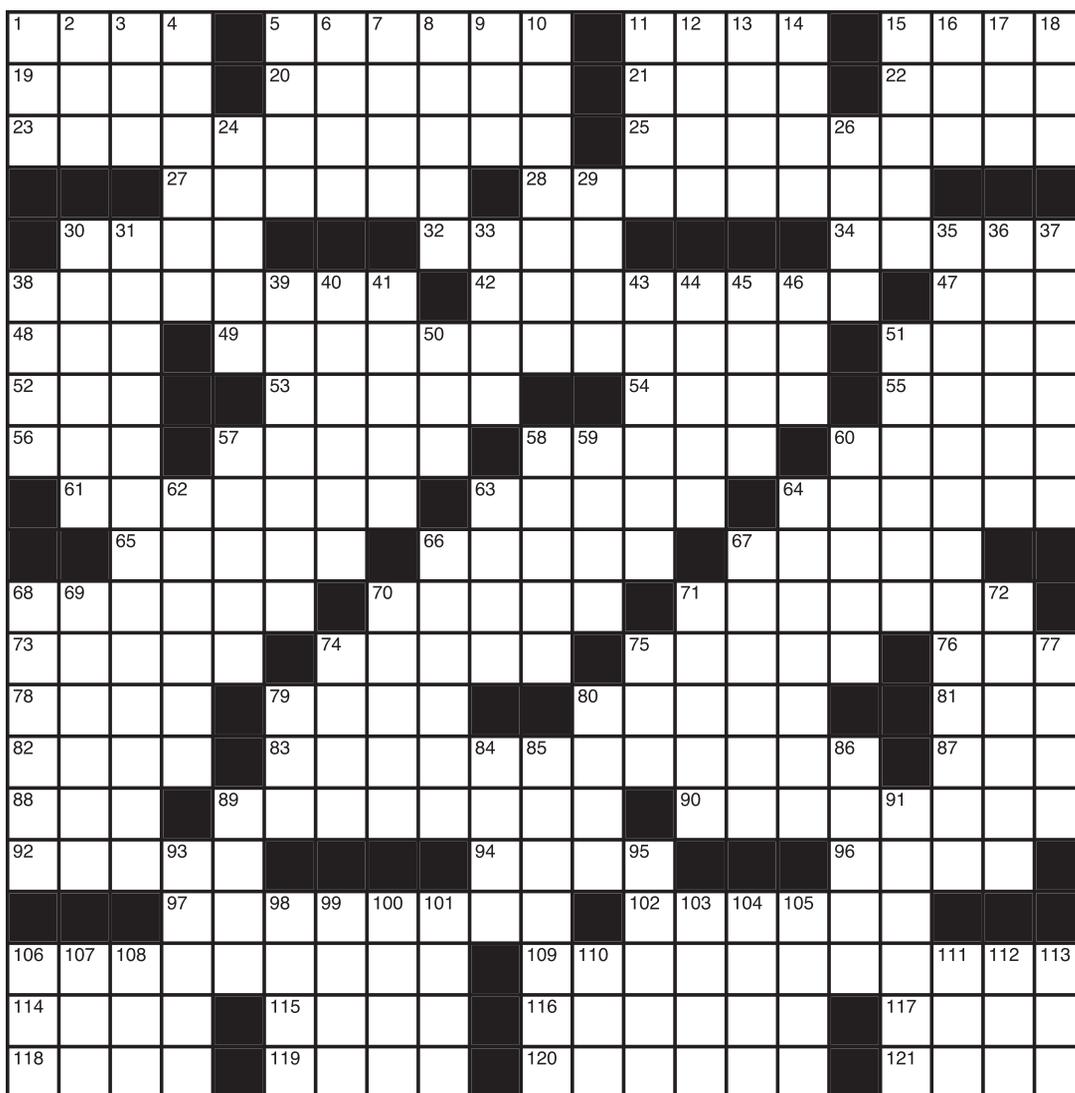
- 87 La-la lead-in

- 88 Clothing dept. size
 89 Like many an injured arm
 90 Fail big-time
 92 Simple type of question
 94 La., once
 96 Less than hardly
 97 Like much FM radio
 102 Keats and Shelley
 106 AMOUNT
 109 FIENDISH
 114 Aviation-related prefix
 115 Troll's cousin
 116 No longer fastened
 117 Region
 118 Like positive outlooks
 119 Heckles
 120 Tennis wear
 121 Oz. and lb.

Down

- 1 Hospital reminder, perhaps
 2 Protected side
 3 In the way of
 4 Patience, they say
 5 House of Dana fragrance
 6 Rink star and a "Catch-22" pilot
 7 Backyard party centerpiece
 8 Pickled veggies
 9 Enzyme suffix
 10 Like an increase from six to sixty
 11 At some former time
 12 "___ we go"
 13 Mosque leader
 14 Move like molasses
 15 Deft
 16 Bloke
 17 Soothing suffix for a hot day
 18 Code-breaking org.
 24 Metric weight
 26 Sounds at pounds
 29 Hawthorne cover image
 30 Get all sudsy
 31 SMITE
 33 El Pollo ___: southwestern restaurant chain
 35 RESIST
 36 Stack again
 37 Boot part
 38 Take the main part
 39 They may be lame

- 40 Between-courses serving
 41 Silver, for one
 43 Goof-ups
 44 Made a scene?
 45 "Why don't we?"
 46 Crack
 50 Some entrance requirements
 51 Asian island capital
 57 Gives a hoot
 58 Do wedding work
 59 Word said with a sigh
 60 Senate wear
 62 Conceit
 63 Concern for a tailor
 64 "Horsefeathers!"
 66 Security guard's duty
 67 Solidarity leader
 Lech
 68 Without thinking
 69 Cause to turn red, maybe
 70 Stab
 71 Iraqi city on the Tigris
 72 "E" in a classic equation
 74 Extended time out?
 75 Abbr. on a bounced check
 77 Rocky outcropping
 79 Collins ingredient
 80 Software pro, in want ads
 84 Name in a footnote
 85 A trusted friend
 86 "Inferno" poet
 89 New Rochelle college
 91 Tech-heavy exchange
 93 "In Search of..." host
 95 Lively movement
 98 Pretentious sort
 99 Like drive-thru orders
 100 Mark's replacement
 101 Fwys., e.g.
 103 Couture giant
 104 "It ___ my fault"
 105 Hens and heifers
 106 Galley need
 107 ___ volente
 108 Hosp. personnel
 110 Press agent's goal
 111 Scrap for Rover
 112 "30 Rock" creator
 113 B-flats in an F major scale

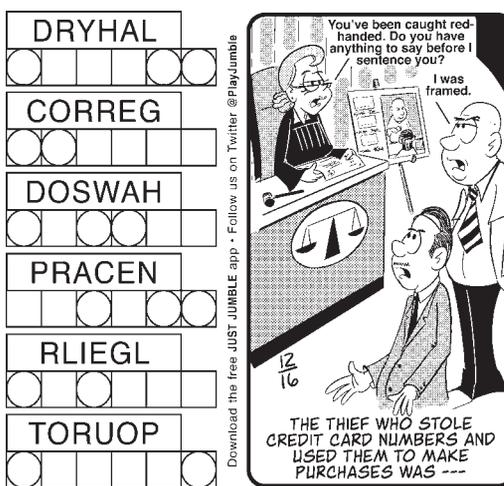


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Jumble

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



PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW



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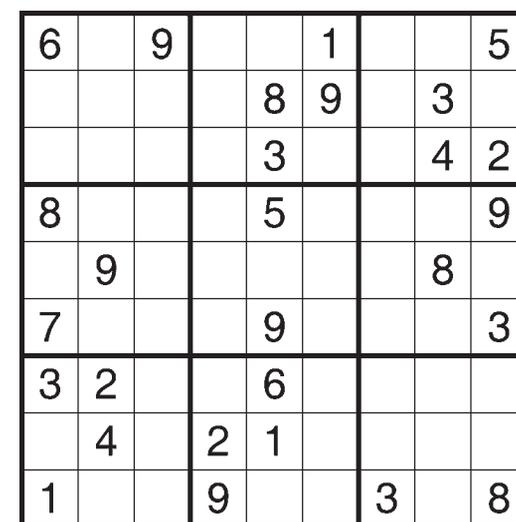
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2018 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

Sudoku

12/16

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

Level: **1 2 3 4**



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MARGARET MAYFIELD/AP

In dry and mild climates, a grass driveway may work perfectly well, particularly if two wide gravel or impermeable paved strips are included.



BENNY SNYDER/AP

More homeowners and communities are opting for permeable paving options that lessen runoff. When runoff overwhelms water-treatment facilities, it can pollute waterways.

Driveways go green

Permeable paving options are catching on

BY KATHERINE ROTH | Associated Press

One driveway at a time, many green-minded homeowners and communities are opting for permeable paving options instead of traditional asphalt.



BENNY SNYDER/AP

Environmentalists say that porous surfaces can play a big role in reducing the amount of rainwater that runs down hard surfaces and fills rivers, ponds and municipal water systems.

“It’s much better for the environment because it helps cut down on storm runoff, which picks up motor oil and other pollutants, overburdens water treatment facilities, and can ultimately end up in local waterways,” says Margaret Mayfield, an architect in Los Osos, Calif.

“Along with green roofs and landscaping, it’s one more tool in the tool chest in terms of cutting down on runoff. It can also be more beautiful than traditional asphalt.”

Permeable, or porous, driveways come in a range of styles, some high-tech and others decidedly old school. For patios and walkways, in addition to driveways, common permeable options include:

Grass with tire strips: In dry and mild climates, a grass driveway may work perfectly well, particularly if two 18-inch-wide gravel or impermeable paved strips are included. That combination produces much less runoff than a single-slab, impermeable driveway, experts say.

Loose stones or gravel: This method has been supporting vehicle traffic for centuries, and is as viable as ever.

Concrete or recycled plastic grid systems: This option has become increasingly popular in many areas. It consists of grids or blocks that form a hard surface, allowing water to flow freely through the spaces in the grids.

The grids can be filled with sand, gravel, soil or turf, and are long-lasting and easy to install.

Permeable pavers: These include cobblestones, stone or concrete paving stones with gaps between them filled in with sand so that water can flow through.

Pervious concrete and porous asphalt: New types of concrete or asphalt actually let water soak through. This allows for pavement-style parking and driving surfaces where local regulations might not permit alternatives.

Environmentalists say that porous surfaces like these can play a big role in reducing the amount of rainwater that runs down hard surfaces and fills

rivers, ponds and municipal water systems, picking up debris along the way. That rush of water can pollute local waterways because water-treatment facilities can’t handle it all.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency, permeable pavements can also help reduce flooding of building foundations and ponding of water on driveways, sidewalks and patios.

And while permeable options can be a little pricier than nonpermeable paving, that isn’t always the case, and proponents say their benefits are worth it.

Permeable pavements have been used successfully in many parts of the United States and Canada, including in cold climates, says EPA spokeswoman

Enesta Jones.

When selecting a permeable surface, she says, consider adjacent land uses and the prevalence of soils, mulch, leaf litter or other fine particles that might create clogs. In such cases, take care to design the driveway or walkway to avoid the loss of permeability. If permeable, interlocking concrete pavers are selected, you might want to buy some spares in case the pavement is damaged or pavers are lost.

Many communities across the country offer incentives, like rebates or reduced stormwater utility fees, to those who opt for permeable paving, so check with your community office before launching a permeable paving project.

SOCIAL GRACES

Are gifts always opened at baby shower?

BY CHRISTEN A. JOHNSON
Chicago Tribune

Q: You buy someone a really great baby shower gift, but she doesn't open the presents at the shower. Do you say something?

A: Opening gifts at a baby shower is less common than it once was. Sometimes the parent-to-be wants to share the gift opening with her partner, or she could be

anxious about being the center of attention for an extended period of time.

Prior to the event, ask the host how the mom-to-be is handling gift opening. This helps you decide if you want to bring your gift, knowing you won't see it opened, or give it when you're alone with the parents.

Ask yourself why you want to see the gift opened. Is it to see the glee on the mom-to-be's face? Is it to get some sort of recognition,

or to show off your gift-giving prowess? Is your gift something you spent a lot of money on or time making? Figuring out your reason behind the desire can help you decide how you want to handle the situation.

— Robin Elise Weiss,
pregnancy and parenting expert

A: Recent trends in baby shower events have changed. The typical gift opening tradition has prog-

ressed to a "display shower," where the mom-to-be requests that guests bring an unwrapped gift so the item is displayed during the shower.

As much as guests would love for the mom-to-be to open their gifts, proper etiquette is respecting her wishes and not asking her to open the presents during the shower. Once one gift is opened, a chain reaction will start and everyone will want theirs opened too.



JOSE LUIS PELAEZ/GETTY

If you're wanting that sentimental emotion from the expecting parent, suggest a one-on-one visit either before or after the baby is born and present your gift then. This is a

great opportunity for quality time and meeting their new bundle of joy!

— Katherine Kommer,
owner of Baby Showers Inc.

chrjohnson@chicagotribune.com



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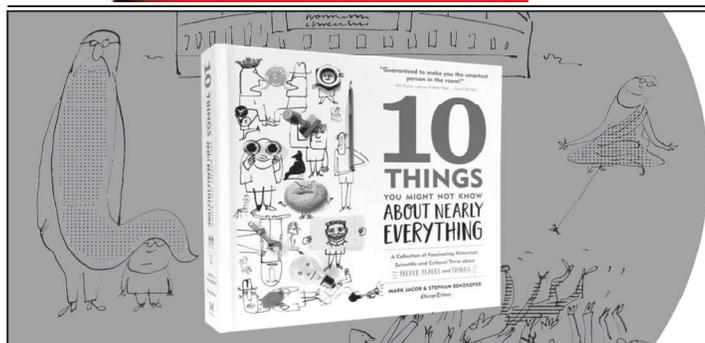
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In winter, buds help give woody plants a head start

BY BETH BOTTS
Chicago Tribune

What is it that adorns this tree? Is it a fruit? Is it a flower? Often, it's a promise. That's what buds are: promises of next year's leaves and blooms.

"Most trees and shrubs in our region form their buds in the summer or fall before they go dormant for the winter," said Julie Janoski, manager of the Plant Clinic at The Morton Arboretum in Lisle. "That way, they're all ready to go when the thaw comes in spring."

Some homeowners fear there's something wrong when they see things on trees at a time of year when they expect bare branches. "Usually, it's just buds," Janoski said.

A bud is a tree's way of getting a leaf or flower through the winter. When it's too cold and water is locked up in ice, plants can't grow. But even in a cold-winter climate, woody plants can get a head start on next year by forming buds while it's still warm and then pausing their growth until spring.

The buds are usually protected by modified leaves called bud scales that overlap to cover them and seal them against the weather. Some buds, such as those of magnolia trees, are covered with insulating fuzz.

Most are leaf buds. Inside, immature leaves are tightly packed, ready to unfold when the weather gets warm enough and the sap starts running. Some species' buds already hold all the leaves the tree will grow next season. Others hold a first batch, with more leaves developing after the buds open.

Buds are the promise not just of leaves but also of branches. Trees grow two



MORTON ARBORETUM

These flower buds on a Cornelian-cherry dogwood tree already hold the promise of early spring bloom.

ways: They add width as cells divide under the bark, and they add length when cells divide at the tips of twigs. Every branch on every tree, even the massive, spreading branches of an oak, grew from a bud at the tip of a slender twig.

If a tree or shrub is mature enough and belongs to a species that blooms in spring, some of its adornments may be flower buds rather than leaf buds. "If you look closely, you can tell them apart," Janoski said. "Flower buds are usually bigger."

A flower bud contains an entire dogwood or forsythia or magnolia bloom, bundled up to keep it safe, waiting for the right time to open. Although buds don't grow much when it's cold, they do gradually change. "If you check from time to time, you can see them get larger toward bud burst," Janoski said.

Buds aren't the only ornaments you'll find on your trees at this time of year. Colorful fruits and berries may linger, such as rose hips or the bright red fruits of winterberry.

"Some cultivars of crabapple, such as Red Jewel, have so much persistent fruit that they look like they're decorated for the holidays," Janoski said.

Some trees, such as oaks and witch hazels, can keep their leaves all winter, until the new leaves replace them. A few shrubs, especially hydrangeas, still have their dried flowers, perfect snow catchers.

Cones dangle from pines and other evergreens, or, in the case of firs, stand upright like candles. Juniper trees and shrubs often hold clusters of little blue orbs that look like berries, but they're really modified cones.

"We think of trees as being bare in winter, but that's far from the case," Janoski said. Trees are always full of life and promise.

For tree and plant advice, contact the arboretum's Plant Clinic (630-719-2424 or plantclinic@mortonarb.org).

Beth Botts is a staff writer at the Morton Arboretum in Lisle (www.mortonarb.org).



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BY LAURA DAILY
The Washington Post

Recently, I bought 57 tubes of toothpaste, 35 bottles of shampoo and 108 rolls of toilet paper. A single woman hardly needs so much toothpaste, shampoo or toilet paper, but my favorite local charity does. Total cost: Less than \$30. And these toiletries were fresh off the grocery store shelves, nothing damaged, expired or recalled. My trick? Coupons.

I'm not alone. Hundreds, if not thousands, of smart shoppers are using the mighty little coupon to save money on everyday purchases and pass along extras to nonprofits or individuals who find themselves in a tight situation.

Every month, Brittany Tollberg, a hair stylist in Baltimore, drops off toiletries, nonperishable food and even diapers to someone in need or a local nonprofit such as Believe In Tomorrow Children's House at Johns Hopkins, the hospital housing program for families of kids receiving treatment at Johns Hopkins Children's Center.

By combining manufacturer's coupons, store coupons and rebate apps when a product is on sale, Tollberg usually can get items free or pay just pennies on the dollar. Her older son Michael helps her clip coupons from the newspaper, while her daughter Jordyn proudly tells friends, "My mommy has a store in the basement." The children also help her make goody bags filled with a toothbrush, body wash, toothpaste, shampoo and crackers to hand out to the homeless.

Jessie Alonzo, who blogs



GETTY

By using manufacturer's and store coupons with rebate apps, shoppers can often get items free or pay just pennies on the dollar.

at Moola Saving Mom, places something from every shopping trip, whether it's a can of beans or a pack of razors, into a "donation" box at her home. When the box gets heavy, or at least once a month, she totes it to her local church food pantry.

"I love donating in a real way," Alonzo says. "It feels good that I made a change or helped in some fashion. Maybe a family had a water line break and needs cleaning supplies. That can make a huge difference in someone's life."

Reality TV has painted couponers as hoarders, but often that's not the case. Sure, it's easy to go a bit bonkers when you first start couponing and feel the rush of a great score. But then, usually, comes a

moment of clarity when you figure out you don't need to stockpile hundreds of shampoo bottles or jars of peanut butter. "A friend volunteering at a shelter mentioned they were desperate for personal-care items," Alonzo recalls. "Immediately, I went into my donation pantry and filled three plastic tubs with 120 bottles of shampoo and conditioner, hundreds of bars of soap, deodorant, shaving cream and lotion. I realized I can always refill my pantry."

When her guest room became so full of items acquired through couponing that no one could actually use the room, Madison Pippins of Newnan, Georgia, came to the same conclusion. Now, the 23-year-old retail manager takes her

scores to a women's shelter. "I once spent \$5 for \$120 in cosmetics, personal-care items and canned goods," she says. "I never thought I could give as much as I do. It's humbling."

Here's how you can make couponing for charity part of your everyday routine.

■ Look for coupon inserts in most Sunday newspapers. Print coupons from sites such as Coupons.com and Retail Me Not. Ask family, neighbors and coworkers to give you any unwanted inserts.

■ Go hyperlocal to find the best (and often unadvertised) deals. An internet search for "name-of-store deal coupon blog + your state" should show you local coupon bloggers. "Let them do the work matching

coupons to sales," Alonzo says. You can also search Twitter and Instagram for #couponing to find sales and deals.

■ No matter the cause, find one that touches your heart and makes you feel good about donating. Then, reach out and learn what they really need. Some even have online donation wish lists.

■ To avoid being overwhelmed, pick one store, either drug or grocery. Join its loyalty program and download its app. Each store has its own rewards program and weekly loss leaders — items they sell below cost to get you in with the idea you'll buy other items. Focus on the loss leaders. When combined with coupons, you can get them nearly free.

■ To maximize your buying power, combine your coupons with rebate apps that allow you to earn cash back on certain products by scanning your receipt.

Once you reach a certain threshold, money is deposited to a Pay Pal account or redeemed for a gift card. You'll want to add at least one of these apps to your coupon arsenal. The largest is Ibotta. Other popular options are Checkout 51, SavingStar and Fetch Rewards. In addition, many retailers send extra offers (including freebies) via text.

■ Miss a killer deal? Don't beat yourself up. Sale cycles are cyclical. That toothpaste or toilet paper will go on sale again in four to six weeks, if not at one store, then its competitor.

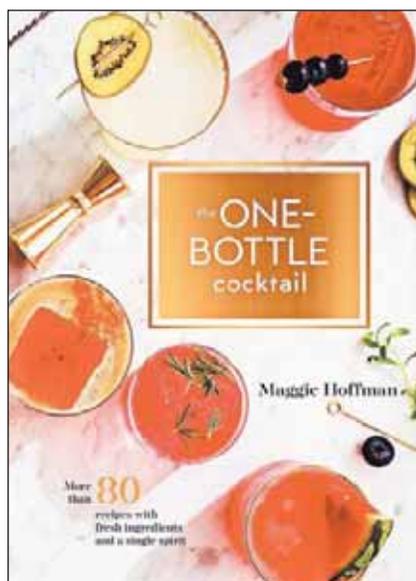
Stress-free ways to throw a chic New Year's Eve party on the cheap

BY DAVID SYREK
Chicago Tribune



WEST ELM

Start with barware that looks like a million bucks. The West Elm Chelsea copper barware collection has clean, modern lines, and everything you need to get your bar stocked and ready for the big night. \$9-\$48, westelm.com



Simplify and add drama at the same time. Having a house cocktail or serving only one type of liquor gives the party focus. Maggie Hoffman's new book, "The One Bottle Cocktail," offers over 80 party-worthy recipes that call for just one bottle of booze and a few ingredients from your grocery store. Her gin-based Police and Thieves is a perfect start. \$17.18, amazon.com



CB2

Serve it on a tray. Cocktails and apps look better — and are easier to serve — when they are presented on a tray. CB2 high-gloss rectangular white tray, \$39.95, and high-gloss round black tray, \$29.95, cb2.com



GLACIO

Pay extra attention to the small things. Glacio's silicone molds produce large, slow-melting ice balls that add high drama to your cocktails, \$19.99 for 4, glacio.com



WEST ELM; CB2

Get a swanky, retro bar cart. Class up the room and keep the bottles contained with a chic cart. West Elm Mid-Century walnut bar cart, \$299, westelm.com, and CB2 Ernest chrome bar cart, \$199, cb2.com.



CB2; WEST ELM

Beautiful glassware doesn't have to break the bank. Let your cocktails shine in CB2's stylish, micro-thin, Marta Tasting Glasses, \$9.95 for a set of eight at cb2.com, or get fancy with West Elm's Trapeze Glassware, \$14, for a set of four, westelm.com.



SAN PELLEGRINO

Upgrade the water. Give the same attention to guests who ask for water as you do to those having cocktails. San Pellegrino sparkling natural mineral water is great on its own or adds a touch of effervescence to your cocktails, plus the beautifully designed glass bottles are an added perk. About \$2 for a 1-liter bottle at most grocery stores.

dsyrek@chicagotribune.com

What's in your handbag? Too much stuff



ELLEN WARREN
Answer Angel

Dear Answer Angel

Ellen: You wrote recently about how to pare down your travel luggage, but how about reducing the amount of stuff I carry around in my purse? I am tired of carrying a shoulder bag that seems to get heavier by the day. And, specifically, can you point me to a notebook I can carry around in any size purse — including a small evening bag. I find myself wanting to write down a name, phone number, movie or book recommendation and have nothing to write on. But all the notebooks I see in stores, even the “small” ones, are bigger than I need or want.

— Ashley B.

Dear Ashley: Let me answer your second question first since I've got a solution. Moleskine makes a teensy notebook in the soft-cover Volant series — only 2.5 by 4.25 inches. It fits in the palm of your hand so it will fit in even the smallest of evening bags or pockets. They're expensive — \$5.95 for two on Amazon. There's also the hardcover Moleskine Classic Portfolio even slightly smaller (2.5 by 4) and more expensive (amazon.com, two for \$8.69). Also on amazon.com is the cheaper but slightly larger top-bound (not side-bound like the Moleskine's) Portage Field Tactical Sized Notebook. It's 2.8 by 4.6 inches but well priced at three for \$3.99. Many notebooks online boast of a small size, but they're 3.5 by 5.5 and that isn't all that small after all. Also, there's always the index card



GETTY

Large handbags can be quite stylish, or overcrowded with stuff you don't need to lug around.

option, but I can't seem to locate them after I write down crucial info.

On to the much tougher issue of reducing the stuff in your purse. Long ago, I actually set up a scale and weighed women's purses for a column I wrote (trib.in/2PdAncN), and it was mind-boggling. One woman's purse weighed 13.3 pounds (including the laptop), and the average purse weight was 6 pounds. That's way too much. I came up with some suggestions then on how to put your purse on a diet, which still work:

Consider the empty weight of the purse before you buy it. All the fancy hardware and heavy leather add weight.

Miniaturize: A small notebook instead of that big one (see above); a smaller

water bottle; travel-size everything; one lipstick instead of four (I plead guilty.)

Be brutal: Dump out the contents often and take out what you don't need. If you're going shopping at lunchtime, don't haul around your snacks or laptop. Do you *really* need to carry around all those keys or three pacifiers, dog treats or your kid's toy truck?

Dear Answer Angel

Ellen: My husband wants a negligee for Christmas. I'm willing to fulfill his wish, but I would rather it not be too frilly or feminine. Do you have any suggestions? He is a men's large, so what size should I buy so he can wear it on Christmas night?

— G.S.

Dear G.S.: I must admit this is new territory for the Answer Angel. But, I'm going to take this question as a serious inquiry and not a put-on. More men than you (or I) might think like wearing women's sleepwear, lingerie and clothing in general. So, an internet search for “plus size negligee” turned up many not-too-frilly options. Here are two: HerRoom.com's Shadowline Silhouette model 32737 in sizes up to 3X, \$47. Torrid.com has a black and red rose chiffon sleep robe, \$52.90 up to 3X. And ... Merry Christmas to you both.

Dear Answer Angel

Ellen: I have an unusual question: Our son hates the taste of mint, and has always used a fruit-flavored kids' toothpaste. But now

he's getting older, and I think it's kind of goofy for him to be using toothpaste with a smiling watermelon on the front! (Although he's never been made fun of at summer camp or sleepovers.) I would like to know if there's a toothpaste that is less minty than most, or if there are toothpastes you and your readers can recommend.

— Barbara V.

Dear Barbara: How about Cleure's cinnamon, lemon-lime or cranberry. They're \$9 each at Cleure.com. Tanner's Tasty Paste Cha Cha Chocolate is \$6.99 (amazon.com). There's even bacon-flavored toothpaste by Mr. Bacon (funslurp.com, \$6.95). Also, Dr. Brite Berrylicious (pharmaca.com, \$7.99). And,

Schmidt's Natural Deodorant Tooth & Mouth Paste comes in Vanilla Chai and Coconut & Lime (iHerb.com, \$5.99).

Angelic Readers 1

For Kathy F. who doesn't like pantyhose but needs to do something to conceal her varicose veins when she wears her new green dress, Gayle F. writes, “I've had very good luck with Sally Hansen Airbrush Legs. Used it numerous times and it does not come off on your clothes yet washes off easily with soap and water. You can get it at Walgreens, Walmart etc.” Debbie D. suggests thigh-high hosiery. “They're great! They have patterns and various colors to make my legs look so much better; the veins and discoloration aren't visible. Hope this suggestion helps others.”

Angelic Readers 2

For reader Mary McI., who was looking for a warm winter coat, Dani S. sent along a photo of her and her friend Christine C. looking toasty in Lands' End long coats (LandsEnd.com) on duty in a chilly elementary school parking lot. “They come in all different levels of warmth and have many different styles and colors. It is lightweight, and I can squish it into my locker. They are durable; I've had mine for five years. They are priced well. It is easier to be smiling and welcoming when we are warm and toasty. Believe me these coats have been put to the test.”

Now it's your turn

Send your questions, rants, tips, favorite finds — on style, shopping, makeup, fashion and beauty — to answerangelellen@gmail.com.

Rock your New Year's Eve style

BY DAVID SYREK | Chicago Tribune

1. Go all-out glam:

When it comes to glitter and shine, don't pile it on — look for one standout piece. Zara black-and-silver Ombre Sequin dress. \$119, Zara, Chicago and zara.com



ZARA

2. Have fun:

Break out of your routine and wake up your wardrobe with a glammed-up jumpsuit. Sibyl midnight-blue, wide-leg sequin jumpsuit. \$129, Nordstrom, Chicago and nordstrom.com

NORDSTROM



3. Use your accessories to add the sparkle:

If you love glitter, tonight's your night. J.Crew silver-glitter Maya ankle bootie. \$124.90, nordstrom.com

NORDSTROM



NEIMAN MARCUS

4. Wear something unexpected:

Look ahead with a nod to the past, and ease into the new year with old-school glam. Le Superbe Sunset Boulevard sequin robe-style cocktail dress. \$725, Neiman Marcus, Chicago and neimanmarcus.com



ZARA

5. Go classic, but amp it up:

You can't go wrong with a classic black tux, but add a twist. Zara shiny, loose-fit tuxedo jacket with fabric-covered buttons and matching cropped trousers. \$99.90 and \$49.90, Zara, Chicago and zara.com

6. Wear over-the-top accessories that make a statement:

Make a chic New Year's Eve statement without breaking the bank. Leith crystal and chain-mail earrings. \$24, Nordstrom, Chicago and nordstrom.com



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dsyrek@chicagotribune.com



Chicago Tribune

CHEWING



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ART OF SPORT

The Art of Sport line of body care was formulated with the needs of athletes in mind.

Kobe Bryant's Art of Sport body care line aims for athletes

BY KHANH T.L. TRAN

Los Angeles Times

One of the secrets behind Kobe Bryant's 20 seasons as a star of the Los Angeles Lakers and his five NBA championships, two Olympic gold medals and one Academy Award is his grooming regimen, which includes manicures, pedicures and luxurious face creams.

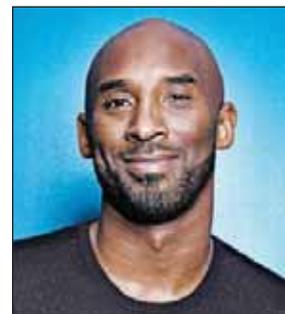
"You have to take care of your body as an athlete," Bryant said during a recent phone interview. "Your body, in turn, will take care of you."

That mindset explains how the retired basketball player has become a founding partner of Art of Sport, an LA-based unisex body-care startup geared toward athletes.

Having moved from the hardwood to Hollywood — as well as marking his 40th birthday this year — Bryant has changed his grooming routine.

He has also replaced Right Guard, Speed Stick and what he dubs "the usual stuff" with his brand's concoctions that favor natural ingredients such as matcha tea powder over potentially harmful parabens and aluminum.

Sold on Amazon and Art of Sport's website, the lineup of goods includes a body soap bar that lathers with deep-cleaning charcoal and moisturizes with



IAN MADDOX/
FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

Kobe Bryant wants to direct short films with Art of Sport's athlete backers.

shea butter to prevent dryness and chafing after multiple post-workout showers (\$8.95 for a two-pack) and a 2-in-1 hair and body wash that's a silky gel containing tea tree oil and aloe vera (\$8.95 for a 10-ounce tube).

There's also a recovery cream blended with arnica and eucalyptus to soothe sore muscles (\$12.95 for a 3-ounce tube). The priciest item in the range is the SPF 50 sunscreen (\$13.95 for a 5-ounce tube) that eschews oxybenzone because the chemical can be harmful to coral reefs.

For Matthias Metternich, an Art of Sport co-founder and the company's chief executive, it was important to take a holistic approach in formulating the line because, as he put it, "You can't put rocket booster seats in a Toyota Yaris and expect to go to

the moon."

Bryant fancies himself a bit of a skin-care guru. "When I was on the Olympics team, (players) saw me using La Mer products," he recalled.

"What is that?" he said his teammates asked of the seaweed-infused face cream. Bryant generously shared his moisturizer that cost \$175 an ounce. "Now they all use it," he said.

Taking that influence a step further, Bryant wants to direct short films with Art of Sport's team of athletes who endorse the products. That list includes Houston Rockets guard James Harden and pro surfer Sage Erickson.

Some of the toughest judges are those closest to Bryant, such as his wife, Vanessa. Bryant recounts how, one day, after he'd swiped on the brand's deodorant scented with citrus and green pear, his wife asked, "What is that smell?" Bryant said his immediate thought was, "I'm interested in what the verdict is."

He told her it was the Compete deodorant from the skin-care line. "I love it," she told him.

The Art of Sport line has creative fragrance combinations such as cedar and vanilla — smells that might be overwhelming to some. However, the fragrance could be refreshing in a throng of sweaty athletes.

Chicago Tribune
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Jill Monoscalco and Chompers



Tim and Jessica Canning with Brewer



Paula Fasseas, left, and Alexis Fasseas with Loretta

Candid Candace

BY CANDACE JORDAN
Chicago Tribune



PAWS Fur Ball raises \$1.2M for rescue mission

The claws were out at the 17th annual PAWS Chicago Fur Ball, a pet-friendly, black-tie event benefiting the city's largest no-kill humane organization. More than 800 guests, many with canine companions in tow, along with 250 volunteers helped raise money for life-saving programs for homeless animals Nov. 9 at the Drake Hotel.

The elegant Kehoe Designs decor was evident in all three rooms dedicated to the event: the Gold Coast Room, the Grand Ballroom and the Camellia Room.

In each space, dynamic media hosts — WFLD-Ch. 32's Kaitlin Cody, Shae Pepler, Lou Canellis and Jake Hamilton, and Big 95.5's Lisa Dent — emceed programs that included moving video presentations, live auctions and rescue animal showcases. Twenty-four homeless dogs, puppies and kittens were in attendance, several of whom found loving homes that night.

A live auction offered the opportunity to name and purchase a rescue van (sold twice at \$27,000), bid on a South African safari (sold for \$15,000) and travel aboard the world's largest private residential ship, The World (sold twice at \$20,000 each).

Longtime board member Bonnie Spurlock paid \$16,000 to have her PAWS rescue cat Remi appear on the cover of the 2020 PAWS desktop calendar. Each room offered a separate live auction, raising \$269,000 in total.

Partygoers enjoyed a lavish dinner buffet, silent auction and dancing to two live bands. Canine guests were also treated to spa treatments and a healthy doggy buffet of boiled chicken, rice and carrots, served in crystal goblets.

Co-chaired by Melissa and Michael Canning and Jessica and Tim Canning, with honorary co-chair Stephanie Harris, the event raised about \$1.2 million, which will account for nearly 15 percent of PAWS Chicago's annual operating budget.

Freelance writer Candace Jordan is involved in many local organizations, including some whose events she covers.

More online

Find more photos and video of this event at www.chicagotribune.com/candidcandace

YVETTE MARIE DOSTATNI/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE



Amy Burin with Olive Oil and George Burin with Addison Kacey



John Canning, left, with Melissa and Michael Canning



Paul Iacono with Kat, left, and Todd Hatoff with Dariana



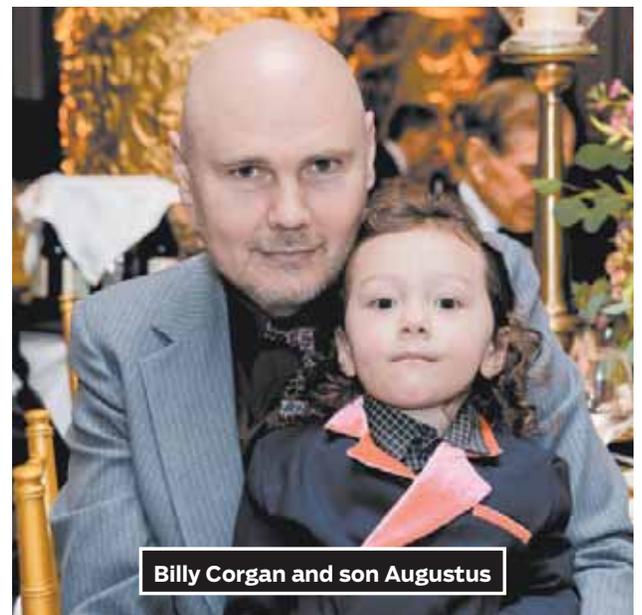
Piper Parker with Edwin



Frances and Chris Renk



Cheri Lawrence with Kingsley, from left, Lisa Dent and Daphne Dolan



Billy Corgan and son Augustus

STEPHEN LOTHO



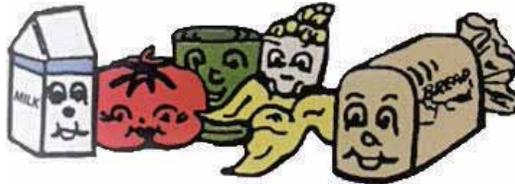
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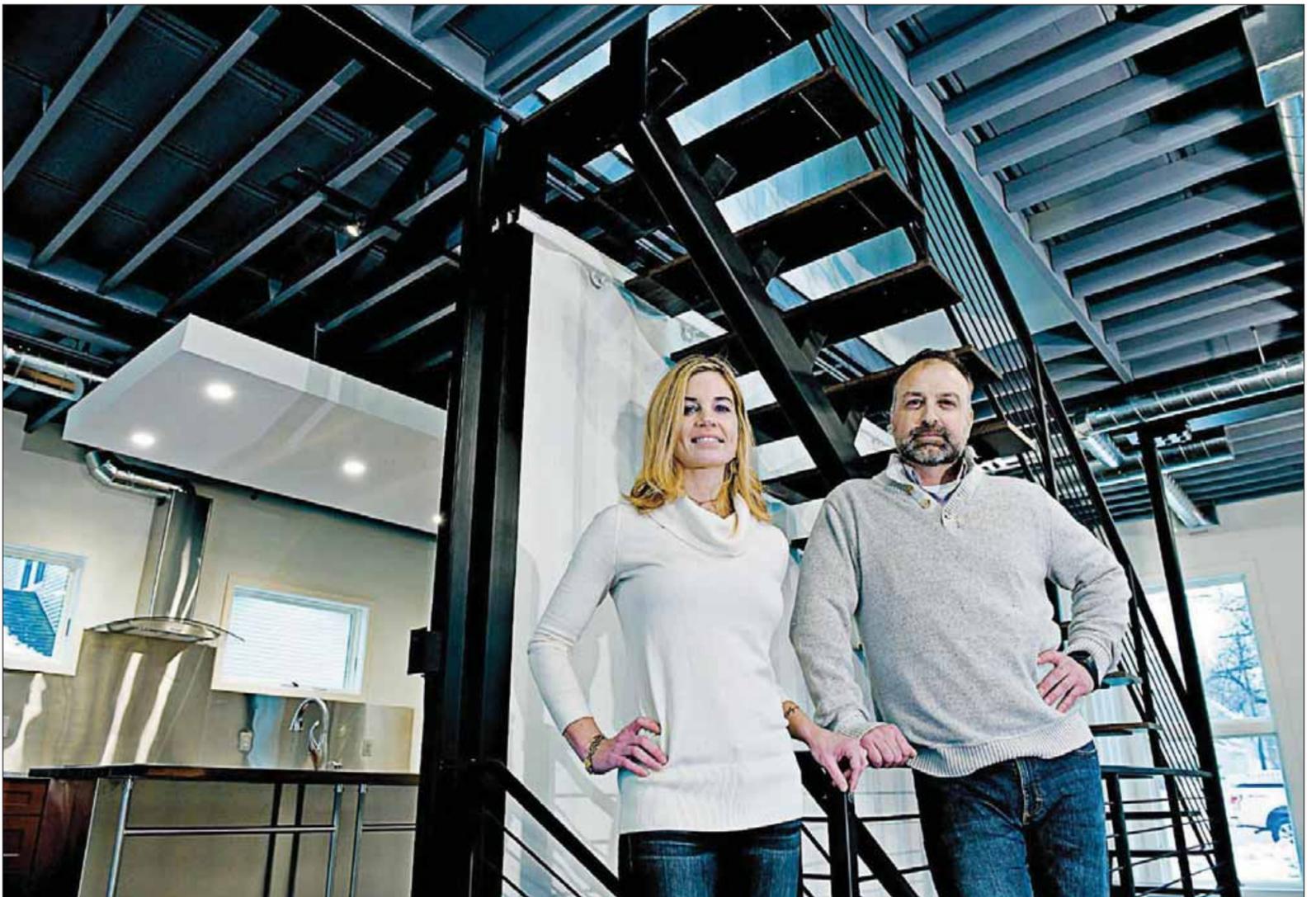
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Chicago Tribune
REAL ESTATE



MARK BLACK/PHOTOS FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Stephanie and Clark Evans of Group 3 Construction in Geneva pose in their new St. Charles home they created from shipping containers. The couple will move in before Christmas.

LIVING LARGE IN UNIQUE HOUSING

‘Container’ and tiny homes allow residents to ditch the traditional

By **DARCEL ROCKETT** | Chicago Tribune

Goodbye cookie-cutter. So long McMansion. Out with formulaic, in with customization. A small but mighty group of homeowners is onto something different — residences guaranteed to stand out at the neighborhood block party.

Like current Geneva residents husband and wife Clark and Stephanie Evans, who created their version of a family home on their own terms.

The couple designed, built and will move into their “container home” — a first for St. Charles — before Christmas. From the distinctive boxy look and colors outside, to the simple, modern, industrial look inside, Stephanie focused on layout and design. Clark,

an engineer, focused on structure.

“In the beginning, people just didn’t understand it, and no one 100 percent supported it. But as it progressed, a lot of those people who were hesitant about it started to come on board and see it for what it was, and not just an extravagant trash can,” said Stephanie, the mother of two.

Turn to **Container, Page 7**



The design of the house was adjusted at the request of the city to use a combination of shipping container walls and traditional style siding on the exterior.

How much can you afford to pay for a new home?



KENNETH R. HARNEY
The Nation's Housing

New research sheds fresh light on one of the most frequently asked homebuying questions, especially for first-timers: With our annual income, what price house can we afford? Is there some handy rule of thumb?

Decades ago, a commonly quoted price-to-income guideline was that you can afford a house that costs roughly two times your gross annual household income. So back then, if you and your spouse or partner earned a combined \$50,000 a year, you could likely afford a \$100,000 house. In later decades, the ratio crept up to three times income, and even higher in some areas.

So what is it today? A study by housing researchers at the American Enterprise Institute’s Center on Housing Markets and Finance came up with some intriguing

answers. They examined the incomes, home prices and square footage associated with the purchase transactions of 543,000 first-timers during 2017. Stripped of individuals’ identities, the data came from the actual loan files of buyers who obtained mortgages from Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, the Federal Housing Administration, Veterans Affairs and Rural Housing Services in the 50 largest U.S. metropolitan areas. As a group, these agencies’ loans account for approximately 90 percent of all first-time home purchases.

What researchers Edward Pinto and Tobias Peter found is that there is no magic price-to-income guideline for gauging affordability that fits everywhere, though the median ratio nationwide was 3.3.

As with everything in real estate, location plays a crucial role; ratios in the study ranged from an affordably modest 2.3 to a hyper-expensive 5.0. The top 10 least-affordable markets had median buyer incomes that were 51 percent higher than those in the 10 most affordable areas.

Pittsburgh, with a 2.3 ratio, was

the most affordable housing market for first-timers. It was followed closely by Cleveland and Cincinnati (ratios of 2.4 and 2.6, respectively) and Oklahoma City (2.7). In metropolitan Chicago, the ratio was 2.9; in Miami, 3.5; New York, 3.6; Washington D.C., 3.8; and Boston, 3.9. The least affordable markets, not surprisingly, were along the West Coast: San Diego, where the price-to-income ratio hit 4.5; San Francisco (4.6) and San Jose (5.0).

In metropolitan Washington

Turn to **Harney, Page 3**

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HOME OF THE WEEK

Gold Coast mansion with 9 fireplaces: \$5.8M

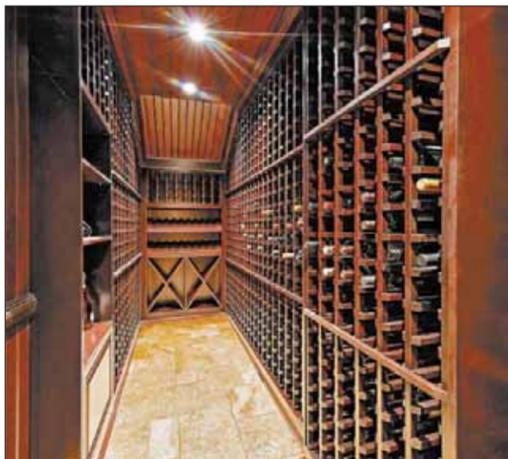
ADDRESS: 1433 N. State Parkway in Chicago
ASKING PRICE: \$5,799,000
 Listed on Aug 14, 2018

This home underwent a gut rehab in 2011 and now includes an elevator, five bedrooms, five full bathrooms and three half bathrooms. The kitchen has Wolfe, Meile and Sub-Zero appliances as well as a butler's pantry. Other features include nine fireplaces, a temperature-controlled wine cellar, custom millwork, wood floors and paneling throughout. There is also an audio system and speakers on every floor as well as an outside deck.
 Agent: Thomas Morrissey of Cedar Realty Group, 312-286-1218

**Some VHT Studios photos are "virtually staged," meaning they have been digitally altered to represent different furnishing or decorating options.*

At press time, this home was still for sale.

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Here are challenges to expect next year



PAMELA DITTMER MCKUEN
Community Living

Another year approaches, and community associations will deal with both new and ongoing challenges.

What's on the agenda for 2019? We asked several industry pros to predict next year's hot topics. Solutions are uncertain, but at least you'll know you're not alone.

Budget and reserve discrepancies. Associations often follow the recommendations of their reserve study for capital projects only to find there isn't enough money when needed, said Linda Sehnoutka, community association manager at Grand Haven Homeowners Association in Romeoville.

"Reserve companies are not financial analysts and only provide a broad guideline on what associations should put away for capital replacement projects," she said.

Sehnoutka advises boards to review their reserve studies annually, hone the costs of upcoming projects and adjust saving schedules accordingly.

Safety and security. City and suburban associations alike are concerned with threats to people and property, said Cheryl Murphy, executive director at the Community Associations Institute of Illinois in Schaumburg.

Package thefts, intruders, disgruntled owners and vandalism are among them.



GETTY

Community associations will face a host of challenges, including dog waste and cannabis conundrums.

Higher interest rates. The good news is your reserves will make more money. The bad news is borrowing money will be more expensive and harder to qualify for. In addition, deconversions (turning condos into apartments) could slow down if developers find more lucrative opportunities.

"Associations that are thinking about accepting an offer to deconvert may decide to push ahead more quickly before the buyer takes the offer off the table," said Mark Rosenbaum of Fischel Kahn in Chicago.

Doggie doo-doo. Ken Bertolucci, president at NS Management Co. in Skokie, reports growing complaints about owners who don't pick up after their dogs. Often the complainants don't know the dog owners or where they live.

"Although we would like to address the issue, it is impossible to take any action with such limited information," he said.

In frustration, one of his associations resorted to a service that uses DNA to match dogs with their waste. Guilty owners are fined and charged the cost of the test.

Liability for water damage. Whether massive floods or slow leaks, water infiltration is a year-round issue.

Owners must make sure their insurance coverage dovetails with the responsibilities and liability limits of their associations, said

Elizabeth Onesto, community association manager at 1200 N. Lake Shore Drive Condominium Association in Chicago.

"Relying on someone else's policy to pay for damages inside a unit is not likely the end result," Onesto said.

Incivility toward boards and managers. Along with contact information requirements for associations and near-constant internet access for everyone, many owners are demanding an immediate response to their concerns. When they don't get it, they retaliate, said Meaghan Bollenberg, community association manager, at Lieberman Management Services in Elk Grove Village.

"Their frustration is coming out in threats of physical violence, horrible language, personal insults that have nothing to do with the issue at hand and other inappropriate behaviors," she said.

Cannabis conundrums. Medical marijuana presents myriad issues for multifamily living.

Janice Avery, community association manager at FirstService Residential in Chicago offered a few: valid versus invalid complaints against users, attributing responsibility for remediation wafting smoke and odors, avoiding hiring discrimination and the need to change governing documents to accommodate new laws.

Having second thoughts on a home equity loan

BY ILYCE GLINK AND SAMUEL J. TAMKIN
Tribune Content Agency

Q: We're thinking that we don't want to move forward with a home equity loan we applied for. We're pretty far along in the process. My bank has informed us that the loan application has been approved and that documents are ready for us to review and sign electronically.

What would be the consequences if we tell the bank that we don't want to go forward with this loan? We're afraid of the interest rate and the doubling of our loan payments when you compare the new payment to our current loan payments. We were trying to pay off some debts with the cash received; instead, our debt with this loan would skyrocket.

A: You didn't give us much to go on (like details on the home equity loan or your other debts), so we're going to make some big assumptions to answer your question.

Your first assumption is that the home equity loan you applied for was a market rate loan and not from a lender that had picked you out for a loan carrying a sky-high interest rate and closing costs.

Frequently, home equity loans are very low-cost loans. This means that the lender may have you pay an application fee and a couple of other fees — but the overall cost is low. Typically, home equity loans carry a higher interest rate than what you'd pay on a first home mortgage but you don't get hit with a lot of other closing costs.

Also, home equity lines of credit (HELOCs) usually have shorter loan



DREAMSTIME

You can decide not to close on a home equity loan and may have the right to back out three days after closing.

terms and offer loans at far lower amounts than a first or primary mortgage. First mortgages come with fees for appraisals, loan processing, underwriting, document preparation and many others items, including title company or settlement agent fees and expenses. The fees on a first home mortgage can run up to thousands of dollars.

Home equity loan interest rates are sometimes expressed as a fixed-rate amount, but the loan might be a variable rate mortgage expressed as prime plus some margin, like prime plus 2.5 percent. The term may be for five or 10 years, and at the end of that term you have to pay the loan back in full.

At the end of November we took a quick look at a national lender's website, which revealed the interest rate for home equity loans ranging between 5.5 percent and 7.5 percent, compared with rates around 4.125 percent for a five-year adjustable rate mortgage and 5 percent for a 30-year fixed rate loan.

Assuming you have a good credit score, if the interest rate you are being offered is much higher than these, you might have found a lender that is trying to sell you a loan product that is way above

the market in pricing. You should have the right to review the costs and decide whether you want to accept the deal.

You're thinking about it the right way, though. Yes, if you take out a home equity loan you'll have a greater debt load on your home. On the other hand, if your lender is legitimate and the interest rate and closing costs are competitive, you may be swapping your high interest rate payments for credit cards, home improvements and student loans for a lower interest rate loan with this lender.

Talk to your mortgage lender about your options, and try to get a better understanding about the loan you applied for and how it could affect your other debts. You can always decide not to close on the home equity loan. You should have the right to back out before you sign the loan documents, and you may even have the right to back out within three days of the loan closing, which is known as the right of rescission.

Ilyce Glink is the CEO of Best Money Moves and Samuel J. Tamkin is a real estate attorney. Contact them through the website ThinkGlink.com.

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			5/1 ARM	4.875	0.000	\$5	5%	4.876			
			7/1 ARM	5.000	0.000	\$5	5%	5.150			
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SAVINGS UPDATE

Making sense of closing costs

Even if you've closed on a mortgage before, each time can be a confusing process. In addition to the endless forms and required signatures, you'll also face a wide variety of fees that get lumped together in the nondescript phrase "closing costs".

So what's included in closing costs? The list varies widely since each state, and even some municipalities, have their own rules about certain fees. But in general, closing costs run two to five percent of a home's purchase price.

Several of the costs are fees for required services: an appraisal to establish the home's market value; a title search to determine if the deed is free and clear; an underwriting fee to cover the lender's cost in deciding they'd lend to you; an application or loan origination fee to cover processing your application; recording fees to file the proper paperwork after the loan is complete; and any commissions to involved real estate brokers.

But closing costs also include installments for the ongoing costs of your mortgage, such as property taxes to cover a prorated portion of the year; homeowner's insurance, generally for a full year; any points that your mortgage agreement involves; and, if you're making a down payment below 20 percent, a prorated share of private mortgage insurance.

Because states and home mortgages vary so much, including what different lenders are willing to cover, several additional costs could appear in your closing, such as fees for a survey, for pulling your credit report, or for wire transfers. Some buyers will also pay at closing for their home inspection or an optional home warranty.

A short time before closing, you'll receive a Closing Disclosure with the exact figures on everything you'll be required to pay. Review this carefully and talk with your lender about any costs you don't understand.



HERO IMAGES

The nationwide median for first-time homebuyers is a home price 3.3 times gross annual household income.

Harney

Continued from Page 1

D.C., first-timers bought houses or condos with a median price of \$355,000. In the New York metro, the median was \$365,000. In San Francisco, \$560,000 and San Jose \$650,000. Imagine having to save your money to buy your first home for more than a half million bucks, and the place you buy is a two-bedroom, 1,200-square-foot starter home — yikes!

How do first-timers do it? One crucial element is that there are relatively generous financing options compared with previous decades: Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac offer 3-percent-down options and have begun permitting applicants' debt-to-income ratios (DTIs) to go as high as 50 percent. FHA offers first-timers not only low minimum down payments (3.5 percent) but exceptionally sympathetic treatment on credit issues and the mortgage industry's highest DTIs — in excess of 50 percent. VA loans require no down payment whatsoever.

Paul Skeens, president of Colonial Mortgage Group in Waldorf, Md., says he's watched pricing rule-of-thumb ratios in his market area push higher for a couple of decades — from three times income in the late 1980s to four times income at the height of the housing boom in 2006. But qualifying for a specific loan amount — which sets the upper limit on what

you can buy — can't really be reduced to a ratio, he says. It's all about buyers' individual circumstances. He sees applicants with good incomes and credit but who are carrying student-loan debts requiring hundreds of dollars a month in repayments. "Student debts are killing these guys," he told me, because the payments knock applicants' DTIs beyond what's acceptable even under loosened guidelines. For debt-burdened individuals like these, there is no price-to-income ratio rule of thumb. They are out of the game.

Marty Soller, a real estate agent with Coldwell Banker King Thompson in the Columbus, Ohio, area, sees the same problem holding back many would-be first-timers, complicated in some cases by child care costs that can run "easily \$1,000 a month per child."

The takeaway here? Note that the new study focused on the ratios that buyers across the country actually experienced last year, which turned out to be a median 3.3 times income for the cost of their first home. Your own price limit, however, may well turn on issues directly related to you, especially the monthly debts you're lugging around.

In my column last week, I incorrectly referred to energy-improvement benefits in the GOP tax bill as deductions. In fact, the benefits take the form of tax credits.

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Rate Criteria: The rates and annual percentage rate (APR) are effective as of 12/11/18. All rates, fees and other information are subject to change without notice. RateSeeker, LLC. does not guarantee the accuracy of the information appearing above or the availability of rates and fees in this table. The institutions appearing in this table pay a fee to appear in this table. Annual percentage rates (APRs) are based on fully indexed rates for adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs). The APR on your specific loan may differ from the sample used. All rates are quoted on a minimum FICO score of 740. Conventional loans are based on loan amounts of \$165,000. Jumbo loans are based on loan amounts of \$453,101. Lock Days: 30-60. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Payments do not include amounts for taxes and insurance. The APR may increase after consummation and may vary. FHA Mortgages include both UFMLP and MIP fees based on a loan amount of \$165,000 with 5% down payment. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Fees reflect charges relative to the APR. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. VA Mortgages include funding fees based on a loan amount of \$165,000 with 5% down payment. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. "Call for Rates" means actual rates were not available at press time. To access the NMLS Consumer Access website, please visit www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org. To appear in this table, call 773-320-8492.

ELITE STREET

Former Crown mansion sells for \$1.8M

By **BOB GOLDSBOROUGH**
Chicago Tribune

The six-bedroom, 8,919-square-foot Tudor-style mansion in Evanston that billionaire industrialist and Material Service Corp. founder Henry Crown owned for more than a half-century, until his death in 1990, sold Dec. 3 for \$1.8 million.

Crown, who merged Material Service with General Dynamics in 1959, bought the mansion, which is on Edgemere Court, around 1936. He lived there with his first wife, Rebecca, until her death in 1943 and remained there with his second wife, Gladys, who died in 1991. Crown's family sold the mansion in mid-1997 for \$1.55 million to Philip and Jacqueline Crihfield.

The Crihfields first listed the mansion in late 2016 for \$2.95 million. They cut their asking price in February 2017 to \$2.875 million and then to \$2.65 million the following month. They reduced its asking price further to \$2.499 million in May 2017 and then to \$2.395 million in April. One month later, they cut its asking price for the final time to \$2.295 million.

Built in 1927 and designed by the architectural firm Mayo & Mayo, the three-story mansion has five full baths, two half-baths, an indoor swimming pool in the basement, an elevator, original plaster cast moldings on the dining room ceiling, arched doorways, custom woodwork, custom built-ins, a butler's pantry, a year-round sunroom, two seasonal porches and a four-car garage with a five-room

coach house. The mansion is just a block from Lake Michigan.

In what police concluded was either an attempted robbery or an attempted kidnapping, a gunman in January 1972 entered the mansion after Henry Crown had left for work. The gunman sprayed disabling gas at Gladys Crown and a maid. The maid fought the gunman, Gladys Crown set off a shrieking burglar alarm and the gunman left the mansion empty-handed.

Listing agent Andrea Wich declined to comment on the sale. Public records do not yet identify the buyer.

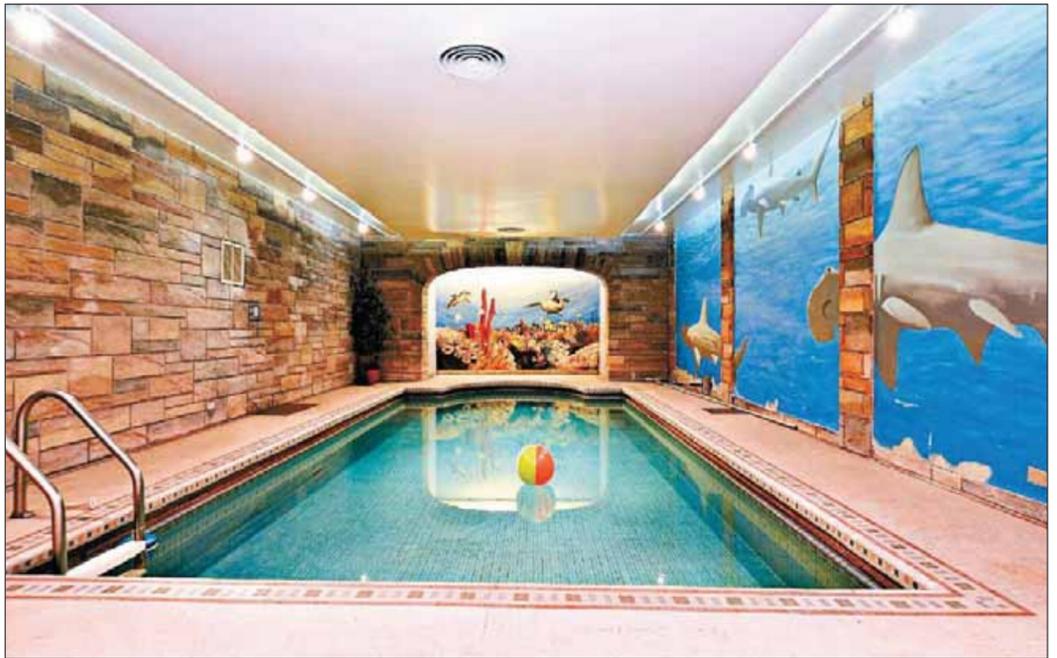
Former Chicago radio host Brooke Hunter sells Glenview home for \$550,000: Former Chicago radio host Brooke Hunter on Nov. 16 sold her three-bedroom, 2,027-square-foot midcentury, ranch-style house in east Glenview for \$550,000.

Until early last year, Hunter was the midday host at WLIT-FM. She previously had been on the air on a raft of stations, including WCFS-FM, WKQX-FM, WTMX-FM and WZZN-FM.

"One reason I sold was to get out of Cook County," Hunter told Elite Street. "The taxes, alone, were killing me, and they're only going to go up. And frankly, it was too much house for just my son and myself."

Hunter, who now lives in Geneva, had owned the house since 2016. She first listed it in September for \$575,000.

Built in 1960, the house has a sunken and vaulted living room with a stone fireplace, hardwood floors,



The Tudor-style mansion in Evanston that Henry Crown owned until his death in 1990 sold Dec. 3 for \$1.8 million.



Ex-radio host Brooke Hunter sold her ranch-style house in east Glenview for \$550,000.

a large rec room off the kitchen, a Florida-style sunroom leading to a private patio, a finished basement with an office, and an eat-in kitchen with stainless steel appliances, two Miele dishwashers, a built-in warming tray, a wet bar, a Sub-Zero refrigerator, custom cabinets and a Thermador six-burner range.

Spin Master president pays \$2.235 for Oak Brook mansion: Ben Gadbois, the global president and chief operating officer of Toronto-based toymaker Spin Master, on Oct. 30 paid \$2.235 million for a six-bedroom, 8,369-



Spin Master's global president, Ben Gadbois, paid \$2.235 million for a mansion in Oak Brook's Ginger Creek area.

square-foot mansion in Oak Brook's Ginger Creek area.

Built in 2008, the three-story mansion has 8½ baths, a two-story foyer, 11-foot ceilings on the main level, refinished hardwood

floors, two master suites and a finished lower level with an in-law arrangement, all on a 0.79-acre lot. The mansion's previous owner, real estate lawyer Robert Lattas, was found

guilty in 2015 of bank fraud for his role in a mortgage fraud scheme and pleaded guilty to more charges in 2016. In October, Lattas was sentenced to 63 months in federal prison.

Gadbois has owned two other homes in Oak Brook. He is under contract to sell a five-bedroom, 6,791-square-foot mansion in the Midwest Club subdivision, which is listed for \$2.275 million. And a year ago, he sold a six-bedroom, 7,334-square-foot mansion elsewhere in Ginger Creek for \$2.66 million.

Now, Gadbois has purchased his largest mansion yet in Oak Brook. Amy Duong Kim, of Compass, the agent who has represented Gadbois in all of his Oak Brook transactions, told Elite Street that Ginger Creek "is a great area of Oak Brook."

"The subdivision, itself, is really fantastic," she said. "And it's a gorgeous home. It was recently renovated, and it's really to my client's taste."

Bob Goldsborough is a freelance reporter.

ctc-realestate@chicagotribune.com

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Nancy Huang
hhuang4@ivytech.edu
(574) 289-7001 x6856

If emailing, please include the subject line "35th Avenue Property".

Offers to purchase are due by 5 PM CST on Monday, Jan. 14.

Senior Living Solutions

Community Name		STUDIO	1 BEDROOM	2 BEDROOMS	TYPE*	GARAGE PKG	ON SITE SALON	MAID SERVICE	EXERCISE RM	WASH/DRY	PUBLIC TRANS	CATS	DOGS
Address	Phone Number												
LaGrange Pointe LaGrange, IL 60525	708-354-7600		From \$1,800	From \$2,700	SA, RC, AA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Friendship Village of Schaumburg Schaumburg, IL 60194	847-490-6265	From \$1,517	From \$2,276	From \$2,898	RC, SA, AL	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
GreenFields Of Geneva Geneva, IL 60134	630-232-9105	Life Plan Community	From \$2,632	From \$3,451	RC, SA, AL	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Heritage Senior Apartments Alsip, IL 60803	866-665-7473	\$635	\$845	\$945-\$1,035	SA					●	●	●	●
The Breakers at Edgewater Beach Chicago, IL 60640	888-864-1801	\$1,655	\$2,195	\$3,195	RC	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
The Homestead at Morton Grove Morton Grove, IL 60053	847-581-1800				SA	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
The Reserve of Geneva Geneva, IL 60134	630-584-4300		\$1,785 start	\$2,132 start	SA, RC, AL	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
King Bruwaert Burr Ridge, IL 60527	630-230-9551			All-inclusive range on fees.	RC, AL		●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Villa St. Benedict Lisle, IL 60532	630-852-0345	Entrance Fee Community	From \$2,500	From \$3,000	RC, AA, AL	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

*Type: SA Senior Apartments • RC Retirement Communities • AA Active Adults • AL Assisted Living

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Chew on, CHICAGO

Container

Continued from Page 1

It was a three-year process, turning seven 15-year-old steel shipping containers — each with an average size of 8 by 40 feet and once found on trains, trucks and ships — into a three-bedroom, 3½-bath home.

From concept to 3,200-square-foot finished product, Stephanie said the job was tough but worth it.

“It’s a custom home. These aren’t cookie-cutter homes. So even if we build another one next week, it will not be the same, and no one else has this home. Even though there are people that say, ‘I don’t know if I’d ever live in one,’ they say, ‘I like what you’ve done.’”

Clark agrees there is interest, citing various trespassers they’ve had on the property trying to get a better look at the house, which Clark has named “Super Bad.”

“It’s a curiosity — they’ve never seen anything like this before. Even on TV, they may have seen one or two containers being repurposed, but they’ve never seen a full-size house,” he said.

A walk through the space reveals high ceilings, an open floor plan, a finished basement with 9-foot ceilings, a cantilevered second-floor balcony and an 800-square-foot coach house. The original container floors have been sanded and stained, and original door handles repurposed for doors and bath towel hooks. The couple put thought into ample storage space for clutter, how to hang art and ensuring there were enough electrical outlets throughout.

Clark said his wife didn’t want to mask the unique aesthetics of the containers. The city and the Evans went back and forth with suggestions, requests and recommendations until they arrived at the current design.

“When we first had this idea, it sounds corny, but we wanted our house to tell a story. That’s why we left the dings and dents. We left the gouges in the floor and thought, ‘That could have been done eight years ago in the Philippines’ — we wanted that,” Clark said.

The Evanses, who own single-family housing construction business Group 3 Construction LLC, originally built “Super Bad” to put it on the market but have opted to move in instead. Now



MARK BLACK/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The kitchen of Clark and Stephanie Evans’ new St. Charles home, which was created from used and upcycled shipping containers. Clark said his wife didn’t want to mask the unique aesthetics of the containers.

that Group 3’s first container home project is complete, Stephanie hopes more buyers looking for something unique will contact them — she said they have already received calls from interested parties in the Midwest. The company’s container homes will likely cost from \$400,000 to \$800,000, depending on size, features and finishes.

One hang-up: Not all associations and subdivisions allow container homes, according to Clark. But the couple hopes that the more common alternative housing becomes, the better received container homes will be.

“This house is so forward-thinking. We just went rogue,” Clark said. “Instead of going downstream, we went upstream, and people are blown away by it. ... Either you love it or hate it; there’s no in between.”

Architect and St. Charles resident George Larson thinks Super Bad is “nifty” and ideal compared with how most people live today. He sees the layout as a more European-style of prefabricated housing, citing things like a small footprint and large family area.

“A lot of people who do container houses don’t want them to look like container houses, but there’s an authenticity about that house; it looks attractive, and it’s by ordinary people who decided

to make an important statement,” Larson said.

“I think it’s great to have this house here as a lesson for anyone — anyone can do it.”

Tiny homes

So-called tiny houses are another alternative for those looking to ditch traditional homes with foundations, and South Elgin tiny home manufacturer Bob Clarizio Jr. says the movement is here to stay.

The Schaumburg native is the founder and CEO of Titan Tiny Homes, which has built and sold 70 tiny homes over the course of three years — the majority of which have gone to states with warmer climates.

Tiny houses are usually customizable, include the essentials of an average-sized home and often are built on an RV trailer. Titan’s website lists homes from about 100 to 400 square feet.

HGTV has contributed to both trends (container and tiny), but Clarizio thinks those who go small do so for financial reasons and more freedom — the ability to pick up and leave when they please.

“Just like someone who drives an electric car, they want to make a statement,” he said. “They like the car for what it speaks for as

far as the status, but it also screams no carbon footprint. Basically it displays all their values in one shot, and a tiny house does the same thing.”

Moili McGee who writes for Tiny House Society, a website dedicated to the trend, enjoys the simplicity. She has lived in a 100-square-foot space in South Africa for the last three years working for a nonprofit. She said she’s had the happiest times of her life living small.

“It was with less that I felt I was getting the most out of life,” said the Rowley, Mass., native.

“I wasn’t really distracted by material things; my focus was on friends, work and enjoying the nature around me. People are looking at less materialistic ways of living, and into greener ways of living, and that’s the kinds of people who are interested in this.”

The 26-year-old is so enamored with the lifestyle, she is planning to budget \$25,000 to build her own 350-square-foot home (with a little help from friends) when she returns state-side in a year’s time. Tiny House Society sells house plans for DIY types.

Clarizio said the tiny home lifestyle is typically one in transition — new beginnings for college graduates or retirement for older generations — and the average

person spends about seven to 10 years in the home. At Titan, a tiny home is priced at around \$70,000.

The level of customization and product quality (think cabinetry, light fixtures, vanities) set tiny homes apart from those with the word “mobile” in front, aka RVs. Customers look at schematics from different models and choose their design elements. Clarizio said 80 percent of his clients buy online and never see the home in person before purchasing.

The latest Titan home model under construction is DD 2.0. The 380-square-foot space boasts two lofts, a 5-foot-long soaker tub, full-size kitchen appliances, two skylights and a large rear deck.

“Ironically enough, when people want to go tiny, they always ask for the biggest house,” Clarizio added. “It’s a paradox of sorts.”

McGee and Clarizio agree that the lifestyle isn’t for everybody, so a “try before you buy” approach is suggested. McGee thinks camping for a long period of time or staying in a tiny house hotel — there are several around the country — would help buyers make the long-term decision.

Clarizio recommends Try it Tiny, an online community that gives people the opportunity to rent a tiny house or share their land with tiny house enthusiasts nationwide. Airbnb and VRBO also feature several tiny houses for rent.

Finding a location for your humble abode can also be a con-cern for those living tiny. It’s one of the most frequently asked questions McGee receives from readers of Tiny House Society.

“There are some specific regulations when it comes to tiny living; you have to check with your local regulations in your municipality because it’s very specific to each place,” she said.

For that reason, Clarizio partnered with modular home park Harbor Point Estates on the Far South Side, near Indiana, to kick-start the growth of a tiny home community in Chicagoland.

“I’m really excited about it. ... It’s going to do a lot of good for a lot of people,” he said, calling it a place to park with good infrastructure.

“You don’t have to be a minimalist for this lifestyle. You just have to be ready for a life shift,” McGee said.

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2019 Ford Mustang Bullitt

Actor Steve McQueen made it famous 50 years ago. Now it's back, and it's outstanding. **Page 3**



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Chicago Tribune RIDES



JAE C. HONG/AP

The 2020 Hyundai Palisade is introduced at the Los Angeles Auto Show in November.



DAVID MCNEW/GETTY

The Kia Soul GT Line at AutoMobility LA, an automobile trade show.



DAVID MCNEW/GETTY

The Porsche 911 Carrera 4S in a world premiere at AutoMobility LA.



FREDERIC J. BROWN/AFP/GETTY

The 2019 Toyota Prius AWD-E is unveiled at AutoMobility LA.

America's next top models?

Electric pickup, slew of crossovers debut as auto show season kicks off

BY CATHY BUSSEWITZ
AND TOM KRISHER
Associated Press

Jeep has a pickup truck. Porsche has a new 911. And just about everyone else has another crossover.

The most noteworthy debut to kick off the auto show season in Los Angeles might have been by an American electric vehicle startup not named Tesla. Detroit-based Rivian launched a midsize electric pickup with a 400-mile range and announced plans for a long-distance electric crossover. So the buzz for model year 2020 has begun. Here are the highlights.

Jeep Gladiator

Jeep, which hasn't made a pickup truck in over a quarter-century, is getting back into the growing midsize pickup segment with the Gladiator. Based on the iconic Wrangler, the Gladiator has two rows of seats and a 5-foot-long bed that can carry 4-by-8 sheets of drywall or two full-size motocross bikes with the tailgate down. It's equipped to go off-road and can tow 7,650 pounds with a max payload of 1,600 pounds. Powered by

Fiat Chrysler's venerable 285-horsepower 3.6-liter V-6 engine, it comes standard with a six-speed manual transmission. A 3-liter diesel engine is coming later. The Gladiator goes on sale in April. The price wasn't announced.

Rivian R1T

The R1T five-seat electric pickup truck by Rivian Automotive, an all-electric vehicle maker based out of suburban Detroit with a factory in Normal, Ill., is expected to have 400 miles of range when it goes on sale in late 2020. It can hit 60 mph in three seconds, Rivian said, and will cost about \$90,000. A lower range model (230 miles) will start at \$62,000. It will be joined by a companion three-row crossover dubbed the R1S. The Model X competitor will have a motor at each wheel for independent all-wheel drive.

Porsche 911

The new 2020 Porsche 911 Carrera is quicker, more powerful and more advanced than the seven generations that preceded the iconic sports coupe. The new 911 Carrera S and 4S have flat six-cylinder

turbocharged engines putting out 443 horsepower, 23 horsepower more than the predecessor. The Carrera S has a top speed of 191 mph and accelerates from zero to 60 mph in 3.5 seconds. The rear-drive 2020 Carrera S has a base price of \$113,200, and the 4S all-wheel drive version starts at \$120,600, not including a \$1,050 delivery fee. That's about \$5,000 more than the current Carrera S equipped with an 8-speed PDK dual clutch automatic transmission. A manual will still be offered.

Honda Passport

Like a middle child out to prove he's different, Honda's latest SUV is larger than the popular, compact CR-V and smaller than the three-row Pilot. Honda is calling it the most rugged of its light trucks, highlighting its ability to go off-road in harsh conditions including sand, snow and ice while still being comfortable for daily driving. The Passport has a V-6 engine with 280-horsepower and can tow up to 5,000 pounds in all-wheel drive mode. Honda did not disclose the gas mileage or the price.

Mazda 3

If you're starting to get sleepy behind the wheel, the new Mazda 3 will let you know. The advanced driver monitoring system uses infrared cameras and LED to monitor the driver's eyelids and angle of the mouth and face to catch signs of fatigue or inattentiveness, and will sound an alert if it senses the situation has become dangerous. Its new design reduces blind spots in the driver's field of vision. There also will be a new knee air bag for the driver's seat, which aims to reduce injuries to the legs and chest. Mazda is expecting improved fuel economy with the addition of i-ACTIV AWD, but mileage was not yet released. The price will be announced in early 2019 when it will go on sale in North America.

Lincoln Aviator

Lincoln's latest midsize luxury SUV will "kneel" to greet you, lowering its frame as the driver approaches to make it easier to climb inside or load cargo. It allows a driver to use a smartphone as a key, which can save driver preferences such as mirror, seat and steering column posi-

tions. The three-row SUV offers a choice of gas or hybrid electric powertrain. The gas engine delivers 400 horsepower, and the hybrid engine with the grand touring option offers 450 horsepower. Inspired by flight, the car can detect potholes or uneven pavement ahead and adjust the suspension for a smoother ride. Price and gas mileage were not released.

Kia Soul

The new Kia Soul compact crossovers keep the Kia's signature boxy look and are available with a gas-powered or a fully electric engine. The Soul EV is powered with a 64 kWh battery with DC fast-charging equipment. The electric vehicle's range is still being determined through battery tests, and results are expected in early 2019. A smart regenerative braking system with four different levels allows drivers to choose whether to optimize smoothness or efficiency.

Hyundai Palisade

The three-row, eight-passenger mid-size SUV is designed for family road trips. An optional rear occupant alert system is

designed to ensure drivers don't forget children or pets in the back of the car by monitoring back seat movement after the driver exits and beeping the horn and sending an alert to the driver's smartphone. It has roomy second and third rows and roof vents that provide a stream of air to passengers in the back row. A wireless charging pad is available to minimize cord clutter, and there are seven USB outlets.

Toyota Prius in AWD

The Toyota Prius is finally getting an all-wheel-drive system with an estimated 50 mpg combined. The best-selling front-wheel drive Prius gets 52 mpg combined. Toyota expects the AWD Prius to account for 25 percent of Prius sales when it hits dealerships sometime in 2019, though Toyota didn't specify when or how much more it would cost. Cargo volume will be the same as other Prius models, according to Toyota. Toyota also put the front-drive Prius powertrain in the first-ever 2020 Corolla Hybrid.

Chicago Tribune autos editor Robert Duffer contributed.

No winter tires? Here are ways to get a grip

BY ROBERT DUFFER
Chicago Tribune

Many drivers know winter tires are their best option for grip and slip in wintry conditions. Yet most drivers don't care.

A recent study by Michelin found that 72 percent of people who live in the Midwest agree that tires should be changed in winter, yet 80 percent of those people don't bother to do it.

"People understand winter traction is important," said Tom Carter,

technical communications director for Michelin. "But they don't want to go through the inconvenience of changing tires because it takes a certain level of expertise."

We get it. You're not going to. We're not going to, either. But what can you do?

Choose a good all-weather tire, which is an all-season tire with winter tire ratings. And keep some junk in the trunk to get you unstuck.

A good all-weather tire,

Carter says, has a special certification from the U.S. Tire Manufacturers Association.

The three-peak mountain snowflake (3PMSF) certification is branded on sidewalls based on snow testing originally designated only for winter tires. There are a handful of these on the market by the major players, including Hankook, Michelin, Goodyear and Toyo. Expect more to come and expect a higher price than other all-season tires.

Another less expensive option is getting a tire sock. These are essentially cloth or plastic snow chains you can store in that underused underfloor cargo space in the crossover. They average \$70 to \$140. Perhaps the best option might be the oldest one in the book. "Bag of sand," Carter said. "Keep weight in your car if it's light in the rear."

Other items to keep handy for winter conditions include dedicated cellphone charger for the car, a collapsible shovel,



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

jumper cables, a blanket and salt or a small piece of carpet to wedge under a spinning tire. A first-aid kit never hurt anyone, either.

If you prefer to travel light, then drive patiently and avoid sudden move-

ments in stopping, starting and turning. Or avoid the huge inconvenience and get winter tires.

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ROBERT DUFFER/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The 2019 Ford Mustang Bullitt is a limited-edition two-year model run.

Bullitt: Better, faster, more

BY ROBERT DUFFER
Chicago Tribune

Of the more than 100 new vehicles I've driven this year, the 2019 Ford Mustang Bullitt might be my favorite. I wish I could leave it at that, then channel some Steve McQueen icy blue stare and you'd just accept its greatness as truth and we could all do our own high-speed stunts while chasing two hit men in a Dodge Charger on the hills in and around San Francisco.

But that was then, and that was questionable, and this is now, and this is certain: The 50th anniversary edition of the infamous Mustang with the legendary car chase from a movie that doesn't quite stand the test of time is outstanding. And at just over \$50,000, or about \$3,000 more than a similarly equipped GT with Performance Package 1, the Bullitt with a planned two-year production run is kind of a deal.

The McStang comes in dark highland green (shadow black is an option, if you don't care for heritage or verisimilitude) with subtle chrome accents and has red six-caliper Brembo brakes flexing behind 19-inch, five-spoke aluminum wheels wrapped in Michelin PS4 summer tires. The grille is blacked out so there is no Mustang, and the only Bullitt iconography is a round target on the trunk and the fuel cap.

2019 FORD MUSTANG BULLITT

Pony car

As tested:

\$50,390

(excluding \$900 delivery)

Base price: \$46,595

Mpg: 15 city, 24 highway, 18 comb.

Engine: 480-horsepower 5-liter V-8

Transmission: Six-speed manual

Competitive rank: Mustang Bullitt, Chevrolet Camaro 2SS, Ford Mustang GT, Dodge Challenger

There is some modest badging inside, including a Bullitt welcome screen on startup, a fake aluminum dash piece and a Bullitt steering wheel center. Even the most significant upgrade is subtle: The 5.0-liter V-8 gets a 20-horsepower boost over the GT to 480 horsepower, which lifts top speed 8 mph to 163 mph, thanks in part to some engineering tweaks from the GT350. It can hit 60 mph in about 4 seconds, according to some outlets, which is the same as the GT.

It might be difficult to tell the horsepower difference, even on a track, but there's no mistaking the six-speed manual with the cue-ball shifter. It's the only transmission offered,

so that 10-speed automatic will have to go to the millennials and the parents who failed them.

So what's to love? Let's start with the cue-ball shifter. It's like holding a sorcerer's orb of power. Leave the palm on it while cruising and it's relaxing, like some oddly satisfying stress ball. But then there's something about powering through the gears that is both curved and firm, feminine and masculine, graceful and powerful.

And the sound. How sweet the sound. Active valve performance exhaust is the same as the GT and still worth a paragraph. It uses butterfly valves in one of the dual twin exhaust pipes to modulate sound in four different settings.

Normal mode plugs in the amp; track mode takes it to 11. Rev the engine up to 7400 rpm and the high gear range means you can keep it in third while climbing into triple-digit speed. As the scenery flicks by with increasing speed, the V-8 soundtrack in the cabin intensifies. Your chest thrums because the heart has finally met its match.

But there is also quiet mode, which tames the wild warble so you can drop off the kids at school or slip out of the subdivision on a Sunday morning without announcing to the world your intentions.

rduffer@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @DufferRobert

Winter tires stored on rims still may need rebalancing



BOB WEBER
Motormouth

Q: I have a dedicated set of winter tires and rims that I use from November through April, then switch back to the set that came with my car. A local shop stores and installs my tires. Each time, they charge me for "tire balancing." I understand balancing when tires are placed on rims, but wonder if it is required for dedicated rims, or if I am being charged for a service I don't need.

— R.L., Mundelein, Ill.

A: This may be a CYA (cover your, mmm, butt) procedure so you don't come back complaining of a vibration. Although unlikely, it is possible one or more balancing weights may have come off during the transition. If you don't want the tires balanced, request that they don't do it. But be aware of the potential issues.

Q: Here's a new one. I took my Audi A3 in for its 10,000-mile checkup. The TPMS (tire pressure monitoring system) had been coming on, so I asked them to check it, since all four corners measured pretty much the same. They said the TPMS was fine but the tires were overinflated at 41 psi. They told me the number on the window sticker was a "Transportation Tire Pressure" figure for when the car is in transit to the dealer! Once in everyday use, the tires should be at 36 psi, which is what they reset them to. I've never heard of such a load of hokey.



MASSIMO CALMONTE

Winter tires could need balancing, for a fee, when they're installed for the season.

The factory needs to be reminded of the proper tire pressure but the owners don't?

— J.P., Winnetka, Ill.

A: Initially we speculated that overinflation would help prevent flat spots during shipping, but we turned to the technical experts at TireRack for backup reassurance. They confirmed that flat spotting is an issue, especially for cars that are shipped from overseas, spending much time in transit on a ship. The vehicles are also usually strapped down during transit. Before they are shipped to various dealerships, even domestic vehicles may spend plenty of time in regional holding lots. Finally, it is easier to let air out during the dealer's pre-delivery inspection (PDI) than to add it. The PDI guy needs to know. No hokey.

Q: I recently took my 2017 Corvette in for its second oil change (7,800 miles). Three days later I noticed a huge cloud of white smoke in my rearview mirror three times on that day. This has happened 11 times in the last month, all occurring at local speeds with slight accelerations. The dealer has had the car twice for a total of 15

days and reported that they could not duplicate the problem and told me to just keep driving the car until it becomes worse. GM simply advised me to listen to the dealer and closed the three cases that were opened. Any ideas? Thank you.

— P.M., Coral Springs, Fla.

A: As the weather grows cooler, even in Florida, steam may be seen puffing from the tailpipe. One of the emissions from combustion is water, in the form of vapor or steam. Since it is not an evil emission, there is no EPA issue. The worst-case scenario would be a blown head gasket allowing engine coolant to enter the combustion chamber. By the way, if hydrogen-powered cars ever come to pass, their only emission is water vapor.

Send questions along with name and town to Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 160 N. Stetson Ave., Third Floor, Chicago, IL 60601 or motormouth.tribune@gmail.com.

CONTACT US
Robert Duffer, Rides editor
rduffer@chicagotribune.com

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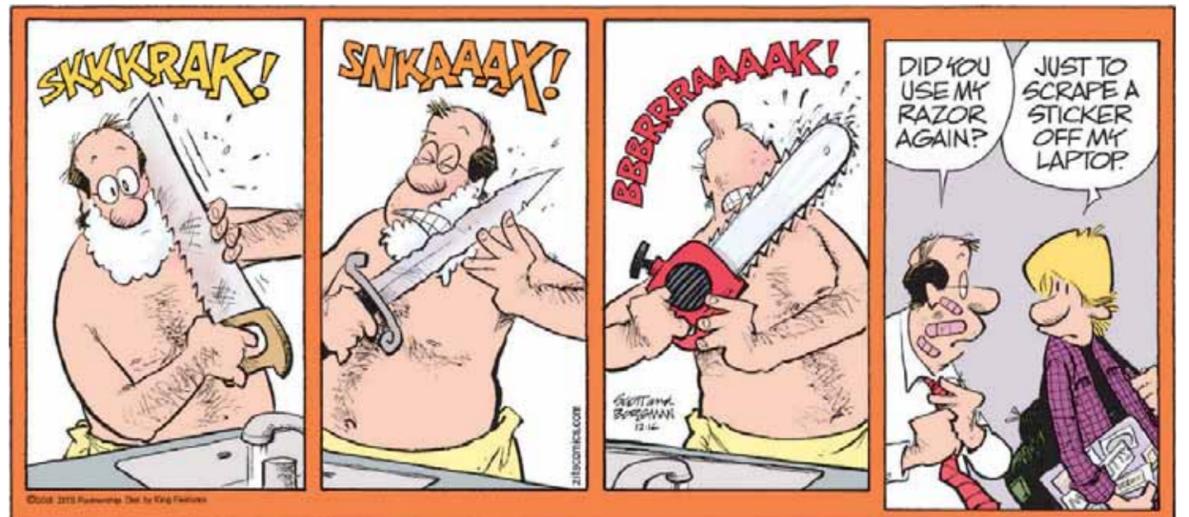
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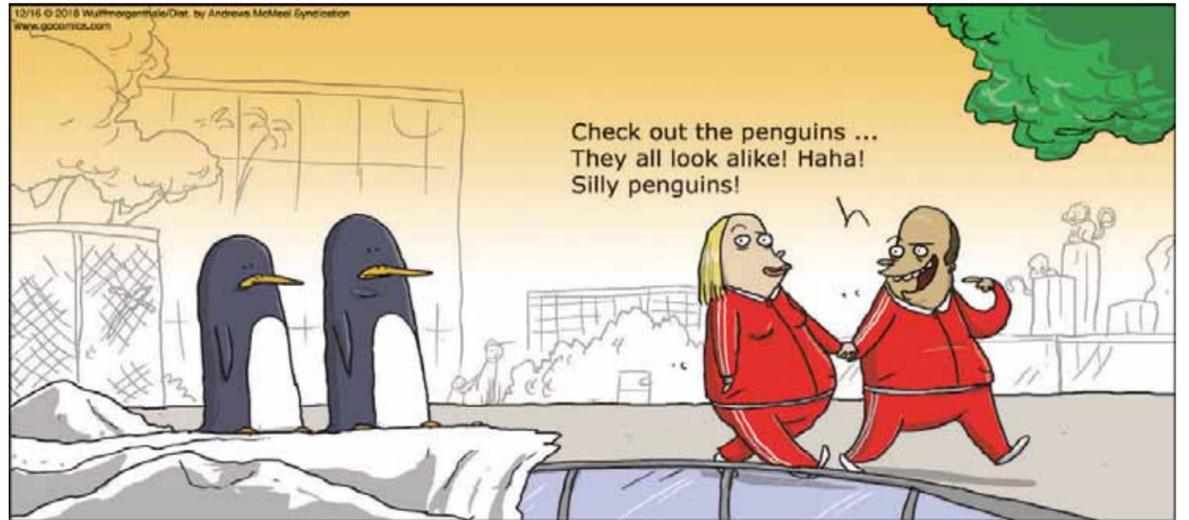
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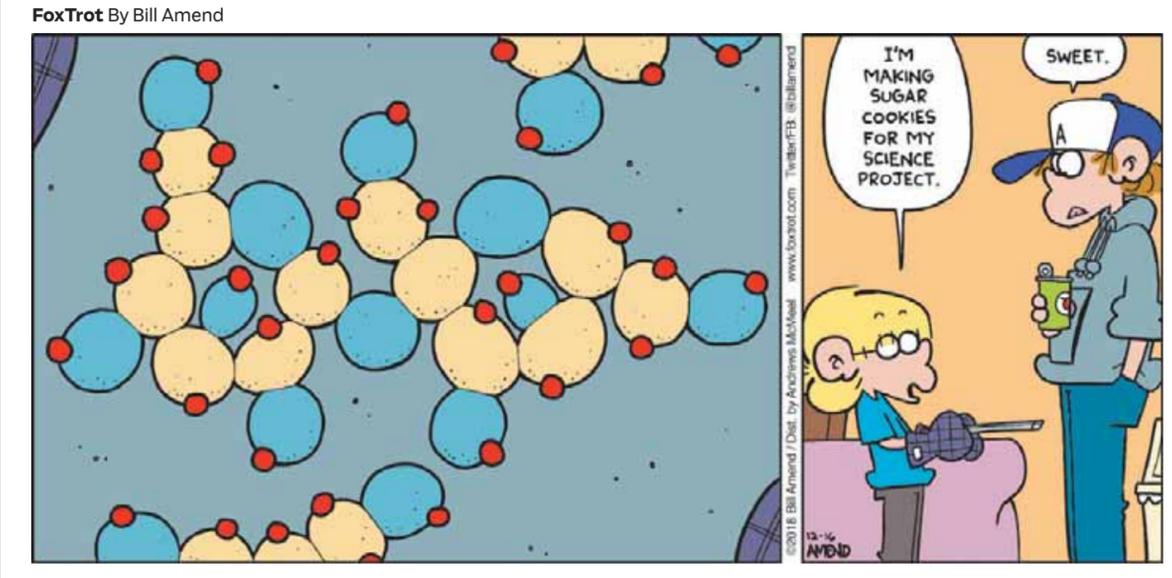
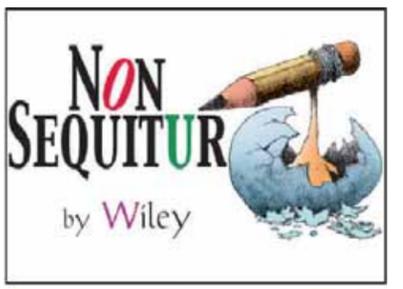
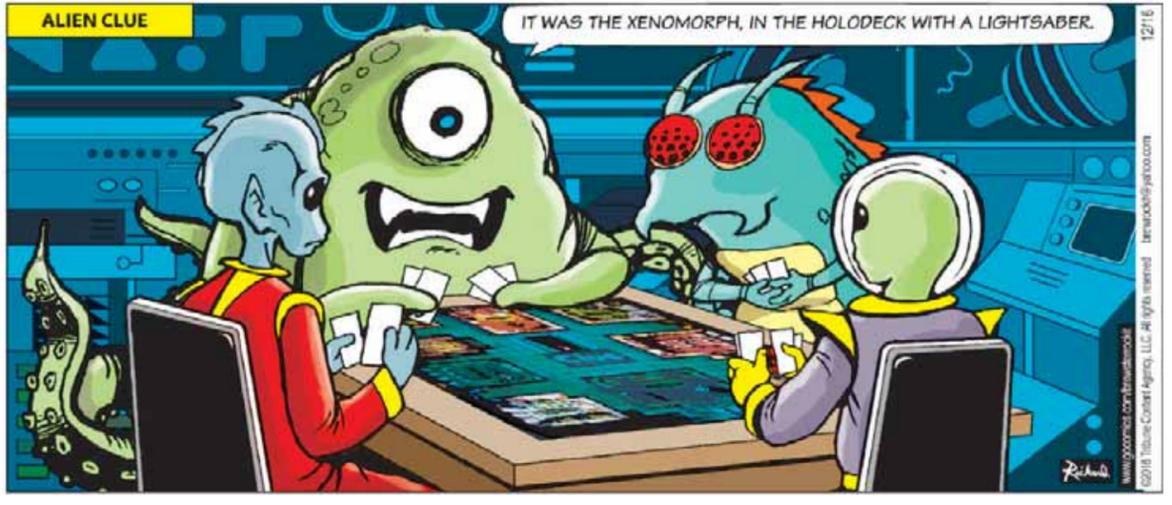
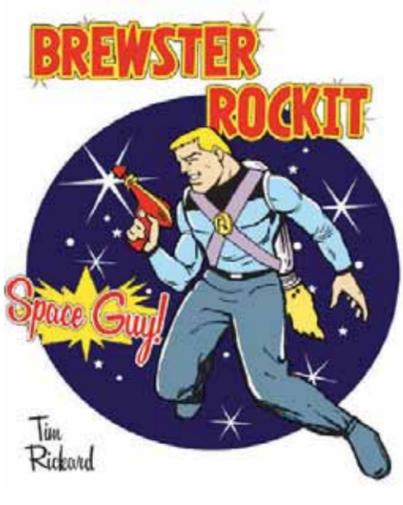
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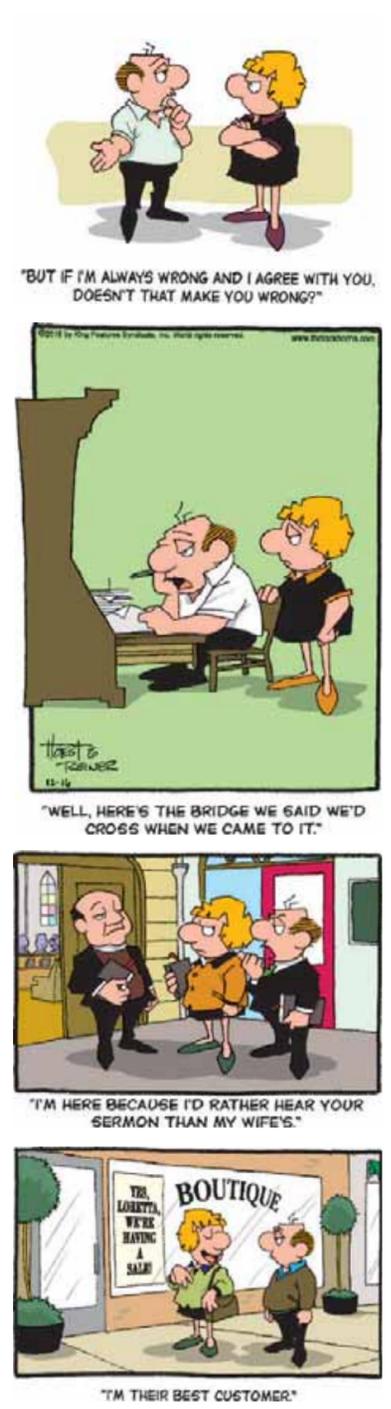
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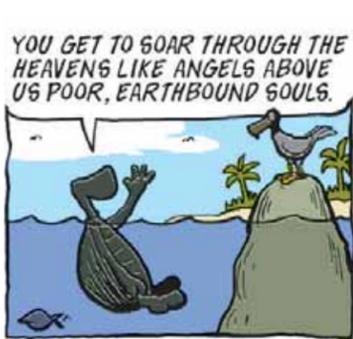


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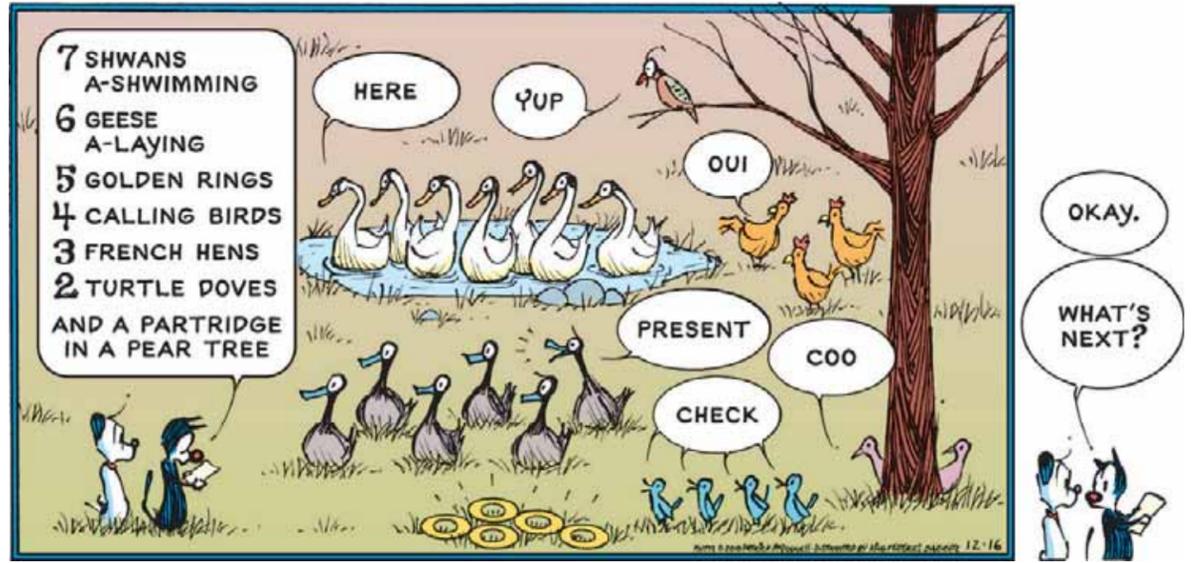


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FIRST RESPONDERS ROLL OF HONOR

ARIMAEL CASTRO-BERROCALES

A 20-YEAR VETERAN WITH THE PUERTO RICO POLICE DEPARTMENT, SGT. CASTRO-BERROCALES INITIATED A TRAFFIC STOP ON A SPEEDING CAR ON HIGHWAY PR-100. THE DRIVER OF THE CAR SHOT SGT. CASTRO-BERROCALES TWICE IN THE FACE, DROVE AWAY AND REMAINS AT LARGE. ANOTHER OFFICER SAW THE SUSPECT FLEEING, BUT STOPPED TO RENDER AID. SGT. CASTRO-BERROCALES IS SURVIVED BY HIS WIFE AND THREE SONS.

END OF WATCH: JANUARY 1, 2012.

-LT WALTER KEWER



Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



Prickly City By Scott Stantis



Chicago Tribune



ANSWER ANGEL

CAN YOU BE TOO OLD
FOR LONG HAIR?



FASHION
FABULOUS FAUX FUR

**AFTER 6 YEARS ON
'THE WALKING DEAD,'
STEVEN YEUN JUMPS
TO THE BIG SCREEN**

MEATY ROLE

From fresh meat to meatier roles

Yeun jumps to big screen after years on 'Walking Dead'

BY SONAIYA KELLEY
Los Angeles Times

Steven Yeun is a master at playing nice.

But after six years portraying moral compass and emergent leader Glenn Rhee on AMC's long-running "The Walking Dead," the 34-year-old actor has embraced the opportunity to do something different.

"It's cool to be able to graduate from a show and experience such as 'The Walking Dead' and be able to constantly stretch myself and put myself to the test," he said. "I just hope I can continue to do that."

Yeun has found one of his meatiest roles to date with "Burning," Lee Chang-dong's haunting mystery drama and South Korea's official Oscar entry for foreign language film. He plays Ben, a handsome and wealthy Gatsby type whose ceaseless pursuit of fun indicates a pervasive and gnawing ennui.

"My character, he has a sense of emptiness about him, a sense of loneliness," said Yeun. "Regardless of whether he has all the things that he needs in this material life, he's clearly — or maybe not clearly — missing something."

Ben seeks diversion in Hae-mi (Jeon Jong-seo), an emotive firebrand whose dramatic highs and lows serve as a counterpoint to his calm remove. But he seems to get the biggest kick out of his encounters with Jong-su (Yoo Ah-in), a farm boy and Hae-mi's would-be paramour, the perfect foil to Ben's polished wealth.

"There's a really fun connection to be made about what each character is burning for in their own right, what they're waiting



KATIE FALKENBERG/LOS ANGELES TIMES

Steven Yeun stars in the indie "Burning," South Korea's official Oscar entry for best foreign language film.

for," said Yeun. "Hae-mi has been waiting for Ben, Ben has been waiting for Jong-su, and Jong-su has been waiting for Hae-mi. Something to make them feel again. Maybe he's been waiting for someone like (Jong-seo) his whole life."

The disappearance of one of the three in the third act leads to the collapse of their precarious triangle. Several clues are uncovered to imply Ben's potential involvement, though the film offers no clear answers. And neither does Yeun.

"Director Lee was like, 'You'll be the only person that knows, and you will make that decision for yourself,'" he said. "And then he asked me at the end of the shoot which one I chose. I told him that I

wasn't going to tell him either. So I'm the only one that knows."

Lee was inspired to adapt "Burning," which is based on Haruki Murakami's 1983 short story "Barn Burning," because of the story's open-endedness.

"When I first read Murakami's short story, what interested me was the fact that, unlike other typical thrillers, there's no real resolution," he said. "So I thought that this openness could then be expanded into other and bigger mysteries."

Rather than barns, which are in short supply in Korea, the film substitutes the country's ample greenhouses to explore themes of destruction and insouciance.

"Ben says there's a lot of dirty greenhouses everywhere and they make everything look disgusting, might as well get rid of them," said Yeun. "As if he's some agent of nature to do that. And so it can imply an idea, it can be literal. There's a lot of layers there, I think."

Despite being fluent in Korean, speaking the language convincingly was a challenge for the actor, who grew up in Michigan (he was born in Seoul). Being conscious of the nuances and intonations of native speakers was tricky, he said, but that sense of difference was ultimately absorbed into the fabric of Ben.

"I think that's a part of the reason why director Lee cast me," said Yeun. "Ben

isn't American, but we didn't try to suppress my inherent American-ness in my body. Rather, we let it color the ambiguity of this person who, for all intents and purposes, looks, speaks and acts Korean. But then there's a weird energy about him where it doesn't seem right."

Beyond lending a sense of the other, Lee said the range Yeun exhibited in the action-adventure "Okja" and on "The Walking Dead" also contributed to his decision to cast him.

"In 'Okja' he plays a character that is very bright and expressive, which is quite different from his character in 'Burning,'" the director said. "This difference was very interesting because Ben could be a very

scary serial killer or he could be a very kind, gentle and wealthy friend. This mysterious duality is a very important character trait of Ben's and the fact that Steven could portray both sides of this was impressive."

Yeun's portrayal of Ben, equal parts charming and sinister, is searing. In many ways the character's menace is rooted in his ambiguity.

"I think that's where a lot of the mystique comes from," said Yeun. "Not that you can say, 'Hey, this guy's creepy because he's evil,' I actually think Ben's creepy because you're just like, 'What are you? Who are you?' So I played with that dissonance."

To get into the mind of an emotionally vacant person, he read works like Martin McDonagh's "The Pillowman" and Albert Camus' "The Stranger." Books by Nietzsche and Zen-focused, Buddhist philosophies also lent color to the character, but it wasn't until the LA-based actor arrived in South Korea that Ben's pathos really began to take shape.

"The character really started to open up to me when I was put in to interact with the actors," he said. "That and also this pervasive sense of loneliness that I myself went through just being there."

Despite the popularity of his "Walking Dead" character (who met his demise in the epic Season 7 premiere), Yeun admits he doesn't miss the pace of television. "I have in hindsight realized that these experiences sometimes get to be pretty intense and all-consuming," he said. "It's really nice to be able to start a character and then finish. I don't know if I have the skill yet of being able to hang my hat at the door as well as I should be able to."

ANSWER ANGEL

Is there an expiration date on long hair?



ELLEN WARREN
Answer Angel

Dear Answer Angel

Ellen: I've always had long hair, 5 or 6 inches below my chin, and a well-meaning friend has suggested that I'm getting too old for this look. (I'm 55.) Lately I've been wearing it in very loose curls (I use a big roller curling iron). It is a style I've seen on Kathie Lee Gifford on the "Today" show, and I think it's flattering on her — and me. Should I cut my hair or ignore my friend? My husband is indifferent and says the whole issue is my call.

— Liz A.

Dear Betty: Well it certainly IS your call on what you do with your hair! But since you asked for my advice, I would suggest you take a really hard look in the mirror — on both a good hair day and one not so good — and ask yourself if you think you're using your longish hair to make yourself look younger. If the answer is yes, I'd say your friend could be right. Kathie Lee is 65 and has the luxury of the best hair stylists New York has to offer. I think she'd look better (and maybe more youthful, if that's her goal in this ageist world) if she had shorter hair. Let me give you another example: I was binge-watching the new season of "House of Cards" and found myself scrutinizing actress Patricia Clarkson, who brilliantly plays diabolical Jane Davis, President Claire Hale Underwood's White House roomie. Jane's flowing blond hair is a distraction, I think, and gives the impres-



MICHAEL TRAN/FILMMAGIC

Patricia Clarkson, at the October premiere of "House of Cards," is one example of a woman in her 50s who is sticking with her long hair. Is the style right for you? That depends on whether you are using your long hair to make you look younger.

sion of someone trying for a more youthful look that isn't flattering. (BTW, Clarkson turns 59 in December.) I get more hate mail about my hair than anything I've written, so consider that when deciding if I'm the right person to give advice on your hair choices.

Dear Answer Angel Ellen: I'm going through interviews for med school, and I don't know what to wear or where to shop. Any suggestions?

— Meredith L.

Dear Meredith: I put your question to a female doctor who interviews med school

applicants. Here's what she told me, which, I think, applies to any woman applying for a professional job. "Wear something that is not a black, blue or gray suit with a neutral blouse and pearls! I interview a dozen women in a row, and a bright blouse or a memorable necklace will help you stand out." As for where to shop, try Express, Ann Taylor or Nordstrom for the best selections I've found of moderately priced interview separates and jewelry that is not crazy but not just a string of pearls. Also popular although a little pricier: J. Crew and Banana Republic.

Dear Answer Angel

Ellen: On my Facebook feed, I keep getting these ads that say, "The ONLY sweater you'll need this year ... The Cashmere Fisherman Sweater." OK, I bit and went to the site. It's a nice-looking sweater, but \$395! (Or a handy four payments of \$98.75). My question is who pays \$400 for a sweater? Not me! Could it possibly be worth that much?

— Frugal Shopper

Dear Frugal: I checked out the photo, and that is a good-looking sweater. But I'd prefer four sweaters at \$100 apiece, wouldn't you?

Or better yet, eight at \$50 apiece. The \$400 sweater in the photo looks like a warm heavy knit, but I bought a similar cashmere one for \$60 at a consignment shop. To answer your question, the women buying the \$400 sweater are, perhaps, the same women who might buy a \$5,000 Chanel purse.

Dear Answer Angel Ellen:

I have been to a few weddings this year and have noticed that the younger women do not wear pantyhose with their dresses. I don't know if I should or shouldn't be wearing them! Please help!

— Bev K.

Dear Bev: Do what makes you most comfortable. Hosiery is not a must, but many women, young and old, don't like the feel of their shoes on bare feet or the look of their bare legs.

Angelic Readers 1

In a recent column, reader Kathleen R. wrote of donating her late husband's unused cancer meds to Doctors Without Borders. But an email from that charity says, "We don't accept in-kind gifts like medical equipment, drugs, food, or other materials for our operations. Here's why: A huge part of what makes Doctors Without Borders so effective at saving lives is our ability to respond rapidly. After decades of experience, we've developed specialized, pre-packaged kits that are ready to go at a moment's notice. These tried-and-true materials can get into the hands of our teams much more efficiently than if we had to manage screening, sorting, and packing different types of supplies."

Angelic Readers 2

Susan D-P. writes, "In your column, Maria P. lamented that most of the young girl bras at Target had padding. I hope that she'll look at this another way. I also bought my daughter her first bras recently at Target. They all had thin, removable padding. My daughter sees this benefit of the padding: not to enhance her breasts, but to prevent nipple show-through. To her, nothing is more embarrassing than having boys in school remark about that. The padding in the Hanes bras is quite thin, and achieves the desired effect without a lot of enhancing."

FASHION



Mansur Gavriel's knee-length, millennial-pink faux fur coat.



Stella McCartney's shaggy, chestnut-brown faux fur coat.



Givenchy's rust-colored, oversized faux fur coat.



GETTY IMAGES

Anna Sui's two-toned faux fur coat.



Givenchy's belted, long faux fur coat.



Max Mara's pink, one-button faux fur coat.



Dries Van Noten's faux fur coat with pops of bold color.



Anna Sui's multicolored, floral faux fur coat.

GO FAUX

Give yourself an instant winter coat upgrade with fierce new trend

BY CHRISTEN A. JOHNSON | Chicago Tribune

When the frigid fall and winter winds blow, don't even think about rocking a stylish outfit — no one will be able to see it because of the coat you'll have on (and in Chicago, you'll likely be wearing the thing for the next six months).

Lucky for us, the season brings a fierce new coat trend: faux fur.

Stella McCartney was one of the first designers to embrace faux fur, and this season, fashion houses from Dries Van Noten to Givenchy to Zara have created some of the season's coolest (and warmest) faux fur coats.

Clare Waight Keller at Givenchy created glorious belted fur coats that are virtually impossible to tell from the real thing, while other designers embraced more obviously faux looks that have a conscious coolness about them.

Whether edgy, glamorous or vintage, a faux fur coat will make a statement to fit any style this season. Here are our favorites from the runways that will show you how to slay the look.

chrjohnson@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @christenadot_

Sizing up a sofa that suits your space

BY **KIM COOK**
Associated Press

Ask interior designers what the most important element in a room is and many will say that — after wall color — it's the sofa.

So how do you choose this crucial piece of furniture? Should you go for one big sofa or two love seats? What about materials, arm styles and the all-important question of how to position the sofa in the space?

Start by thinking about the shape of the room, says Elaine Griffin, who helms design offices in Manhattan and St. Simon's Island, Ga.

"In a long, narrow room, place the sofa along the shorter wall farther from the door," she advises. "This seems counterintuitive, but sitting it at the far end of the room on the shorter wall allows for way more furniture to go in front of it."

If your space is small, she suggests a 72-inch, apartment-size sofa with narrower arms. Pair it with slipper chairs, narrow armchairs or nice dining chairs.

Show off the proportions of a square room by floating the sofa and other furniture away from walls, Griffin says. She suggests dividing a room into "zones" when you're uncertain about furniture placement, especially in an open plan.

Imagine drawing an X from corner to corner in the room, and then a cross from the walls' midpoints horizontally and vertically. "Your sofa or sofas will sit either on or parallel to one of those lines," she says.

Need to seat a large number of people comfortably?



SAUDER

Sauder's armless Cooper sofa is a good option for a tight space where you want furniture with a smaller footprint.

"Sectionals deliver like nobody's business," she notes. In small spaces, they can seat enough people to avoid the need for extra chairs. In large spaces, they can fill space without looking awkward. And in awkward spaces, you can install a sectional with an interesting shape, like one with a curvy back.

Christie Leu, a designer in Chevy Chase, Md., also likes sectionals.

"They aren't all L-shaped," she points out. "You can get a pair of armless sofas and put a low table in the corner, or you can have a 'bumper sectional' in a narrow room that will still provide seating but not impede a view or weigh down a room with a heavy arm on one side."

In choosing a sofa, consider how you will use the room, Leu says. Maybe you want to be able to converse easily, read and play games.

She's a fan of single-bench cushions, so no one has to sit on a seam. And buy the best quality you can afford.

"As the price goes up, you'll feel the difference between cushions and construction," she says. "A cushion with good, hand-tied coil springs and high-density foam will last longer than all-foam, which will flatten in time."

Leu doesn't care for all-down seats "because no one has time to fluff them as often as they need it."

Some other hallmarks of a well-built sofa: hard, solid woods and joints integrated into the frame.

For sofas that will see hard use, choose a hardy fabric, says Courtney Thomas, based in La Canada Flintridge, Calif.

"We use lots of polyester and chenille blends for sofas where large families put them to the test," she



ANTHROPOLOGIE

The Atelier sofa pairs well with minimalist contemporary accessories to give it center stage, or play off its traditional aesthetic with eclectic accompaniments.

says. "Generally, synthetics endure hardship better than natural fabrics, which don't hold up as well."

She says her firm often uses Teflon-coats fabrics for extra protection against stains and spills. She also likes Sunbrella upholstery; the outdoor-fabric technology has advanced so textiles are softer, and now well-suited for indoor use too.

Alison Pickart, an interior designer from Larkspur, Calif., advises against huge sofas.

"I don't think you should ever have a sofa over 8 feet," she says. "Very rarely will more than two people occupy a single piece of furniture. Plus, if your sofa is too big, the opportunity for other beautiful and interesting accent chairs, ottomans, poufs and small tables diminishes."

To facilitate conversation, Pickart says, furniture should be arranged so that people are at 45 degree angles from each other.

"So the best living rooms are ones in which occa-

sional seating can be comfortably placed at both ends of the sofa," she says.

She also likes armless sofas in narrow rooms; using one or two center components of a sectional can be an option.

And don't forget accessories, says Houston-based designer Margaret Naeve.

"I love to style sofas with oddly shaped pillows and a colorful throw to add something unexpected that also ties into other elements in the space," she says.

Cannabis-centric beauty and home products

BY DEBBIE CARLSON

Chicago Tribune

The trend of states pushing marijuana legalization changed how we view cannabis use, and that's finding its way into non-pharmaceutical products.

Beauty brands and designers are creating a growing number of sophisticated home goods and luxury beauty products, from The Body Shop's Hemp Hand Cream to Mailin and Goetz's beeswax and cannabis hair pomade for men, to home design guru Jonathan Adler's gold-detailed porcelain cannabis leaf coasters.

Even though cannabis use remains a federal crime, individual states are leading the way to legalization in their own regions. According to Leafly.com, a cannabis information website, adult use of cannabis has been legalized in nine states, including California, Colorado and Maine, plus Washington, D.C., while patients in 31 states, including Illinois, can legally access medical marijuana.

During this year's midterm elections, Michigan and North Dakota will vote whether to legalize adult use of cannabis, and Utah and Missouri have ballot measures to consider medical marijuana legalization initiatives.

Hemp farming is even making a return to Mount Vernon, where George Washington grew the variety and used it to make tex-



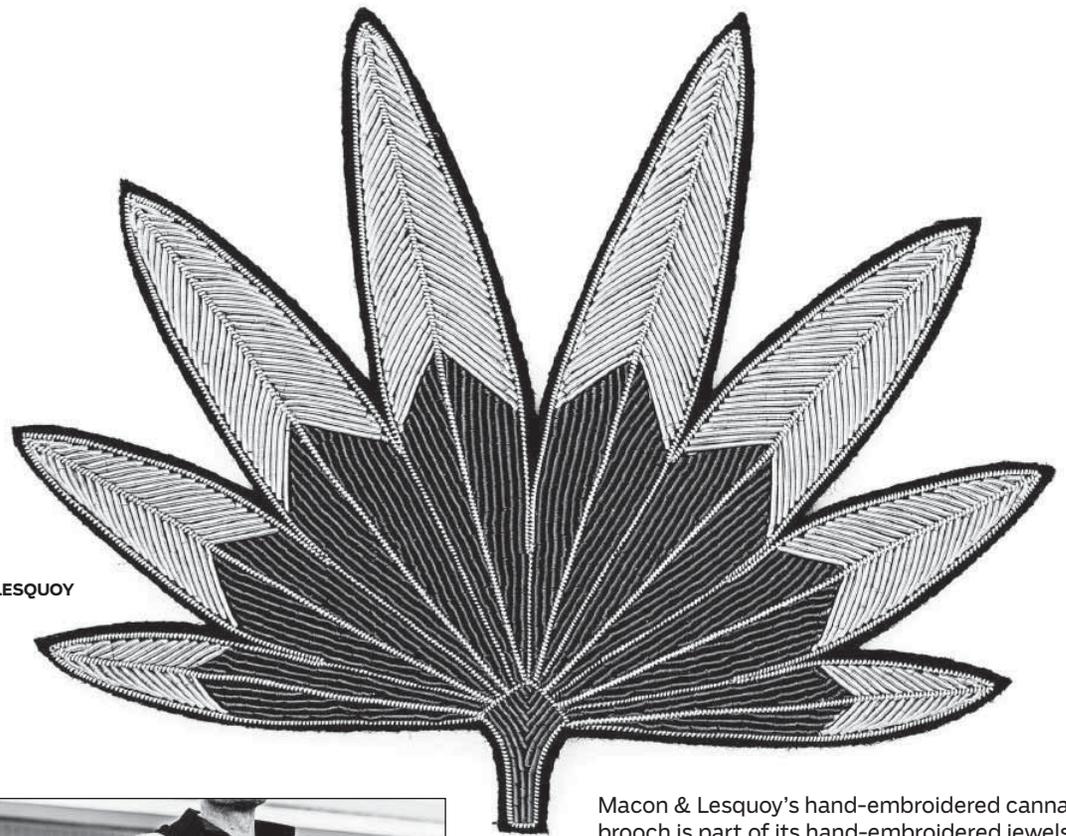
NORDSTROM

Fresh's Cannabis Rose Eau de Parfum has top notes of Bulgarian rose, pomegranate flower and bergamot, with middle notes of cannabis accord, and bottom notes of white musk, patchouli and oolong tea. \$90, nordstrom.com

tiles.

Here are seven cannabis items that won't make you crave a pizza but are still intoxicating.

Debbie Carlson is a freelance writer.



MACON & LESQUOY

Macon & Lesquoy's hand-embroidered cannabis brooch is part of its hand-embroidered jewels collection and comes in gold or green. \$93, maconetlesquoy.com



RAWGANIQUE

Ditch disposable bags forever with this hemp shopping bag. Rawganique makes each bag from 100 percent organically grown European hemp. Its Food Haul Hemp Shopping bag has a 7-by-7-inch inner, zippered pocket to hold a wallet, keys and cash, allowing you to carry plenty of stuff. \$59, rawganique.com



Jonathan Adler's bright orange porcelain coasters are detailed in 16-karat gold. The set of four comes boxed for easy gifting. \$78, jonathanadler.com

JONATHAN ADLER

Terrapin brings its old-school charm and wit to these embossed cannabis-leaf notecards. This set comes with six notecards engraved in green ink and accompanying craft-paper envelopes. Mary Jane Leaf note cards, \$18, terrapinstationers.com

TERRAPIN



MALIN + GOETZ

Malin+Goetz's firm-hold beeswax pomade is made with meadowfoam, cannabis and soybean to nourish and moisturize your hair. \$24, malinandgoetz.com



Moisturize your lips with cannabis sativa oil, which helps your lips rebuild their natural oil barrier. Herb essntls cannabis-infused lip balm is mixed with soothing peppermint, beeswax and honey to keep your lips soft and protected throughout your day. \$12, herbessntls.com

HERB ESSNTLS

5 ways to enliven your wedding wardrobe

BY KAVITA DASWANI
Los Angeles Times

Stylists and wedding experts will tell you that the picture-perfect wedding wardrobe deserves an element of surprise such as a pop of color or a great heirloom piece — as long as the surprise is tasteful and carefully chosen.

It's always nice to think about the pictures you will show to your grandchildren, so you want something tasteful and timeless, said Julie Pryor, an LA-based celebrity event and wedding planner who has worked with actress Felicity Huffman and music mogul Quincy Jones.

While it's fun to add pieces with a wow factor, make sure you are comfortable in the accessories you choose. They should reflect your personal style.

Here are some ideas to enliven traditional wedding attire this upcoming season.



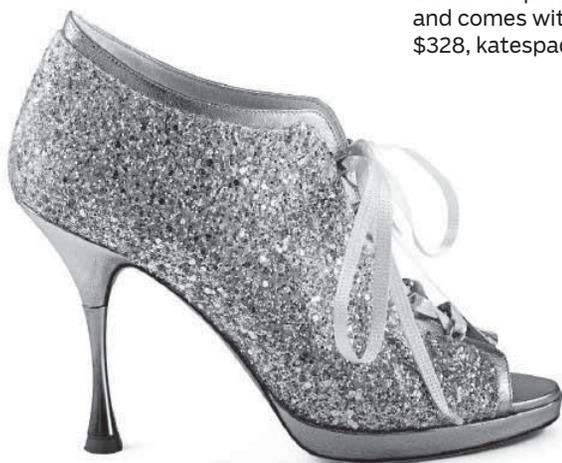
KATE SPADE

Add a quirky touch with the Make It Mine Rylie Bridal Set from Kate Spade New York, a white resin clutch with “mrs” engraved on one side and “bride” on the other. The purse has a magnetic closure and comes with an attachable strap, \$328, katespade.com.



CHRISTY DAWN

In a flattering wrap style and featuring a discreet low neckline and multitiered skirt, the top-selling Athena silk dress from Christy Dawn has wedding-day glamour written all over it, \$1,800, christydawn.com.



JESSICA BEDARD

Several styles in Jessica Bedard's bridal footwear collection feature a pale blue tip on the heel — a nod to the tradition of having something blue. A slightly edgy take on the usual bridal shoe is the Nicolette, a peep-toe bootie with a 4-inch stiletto. It's studded with lilac crystals and features satin laces, \$579, jessicabedardshoes.com.



JR DUNN

For brides taking the “something blue” thing to heart, there are Tacori's Island Rains round stud earrings in sky-blue topaz, set in sterling silver, \$320, jrdunn.com.

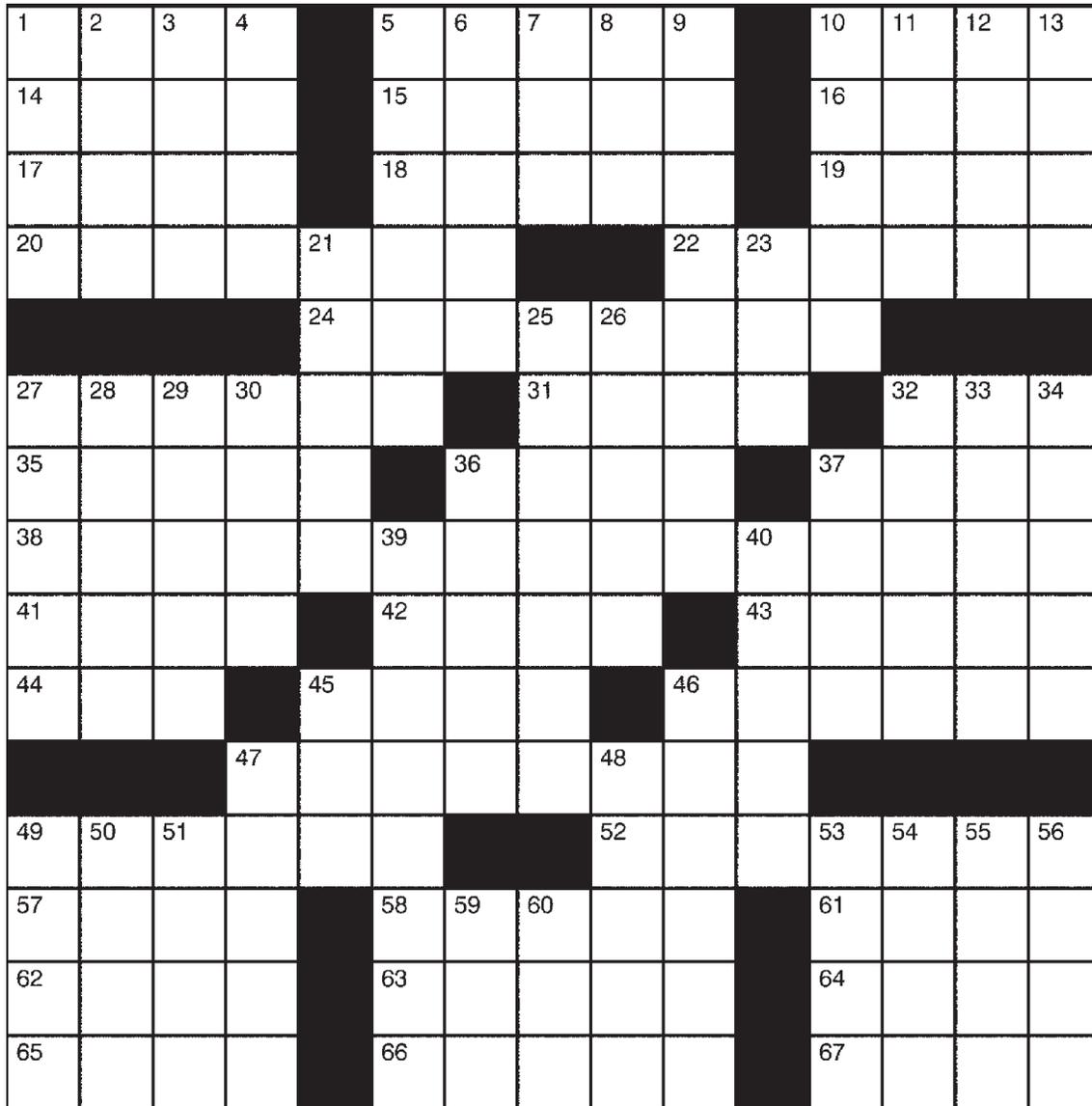


KUKKA

For him, it's all about the tiniest of details. Here are Core Magma Unearth Cufflinks from Kukka Jewelry. The cuff links are in 18-karat yellow gold plated sterling silver with sparkling clear stones, \$365, kukkajewelry.com.

MIND GAMES

V



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ACROSS

1. Belmont circuit
5. Crow's cuisine
10. Gourmet pleaser
14. Zapata pleaser
15. Flood stopper
16. Stonewort, e.g.
17. Geraint's lady
18. Cancel
19. Rustic building
20. Dream state
22. Hot-dish plate
24. Lover of the simple life
27. Ornaments
31. ___ But the Brave: 1965 film
32. Furrow
35. Pink-purple bloom
36. Excited
37. Airborne box
38. Classic symphony
41. Shield
42. Wicked
43. U.S. Grant's opp.
44. L-o-n-g time
45. Franks' place
46. Extreme
47. Truthfulness
49. Seized property: Law
52. Dam sights
57. Declare
58. Plump
61. Author Hunter
62. Circlet
63. ___ orange
64. Leningrad's river
65. Konitz's sax
66. Ideal locations
67. Sleep-killer

DOWN

1. Completed
2. Tarzan transporter
3. Tel follower
4. Stow cargo
5. Director René, and kin
6. Viol's forerunner
7. ___ lacto diet
8. Via
9. Gem dandies
10. Lodge
11. Norwegian ruler
12. Grimm baddie
13. Philosopher Immanuel
21. Western spread
23. Norma ___
25. Divine
26. Blackmore's Lorna
27. Critic-playwright
28. Mexican artist Riviera
29. Liquid fat
30. Charlie Brown's cry
32. Ransack
33. Total
34. Laugh-track sound
36. AL batting champ, 1954
37. Dnieper River city
39. Excessive
40. Norse love goddess
45. Unacceptable grade
46. Hardens
47. Sign after Leo
48. Wild Duck's author
49. Zhivago's love
50. Malevolent
51. Opening
53. Sell
54. Sempiternally
55. Shankar
56. Center's pass
59. See 50 Down
60. Special night

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casserole, p. 6

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WATCH
OUT,

SANDRA!

Sandra Bullock, 54, follows up the hit heist film *Ocean's 8* with the dystopian Netflix thriller *Bird Box* (Dec. 21). She plays Malorie, a mother of two fleeing a mysterious deadly force. Here are five facts about the Oscar winner.



Her mother, Helga (1942–2000), born in Nuremberg, Germany, was an opera singer.



The small scar above her left eye is the result of a childhood fall into a lake, where she cut her head on a rock.

Bullock's role in the hit romantic comedy *While You Were Sleeping* (1995) was originally meant for **Demi Moore**.



High heels don't faze her. "I think it's my mother's gene because she did everything in high heels."



She made history as the only female performer to win both an **Oscar** (*The Blind Side*) and a **Razzie Award**, for Worst Actress (*All About Steve*), in the same year.



J.Lo's Second Chance

Jennifer Lopez stars in *Second Act* (in theaters Dec. 21) as Maya, a woman passed over for a promotion and frustrated that street smarts don't equal book smarts. Can she reinvent herself in her 40s? With a little help from her best friend's social-network-savvy son, Maya gets a foot in the door of Madison Avenue and a chance to prove that it's never too late. "You can always make a change," says Lopez, 49. "That message has so much relevance for everybody, but especially for women."

Jason Momoa's All Wet

After playing the superhero Aquaman in *Batman v Superman: Dawn of Justice* and reprising the role in *Justice League*, Momoa, 39, gets to star in his own underwater adventure, *Aquaman* (in theaters Dec. 21). The film reveals the origin story of Arthur Curry (Momoa), who discovers he's actually the king of Atlantis. "It's like *Star Wars* underwater," says Momoa, who leads a cast that includes Amber Heard, Willem Dafoe, Patrick Wilson, Dolph Lundgren and Nicole Kidman.



Walter Scott Asks

Abigail SPENCER

The former *Mad Men* and *Suits* star, 37, returns as professor Lucy Preston when the team of TV's *Timeless* goes for one more time-traveling spin. In a two-hour show-finale movie on NBC (Dec. 20), Preston tries to stop the historical meddling of the Rittenhouse organization one last time.

Tell us about the movie. We meet people who don't mean anything to history, and Lucy wants to save them. She started caring only about rescuing historical figures and protecting historical accuracy, and now she's like, "What's the point of saving history if we don't save the people in it?" During the two hours we go to two different time periods to stop Rittenhouse.

Will there be a real resolution? I think, as with all good endings, it ends. But it doesn't "end," because we want the story to live with the audience as they think about the future. It achieves both a resolution and leaves the door open.

What is *Reprisal*, the new Hulu pilot you just filmed? It's about a survivor who seeks revenge on men who attacked her. It reflects the collective consciousness on the planet right now: women rising up and being able to go back and stand up to their attackers. But it's done in a really cool, dystopian way.

Are you related to the British Spencers, like Princess Diana? That's so funny. My grandmother swears [we are], but I've never done any digging. I did meet a lot of Spencers [in England] and I am a Spencer, so who knows?

How does she feel about a new season of *Suits* without Meghan Markle? Go to Parade.com/spencer to find out.

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Parade

Picks

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A Very Mary Christmas

It's a jolly holiday with Mary, indeed. *Mary Poppins Returns*, a sequel to the 1964 film, flies into theaters Dec. 19, with **Emily Blunt** starring as everyone's favorite nanny back to charm the next generation of Banks children. You'll be charmed too with these last-minute finds that are practically perfect in every way.

—Lauren Harris

PICTURE PERFECT

Magic is in the air—but it all started on paper. The hardcover *Mary Poppins Illustrated Gift Edition* includes the original tale by author P.L. Travers with whimsical full-color illustrations from artist

Júlia Sardà. **\$25, amazon.com**



CARRIED AWAY

Remember the beloved nanny's bottomless carpetbag? Tote your necessities in the **Practically Perfect Large Tote** featuring the film's leading lady and her iconic carry-all. **\$110, mainstreetbella.com**



GIMME SOME SUGAR

Everything tastes sweeter from a silver spoon—especially the **Recycled Silverware Hand-Stamped Sugar Spoon** from Bella Jackson Studios inscribed with one of the original movie's most memorable phrases. **\$19, etsy.com**



SIP, SIP, HOORAY

Start each day the Poppins way enjoying your morning java from the cheery **Practically Perfect in Every Way Mug**. **\$16, redbubble.com**



TOP HAT

Bert's signature chimney-sweeping headgear gets an on-trend upgrade with the leopard print **Brixton Fiddler Cap**. Soot stains not included. **\$44, nordstrom.com**



TEA TIME

No British adventure would be complete without afternoon tea! The **Mary Poppins Returns Tea Set** (complete with ceramic pot, cups and saucers) lends a modern design to favorite story details: kites, penguins, birds, flowers and, of course, Mary. **\$50, shopdisney.com**



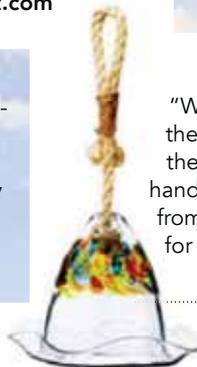
TIME TO SOAR

Take your key ring (or backpack or hand-bag) to the highest heights sporting Disney's **Mary Poppins Returns Kite Keychain**. **\$19, kipling-usa.com**



FEED THE BIRDS

"What do you get when you feed the birds?" Mr. Dawes Sr. joked in the 1964 film. "Fat birds!" Fill this hand-blown **Glass Bird Cafe** (made from recycled glass) with bird seed for a feathered friend's feast. **\$49, uncommongoods.com**



New Year, New Tricks

Great stuff for a happy, healthy new year



START THE YEAR LAUGHING!
Seinfeld: 30th Anniversary Celebration is a hysterical look back at the show about nothing. **\$12.99**, amglifestylestore.com



THE NEW HEALTHY WAY TO HYDRATE There are no artificial flavors or sweeteners in **Drinkfinity Beverage Infusion Pods**. Pop a pod (in flavors from Açai Charge with green coffee bean extract to Mango Chia Flow with vitamins C and E) into the BPA-free bottle. **\$26**, for a vessel and four pods, drinkfinity.com



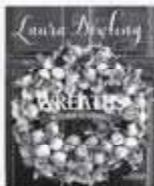
BE NICE TO YOUR HAIR It's normal to lose 100 strands of hair per day. If you're not down with that or notice excessive thinning, try the FDA-cleared **iRestore Hair Growth System**. The helmet uses pain-free red-light therapy to stimulate growth. **\$695**, irestorelaser.com



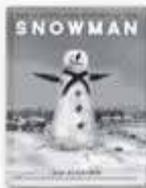
NO MORE WARM BEER EVER! We say cheers to these **Rabbit Freezable Beer Glasses**. Available in January. **\$35 for two**, rabbitwine.com

Books We Love

In **Wreaths** (Stichting Kunstboek), Laura Dowling, chief floral designer at the White House from 2009 through 2015, shares how-to tutorials for every kind of wreath, from the classic pinecones and red berries to the unexpected purple cabbage and turnips. **\$35**



(St. Martin's Griffin), a collection that showcases holiday-themed postcards from the late 19th and early 20th centuries. **\$18**



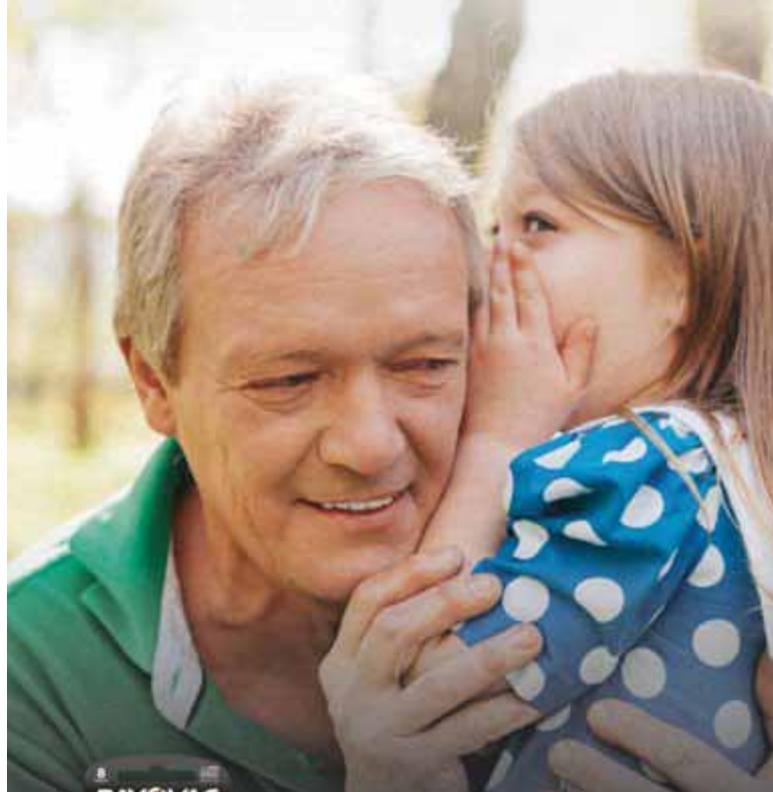
In **The Illustrated History of the Snowman** (Globe Pequot), author Bob Eckstein rolls out the colorful history of sculpting figures out of snow. **\$30**

Walk down memory lane with **100 Christmas Wishes: Vintage Holiday Cards from the New York Public Library**

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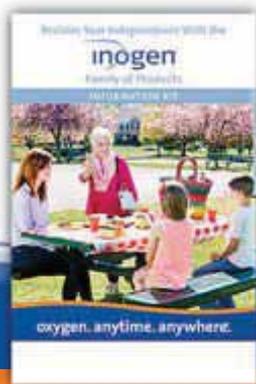


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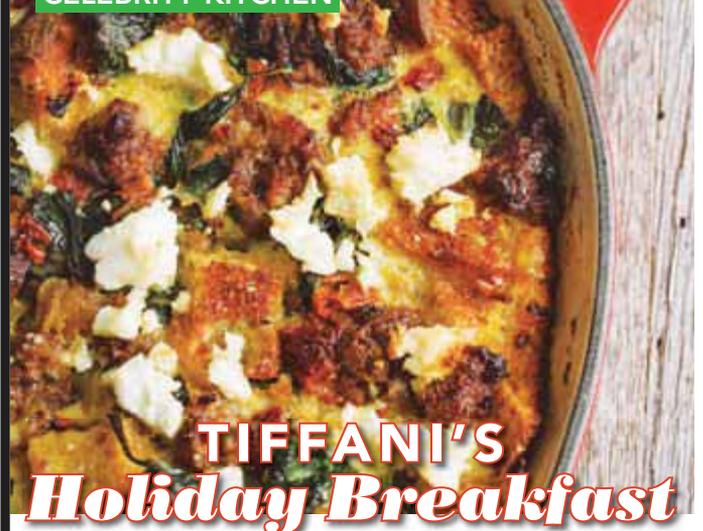
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TIFFANI'S *Holiday Breakfast*

This crowd-pleasing breakfast casserole, from the new cookbook *Pull Up a Chair* by actress Tiffani Thiessen (host of Cooking Channel's *Dinner at Tiffani's*), is tailor-made for busy holiday mornings. Assemble it the night before, and then slide it into the oven to bake on Christmas or New Year's Day.



EGG AND SAUSAGE CASSEROLE

Preheat oven to 400°F. Oil a 3-quart baking dish.

Combine 1½ cups (1-inch) cubed **country bread** and 1 Tbsp **extra-virgin olive oil** on a baking sheet. Toss to combine, spreading in a single layer. Bake 10 minutes or until toasted and golden brown; set aside.

In a large skillet, heat 1 Tbsp extra-virgin olive oil over medium-high. Add ½ lb **fresh sweet Italian sausage** (casings removed) and 1 medium **yellow onion**, finely chopped. Cook 8–10 minutes or until sausage is cooked through and onion is translucent, using a wooden spoon to break up sausage into small pieces. Stir in 10 oz **fresh spinach**; cook 2–3 minutes or until wilted. Add ½ cup chopped drained **oil-packed sun-dried tomatoes**; cook 2 minutes. Season with **kosher salt** and **black pepper**; set aside.

In a medium bowl, beat 10 **large eggs**, ½ cup **whole milk**, ¼ tsp salt and ¼ tsp pepper until frothy. Spread toasted bread cubes in a single layer in bottom of prepared baking dish. Top with sausage mixture. Pour egg mixture over top so it covers entire casserole. Cool to room temperature, cover and refrigerate at least 4 hours and up to overnight. When ready to serve, preheat oven to 350°F. Sprinkle casserole with ¼ cup crumbled **feta cheese**. Bake, uncovered, 1 hour or until set. Cool 10–15 minutes before serving. **Serves 4–6.**

In the Kitchen WITH TIFFANI

Entertaining strategy: "I'm a prepper. I love lists. It really does make me less stressed."



Childhood habit still going strong: "I grew up eating family dinner every night," says Thiessen. Now she and her husband, actor Brady Smith, and their daughter, Harper, 8, and son, Holt, 3, gather around the table for dinner at least five nights a week.

Go-to comfort foods: "A big glass of wine and a charcuterie board," she admits. Or her mother's bean and ham hock stew (get the recipe at Parade.com/stew). "It makes me feel like I'm getting a big hug from my mom."

Always in her pantry or fridge: sun-dried tomatoes ("I put them in my stuffing too"), ghee (Indian-style clarified butter) and "fresh eggs, because we have seven chickens."

Must-have kitchen tools: sharp knives. "I go to so many of my friends' kitchens and they have crappy, dull knives," says Thiessen. "I think, no wonder you don't like to cook!" Her favorite blades are the German brand Messermeister (available at Williams Sonoma).

Current kitchen goal: cutting back on food waste. "I'm really trying to make sure I only buy and make what we're really going to use," says Thiessen. Involving her kids in weekly meal-planning also helps cut down on the chorus of "I don't want this" later in the week.

Food trend she's over: "Expensive avocado toast!"
—Alison Ashton

Need an extra side for your holiday dinner? Go to Parade.com/roll to get Thiessen's super-simple recipe for Gruyère-Thyme Rolls.

REBECCA SANABRIA

DECEMBER 16, 2018 | 7

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STEVE CARELL

IS A *DRAMA* *QUEEN*

BY AMY SPENCER

COVER AND OPENING PHOTOGRAPHY BY ROBERT ASCROFT

It was Christmas in the '70s and young Steve Carell was at the mall in his hometown of Acton, Mass. "I remember walking around looking for a present, and I noticed that everyone had a very tense, pained, harried expression on their face," he says.

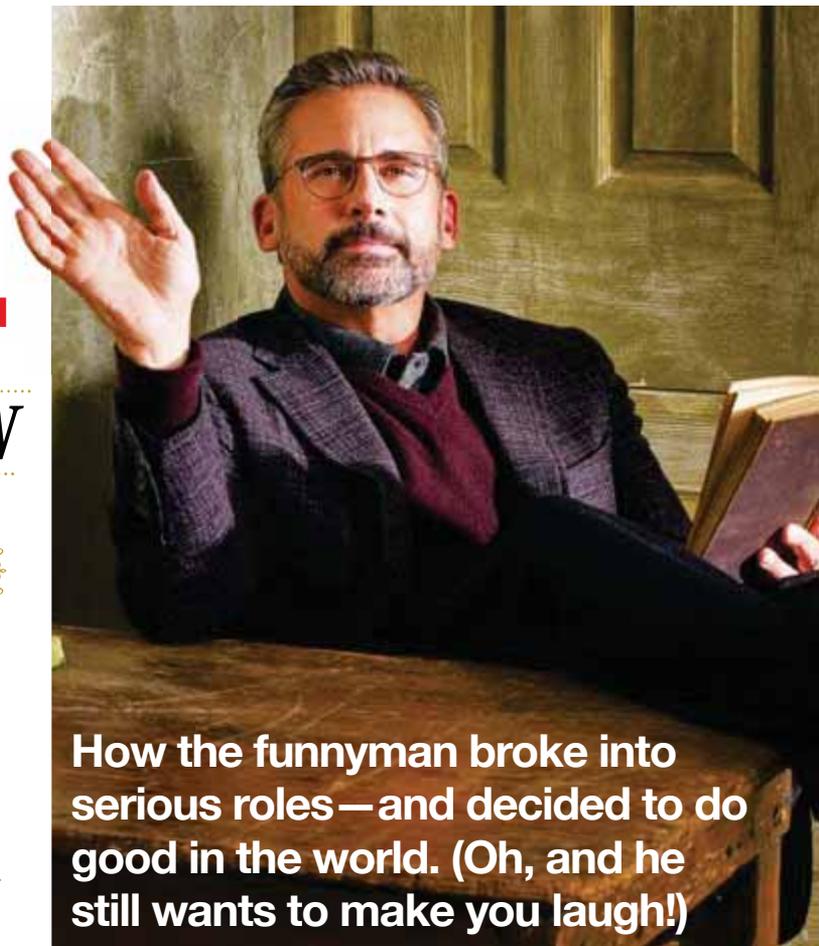
Surprised that people weren't more joyful during the holidays, "I decided I was going to smile at everybody, just so I wouldn't be another face reflecting back all the angst," says Carell, 56. And so he did. "People probably thought I was just this weird kid." He laughs, shaking his head. "But I remembered thinking, *Well, it might not help, but maybe somebody will get a smile out of it.*"

Decades later, the Hollywood pro with nearly 75 acting credits, including his starring role in *The Office*, is still getting laughs. And his most recent films—from *Beautiful Boy* to *Vice* and *Welcome to Marwen*—reflect his continuing desire to do work that matters.

Today, perched on the edge of a couch in Hollywood, he's in a full beard and sharply dressed in black pants, a shirt and tie under a sweater and a dark blazer. He looks like he could easily be a tweedy New England college professor. And based on the stories he tells about his love of history and his desire for old-fashioned connections, it's almost a surprise he didn't end up doing just that.

History Buff

Carell is the youngest of four brothers born to mom Harriet, a psychiatric nurse (she passed away in 2016), and father Edwin, now 93, who designed heat exchangers and was a member of the 100th Infantry during World War II. "We were not a wealthy family, and both my parents worked; my mom worked nights" to help support the boys and their education, he says. "It was all about us, and that resonated with me."



How the funnyman broke into serious roles—and decided to do good in the world. (Oh, and he still wants to make you laugh!)

Carell loved learning about history in school, and he and one brother joined the fife and drum corps of the Acton Minuteman Group, which dressed up in colonial regalia and marched in local parades, re-creating part of New England's rich colonial legacy. (He can still play a tune on the fife today.) Those early years, he also picked up his older brothers' interests in comedy of the '70s, soaking up the humor of acts like the Firesign Theatre (a radio comedy group), George Carlin and Steve Martin. "That, I think, informed a lot of what I started to like," says Carell, who says

his parents supported all of his interests. "They were more than open-minded about what path I was gonna choose."

His chosen path took him to Denison University in Granville, Ohio, where he majored in history and theater. After graduating in 1984, he moved to Chicago to pursue acting professionally, and joined the Second City comedy troupe. "Comedy wasn't even a part of the master plan," Carell says of the move. And neither were more "serious" roles, specifically. "I just wanted to work. And it just so happened that most of the work that I got was comedic."

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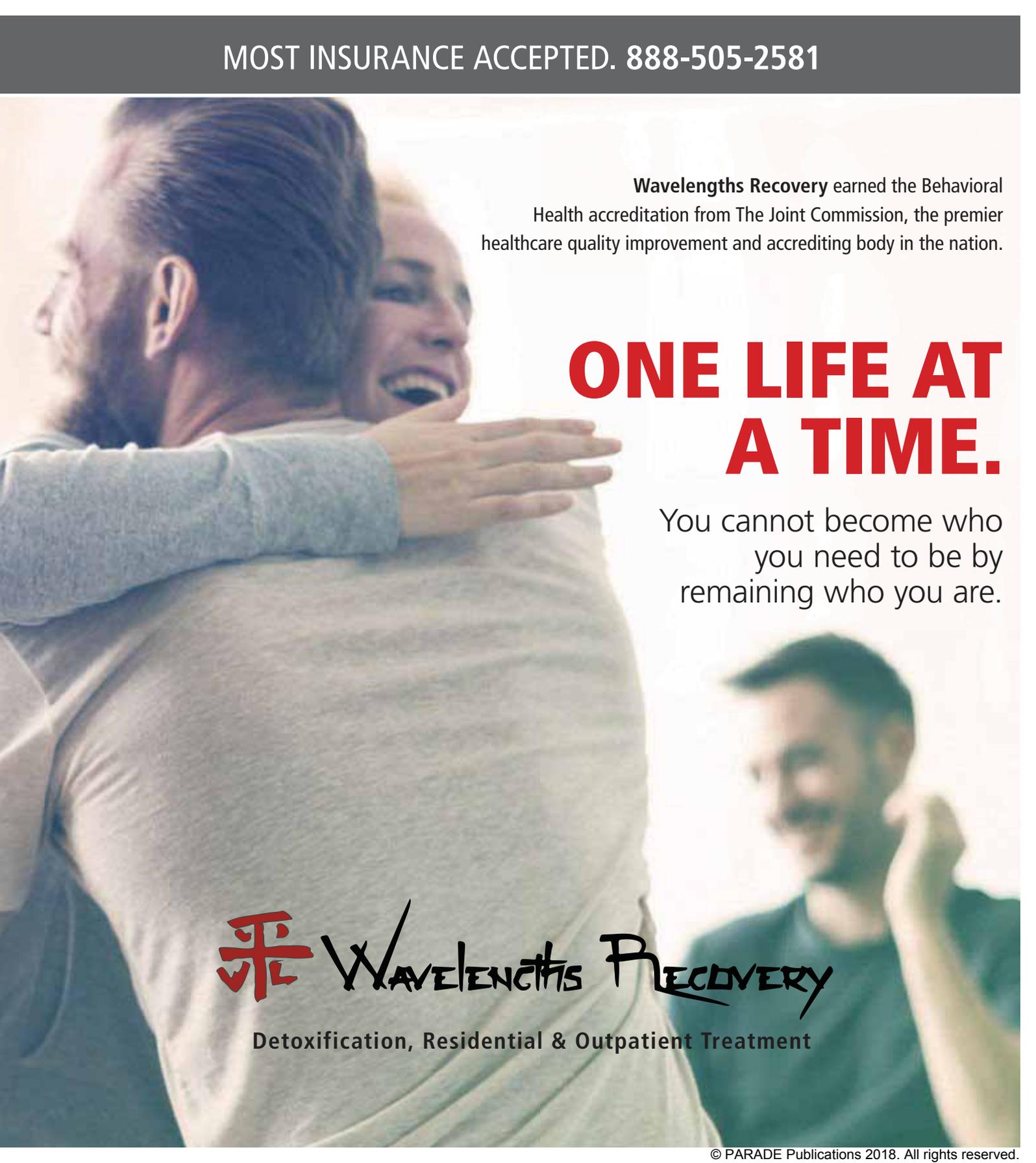
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What Would You Do for Someone You Love?

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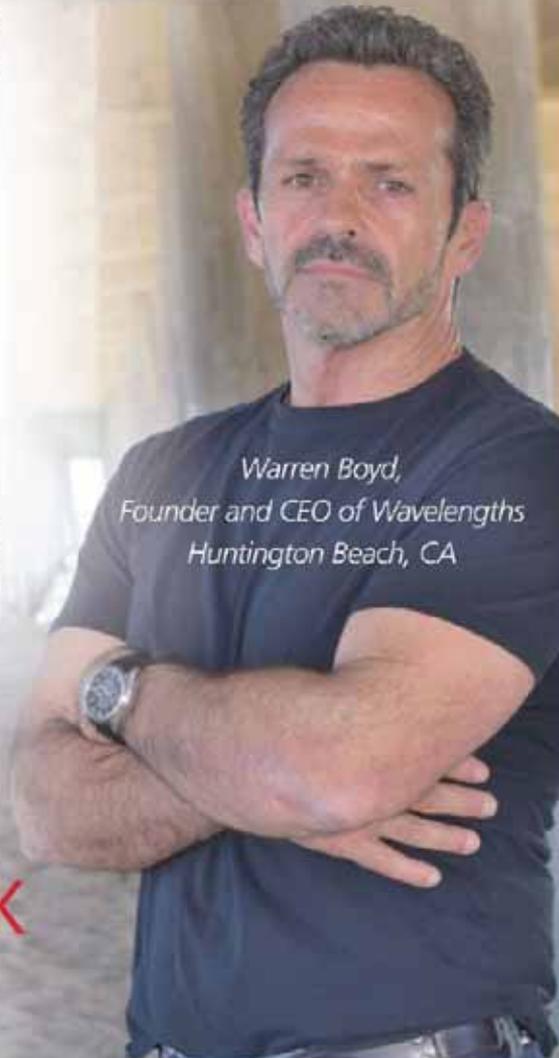
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Warren Boyd, founder and CEO, has 30 years experience working in the industry. Warren understands that there is nothing pretty about addiction.

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Warren Boyd,
Founder and CEO of Wavelengths
Huntington Beach, CA

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After early TV stints on *The Dana Carvey Show* and *The Daily Show*, he found his way onto the big screen in comedies including *Bruce Almighty* and *Anchorman* before hitting his breakout year of 2005—when he both co-wrote and starred in the comedy *The 40-Year-Old Virgin*, and the year he debuted as lovably beleaguered small-business manager Michael Scott in *The Office*, starring in seven of the show's nine seasons, winning a Golden Globe and six Emmy nominations for the role.

His hit film résumé grew for years as he starred in family

films and comedies including *Despicable Me*, *Little Miss Sunshine*, *Crazy Stupid Love* and *The Way Way Back*. Then, “when I got the opportunity to do some more dramatic stuff,” he says, “I took it.”

He earned an Academy Award nomination for his role in sports true-crime drama *Foxcatcher*, played a key part in the Oscar-winning *The Big Short* and co-starred in *Last Flag Flying* (2017) and *Beautiful Boy*, in which he played a father desperately trying to help his meth-addicted son (Timothée Chalamet). This month, he plays two more dramatic roles, each of them resonating with his respect for history, retelling two different true stories.

Real Meets Reel

For the more famous of his two real-life characters in his latest films, he stars in *Vice* as Donald Rumsfeld (Dec. 25), who served as secretary of defense under President George W. Bush (Sam Rockwell) and Vice President Dick Cheney (Christian Bale).

“It’s tricky to approach a real-life character,” he admits, especially in these politically edgy times. “It’s your best estimation as to who someone might be—what his flaws might be, what his strengths might be. You have to find some element of that person that you empathize with or find intrinsically human.”

In *Welcome to Marwen* (Dec. 21), Carell plays Mark Hogancamp, a U.S. Navy veteran and illustrator who was attacked outside a bar in upstate New York in 2000, causing a major brain injury that erased his memory. As a form of therapy, he built an amazing scale-model fantasy-world replica of a World War II Belgian town in his backyard, populated it with dolls and photographed tableaux of scenes.

It was “a way to cope with the trauma that he had suffered,” says Carell, “because he can put himself into this town through an alter ego”—an American fighter pilot facing the Nazis. As Hogancamp explained in the 2010 documentary that inspired the new film, “Everybody wishes they could have a double that could do the things they could never do.”

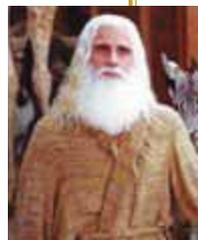
After consulting with Hogancamp, who lives in Kingston, N.Y., for the role, Carell now considers him a friend. “He’s such a warm guy,” says Carell. “There’s no cynicism, which in today’s world is rare.”



Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy (2004) In this spoof of broadcast newscasters, Carell played weatherman Brick Tamland.

The 40-Year-Old Virgin (2005) He co-wrote and starred in this hit as a nebbish electronics salesman whose friends conspire to help him lose his virginity.

Little Miss Sunshine (2006) The Oscar-winning comedy features Carell as a gay, depressed literary scholar who joins his extended family racing to get to a beauty pageant.



Evan Almighty (2007) A congressman (Carell) is morphed into a modern-day Noah when he prays to God for help.

Get Smart (2008) In this big-screen spin on the 1960s TV show, Carell is secret agent Maxwell Smart and

Anne Hathaway Agent 99.

Date Night (2010) A case of mistaken identity turns a romantic evening upside down for a married couple (Carell and Tina Fey).

Crazy, Stupid, Love (2011) The life of a middle-aged man (Carell) changes dramatically when his wife leaves him.

The Way Way Back (2013) Carell gets serious as the unlikeable boyfriend of the mother (Toni Collette) of a young man (Liam James) on a summer vacation.



Foxcatcher (2014) There wasn’t a chuckle anywhere in this true-crime drama, headlined by Carell’s unsettling portrayal of wrestling benefactor John du Pont.

Last Flag Flying (2017)

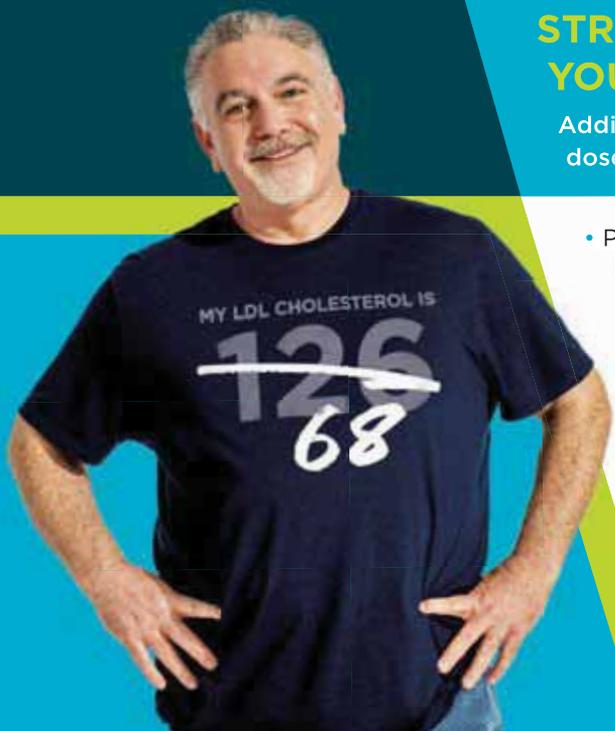
A powerful trio of acting performances (Carell, Bryan Cranston and Laurence Fishburne) anchored this dark-humored drama about U.S. Marine veterans reuniting to bury one of their own—and one of their own sons.

—Neil Pond

continued on next page

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*Heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia, an inherited condition that causes high levels of LDL-C.

†Formulary data are provided by Managed Markets Insight & Technology, LLC (MMIT) and are current as of October 2018. Because formularies do change and many health plans offer more than one formulary, please check directly with the health plan to confirm coverage. Not an actual patient. Individual results may vary.

What Is PRALUENT (alirocumab)?

PRALUENT is an injectable prescription medicine called a PCSK9 inhibitor. PRALUENT is used along with diet and maximally tolerated statin therapy in adults with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (an inherited condition that causes high levels of LDL) or atherosclerotic heart problems, who need additional lowering of LDL cholesterol.

The effect of PRALUENT on heart problems such as heart attacks, stroke, or death is not known.

Safety and efficacy in children is unknown.

Important Safety Information for PRALUENT

Do not use PRALUENT if you are allergic to alicumab or to any of the ingredients in PRALUENT.

Before starting PRALUENT, tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including allergies, and if you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant or if you are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed.

Tell your healthcare provider or pharmacist about any prescription and over-the-counter medicines you are taking or plan to take, including natural or herbal remedies.

PRALUENT can cause serious side effects, including allergic reactions that can be severe and require treatment in a hospital. Call your healthcare provider or go to the nearest

emergency room right away if you have any symptoms of an allergic reaction, including a severe rash, redness, severe itching, a swollen face, or trouble breathing.

The most common side effects of PRALUENT include: redness, itching, swelling, or pain/tenderness at the injection site; symptoms of the common cold; and flu or flu-like symptoms. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

Talk to your healthcare provider about the right way to prepare and give yourself a PRALUENT injection and follow the "Instructions for Use" that comes with PRALUENT.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA.

Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.


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Summary of Information about PRALUENT® (alirocumab)
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Rx Only

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PRALUENT is an injectable prescription medicine called a PCSK9 inhibitor. PRALUENT is used along with diet and maximally tolerated statin therapy in adults with heterozygous familial hypercholesterolemia (an inherited condition that causes high levels of LDL) or atherosclerotic heart problems, who need additional lowering of LDL cholesterol.

The effect of PRALUENT on heart problems such as heart attacks, stroke, or death is not known.

It is not known if PRALUENT is safe and effective in children.

Who should not use PRALUENT?

Do not use PRALUENT if you are allergic to alicrocumab or to any of the ingredients in PRALUENT. See the end of this Summary of Information for a complete list of ingredients in PRALUENT.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before using PRALUENT?

Before you start using PRALUENT, tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including allergies, and if you:

- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if PRALUENT will harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking PRALUENT.

Pregnancy Registry. There is a pregnancy registry for women who take PRALUENT during pregnancy. The purpose of this registry is to collect information about your health and your baby's health. You can talk to your healthcare provider or contact 1-877-311-8972 or go to <https://mothertobaby.org/ongoing-study/praluent/> to enroll in this registry or get more information.

- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. You and your healthcare provider should decide if you will take PRALUENT or breastfeed. You should not do both without talking to your healthcare provider first.

Tell your healthcare provider or pharmacist about any prescription and over-the-counter medicines you are taking or plan to take, including natural or herbal remedies.

How should I use PRALUENT?

- **See the detailed "Instructions for Use" that comes with PRALUENT about the right way to prepare and give your PRALUENT injections.**

- Use PRALUENT exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to use it.

- PRALUENT comes as a single-dose (1 time) pre-filled pen (autoinjector), or as a single-dose pre-filled syringe. Your healthcare provider will prescribe the type and dosage that is best for you.

- If your healthcare provider decides that you or a caregiver can give the injections of PRALUENT, you or your caregiver should receive training on the right way to prepare and administer PRALUENT. **Do not** try to inject PRALUENT until you have been shown the right way by your healthcare provider or nurse.

- PRALUENT is injected under the skin (subcutaneously) every 2 weeks or every 4 weeks (monthly).

- If your healthcare provider prescribes you the monthly dose, you will give yourself 2 separate injections in a row, using a different syringe or pen for each injection and two different injection sites.

- **Do not** inject PRALUENT together with other injectable medicines at the same injection site.

- Always check the label of your pen or syringe to make sure you have the correct medicine and the correct dose of PRALUENT before each injection.

- If you forget to use PRALUENT or are not able to take the dose at your regular time, inject your missed dose as soon as you remember, within 7 days.

Then, if you inject every 2 weeks take your next dose in 2 weeks from the day you missed your dose **or** if you inject every 4 weeks take your next dose in 4 weeks from the day you missed your dose. This will put you back on your original schedule.

- If you missed a dose by more than 7 days and you inject every 2 weeks wait until your next scheduled dose to re-start PRALUENT **or** if you inject every 4 weeks start a new schedule from the time you remember to take your dose.

If you are not sure when to re-start PRALUENT, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

- If you use more PRALUENT than you should, talk to your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

- **Do not** stop using PRALUENT without talking with your healthcare provider. If you stop using PRALUENT, your cholesterol levels can increase.

What are the possible side effects of PRALUENT?

PRALUENT can cause serious side effects, including:

- **allergic reactions.** PRALUENT may cause allergic reactions that can be severe and require treatment in a hospital. Call your healthcare provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away if you have any symptoms of an allergic reaction including a severe rash, redness, severe itching, a swollen face, or trouble breathing.

The most common side effects of PRALUENT include: redness, itching, swelling, or pain/tenderness at the injection site, symptoms of the common cold, and flu or flu-like symptoms.

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all of the possible side effects of PRALUENT. Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for more information.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

General information about the safe and effective use of PRALUENT.

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information leaflet. **Do not** use PRALUENT for a condition for which it was not prescribed. **Do not** give PRALUENT to other people, even if they have the same symptoms that you have. It may harm them.

This is a summary of the most important information about PRALUENT. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about PRALUENT that is written for health professionals.

For more information about PRALUENT, go to www.PRALUENT.com or call 1-844-PRALUENT (1-844-772-5836).

What are the ingredients in PRALUENT?

- Active ingredient: alicrocumab
- Inactive ingredients: histidine, polysorbate 20, sucrose, and water for injection.

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from page 10

Giving today's kids the opportunity for wholesome interactions like that has become important to him, as he tries to raise his own teenagers to be kind and generous human beings. "I think that's what I try to impress upon them," says Carell, "to be decent and add something of value to the world."

"...lighting a fire and just the four of us playing Monopoly until two in the morning. It sounds so simple—and kinda hokey—but boy, I love stuff like that."

—Carell on time with family

Beyond that, he's hesitant to pin down exactly what else he wants to bring. "I'm just an actor, you know?" he says, throwing his hands up and laughing. "I'm not saving the world." But then he cites his recent roles in *Beautiful Boy*, *Marwen* and *Vice*. "There are messages in all of those about hope and redemption and kindness, and those are things that are important to me."

It wasn't all that long ago, after all, when he was a lad in a mall in Massachusetts, smiling so other people would, maybe, smile too.

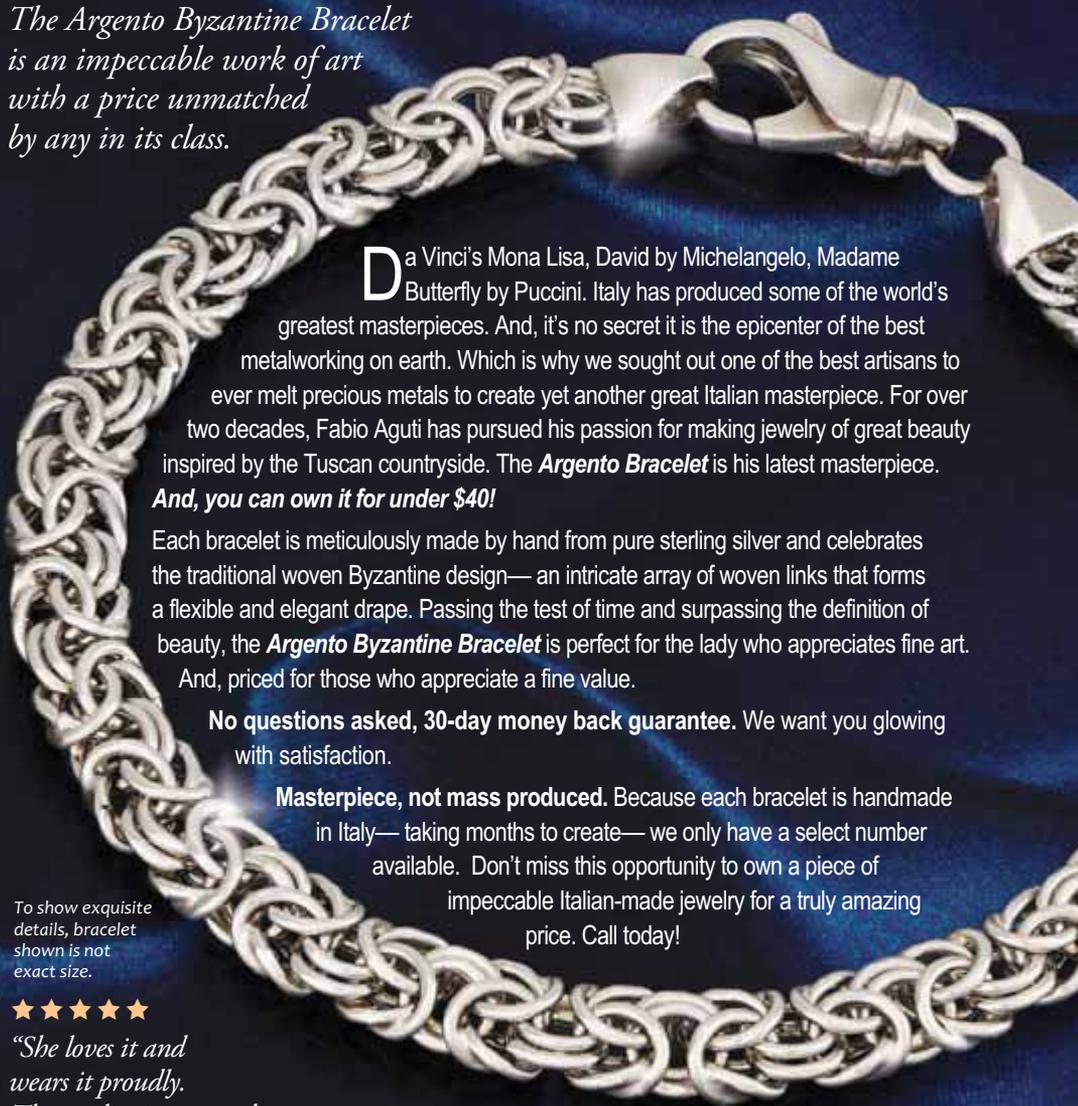
Go to Parade.com/office for Steve Carell's thoughts on a reboot of *The Office*.

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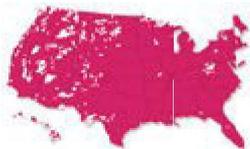
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Ask Marilyn

By Marilyn vos Savant

Why do so many columnists and regular writers for print media use such old photos of themselves? I once saw a newspaper columnist who was so different from his published photo that if he had not been introduced by name, he would have been impossible to recognize.

—William McIntire,
Pinellas Park, Fla.

Well, I suppose vanity could be one factor. But a more important factor is familiarity. Editors know that readers like to open a newspaper or magazine and see a familiar face. As photographers have such different styles, updating photos yearly or so would cause an uncomfortable sense of discontinuity. And before you ask, readers, my own column photo was taken two years ago.

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