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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2019

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

Among young, a rise in depression

Societal forces? Social media? No one's sure why group's hurting

BY NARA SCHOENBERG

After she graduated from college, Lauren Smith struggled to find a sense of purpose.

The outgoing, goal-oriented psychology major moved back home to Batavia without a job lined up or a career plan in place, and her mood, already low, spiraled downward. She was very sad all the time. She didn't want to eat or sleep. She shut out her friends and family.

"It's just a sense of despair and loneliness," Smith, 22, said of the depression that closed in on her in May.

"I kind of felt like nothing could ever work. I felt hopeless and useless."

Depression and related forms of psychological distress aren't just affecting teens. The rate of major depression among young adults, ages 18 to 25, rose 63% between 2009 and 2017, according to a national study published earlier this year in the Journal of Abnormal Psychology. In April, Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital responded to growing demand for services by starting a young adult track in its intensive outpatient mental health program.

At NAMI Chicago (a local affiliate of the National Alli-

Turn to Health, Page 9



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The statue of Bears Hall of Famer Walter Payton, unveiled Tuesday, will make its home outside Gate O at Soldier Field.

Statues of 2 lionized Bears icons unveiled

Walter Payton and George Halas figures now at Soldier Field

BY PHIL THOMPSON

Soldier Field has two new landmarks — and two new meeting spots for Bears fans.

The team Tuesday unveiled statues of Walter Payton and George Halas. The 12-foot, 3,000-pound statues, sculpted by Fisher Sculpture and designed by Populous, are outside Gate O.

"This is truly a good representation of Walter and who he is," Connie Payton, his widow, said Tuesday. "So we couldn't be prouder."

When asked how Walter Payton would feel about the timing of the unveiling, days before the 100th season debut against the Packers, she said: "I know! That's what I'm saying. It all happened the way it was supposed to happen. It'll be perfect on Thursday. I can only imagine the fans coming through the Waldron tunnel when they see this for that game. It's just going to be great."

"Walter's legacy is secure — the greatest player in the history of the game," Bears Chairman George McCaskey said Tuesday. "Coach (Mike) Ditka said it very well: The best he ever saw."

"The timing's most appropriate. I know the Payton

Turn to Bears, Page 10



RAMON ESPINOSA/AP

A family is escorted to a safe zone after members were rescued Tuesday as Hurricane Dorian continues to drench Freeport, Bahamas.

DEVASTATION

Rescuers struggle to reach victims in Bahamas after Dorian's rampage

BY RAMON ESPINOSA,
DANICA COTO AND
MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN
Associated Press

FREERPORT, Bahamas — Relief officials reported scenes of utter ruin Tuesday in parts of the Bahamas and rushed to deal with an unfolding humanitarian crisis in the wake of Hurricane Dorian, the most powerful storm on record ever to hit the islands. At least seven deaths were reported, with the full scope of the disaster still unknown.

The storm's punishing winds and muddy brown floodwaters destroyed or severely damaged thousands of homes, crippled hospitals and trapped people in attics.

"It's total devastation. It's deci-



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Damage is seen on Abaco Island on Tuesday in the Bahamas.

mated. Apocalyptic. It looks like a bomb went off," said Lia Head-Rigby, who helps run a local hurricane relief organization and flew over the Bahamas' hard-hit

Abaco Island. "It's not rebuilding something that was there; we have to start again."

She said her representative on Abaco told her that "there's a lot

more dead" and that the bodies were being gathered.

Emergency authorities, meanwhile, struggled to reach victims amid conditions too dangerous even for rescue workers, and urged people to hang on.

"We don't want people thinking we've forgotten them. We know what your conditions are. We know if you're stuck in an attic," Tammy Mitchell of the Bahamas' National Emergency Management Agency told ZNS Bahamas radio station.

With their heads bowed against heavy wind and rain, rescuers began evacuating people across Grand Bahama late Tuesday using Jet Skis, boats and even a huge bulldozer that cradled

Turn to Dorian, Page 15



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Grace Coppinger, a senior from Beaufort, Missouri, sits on a bluff overlooking the Bourbeuse River.

Illinois colleges ramp up pursuit of rural students

Physical distance from campus just one barrier

BY DAWN RHODES

Until recently, high school senior Anna Girten had considered only the schools typically sought out by students in her town of about 6,600 near the Iowa border, such as University of Iowa and Iowa State University. The big city about three hours in the opposite direction was not on her radar until she visited University of Chicago for a summer program designed for rural students.

"I'm just not exposed to different schools and opportu-

nities," said Girten, 17, who attends Geneseo High School in northwest Illinois. "I didn't really know much about University of Chicago. But going there and having that experience showed me that there's a lot more possibilities than the few schools that a lot of the kids go to at my high school."

That lack of familiarity — and the impact of mere exposure — is driving new and expanded efforts from Illinois schools to attract students from rural areas.

Diversity on college cam-

puses long has meant differences among races, ethnicity and religions. In recent years, college leaders are ramping up efforts to recruit a mix of students from urban, suburban and rural areas. But they've learned rural students face unique challenges in the college-going process, many revolving around a common theme: Access.

"We saw that rural students — they are smart, they are talented — are really inhibited by their geography and they're severely underrepresented on

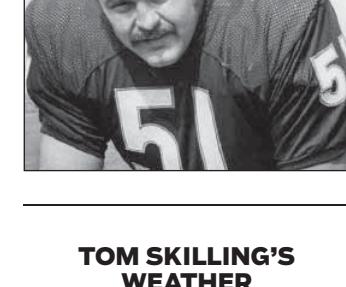
Turn to Colleges, Page 6

Walmart to end handgun ammo sales

The company said Tuesday it will discontinue the sale of handgun and short-barrel rifle ammunition and also publicly request that customers refrain from openly carrying firearms in stores even where state laws allow it. **Business**

Linebacker as skilled as he was vicious

Picked #2 in the best Bears ranking, Dick Butkus' size, speed, instincts and ferocity made him the perfect middle linebacker. **Chicago Sports**



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UPCOMING CHICAGO TRIBUNE 'UNSCRIPTED': BASSEY IKPKI

An Intimate Conversation with Bassey Ikpi

Bestselling author Bassey Ikpi will discuss her newest book, "I'm Telling the Truth, But I'm Lying." Ikpi is a Nigerian-born American spoken-word poet, writer, and mental health advocate. She has appeared on HBO's Russell Simmons Def Poetry Jam five times and her poetry has opened shows for Grammy Award-winning artists. Following the conversation, Bassey will stay to sign copies of her book.

When: Tuesday, Sept. 10 from 7 p.m.-9 p.m. (Doors open at 6 p.m.).

Convene, 16 W. Adams St.
Tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/chicago-tribunes-unscripted-presents-bassey-ikpi-tickets-69489989429>

Chicago Tribune books

"The Chicago Tribune Book of the Chicago Cubs: A Decade-by-Decade History."

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"MBA Starter Kit: Your Guide to Options, Finances and Value in a Masters of Business Administration Degree in Chicago"

This book is the ultimate guide for anyone interested in pursuing a Master of Business Administration graduate degree. Covering the latest global hiring trends and salary outlooks, as well as the myriad opportunities afforded by an MBA, this book is a must-read for anyone who thinks they might be interested in an MBA.

"Portraits in Jazz: 80 Profiles of Jazz Legends, Renegades and Revolutionaries."

From his exclusive interviews with Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett, Lena Horne and Ella Fitzgerald, to profiles of the early masters like Louis Armstrong, Duke Ellington and Billie Holiday, Howard Reich's book illustrates his deep understanding of the performances, recordings and cultural legacies of these jazz masters.

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MARGARET HOLT, standards editor

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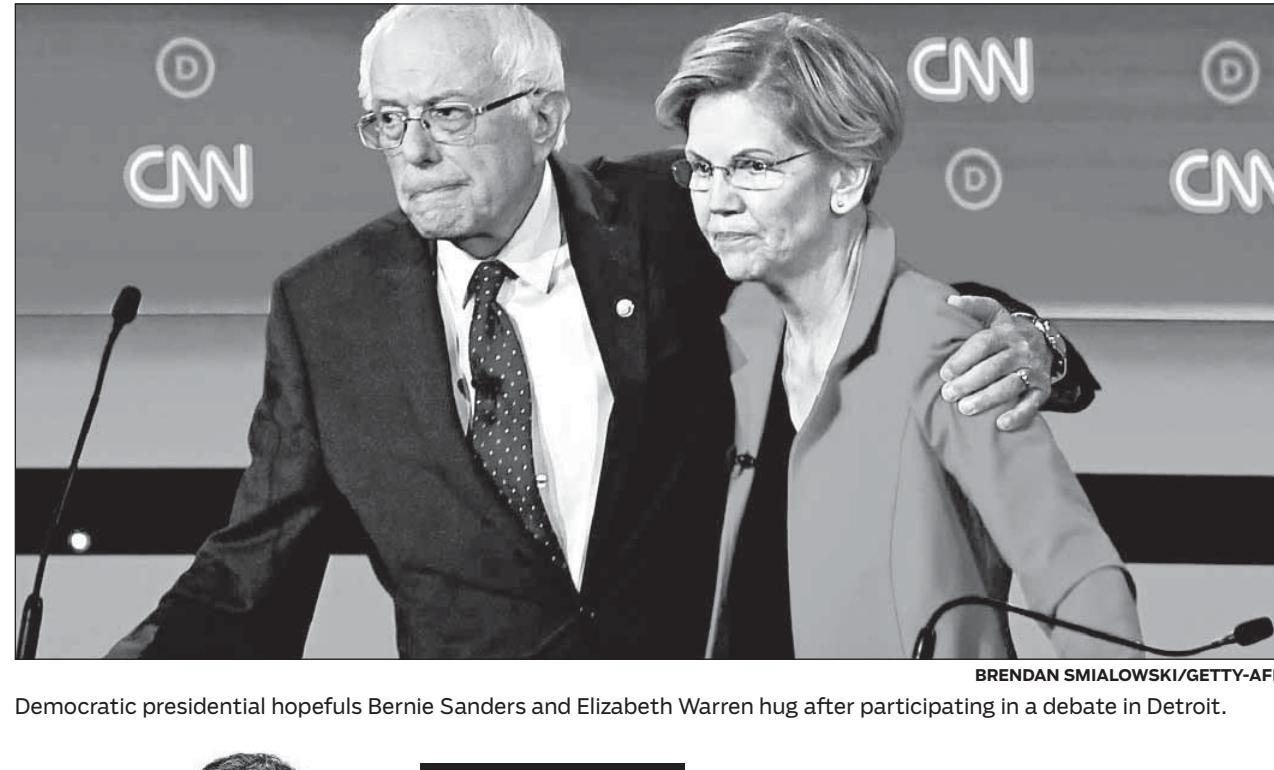
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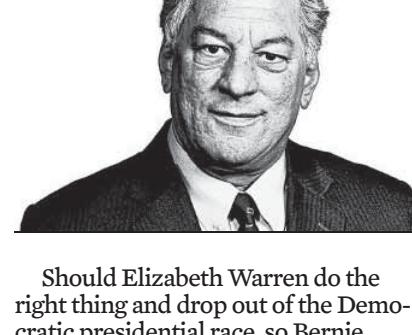
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BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI/GETTY-AFP

Democratic presidential hopefuls Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren hug after participating in a debate in Detroit.



JOHN KASS

Break some eggs, Warren: Drop out and back Bernie

Should Elizabeth Warren do the right thing and drop out of the Democratic presidential race, so Bernie Sanders can address Joe Biden's multiple "reality issues" before taking on President Donald Trump?

Yes, immediately.

Bernie can beat Trump. Warren and other Democrats also match up well with Trump, but Sanders has the necessary authenticity. And Biden has a serious flaw.

If you can't see this, you might just be blind to Joe adrift, lost in his multi-verse of fabrications and moist feelings, like a sad sci-fi astronaut with gleaming white teeth in a Netflix movie, unmoored.

For now, the hard-left vote — the spine of the Democratic Party this cycle — remains split between Warren and Sanders. If something's not done and soon, Biden may ride his whoopers to the Democratic nomination.

Democratic activists worry about Biden, but the national media, which is even further to the left than are the activists, also worry. They're trying to take Biden out with stories like the one in The New York Times the other day, depicting Biden as a confused bumbler: "Does Joe Biden Want To Be Doing This?"

So Biden is portrayed by many as a geezer lost in the discount drugstore after the shuttle bus has left.

Biden remains stubbornly on the national platter, congealing like day-old "Cold Omelets with Crab Meat," the now-infamous dish Warren offered as authentic Cherokee fare in the cookbook "Pow Wow Chow," back when she was climbing the political ladder as an authentic Native American Harvard law professor.

"You can't call on Warren to drop out," said a guy who's been counting all the "Warren Has a Plan for That" signs sprouting in his progressive North Side Chicago neighborhood. "She's a woman. And Democrats will need the white suburban woman vote in 2020."

True, and I mean no disrespect to her, her gender or to the Democratic Party's strategy to target that key suburban white female demographic through a relentless 24-7 media spin

that's been going on since 2016.

But the charade of representing herself as a Native American, and the catastrophe of her DNA test, turns off working-class families. Democrats need them too.

The thing about an omelet with crab meat is that you've got to break some eggs.

And she'll have to break a few on Biden in the next Democratic presidential debate in Texas. But that could get messy, since Biden has support from older African Americans and older, more centrist Democrats who don't like the way their party is trending.

Sanders represented the progressive faction in 2016. But Hillary Clinton and establishment Democrats, through former DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz, rigged the primaries and leveraged all that Wall Street cash and the superdelegates to cynically take Sanders out.

Now progressive Democrats seem at a loss to stop Biden. It reminds me of how my brothers and I would wait outside our house for Uncle John, a restaurant man, when Aunt Mary called to tell us he was bringing his famous dessert over to our house.

We'd stand in the middle of the street and flag him down in his big gray sedan, waving our arms and shouting until he finally stopped. He was in his mid-90s and mentally quick. He just had trouble seeing. Still, it was worth the risk of getting flattened because Uncle John made great rice pudding.

But he wasn't campaigning for president.

Biden doesn't make rice pudding. Instead, Biden makes sweet and creamy feelings.

Bernie Sanders, at 77, is a year older than Biden but seems much sharper. He's a socialist, yes, and unlike Biden, he knows the difference between Vermont and New Hampshire.

Bernie went to Moscow on his honeymoon. He talks about free stuff — free college tuition, "free" health care for all, even for immigrants who illegally cross the border. He probably should use Pete Seeger's version of "The Big Rock Candy Mountain"

either as a campaign song or an economic platform.

Sanders doesn't have good hair, but who does? At least his locks are not orange. They're authentically white and grow wild and frizzy from Sanders' head like the hair of Rick Sanchez, the brilliantly sarcastic scientist in the "Rick and Morty" cartoons.

Sanders is a true lefty, not a faux lefty, and perhaps it would be a good thing for the country to have left and right meet in the November 2020 Thunderdome and just end this incessant bickering once and for all.

The problem is Joe's in the way. He's locked up key Democratic Party food groups and won't let go.

Biden's weakness is the weight of his lies. Trump lies, too, obviously, but then so did former Presidents Bush I and Clinton and Bush II and Obama. Americans reward politicians who lie, if the lies are offered with emotion or silkiness. Trump just blusters through, like a cheesy house announcer at a pro wrestling match.

The other day, The Washington Post outed Biden, known plagiarist and gaffe machine, for making up a story about his own heroism as vice president in a war zone honoring an American soldier.

"Biden got the time period, the location, the heroic act, the military branch and the rank of the recipient wrong, as well as his own role in the ceremony," the Post wrote.

He told that whopper to puff himself up, like some Commander McBragg. Biden insists such criticism is "irrelevant" and pushes ever forward, building a safe mind palace for himself on the shores of some golden pond, from which he will run his general election presidential campaign against Trump.

Unless Elizabeth Warren breaks some eggs, and soon.

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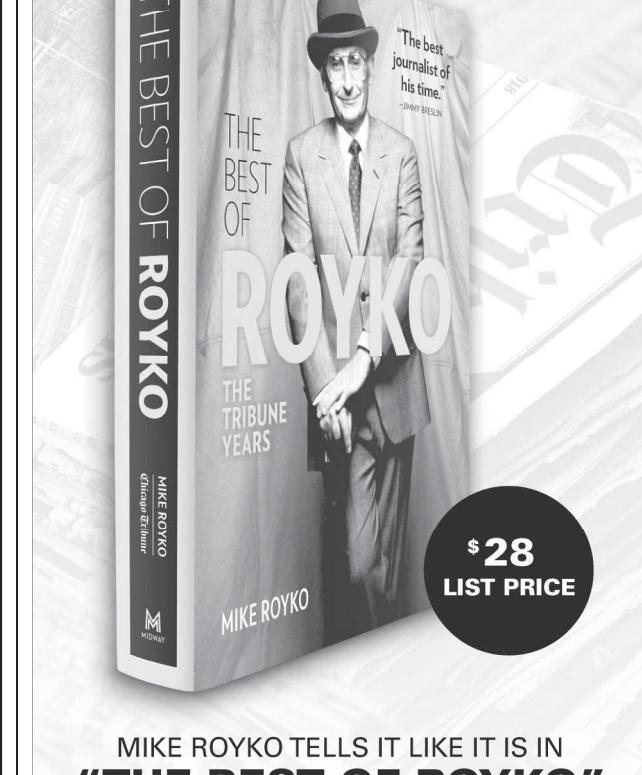
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Goodbye to Shirley Stratton, former first lady of Illinois



MARY SCHMICH

Shirley Stratton died peacefully a few days ago, at the age of 96, in her bedroom in her daughter's home, holding her daughter's hand.

Her name may not sound familiar, but there was a time when everyone around here knew it: Mrs. William Stratton, first lady of Illinois.

Gracious. Proper. Proud to serve.

Shirley Stratton's husband, William, known as Billy the Kid, was the state's 32nd governor, a Republican who held the post from 1953 to 1961. It was an era when women were far less likely than now to have their own paid careers, and Mrs. Stratton threw herself wholeheartedly into the first lady's job.

"My mother was so proud to be the first lady next to my dad," her daughter, Nancy Stratton Taylor, said Tuesday. "She loved her time in the mansion."

Mrs. Stratton, who died Aug. 28, grew up as Shirley Breckenridge, the youngest of three children, in Chicago's Lakeview neighborhood. Her parents divorced when she was a baby and her father died soon afterward. Shortly after high school, she went to work as an executive assistant at an insurance company, a job she reminisced about even when she was much older.

"She loved working at the insurance company," her daughter said, "and years later a friend of theirs said that if she'd been born in a different generation she would have been a corporate CEO."

But Mrs. William Stratton — as she called herself — was born into her generation, one that grew up with the Great Depression and World War II, and she turned her talents in the available directions. When she became first lady at 29, she seemed to enjoy it more than



CHICAGO TRIBUNE ARCHIVE

Illinois first lady Shirley Stratton shows off a Nixon campaign hat, circa 1960.

many governors' spouses do.

"I think she is someone who was extremely well-suited to the role," said Jayne Thompson whose husband, Jim, was governor from 1977 to 1991.

As the state's first lady, she went to state fairs and operas, to downtown and to Chicago. She oversaw elaborate meals in the mansion.

In a 2018 Chicago Sun-Times story, former first lady Diana Rauner, who called her "a spunky, plucky lady now in her 90s," recalled a lunch with her:

"She described a totally different way of life at the mansion, a special room with a private bar staffed 24/7 for legislators. It was like a version of the 'Mad Men' era in the '50s and '60s, keeping notebooks of everything she served — so she never served the same menu twice."

As first lady, Mrs. Stratton also saw the world — because the world came to Illinois. She entertained Queen Elizabeth. She liked to tell the story of how Bob Hope

once popped into the governor's mansion via one of the giant windows. When Elizabeth Taylor visited Chicago for a movie premiere, Stratton rode in the motorcade.

When Mrs. Stratton's time as first lady was up, she applied her energy to other endeavors. At 38, she gave birth to her daughter, Nancy. She devoted herself to many causes, including the Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago and Children's Home & Aid. She nurtured friendships. And she reached out to first ladies who followed.

"The role of first lady is kind of amorphous," said Jayne Thompson. "Most of us don't have a clear idea of what it entails until we assume the role."

For Mrs. Stratton, one thing it entailed was tea.

"Shirley hosted a lot of teas, and it was something that was a very formal presentation," Thompson said, "using the state of Illinois silver service and the state of Illinois china. People

expected if they were invited to tea at the governor's mansion it would be very proper. She had a lot of very high expectations to meet. She more than met them."

Mrs. Stratton was happy to consult on matters of protocol that might elude first ladies who followed. Thompson remembers once being invited to a white-tie event and asking her, "My God, what do I wear?"

"Shirley explained to me what to wear, including white gloves that went above the elbow," Thompson said. "She was always willing to help. She never made me feel silly or dumb."

Mrs. Stratton was known as gracious and proper but not showy or stuffy. She liked a good dress, tasteful jewelry and full makeup. Later in life she also liked walking shoes and yoga pants, though until near the end, she asked her caregivers for her lipstick.

By the time she was in her 90s, her siblings had died. So had many of her friends. Her husband died

in 2001. Even after she moved into the home of her daughter and son-in-law, James Taylor, she stayed active, dedicating herself to volunteer causes and regularly attending the sports games of her granddaughter, Ava Grace.

"She was everyone's nana," her daughter said.

Shirley Stratton's memorial service will be at 11 a.m. Sept. 19 at the First United Methodist Church at the Chicago Temple, 77 W. Washington St., Chicago. It's unlikely, her daughter says, that it will be the standing room-only affair that Gov. William Stratton's was.

"This is not breaking news," her daughter said, adding more than once that she didn't want this column to make her mother sound grandiose.

"I just want to honor her," she said, "She lived her life with such elegance and such pride."

I'd say that's as newsworthy as most of what we call the news.

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Chicago Tribune

CHICAGOLAND

Student charged with hate crime over noose in U. of I. dorm elevator

BY ELIZA FAWCETT

A 19-year-old student at the University of Illinois has been charged with a felony hate crime after a noose was found hanging in an elevator at a residence hall on the Urbana-Champaign campus.

Andrew M. Smith, of downstate Normal, was arrested about 9:30 p.m. Monday after police questioned him. He was charged with committing a hate crime, which is a

felony, and a misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct.

During an arraignment Tuesday afternoon, Champaign County Assistant State's Attorney Kristin Alferink said Smith found some rope in an elevator in Allen Hall over the weekend and tied it into a noose. Other students reported finding the noose early Sunday.

A female friend who was with Smith at the time reported him to author-

ties, and he was taken into custody.

Smith pleaded not guilty and was released on a \$5,000 bail, according to court records. He is scheduled to return to court on Oct. 22.

Defense attorney Audrey Thompson declined to comment on the charges. She said during the hearing that the sophomore, who is majoring in math, has enough credits to graduate this year and has a GPA of 3.79.

University officials said they have communicated with residents and campus community members about available resources, and university housing officials and student affairs staff were available to aid students.

Other racial incidents have inflamed the downstate campus in recent years.

In 2016, someone drew three large swastikas at three campus buildings the same year a university em-

ployee was fired for tossing a noose down on a table in front of a black employee.

Early this year, black employees in the U. of I. system filed a lawsuit saying they were "exposed to threats of racial violence, such as nooses, swastikas, KKK garb, racist graffiti and confederate flags."

The lawsuit also alleged that university staff members used racial slurs and other racially charged language against black workers.

Getaway driver in boy's killing takes plea

BY MEGAN CREPEAU

The getaway driver in the execution-style slaying of 9-year-old Tyshawn Lee pleaded guilty to first-degree murder Tuesday, a week before trial was to begin.

Kevin Edwards, 26, pleaded guilty in exchange for a sentence of 25 years in prison. The first-degree murder charge he pleaded to carries a maximum sentence of 60 years.

Edwards was charged with two other men after Tyshawn was lured into an alley in 2015 and shot to death near his home. His death became the latest example of Chicago's brutal and entrenched cycle of gang violence and retaliation.

Edwards and the other two, Corey Morgan and Dwight Doty, targeted Tyshawn because his father was a member of a rival gang suspected of shooting Morgan's brother, Assistant State's Attorney Thomas Darman said in court Tuesday.

The group went looking for Tyshawn at Dawes Park near the 8000 block of South Damen Avenue, Darman said. "They all intended that harm was to befall Lee on that day," the prosecutor said. "They all knew that he was 9 years old."

Edwards waited in a black Ford Edge while Doty walked with the boy into an alley and shot him in the head, Darman said. Edwards then drove them from the scene.

Edwards' 25-year sentence is five years more than the mandatory minimum. Murder sentences are not eligible for good-behavior credit, but with credit for time served awaiting trial, Edwards will be released in about 22 years.

Upon release, Edwards will have to register for life as a violent offender, Judge Thaddeus Wilson noted. Edwards declined to speak on his own behalf before Wilson imposed the sentence.

Doty and Morgan are expected to select jurors for their trials next week.

The plea is a last-minute reversal for Edwards, who in recent weeks had rejected a similar plea deal. Edwards was the last to be arrested for Tyshawn's death. He was picked up in May 2016 in downstate Vermilion County.

During a bond hearing, Edwards' attorney said his client did not have the mental capacity to have planned the killing, noting that he took special education classes in school.

Judge James Brown denied bail, saying at the time that the case "has shocked the city to its core."

"It's even shocked the nation that a 9-year-old boy could be executed while playing basketball because he was related to a gang member," he said.

In another last-minute twist, Doty was granted permission last week to represent himself at trial. At a separate hearing Tuesday, he was adamant about continuing without his lawyers, even as the judge warned him against it.

"Are you ready for trial?" Wilson asked.

Doty mumbled something, and then spoke up:

"Ready or not."

"You should really reconsider this decision," Wilson said.

Doty is expected back in court Wednesday for prosecutors to hand over more documents related to the case.

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ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Students are welcomed into South Shore Fine Arts Academy for the first day of CPS classes on Tuesday.

Staff preps for strikes as new school year begins for CPS

Possibility of roughly 25,000 teachers and 7,000 workers walking out has potential for large disruption

BY HANNAH LEONE AND JAVONTE ANDERSON

Labor Day is over but the labor disputes in Chicago Public Schools are without a clear end in sight.

As about 350,000 students returned to the classroom Tuesday, teachers began the new year without a contract and with a potential strike looming in just over three weeks.

At the same time, another group of CPS employees — including special education and bus aides, custodians and security officers — has authorized a strike and could also walk off the job this fall without a new contract.

The union representing those roughly 7,000 workers, SEIU Local 73, passed out flyers and stood with signs outside Christopher Elementary on the Southwest Side Tuesday.

"SEIU 73 CPS members won't take another year of poverty wages and disrespect," the union said in a Facebook post, sharing photos of the "informational picket."

But it's the prospect of about 25,000 teachers going on strike as early as Sept. 25 that has the potential for larger-scale disruption.

CPS parent Sara Barnes, who was dropping off her first-grader at South Shore Fine Arts Academy on 70th Street Tuesday, said she'll have to scramble for child care if there's a walkout.

Yet Barnes is supportive of teachers, saying they "deserve a living wage too."

At Armstrong School of

International Studies in West Rogers Park — as many blocks north of the city center as the academy is south — Miguel Munoz was dropping off his two children in the rain.

He was among several parents who said they weren't aware of the potential for a strike. He recalled previous walkouts — the last CTU strike was in 2012 — and said he wanted to learn more about the union's current demands.

"They do go on strike a lot," Munoz said. "We just basically wait it out. I'm supportive of the teachers, of course, because they're the ones teaching the kids. They are taking care of my kids."

As he spoke, bobbing umbrellas streamed in and out of the school, many shaped like cartoon characters. Some children wore "Armstrong Tigers" sweatshirts in blue and yellow.

A young girl peeked out from underneath a blue Stitch umbrella as Armstrong parent Guadalupe Rivera, speaking in Spanish, said she would support the teachers if they went on strike.

The open-enrollment school has a diverse student population, and several languages could be heard spoken among families.

On the other end of the city, South Shore Fine Arts grandparent Felicia Kimbrough said, "Are you kidding me?" when told of a possible strike Tuesday. She questioned the timing and lack of communication to parents.

"They haven't been in school long enough to be talking about a strike," she said. "They could've taken care of this before school started."

Chicago Teachers Union President Jesse Sharkey has said the union is "serious about negotiating" but also that it's "prepared to strike."

And last week, the union rejected an independent fact-finder's recommendation that teachers receive 16% raises over a five-year contract.

Mayor Lori Lightfoot has said the city will match that offer, which she said puts "real money on the table." CPS officials have said such a deal would increase salary spending by \$351 million.

Sharkey has countered that the CTU is trying to make up for "nearly a decade of austerity and cuts" and has requested 15% raises over a three-year pact.

At a news conference at 5 a.m. Tuesday outside Benito Juarez Community Academy in Pilsen, Sharkey said the union was "hard at work this last week."

"And we're going to continue hard at work trying to negotiate a new (contract), and that's important because we're looking forward to a great school year and meeting our students, but we're also looking forward to negotiating a set of terms and conditions that are going to make sure Chicago Public Schools stays great in the years to come," he said.

Describing Juarez as a

great example of a quality neighborhood school, Sharkey said it's lost 11 staff members and hundreds of thousands of dollars in funding over the last year because of spending cuts.

"Know that as you return to school, your teachers are happy to see you, but we're also concerned for the future," Sharkey said.

Sharkey said many issues remain outstanding, including staffing for adequate "wraparound services," a nurse in every school, social workers, fair pay, class size controls and other demands.

"One of the things about the negotiating table is it's always going to be give and take," Sharkey said. "You're not going to see our union making ultimatums. We're going to try to work to get a deal. But there has to be a real commitment to improve the staffing in the schools."

Teachers have been without a contract since July 1.

At the new Englewood STEM High School, Lightfoot and CPS CEO Janice Jackson started the school day with an assembly in the gym, where a red ribbon was tied between posts in front of a stage.

"This is a wonderful day here in Englewood," said Principal Conrad Timbers-Ausar. He called a student to the stage who expressed his excitement to be in the first graduating class and introduced the mayor.

Lightfoot emphasized the STEM school is open enrollment, and listed

some of its offerings, such as college credit opportunities.

"It's you who will be coming up with the next big idea, you who will be inventing the next big thing," Lightfoot told students, who wore navy blue polo shirts and tan pants.

Jackson reminded students this school was for them.

"As you look around, the theme is Afro-centric. Futuristic," Jackson said. "Which really embodies all of the things that we want our children to feel when they come into this building."

But she reminded students a school is only what they make it, and as the first graduating class, they had the power to make it great. "We will be watching you, we will be rooting for you, but this is your school," Jackson said.

Then she announced the official start of the 2019-20 school year, handed a pair of black oversize scissors to the principal, picked up a large gold bell, and rang it. Conrad-Ausar led students in a count of three, then snipped the ribbon.

As the school day came to a close, Lightfoot, Jackson, and Chicago police Superintendent Eddie Johnson started walking students from Wicker Park's Jose De Diego Elementary Community Academy toward their Safe Passage route home.

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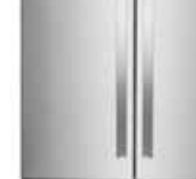
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Waukegan District 60 to add five social workers

Positions came after concerns about caseloads

BY EMILY K. COLEMAN

Waukegan District 60 will hire five new social workers, bringing its staffing nearly to the levels that existed before much criticized cuts in 2017.

The school board unanimously approved the new social workers along with six other positions in the district's special education department, known as the Diverse Learners Department, at its meeting last week.

The move comes just weeks after Waukegan District 60 social workers again raised concerns about staffing levels and workloads.

Social workers don't just work with special education students, said Mark Dalton, a social worker who also spoke in 2017 against proposed social worker cuts. They also work with gen-

eral education students and conduct threat assessments for all students, meaning they look at whether a particular student is a threat to themselves or others.

"When I tell people the ratio of social workers to students, they think that it's insane," Dalton said at the Aug. 13 meeting. "What's also insane is to do the same thing over and over again and expect a different result. This is at least the third time we have been here begging for more social workers."

The 2017 cuts were intended to balance out caseloads, which ranged from 10 to 38 students, said Director of Diverse Learners Gregory Bublitz, who joined the district in July.

The district currently has 33 full-time social workers, down from 40 before the 2017 cuts, according to a presentation made by Bublitz at a recent school board committee meeting.

The plan is to assess social worker staffing levels each year to make sure the

district keeps its staff-to-student ratios in line with state standards, Bublitz said.

Discussions to hire additional social workers started at the end of the school year, but with a new director set to be hired, the actual hires were delayed so he could study the district's needs and ensure it made sense strategically, district spokesman Nick Alajak said.

The five new hires will enable the district to keep up with a rising number of students requiring special education services, and a counselor, he said.

The other new positions include an assistant director of diverse learners, two coordinators and three specialists, including an autism specialist to address that growing population, and an infant and toddler specialist who will help families access early intervention services.

The six new hires are expected to cost an estimated \$456,000, which will be paid for using a variety of grants and local funds, ac-

cording to school board records. The added social workers are estimated to cost an additional \$215,000 to \$250,000.

While several of these new positions won't work directly with students, they'll still have an impact on student success, in particular on addressing the district's problem with misdiagnosing or mislabeling some students, Superintendent Theresa Plascencia said.

The hope is that these hires will help the district ensure students are in the least restrictive environment possible while still meeting their needs by improving communication and workflow so that students across all schools have access to the full array of services, Bublitz said.

For example, the least restrictive setting for a student might be in a general education classroom with an aide, but Waukegan District 60 has them in a special education classroom instead.

The district is also trying to lower the number of students placed in alternative settings instead of a Waukegan District 60 school, Plascencia said.

About 6.5% of Waukegan District 60 special education students went to an alternative school in 2017-18 compared to 5.8% across other unit school districts in the state, according to the district's 2018 School Report Card. About 27% of Waukegan special education students spent less than 40% of their day in general education classroom compared to 13% at other unit districts.

The district has also relied on consultants to do work — like professional development and metric monitoring — that should have been done by in-house leadership, Bublitz said.

One of the newly approved positions includes a transition coordinator, who will work with students in eighth grade up through age 22, when they age out of the school system, Bublitz said.

The goal is that this person will help boost the district's low graduation rate for special education students, while also working to find more independent living and work training options within the community, he said.

The graduation rate for special education students was 53% in 2018, down from 63% in 2017, according to state data.

"I see this role and this area expanding," Bublitz said. The goal would be to make "sure our services are geared toward not just academics and function but independence, independent living, job skills, setting them up so they can advocate for themselves later in life."

He pointed to other large districts, including 12,800-student Community Unit School District 200 in Wheaton or 27,900-student Indian Prairie School District 204, that have separate transition schools plus transition-oriented job coaches and coordinators.

Colleges

Continued from Page 1

college campuses," said Marjorie Betley, senior associate director of admissions and director of the rural program at U. of C. "We do want to make sure all students have access to a college education despite their geography and their ability to pay."

U. of C.'s solution is the Emerging Rural Leaders Program, launched this spring. The program brings high schoolers to campus for college and career coaching, helping to familiarize them with what a major university has to offer. The program also works with counselors and high school administrators from rural areas.

Physical distance from campuses is one challenge, to be sure, but educators say it can be difficult for rural students to even receive basic information about schools. Students also may have fewer opportunities for college-level curricula while in high school and less guidance to navigate the application and financial aid processes.

Rural students also can struggle if they are first in their families to attend college, or if their classmates typically do not attend schools far from home. That requires extra steps from college administrators and recruiters to connect with them.

Illinois colleges that already appealed to rural students are increasing transportation options to their campuses, sending more staff and faculty to high schools and expanding dual enrollment options to help students take college courses while in high school.

National universities such as University of North Carolina system, University of Georgia, Clemson University and Texas A&M have started similar initiatives.

U. of C.'s outreach has been eye-opening for Grace Coppinger of Beaufort, Mo. The 17-year-old is interested in coastal ecology and marine science, and wants a school near the water. While she had already planned to go hundreds of miles away from home, she said visiting U. of C. was "life-changing."

"Colleges need to understand more about rural areas — they are kind of in a bubble," Coppinger said. "I went to UChicago and it was like being thrown into a big ocean of people and being told 'Good luck.' And that's exactly what I needed. It definitely showed me what I want in a college."

Rural students living far from a college could struggle to visit a campus, depending on what transportation is readily available to them. Distance also means recruiters — who target larger pools of candidates — do not visit them.

"Because of the small populations of some of those high schools, some universities may shy away from visiting," said Douglas Freed, undergraduate admissions director at Western Illinois University.



High school students return to the University of Chicago campus after attending a Chicago White Sox game on Aug. 9.



Grace Coppinger was among a group of rural students from around the country who visited the University of Chicago this summer for a three-week program.

"I went to UChicago and it was like being thrown into a big ocean of people and being told 'Good luck.' And that's exactly what I needed."

— Grace Coppinger, 17, of Beaufort, Mo.

Kellee Hill, principal of Tri-Point High School in Cullom, Ill., has experienced that firsthand. Tri-Point has about 100 students.

"Our guidance counselor has done a great job in getting school recruiters to come out to us, but we don't get U.I., we don't get U. of C., we don't get Bradley to come," Hill said.

Being outside a college's typical recruitment territory can translate to less familiarity with the available offerings.

"I very frequently have to clarify to students and parents not only the many differences between the University of Illinois at Chicago and the University of Chicago, but even just clarifying the common rural misunderstanding that they are not the same school," Betley said. "One of the dads in Clarksville, he'd driven two hours from Kentucky to be there. We told him, yes,

no."

Students who live in urban areas, by contrast, learn about schools practically through osmosis, said Quinton Clay, admissions director at Northern Illinois University.

"If you grow up in a metro area, you're seeing billboards and ads of so many different colleges and universities," he said. "Access is simply being exposed without proactively seeking the information."

Boosting in-person visits is one way school officials say they are trying to bridge those gaps. Betley of U. of C. said their admissions team traveled to areas such as Clarksville in northern Tennessee for recruitment events this spring.

"Meeting them where they are really important," Betley said. "One of the dads in Clarksville, he'd driven two hours from Kentucky to be there. We told him, yes,

we could have gone to Nashville, but if we'd been in Nashville, would you have come? He said no."

Joshua Norman, associate vice president in enrollment management at Eastern Illinois University, said the Charleston-based campus plans to launch bus trips to help bring students to campus. Freed of Western Illinois also said officials provide transportation to visit Macomb.

"It's so hard to make a decision about a college to attend without being able to assess if it's a good fit," Norman said. "I feel like that really happens when a student sets foot on campus. Our admissions counselor will be on that bus talking to them all the way from wherever they're at to here."

When campus visits or in-person meetings just aren't feasible, school officials rely on technology.

"You'd be amazed how effective that one-on-one communication with a guidance counselor and a prospective student is even through Zoom," Norman said.

It is not just students and families who can benefit from more information.

Part of the U. of C.'s rural program focused on informing high school counselors and administrators what college admissions officers look for when evaluating applications.

"We got some pointers to help our students be more marketable and stand out," said Amy Kain, Coppinger's principal at Union High.

"We're looking to have a workshop with our teachers but also to give them pointers for recommendation letters."

Hill of Tri-Point learned how school profiles help admissions counselors evaluate students. A transcript could show a student took two advanced placement classes in high school; a school profile could show those were the only AP classes offered and the student maxed out the school's academic options.

"We were completely unaware of that, and that, in part, left our kids at a disadvantage," Hill said.

Betley of U. of C. said that the more administrators and teachers can tell colleges about their schools and students, the better.

"When I look at an application and I see an address from a big city, I'm familiar with those cities," Betley said. "But with a student from Peck, Idaho, I don't have that same familiarity and I don't have any automatic context to work with, so I don't recognize the challenges right off the bat."

Increased outreach has shown promising early results. Norman said freshman commitments from students within 60 miles of Charleston have increased nearly 40% for the fall. Betley said U. of C.'s incoming class comprises 48 stu-

dents from rural areas, up from 30 the year prior.

Attainment of a college degree has spiked in some rural areas as the overall state population also became more educated. One-third of Illinoisans had completed college as of 2017, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

In Menard County, northwest of Springfield, 4.8% of residents in 1970 had completed college. As of 2017, nearly one-fourth of residents had a college degree.

In Hancock County, along the Mississippi River west of Macomb, 6.5% had finished college as of 1970. By 2017, that proportion rose to nearly 20%.

Communication between high schools and colleges also can help with a more intangible hurdle for rural students: perception.

"A lot of times rural students assume they can't go to a larger university or that it wouldn't be a good fit," said Freed, of Western Illinois. "One of the things we really want to confront is that some students may not feel they stack up well academically at Western; but they do."

Kyle Gardner, a senior at Saint Mary's Area High School in northern Pennsylvania, said he never would have considered a school like U. of C. in part because he did not think his test scores were high enough. After completing the summer program and receiving consistent encouragement that test scores were not crucial — the university switched to a test-optimal admissions policy last year — Gardner said Hyde Park is one of his top choices.

"At first, I didn't think I could ever get in. Now I have hope I can," Gardner said. "Even if I don't get into the school with that prestige, I can make the best of it."

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Lightfoot rips Cruz, 'coward Republicans'

BY GREGORY PRATT

Mayor Lori Lightfoot stepped into the national spotlight in a Twitter exchange with U.S. Sen. Ted Cruz, ripping him and "coward Republicans" for not passing new gun laws in response to nationwide violence and telling the Texas Republican to "keep our name out of your mouth" after he criticized Chicago's firearm laws.

Late Monday, the mayor responded to a Cruz tweet that said, "Gun control doesn't work. Look at Chicago. Disarming law-abiding citizens isn't the answer. Stopping violent criminals — prosecuting & getting them off the street — BEFORE they commit more violent crimes is the most effective way to reduce murder rates. Let's protect our citizens."

Through her political account, Lightfoot for Chicago, the mayor tweeted back, "60% of illegal firearms recovered in Chicago come from outside IL — mostly from states dominated by coward Republicans like you who refuse to enact commonsense gun legislation. Keep our name out of your mouth."

She added: "When @tedcruz and the @gop dismiss common sense gun policies, they disrespect victims and their families, who deserve



EVAN VUCCI/AP

Mayor Lori Lightfoot responded to Sen. Ted Cruz, left, after he tweeted "Gun control doesn't work. Look at Chicago."

to live without pain and fear."

On Tuesday, Cruz fired back with a tweet storm of his own.

"Mayor, your anger is misplaced. Virtually every year, Chicago has the most murders of any city in America," Cruz said. "In 2017, the top five were: Chicago (650 murders), Baltimore (343), Philadelphia (317), New York (290), and Los Angeles (286)."

Cruz went on to say all five cities "have had Democratic mayors for decades" and noted, "Chicago is not alone in having neighboring red states."

Maybe, rather than getting angry when others point out the tragically high murder rate in Chicago, you put aside the partisan talk-

ing points & the failed gun-control policies Chicago has pursued for decades," Cruz wrote. "Instead, lock up the violent criminals who are committing murder (and) PREVENT felons & fugitives from illegally buying firearms, and ALLOW law-abiding citizens (who are right now obeying Chicago's prohibition) to exercise their constitutional right to protect their own lives and their families."

Chicago's gun violence has been a frequent target for conservative critics who use it to attack the Democratic Party and push back against gun control proposals. Lightfoot has called for uniform background checks and gun control measures in response to repeated mass shootings

across the country.

As mayor, Lightfoot has not been shy about defending Chicago on the national stage. Last month, she ripped President Donald Trump's daughter, Ivanka Trump, for an inaccurate tweet about Chicago's violence in the wake of El Paso and Dayton mass shootings.

"With 7 dead and 52 wounded near a playground in the Windy City — and little national outrage or media coverage — we mustn't become numb to the violence faced by inner city communities every day," Ivanka Trump tweeted.

A livid Lightfoot responded that Trump got key facts wrong in her online comments and falsely implied that all the injuries happened in one incident. If Ivanka Trump cared, Lightfoot said, she should have reached out to city officials.

"It wasn't a playground, it was a park. It wasn't seven dead. It wasn't 52 wounded in one incident, which is what this suggests. It's misleading," Lightfoot said. "It's important when we're talking about people's lives to actually get the facts correct, which one can easily do if you actually cared about getting it right."

Asked about the original Cruz Twitter exchange after her customary "account-

ability" meeting on Tuesday to review weekend violence with Chicago police, Lightfoot referenced recent mass shootings in Texas and said the senator has more pressing things to do than criticize Chicago.

"Given the tragedy that's happened in Texas over the last few weeks, tragedies plural, it's surprising to me that Senator Cruz would do anything other than work his butt off to better represent the citizens of Texas," Lightfoot said. "There's a great need across this country for federal leadership in particular to step up and come forward with a real plan to deal with the gun violence that we're seeing not only in cities like Chicago but really across the country."

"For him to make a political point, or try to, I should say try to make a political point, out of the horrible tragedy that has been unfolding in Texas is really offensive not just to Chicago but to the people in Texas who are still and will be forever changed because of the violence there," Lightfoot added. "What we ought to do is not try to score political points. We ought to try to come together and solve one of the core problems with gun violence which is this patchwork of systems in different states,

different neighboring states having different systems, because the federal government hasn't stepped up to do its job."

Lightfoot also addressed gun violence in Chicago over the Labor Day weekend, which rose sharply this year with at least 44 people shot, nine of them killed, as Chicago police deployed hundreds fewer officers than last year.

Asked about Labor Day's high shooting toll, Lightfoot said, "In anything regarding crime numbers, you have to take the long view."

"We are going to see weekends where we feel like we're going to tear our hair out because the numbers are trending in exactly the wrong direction," Lightfoot said. "But that's why we have to consistently look at the data, make sure we've got resources to put in the right places, and make adjustments as necessary."

The mayor noted that Chicago crime is "trending in the right direction," with a significant year over year decrease in shootings and homicides, but said "we have a long way to go."

"We're not going to rest and never be satisfied until we become the safest big city in the country," Lightfoot said.

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R. Kelly moved to general population of jail in Chicago

BY JASON MEISNER



After weeks of griping about the circumstances of his incarceration, disgraced R & B singer R. Kelly has been moved to the general population of the federal jail in Chicago while he awaits trial on sexual abuse-related charges, prosecutors said Tuesday.

But prosecutors fought back against claims from Kelly's legal team that Kelly had been held in solitary confinement against his will, writing in a motion that the embattled superstar was recorded on a jailhouse telephone call in July saying he'd refused to go into general population when it was offered.

"If I go to population ... I'm just up on everybody and everybody's up on me, and I'm trying to figure out how to trust that or whatever," Kelly was quoted as saying in the July 19 call, eight days after his arrest.

Later in the same call, Kelly said he'd decided to stay put because he wasn't sure he'd be safe among the jail's regular detainees, according to the filing.

"You know, and that's why, I was like, hmm, too many people up on you and I done seen too many movies, you know, and it's just, and then I'm so popular here, it's like yeah man," Kelly allegedly said.

Prosecutors said Kelly has had three different cellmates in his time at the Metropolitan Correctional Center, despite his lawyers' claims that he's been deprived of virtually all human contact.

They also said Kelly has had access to an indoor recreation area three times a week and has purchased items from the commissary, "including snacks such as Snickers."

U.S. District Judge Harry Leinenweber is scheduled to take up the issue during a hearing Wednesday.

Reached by telephone, Kelly's attorney, Steven Greenberg, said Tuesday that the move was the result of "ongoing" discussions about easing the restrictions of Kelly's confinement.

"We filed a motion with the court, and the jail took the appropriate action and moved him," Greenberg said.

Kelly, 52, has been held without bond at the MCC since July 11, when federal agents arrested him on sexual misconduct charges while he was walking his dog outside his home in the Trump Tower.

His lawyers alleged that the draconian conditions in the Loop high-rise jail's Special Housing Unit have

different neighboring states having different systems, because the federal government hasn't stepped up to do its job."

Lightfoot also addressed gun violence in Chicago over the Labor Day weekend, which rose sharply this year with at least 44 people shot, nine of them killed, as Chicago police deployed hundreds fewer officers than last year.

Asked about Labor Day's high shooting toll, Lightfoot said, "In anything regarding crime numbers, you have to take the long view."

"We are going to see weekends where we feel like we're going to tear our hair out because the numbers are trending in exactly the wrong direction," Lightfoot said. "But that's why we have to consistently look at the data, make sure we've got resources to put in the right places, and make adjustments as necessary."

The mayor noted that Chicago crime is "trending in the right direction," with a significant year over year decrease in shootings and homicides, but said "we have a long way to go."

"We're not going to rest and never be satisfied until we become the safest big city in the country," Lightfoot said.

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Prosecutors said R. Kelly has had access to an indoor recreation area three times a week and the commissary.

unfairly punished Kelly even though he has not been convicted of any of the allegations against him.

It has also seriously hampered his ability to prepare for trial, with his legal team forced to meet with Kelly — who is kept in handcuffs — in a cramped room with no table, just a small shelf with "not enough space to put a piece of paper and have it lie flat," Kelly's attorneys said in a recent motion.

Last week, prosecutors revealed that soon after his arrest, Kelly was written up by jail personnel for refusing to take a cellmate.

"I was told I didn't have to take a cellie and I have too much going on to worry about incident report," Kelly allegedly told jail investigators, who wrote in their report that he had a "poor attitude throughout this investigation."

Kelly was accused in a 13-count federal indictment brought in Chicago of conspiring with two former employees to rig Kelly's 2008 child pornography trial in Cook County by paying off witnesses and victims to change their stories.

The indictment also alleged Kelly, former manager Derrel McDavid and onetime employee Milton "June" Brown paid hundreds of thousands of dollars to recover child sex tapes before they fell into the hands of prosecutors.

A separate federal indictment brought against Kelly in New York accused the singer of racketeering conspiracy, alleging Kelly identified underage girls attending his concerts and groomed them for later sexual abuse.

Kelly is also charged in four separate indictments in Cook County alleging he sexually assaulted one woman and sexually abused three minor girls.

Kelly has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

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Man shot to death prompts student lockdown

Shooting on West Side block was between 2 schools

BY KATHERINE ROSENBERG-DOUGLAS AND MARIE FAZIO

Chicago police were investigating a fatal shooting on a West Side block between an elementary school and a high school Tuesday morning, although the person shot was not believed to be a student, officials said.

About 8:35 a.m., a shooting was detected on the citywide ShotSpotter system, which notifies authorities when gunshots are heard. Officers were dispatched to the 1500 block of South Christiana Avenue in Lawndale to investigate, said Kellie Bartoli, police spokeswoman.

Bartoli said one person was struck by gunfire, and later died. The victim was later identified as Jeremiah Murphy, 28, of the 600



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Investigators collect evidence at the scene of a fatal shooting in the 1500 block of South Christiana Avenue across from North Lawndale College Prep High School on Tuesday.

block of North Leamington Avenue, according to the Cook County medical examiner's office.

The shooting took place between KIPP Ascend Primary, 1440 S. Christiana Ave., and North Lawndale

College Prep High School, 1616 S. Spaulding Ave., on the first day of the new school year for Chicago

Public Schools, but KIPP and North Lawndale had started classes in August. Legacy Charter School, 3318 S. Ogden Ave., also is on the south end of the 1600 block of South Christiana.

The shooting did cause KIPP Ascend to go on lockdown, "during which no one was allowed to enter or exit the building," according to an email from Michael Salmonowicz, the school's chief operating officer.

Salmonowicz said the lockdown was lifted when authorities notified administrators the scene was cleared.

Red and yellow tape blocked off a section of Christiana Street adjacent to the campus shared by North Lawndale College Prep and another charter elementary, the tape moving in the wind as detectives scoured the ground.

Jermaine Sanders, a neighborhood resident, previously worked with students at North Lawndale

College Prep as a teacher's assistant.

"This is one of the main things students have to deal with, live through, be traumatized by," Sanders said.

"Just this morning I saw on Facebook that someone was shot out here, possibly killed and, it's like, our students are going to class at the same time," he said. "It's a constant cycle. Whether this is gang related or not the activities from the summer are going to spill over into the school year."

Sanders said several student groups at North Lawndale College Prep, including Peace Warriors, work to prevent violence in the area. He said he's witnessed shootings in the vicinity of the school before, but "not this fresh, nor first day of school type shootings. This could've easily been a stray bullet across the street."

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ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Lauren Smith, 22, paints a compost bin at her parents' home in Batavia late last month.

Health

Continued from Page 1

ance on Mental Illness), Executive Director Alexa James reports an increase in young people calling the nonprofit's mental health helpline.

"We do need to recognize that there is a mental health crisis among adolescents and young adults," said Jean Twenge, co-author of the recent study in the Journal of Abnormal Psychology and author of the book "iGen: Why Today's Super-Connected Kids Are Growing Up Less Rebellious, More Tolerant, Less Happy — and Completely Unprepared for Adulthood."

"We need to think carefully about how our teens are living now and what might be contributing to these mental health issues."

A striking 13% of young adults — more than 1 in 10 — experienced major depression in the final year of Twenge's study.

Among the explanations suggested by researchers and mental health professionals: societal pressure to achieve at an early age, exposure to trauma and images of peers' success on social media, fewer face-to-face social interactions — and an accompanying increase in loneliness, less sleep and exercise due to factors such as smartphones, and even a reduction in stigma, which may make young people more likely to come forward and be counted.

Celebrities have become increasingly willing to discuss their mental health

"Every few years or so, the standard gets raised: You have to be this good. You have to have this amount of education. You either work your butt off and get a great GPA, or you're kind of just in that group of 'average.' And most of the people in that average group don't get those big, high-end jobs."

— Lauren Smith

problems, with Selena Gomez speaking openly about her struggles with anxiety and depression.

Smith was first diagnosed with depression and anxiety at about age 13, but she was able to function well with the help of a therapist and a supportive family. At Batavia High School, where she was a cheerleader, she enjoyed spending time with friends and participated in choir and theater.

In college at Illinois State University, she majored in psychology, was active in her sorority and worked as a bartender.

A big goal for her — dating to middle school — had been to graduate from college, and this past spring she was almost there. She participated in the graduation ceremony in May, despite still needing four credits to graduate, with the school allowing her to do the remaining coursework online.

Her psychology degree wouldn't open up many job opportunities if she didn't go on to get a master's degree, she said, but she knew that wasn't the right step for her. The problem was, she didn't know what

the right step was.

"There's this sense of, 'What do I do now?' And I think a lot of kids my age are trying to figure that out."

At Central DuPage Hospital, behavioral health counselors Kelly Powell and Nea Cortez said that they're seeing more young people struggling with post-high school and post-college transitions.

"We noticed that it was a big struggle," said Powell. "We were noticing more and more people were either staying at home or coming back home because they were having trouble with the transition."

Smith said her depression got so bad that in June she spent a week as an in-patient in the psychiatric ward at Central DuPage Hospital, a difficult and surreal experience, she said, but one that put her on the right track. She had already been taking medication for depression, but her new psychiatrist prescribed an additional medication for anxiety that was very helpful.

Her psychology degree wouldn't open up many job opportunities if she didn't go on to get a master's degree, she said, but she knew that wasn't the right step for her. The problem was, she didn't know what

cation."

After she left in-patient care, she attended an intensive eight-week outpatient program that included the specialized young adult services added in April.

She learned coping techniques, did individual and group therapy, examined her core values, and worked to break down her big goals into more manageable parts.

There was coaching focused on the particular needs of young people exiting school. Now she's sending out resumes for bartending and waitressing jobs, dating, planning to return to her coursework this winter and even painting again — a passion she gave up during her darkest days.

"Thanks to the (outpatient mental health) program, I would say that I'm totally better now," she said. "It's like a 360-degree turnaround. I just feel like I have this new sense of purpose and positive attitude about life."

Rates of major depression in young adults rose from 8.1% to 13.2% between 2005 and 2017, according to Twenge's study, while the rate in adolescents rose from 8.7% to 13.2%. Rates of serious psychological dis-

tress and suicidal behavior also increased for young adults, with less consistent and weaker increases in adults 26 and over.

Smith believes that a big part of the explanation lies in the societal pressure to achieve academically and professionally.

"Every few years or so, the standard gets raised: You have to be this good. You have to have this amount of education. You either work your butt off and get a great GPA, or you're kind of just in that group of 'average.' And most of the people in that average group don't get those big, high-end jobs," she said.

James, the NAMI executive, said destigmatization may be freeing more people to seek help: "My hope is there's more mental health literacy."

Twenge doesn't think destigmatization is playing a major role in the increase in depression; she points out that people aren't just reporting depression at higher levels; they're attempting suicide at higher rates, a finding that reflects emergency room visits, not a willingness on the part of the individual to disclose an illness.

Twenge also questions the "societal pressure" explanation.

She said pressure to achieve has long been a factor in some small corners of society, but studies indicate that for the vast majority of young people, rising academic expectations aren't the issue. She said eighth graders actually spend less time on homework than in the 1990s, and high school seniors spend

about the same amount of time on homework as they did in the 1990s.

Twenge said the most likely explanation is the rise of smartphones and social media.

The problem with smartphones and social media isn't just the activity itself; it's what screen time replaces, she said. Exercise is linked to lower rates of depression, as is spending time with other people face-to-face, she said, and not getting enough sleep is a major risk factor for mood disorders such as depression.

Teens and entering college students spend an hour less per day on face-to-face socializing than young people in the 1980s, and there has been a sharp increase in loneliness since the 1980s, according to a 2019 study co-authored by Twenge in the Journal of Social and Personal Relationships.

Smith said that she's a big advocate for mental health services, and she hopes her story encourages young people to seek the help they need.

Asked to describe her life now, she smiled: She's calm, she said.

"I've always been this racing-thought kind of person. I've always been like, 'We've got to do this! We've got to do that! What comes next?' For the first time in my life, I feel like I can sit down and breathe and feel like I can be grounded. I feel like I can be anyone I want to be, because I have that sense of calmness, that sense of reassurance."

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ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Family members — including daughter Brittney, widow Connie Payton and son Jarrett — pose under his statue.

Bears

Continued from Page 1

family wanted his for a long time. Just happened to come together in our centennial season. It's just as well. ... As time goes by these are going to be great meeting places: 'Meet me at the Payton statue; meet me at the Halas statue.'

Several of Halas' and Payton's relatives were in attendance, as well as Payton's contemporaries, including Ditka, Dan Hampton, Matt Suhey and Steve McMichael.

In one of several speeches before the unveilings, Ditka reflected on how Halas changed the trajectory of his football career when he drafted him in 1961.

"When I went in Coach Halas told me I was going to play tight end — I didn't know what the hell that was," Ditka said. "And I don't think anybody knew what it was. But he and (assistant) Luke Johnson designed that position, tight end."

"Coach Halas, (Bears quarterback Bill Wade) and Luke changed football. Tight end was just a guy on the end that ended up blocking people. ... It's unbelievable what they do with tight ends today. Now you look at the tight ends in pro football, they look like power forwards in the NBA."

I was so blessed to be in the right position at the right time."

In 2009, Payton's family tried to have a statue of him placed just outside Soldier Field, but the Chicago Park District, which owns the stadium, declined.

Gery Chico, then the Chicago Park District president, said then that he didn't think Soldier Field was the right place. "I don't think that it's in Soldier Field, or even the immediate periphery of Soldier Field," he said. "That is for the memory of honoring our veterans, those who have given their lives."

Payton's survivors agree the timing worked out for



The 12-foot, 3,000-pound statue of George Halas stands outside Soldier Field. It was unveiled Tuesday.

the best.

"Good things to those that wait, right?" said Brittny Payton, Walter and Connie Payton's daughter and Jarrett Payton's sister. "I feel like everything happens for a reason. It's something that we have been working on for years to try get done and getting through the right channels to get it passed."

"It was meant to be this time, this year, 100 years of the NFL, 100 years of the Chicago Bears — what better time to honor two of the all-time greats in Papa Bear Halas and my dad, Sweetness."

"It's surreal," Jarrett Payton said. "When I think about the process to get this thing going, it's been 20 years. We've been waiting for a long time and it kind of went away for a while."

"But it's fitting, right? A 100-year celebration, 20 years to his passing, and now it's going up on a season where Bears fans are super-excited about what the future holds for this organization. ... To be able to see the face and the pose — they got it to a T."

Connie Payton said she and the family were exacting about the pose and every other detail in her late husband's statue.

"We were insistent that we try to get the high-step

in," she said. "The Bears have allowed us to be a part of all of it. ... (Sculptor Chad Fisher) listened to everything we had to say. Like back in May when we went to see the clay sculpture — 'Oh, this is not right.' Walter was really particular about how he wore his socks, his spats, his headband, his towel. He wasn't going out on that field if things weren't just right with the way he looked."

"So we thought, you've got to get this right. We got him all these new details — and he did. He followed, he listened, he studied and he got it right."

Jarrett Payton said the statue symbolizes his father's work ethic, something he shared with the fans who cheered him on.

"Man, it's all the yards that he rushed for," Jarrett Payton said. "Every single yard meant something to him. It wasn't the record, it was what it took to get one yard every single time he was on that football field."

"As a (former) running back, I know how hard it is. ... That's what this city's about: blue-collar hard workers who bring their lunch pails every single day, and they grind and they work and they don't give up. That's what my dad was. Now he's going to be here forever."

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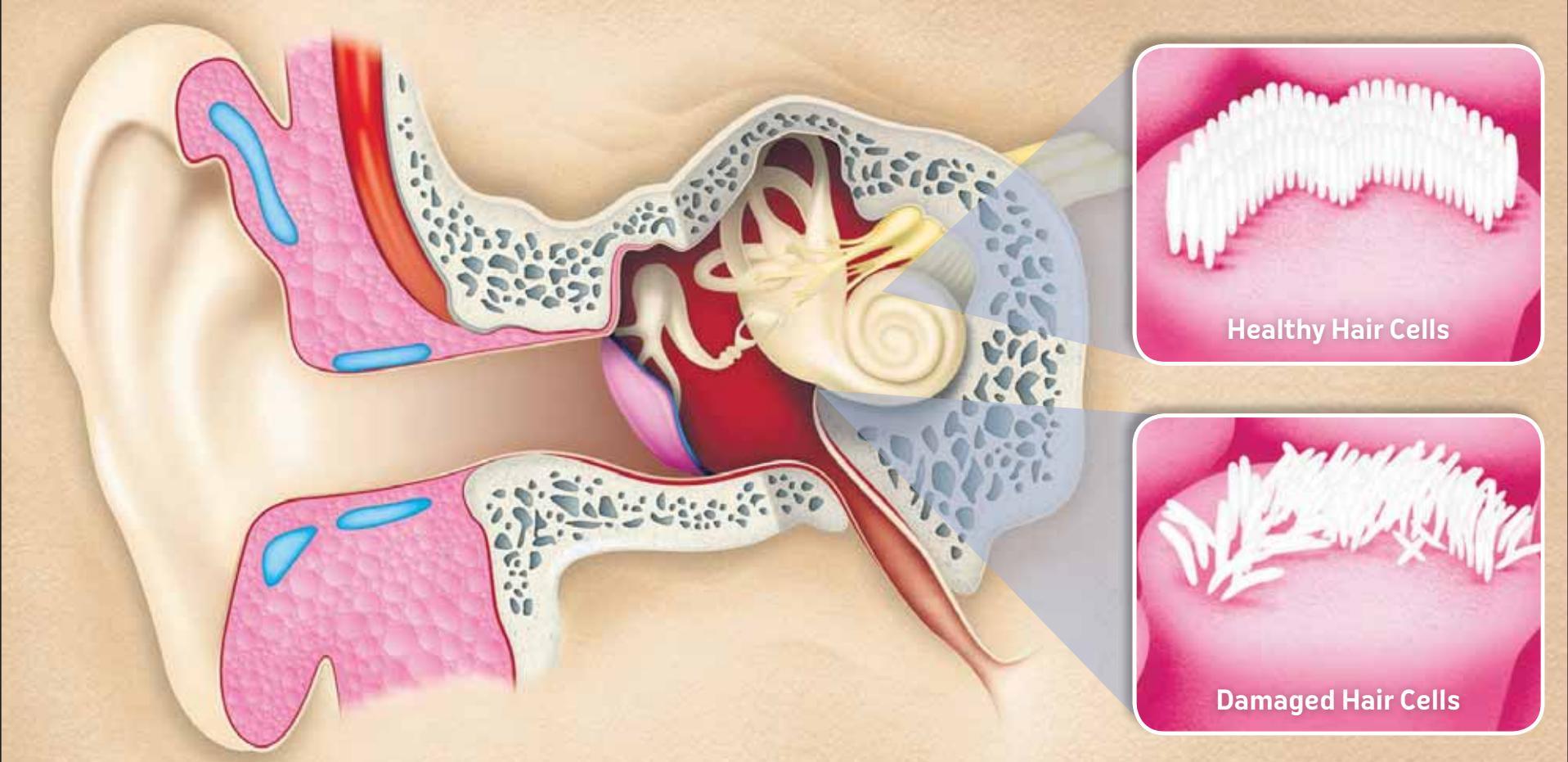
9

TUESDAY

10

WEDNESDAY

11



**Are you among the 1 in 6 adults suffering from hearing loss?
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Do you sometimes feel people are mumbling or not speaking clearly? Do you find it difficult to follow a conversation in a noisy restaurant or crowded room? If so you might be interested in some recent findings.

The most common type of hearing loss is sensorineural, in which the inner ear becomes damaged. Sound travels through the ear canal, the ear drum (tympanic membrane), the middle ear, and is transmitted to the inner ear (cochlea). As sound-generated vibrations enter the cochlea, they cause microscopic hair cells to vibrate which, in-turn, transmit neuro-electrical impulses to the brain. When these hair cells become damaged, they cannot vibrate in the appropriate way. The resulting impulses to the brain are damped or garbled, making comprehension difficult or impossible. Damage to hair cells is irreparable. But compensation is possible.

It took years for your brain to learn to interpret the meaning of sounds. If the neurons that carry signals to the brain are experiencing prolonged lack of stimulation because of damaged hair cells (**auditory deprivation**), they degenerate, leaving dead regions where certain sound frequencies can no longer be interpreted. In other words, “**use it or lose it**” applies to hearing too. Fortunately, recent advances in digital hearing technology make it possible to detect damaged and dead regions within the inner ear. Using “visual speech mapping” and “real ear measurement” processes, the highly trained audiologists and hearing instrument specialists at AccuQuest Hearing Centers (a national network of over 150 locations) can target regions of frequency loss and compensate for damaged hair cells. This targeted stimulation of neurons can aid in making speech comprehensible again.

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Chicago Tribune

NATION & WORLD

Johnson to call for new general election

Opposition poised to take Brexit agenda from embattled PM

BY DANICA KIRKA AND GREGORY KATZ
Associated Press

LONDON — On a day of humiliating setbacks, British Prime Minister Boris Johnson suffered a major defeat in Parliament on Tuesday night as rebellious lawmakers voted to seize control of the Brexit agenda, prompting the embattled prime minister to say he would call for a new general election.

The 328-301 vote, made possible by fellow Conservatives who turned their back on Johnson's pleas, cleared the way for Johnson's opponents to introduce a bill Wednesday that would seek to prevent Britain from leaving the European Union without a deal Oct. 31. It was a momentous day in Britain's centuries-old Parliament as the legislature rose up to successfully challenge the power of the prime minister and his government over Brexit policy.

Even if they can force Johnson to seek a delay to that deadline, any extension would have to be approved by each of the other 27 EU nations.

The cross-party rebels are determined to prevent a "no-deal" Brexit because of fears it would gravely damage the economy and plunge Britain into a prolonged recession while also leading to possible medicine and food shortages. The vote came hours after Johnson suffered a key defection from his party, costing him his working majority in Parliament.

On a day of high drama and acerbic debate in the House of Commons, lawmakers returned from their summer recess to confront Johnson over his insistence that the United Kingdom leave the EU on Oct. 31, even



VUDI XHYMSHITI/AP

A pro-Brexit supporter holds up a sign near opposition protesters Tuesday in London. Critics warn that a no-deal Brexit would devastate the economy.



LEAL-OLIVAS DANIEL/PA WIRE

Lawmakers in the House of Commons shouted for Boris Johnson to resign.

without a withdrawal deal to cushion the economic blow. Many shouted, "Resign!" and protesters gathered outside Parliament to call for Britain to remain in the EU.

A new general election would take Britain's future to the people for a third general election in four

years. It is not clear he would get the two-thirds majority in Parliament needed to call a fresh vote because opponents are wary he might postpone the election date until after Brexit has taken place.

"I don't want an election but if MPs vote tomorrow to stop the negotiations and to compel another pointless delay of Brexit, potentially for years, then that will be the only way to resolve this," Johnson said minutes after he lost the vote in Parliament.

Earlier Tuesday, two other prominent Conservatives signaled their intention not to seek reelection rather than bend to Johnson's will.

Former Cabinet minister

Justine Greening and former Foreign Office Minister Alistair Burt also signaled their intention to stand down.

Jeremy Corbyn, leader of the main opposition Labour Party, lambasted the weakened Johnson and accused him of "riding roughshod" over the constitution in order to crash Britain out of the EU without a deal.

He said he will not agree to a new election until legislation preventing a "no-deal" exit is in place.

Johnson, who became prime minister in July, has tried to crack down on members of his Conservative Party who oppose his Brexit plans, warning they would be expelled from the party if they supported par-

liamentary efforts to block or delay the withdrawal.

Dominic Grieve, who was attorney general in David Cameron's government, says the expulsion threats demonstrate Johnson's "ruthlessness."

Greening said she feared her beloved party was "morphing into Nigel Farage's Brexit Party."

Former Treasury chief Philip Hammond warned of the "fight of a lifetime" if officials tried to prevent him from running in the next election.

Hammond said he expected a procedural motion to take control of business. If it passed, a vote to block a no-deal would be considered Wednesday.

Time to block a "no-deal"

departure is running short. Johnson last week maneuvered to give his political opponents even less time to block a chaotic no-deal Brexit, getting Queen Elizabeth II's approval to suspend Parliament. His outraged critics sued, and attorneys arguing the case at a court in Scotland completed submissions Tuesday.

The judge could rule as soon as Wednesday.

A no-deal Brexit will sever decades of seamless trade with Europe's single market of 500 million people. Economists warn of disruptions in commerce, and the U.N. trade agency UNCTAD estimated a no-deal Brexit will result in U.K. export losses of at least \$16 billion.

McConnell says he's waiting for Trump to chart gun path

BY MATTHEW DALY
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congressional Republicans are waiting for the White House to chart a path forward on gun violence legislation, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said Tuesday, effectively putting the burden on President Donald Trump to decide the GOP's legislative response to the spate of mass shootings that included another deadly attack in Texas over the weekend.

Asked about prospects for a Senate vote on legislation passed by the Democratic-controlled House to expand background checks for gun purchases, McConnell said, "The administration is in the process of studying what they're prepared to support, if anything."

The Kentucky Republican said he expects an answer from the White House next week, adding that he wants to make sure that senators "would actu-

ally be making a law and not just having serial votes" on proposals to stem gun violence.

McConnell's comments point to the challenge ahead as Congress returns to a gun debate that emerged during their summer recess, when mass shootings in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio, left 31 people dead.

While Trump has said he wants to work with Congress to "stop the menace of mass attacks," he's waffled on support for expanding background checks, making the next steps uncertain.

Trump and other Repub-

licans have talked of pursuing other measures to address mental health or codify "red flag" laws that allow guns to be taken from people who pose harm to themselves or others, but even those measures face skepticism among GOP lawmakers.

If Trump favors background checks or other legislation he has discussed publicly in recent weeks, and senators "know that if we pass it it'll become law," then he'll put it on the Senate floor for a vote, McConnell told radio host Hugh Hewitt.

Trump in a tweet Tuesday urged Congress to "get back to work," but omitted any reference to guns, focusing instead on prescription drug prices, health care and infrastructure.

Trump said Sunday that any gun measure must satisfy the competing goals of protecting public safety and the constitutional right to gun ownership.

"For the most part, sadly, if you look at the last four or five (shootings) going back even five or six or seven years as strong as you make your background checks, they would not have stopped any of it," Trump said. "So it's a big problem. It's a mental problem. It's a



LUKE SHARRETT/GETTY

An activist expresses her displeasure Aug. 6 outside the office of Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., in Louisville after mass shootings in Texas and Ohio.

big problem."

Trump mentioned the need for "strong measures to keep weapons out of the hands of dangerous and deranged individuals" along with changes to a mental health system he described as "broken."

Sen. Chris Murphy, a gun control supporter, said

Trump has told him that he remains committed to

working on expanded background checks legislation.

Even so, the Connecticut Democrat rates the chance of Congress approving anything at "less than 50-50," especially if Trump appears willing "to give the NRA veto power" over legislation supported by Murphy and other Democrats, along with a handful of Republicans such as Pennsylvania

Sen. Pat Toomey.

Toomey and Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., are seeking to revive a bill they have long pushed to expand background checks for gun purchases.

A package of bills Murphy supports would strengthen background checks and incentivize states to pass "red flag" laws.

After latest shooting, Trump pushes Facebook ads defending gun rights

BY ISAAC STANLEY-BECKER
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — From the White House lawn on Sunday, President Donald Trump promised a package of laws to address the scourge of gun violence.

But in advertisements that went up on Facebook Monday, the president delivered a pointed warning about the prospects of reforming the nation's gun laws, telling a select group of voters that Democrats

were intent on repealing the Second Amendment and asking them to sign their names to a petition to defend gun rights.

"Democrats have finally admitted what they truly want: a repeal of the Second Amendment," reads one variation of the ad, which went up two days after Saturday's shooting in two Texas towns left seven dead and 22 wounded. "It's up to the American people to stand strong and defend our freedoms."

The ads illuminate how

targeting techniques offered by Facebook and other platforms allow Trump to sound one note from the White House lawn and a different note to a hand-picked group of internet dwellers. The base gets one message; everyone else gets another.

Some versions include a video with foreboding music and a promise that, "Your Second Amendment will NEVER BE REPEALED." An invitation to sign what the ads bill as the "Official Defend the Second

Amendment Petition" flashes in red. Users who comply are asked to enter their names, email addresses and ZIP codes, with the option to add a mobile number.

The ads, sponsored by Trump's official Facebook page, were paid for by the Trump Make America Great Again Committee, a joint national fundraising committee run by the Trump campaign and the Republican National Committee.

"The messaging (of the

ads) is straight from the NRA playbook, painted in as dire and apocalyptic terms as they can muster," said Robert Spitzer, a political scientist at SUNY Cortland and the author of five books on gun policy.

The ads were targeted at users across a broad swath of the country, but appeared to be concentrated in certain left-leaning states with a sizable population of gun owners, such as Oregon and Washington, as well as a handful of Midwestern states, including Michigan

and Ohio.

One version appears only to men between the ages of 45 and 54 in Louisiana, which is exceptionally specific, said Laura Edelson, a researcher at New York University's Tandon School of Engineering who studies advertising on social media.

The Trump campaign did not return a request about the timing of the ads and whether they were specifically tied to fresh calls for gun control following the shooting in west Texas.



FREDERIC J. BROWN/GETTY-AFP

Jennifer Stafford adds water to flowers at a memorial Tuesday in Santa Barbara, Calif.

34 presumed dead as search ends for survivors in boat fire

BY STEFANIE DAZIO

Associated Press

SANTA BARBARA, Calif. — No one likely escaped the flames that tore through a boat packed with scuba divers, with all 34 people sleeping below deck presumed dead during a Labor Day weekend expedition off the Southern California coast, authorities said Tuesday as they called off the search for survivors.

Santa Barbara County Sheriff Bill Brown said no one has been found alive after fire engulfed the dive boat early Monday. Flames blocked an escape hatch and a stairwell leading to the sleeping area crowded with passengers on a recreational scuba diving trip.

Santa Barbara County Fire Chief Mark Hartwig told reporters that the victims' relatives "will rely on us to do everything in our power to find out what happened aboard that vessel in the last moments of these family members' lives. That's our commitment."

Five crew members sleeping on the top deck were able to escape by jumping off and taking a small boat to safety.

The fire that engulfed

the *Conception* likely killed all 33 passengers and one crew member who was below deck, the sheriff said. Investigators have not determined how the fire erupted.

The bodies of 20 victims have been recovered, and divers have seen other bodies in the sunken wreckage, the sheriff said. Authorities are trying to stabilize the boat that sank in about 60 feet of water so divers can recover those remains.

Most need to be identified by DNA analysis and officials are collecting samples from family members, Brown said.

One passenger, marine biologist Kristy Finstad, 41, was identified in a Facebook post by her brother, Brett Harmeling, of Houston.

"Please pray for my sister Kristy!! She was leading a dive trip on this boat," Harmeling wrote.

The sheriff says the majority of the victims appear to have been from Northern California.

The boat had departed Santa Barbara Harbor on Saturday and the fire broke out about 3 a.m. Monday while it was anchored off Santa Cruz Island, about 90 miles west of Los Angeles.

The crew appeared to quickly call for help.

"The call was garbled, it was not that clear, but we were able to get some information out of it to send vessels," Coast Guard Petty Officer Mark Barney said.

The 75-foot *Conception* was on a three-day excursion to the isles that form Channel Islands National Park in the Pacific Ocean west of Los Angeles.

The *Conception*, based in Santa Barbara Harbor on the mainland, was owned by Santa Barbara-based Truth Aquatics, founded in 1974. A memorial outside Truth Aquatics in the Santa Barbara Harbor grew Tuesday as mourners came to pay their respects.

Dave Reid, who runs an underwater camera manufacturing business with his wife, Terry Schuller, has traveled on the *Conception* and two other boats in Truth Aquatics' fleet, and said he considered all three among the best and safest.

"When you see the boats they are always immaculate," he said. "I wouldn't hesitate at all to go on one again. Of all the boat companies, that would be one of the ones I wouldn't think this would happen to."

Taliban defend deadly attack in Kabul on cusp of US deal

BY RAHIM FAIEZ
AND CARA ANNA
Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — The Taliban on Tuesday defended their suicide bombing against an international compound in the Afghan capital that killed at least 16 people and wounded 119, almost all local civilians, just hours after a U.S. envoy said he and the militant group had reached a deal "in principle" to end America's longest war.

Angry Kabul residents whose homes were shredded in the explosion climbed over the buckled blast wall and set part of the compound, a frequent Taliban target, on fire. Thick smoke rose from the Green Village, home to several foreign organizations and guesthouses, whose location has become a peril to nearby local residents as well.

"People were screaming and saying, 'My children are trapped in the rubble,'" one witness, Faiz Ahmad, said. A large crater was left in the street from a tractor packed with explosives. Five militants were killed in the Monday night attack and some 400 foreigners rescued, Interior Ministry spokesman Nasrat Rahimi said.

The Taliban continue to kill Afghan civilians in attacks they say are meant for foreign "invaders" or the Afghan government, apparently sacrificing the support of the people they might wish to rule, even as the U.S. envoy says the deal with the insurgents only needs the approval of President Donald Trump to become a reality. The accord would include a troop withdrawal that the Taliban already portray as their victory.

Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said that "we understand that peace talks are going on,



GETTY-AFP

Afghan forces keep watch as municipal workers clean up a blast site Tuesday in Kabul.

and if we enter into talks we enter from a strong position."

He said the attack was a response to raids by U.S. and Afghan forces on civilians across the country.

Questions are growing among some in Washington about the dangers of trusting the Taliban to make peace.

On Tuesday, several former U.S. ambassadors to Afghanistan warned in a joint statement published by the Atlantic Council that "it is not clear whether peace is possible," saying the Taliban have "made it clear that the war will go on

against the Afghan government." Khalilzad had showed a draft deal to the Afghan president after declaring that they are "at the threshold of an agreement" following the end of the ninth round of U.S.-Taliban talks in Qatar.

Khalilzad has not commented publicly since the blast, which rocked Kabul as many residents watched him speak in a nationally televised interview about the deal and Afghanistan's future.

Shaken Kabul residents questioned whether the Taliban will respect any agreement, especially after foreign troops withdraw.

"This what the Taliban are up to in Afghanistan; totally committed to total destruction. Can they be trusted!?" presidential spokesman Sediq Seddiqi tweeted.

The Taliban want all of the 20,000 U.S. and NATO troops out of Afghanistan immediately, while the U.S. seeks a withdrawal in phases that would depend on the Taliban meeting certain conditions.

The Taliban are at its strongest point since the U.S.-led invasion after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. The Taliban control or hold sway over roughly half of Afghanistan.

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'Champion of Justice and Freedom'

Aaron Burr's secret son, John Pierre Burr, finally recognized with new headstone

BY HANNAH NATANSON
The Washington Post

Within a week of her arrival at Princeton University, Sherri Burr received a puzzling phone call.

The caller, another student, said Sherri was invited to a Burr family meeting — "Burr" as in Aaron Burr, the third vice president of the United States and villain of "Hamilton," the astronomically popular musical. Aaron Burr's father co-founded Princeton, the caller told her, so all descendants who attend the school are summoned to regular gatherings.

"I took a look down at my brown skin and thought, 'Well, that doesn't apply to me,'" said Sherri Burr, who was getting her graduate degree from Princeton. "So I never went."

Decades later, she learned the truth. Sherri Burr, a 59-year-old professor at the University of New Mexico, is descended from John Pierre Burr, who is almost certainly Aaron Burr's son. John Pierre is the most prominent member of a larger family of color whom Burr kept secret and who flew under the historical radar — except as titillating gossip — until now.

After years of extensive digging inspired by a desire to know more about her ancestry, Sherri Burr concluded that John Pierre's long-rumored parentage was legitimate. According to her findings, Aaron Burr fathered two children, John Pierre and a girl, Louisa Charlotte, with a woman of color named Mary Emmons, who hailed from Kolkata, India, and worked as a servant in the Burrs' home for several years.

Last year, Sherri Burr joined the Aaron Burr Association, a Maryland-based society of descendants and history buffs that works to understand and promote

Aaron Burr's life and legacy. After she presented her research to the association at its annual meeting in September, the nonprofit group voted unanimously to acknowledge that John Pierre was Aaron Burr's son. Historians contacted by The Washington Post said the evidence Sherri Burr collected seems convincing.

On Aug. 24, the association took things one step further: Some of its roughly 75 members gathered in a historic black cemetery in a Philadelphia suburb to install a headstone declaring John Pierre's ancestry on what is now an unmarked grave. The stone also celebrates John Pierre's accomplishments: He was a barber, a prominent member of Philadelphia's elite black society (he married a free black woman). He also was a crucial leader in the city's leg of the Underground Railroad. The installation is timed to coincide with the 400th anniversary of enslaved Africans' arrival in North America.

"Champion of Justice and Freedom," the headstone reads in white italics on shiny black granite. "Conductor on the Underground Railroad. Son of Vice-President Aaron Burr."

Stuart Fisk Johnson, the president of the Aaron Burr Association and a descendant of Aaron Burr, said the recognition is long overdue.

"A few people didn't want to go into it because Aaron's first wife, Theodosia, was still alive, and dying of cancer" when Aaron Burr fathered John Pierre, Johnson said. "But the embarrassment is not as important as it is to acknowledge and embrace actual living, robust, accomplished children."

Annette Gordon-Reed, a Harvard professor whose Pulitzer Prize-winning scholarship led to widespread acceptance of



HANNAH NATANSON/WASHINGTON POST PHOTOS

The new headstone for John Pierre Burr lists his parentage and describes his achievements, including his vital service to the Underground Railroad in Philadelphia.



Stuart Johnson, a descendant of Aaron Burr, embraces his newfound relation Sherri Burr, another descendant.

Thomas Jefferson's relationship with the enslaved Sally Hemings, said she had heard rumors that Aaron Burr had a son of color, but this "is not something that is generally known."

Though Lin-Manuel Miranda's Broadway musical portrayed Burr as an unprincipled foil to Alexander Hamilton, the academic "jury is still out" on whether the third vice president was truly wicked, Gordon-Reed said. Either way, she said, he shaped the fate of the country by delivering votes to Thomas Jefferson in the 1800 presidential election, was a "pivotal figure" in New York history and at one

point almost became president himself. But for over 200 years, Burr has been best known for murdering his rival in a duel.

The revelation of John Pierre's parentage could alter the way people write about Aaron Burr going forward, Gordon-Reed said. "There are a lot of stories that we don't know about members of the founding generation," she said.

The reality that emerges from Sherri Burr's new research is complex.

Mary Emmons originally came to the United States to work as a servant in the household of British officer Jacques Marcus Prevost and

Theodosia Bartow Prevost, who — after a secret affair and Jacques Prevost's death — became the wife of Aaron Burr.

When Theodosia married Burr and moved to a new home in New York in the early 1780s, Emmons followed her. That's likely where she got to know Aaron Burr, a known lady's man with a voracious sexual appetite. (The former vice president is "to this day ... known principally as a rake," Isenberg wrote in "Fallen Founder.")

Burr's first child with Theodosia was born in 1783; his first child with Emmons, Louisa Charlotte, was born about five years after that. John Pierre was born in circa 1792.

It does not appear that Burr kept both families in the same house, Sherri Burr said. Around the time of Louisa Charlotte and John Pierre's births, Emmons was living in Philadelphia, at the place Aaron Burr stayed while doing work for in the U.S. Senate (which met at the time in Philadelphia's Congress Hall). Burr served as a senator from New York between 1791 and 1797.

It seems certain that Lou-

isa Charlotte and her brother knew about their half siblings, though. In the course of her study, Sherri Burr unearthed a letter — kept in Aaron Burr's personal papers in Philadelphia — that Louisa Charlotte sent to Aaron Burr at an unknown date.

"Will you have the goodness to lend me the Miniature of my beloved Theodosia," Louisa Charlotte wrote, referring to Aaron Burr's daughter. She concluded: "With kind remembrance from all the family — believe Me always ... sincere and affectionate."

That letter is one of several key pieces of evidence that led Sherri Burr and the Aaron Burr Association to believe John Pierre and Louisa Charlotte are indeed Aaron Burr's children. Another is genetic testing: Using an Ancestry.com kit, Sherri Burr found ties between her DNA and that of Stuart Johnson that can be explained by only a shared descent from Aaron Burr.

At the Aug. 24 ceremony, black and white descendants of Aaron Burr sat crowded under a green tent alongside historians, a pastor and a local politician. They were accompanied by a five-member Color Guard dressed in Revolutionary War uniforms — complete with tan breeches, white gloves and black buckle shoes.

Johnson, Sherri Burr and a handful of others took turns speaking on Aaron Burr's legacy, John Pierre's fervent advocacy against slavery and the importance of promoting an unvarnished picture of history.

Johnson and Sherri Burr together raised a black cloth to reveal the shiny new headstone.

"From henceforth I hope John Pierre Burr is never again referred to as 'the natural son' or 'the illegitimate son,' but is simply referred to as 'the son,'" Sherri Burr said, spurring applause.



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Can Olympics help Fukushima rebound?

8 years after nuke disaster, fear and wariness prevail as Tokyo hosts

BY DAVID WHARTON
Los Angeles Times

FUKUSHIMA, Japan — An hour north of Tokyo by way of bullet train, the land is lush and green, framed by thickly wooded mountains in the distance.

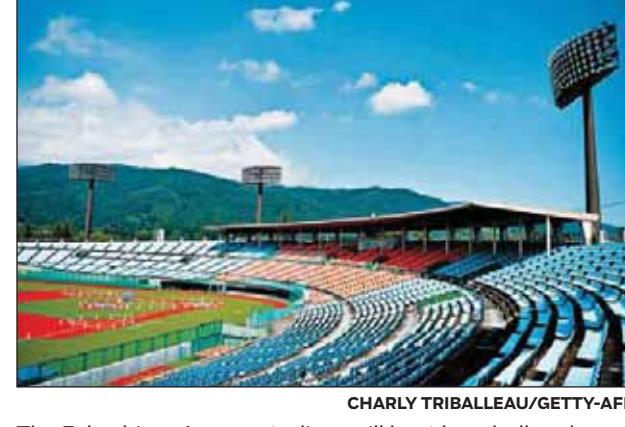
This vast rural prefecture in northeast Japan was once renowned for its fruit orchards, but much has changed.

"There has been a bad reputation here," a local government official said.

Since the spring of 2011, the world has known Fukushima for the massive earthquake and tsunami that killed approximately 16,000 people along the coast. Flooding triggered a nuclear plant meltdown that forced hundreds of thousands more from their homes.

As the recovery process continues nearly a decade later, organizers of the 2020 Summer Games say they want to help.

Under the moniker of the "Reconstruction Olympics," they have plotted a torch relay course that begins near the crippled Fukushima Daiichi plant and continues through adjacent prefectures — Miyagi and Iwate — affected by the disaster. The region will host games in baseball, soft-



The Fukushima Azuma stadium will host baseball and softball at the 2020 Summer Olympics in Japan.

ball and soccer next summer.

"We are hoping that, through sports, we can give the residents new dreams," said Takahiro Sato, director of Fukushima's office of Olympic and Paralympic promotions. "We also want to show how far we've come."

The effort has drawn mixed reactions, if only because the so-called "affected areas" are a sensitive topic in Japan. Some people worry about exposure to lingering radiation; they accuse officials of whitewashing health risks.

Critics also question spending millions on sports while communities are still rebuilding.

"The people from that area have dealt with these issues for so long and so deeply, the Olympics are kind of a transient event," said Kyle Cleveland, an associate professor of sociology at Temple University's campus in Japan. "They're going to see this as a public relations ploy."

It was midafternoon in March 2011 when a 9.0 earthquake struck at sea, sending tsunamis racing toward land.

The initial crisis focused on the coastline, where thousands were swept to their deaths. But another concern soon arose as floodwaters shut down the power supply and reactor cooling systems at the Fukushima Daiichi plant.

Three of the facility's six reactors suffered fuel meltdowns, releasing radiation into the ocean and atmosphere.

Residents within a 12-mile "exclusion zone" were forced to evacuate; others in places such as Fukushima city, about 38 miles inland, fled as radioactive particles traveled by wind and rain.

The populace began to

question announcements from the Tokyo Electric Power Co. (Tepco) about the scope of the contamination, said Cleveland, who is writing a book on the catastrophe and its aftermath.

"In the first 10 weeks, Tepco was downplaying the risk," he said. "Eventually, they were disassembling and lying."

The company has been ordered to pay millions in damages, and three former executives have been charged with professional negligence. Crews have removed massive amounts of contaminated soil, washed down buildings and roads, and begun a decadeslong process to extract fuel from the reactors' cooling pools.

All of which left the area known as the "Fruit Kingdom" in limbo.

It is assumed that low-level radiation increases the chances of adverse health effects such as cancer, but the science can be complicated.

Reliable data on radiation risks are difficult to obtain, said Jonathan Links, a public health professor at Johns Hopkins University. And, with cosmic rays and other sources emitting natural or "background" ionizing radiation, it can be difficult to pinpoint whether an acceptable threshold for additional, low-level exposure exists at all.

In terms of athletes and coaches visiting the affected prefectures for a week or two during the

Olympics, Links said the cancer risk is proportional, growing incrementally each day.

The Japanese government has raised what it considers to be the acceptable exposure from 1 millisievert to 20 millisieverts per year. Along with this adjustment, officials have declared much of the region suitable for habitation, lifting evacuation orders in numerous municipalities.

Housing subsidies that allowed evacuees to live elsewhere have been discontinued.

But some towns remain nearly empty.

"People are refusing to go back," said Katsuya Hirano, a UCLA associate professor of history who has spent years collecting interviews for an oral history. "Especially families with children."

Their hesitancy does not surprise Cleveland. Though research has led the Temple professor to believe conditions are safe, he knows that residents have lost faith in the authorities.

"That horse has left the barn," he said. "It's not coming back."

With infrastructure repairs continuing throughout the region, evacuee Akiko Morimatsu has a skeptical view of the Tokyo 2020 campaign.

"They have called these the 'Reconstruction Games,' but just because you call it that doesn't mean the region will be recovered," Morimatsu said.

Concerns about radiation prompted her to leave the Fukushima town of Koriyama, outside the mandatory evacuation zone, moving with her two young children to Osaka. Her husband, a doctor, remained; he visits the family once a month.

"The reality is that the region hasn't recovered," said Morimatsu, who is part of a group suing the national government and Tepco. "I feel the Olympics are being used as part of a campaign to spread the message that Fukushima is recovered and safe."

This sentiment is balanced with other forces at work in Japanese culture, where the Olympics and baseball, in particular, are widely popular. Masa Takaya, a spokesman for the Tokyo 2020 Organizing Committee, insists that "sports can play an important role in our society."

In Fukushima, a city of fewer than 300,000, colored banners fly beside the highway amid other signs of anticipation.

Elderly volunteers, plucking weeds from a flower bed at the train station, wear pink vests that express their support for the Games.

Sato, the Fukushima office director, remains optimistic.

"Everyone's circumstances are different," he said. "Maybe there will be some people who come back to Fukushima because of this."

Dorian

Continued from Page 1

children and adults in its digger as it cut through deep muddy waters and carried them to safety.

One rescuer gently scooped up an elderly man in his arms and walked toward a pickup truck waiting to evacuate him and others to higher ground.

Practically parking over a portion of the Bahamas for a day and a half, Dorian pounded the northern islands of Abaco and Grand Bahama with winds up to 185 mph and torrential rain before finally moving into open waters Tuesday on a course for Florida. Its winds were down to a still-dangerous 110 mph.

More than 2 million people along the coast in Florida, Georgia and North and South Carolina were warned to evacuate.

While the threat of a direct hit on Florida had all but evaporated, Dorian was expected to pass dangerously close to Georgia and South Carolina — and perhaps strike North Carolina — on Thursday or Friday.

Even if landfall does not occur, the system is likely to cause storm surge and severe flooding, the U.S. National Hurricane Center said.

Dorian is scraping the central part of Florida's east coast as it tracks offshore.

As of 8 p.m. EDT, the U.S. National Hurricane Center said Dorian is now about 110 miles east of Cape Canaveral, Florida. Maximum sustained winds are being clocked at 110 mph. It's moving to the northwest at 6 mph.

The coastline from north of West Palm Beach, Florida, through Georgia was expected to get 3 to 6 inches of rain, with 9 inches in places, while the Carolinas could get 5 to 10 inches and 15 in spots, the National Hurricane Center said.

"Don't tough it out. Get



Volunteers using small boats and Jet Skis rescue families Tuesday near the Causarina Bridge in Freeport, Bahamas.

out," said Federal Emergency Management Agency official Carlos Castillo.

In the Bahamas, Red Cross spokesman Matthew Cochrane said more than 13,000 houses, or about 45% of the homes in Grand Bahama and Abaco, were believed to have been severely damaged or destroyed.

U.N. officials said more than 60,000 people on the hard-hit islands will need food, and the Red Cross said about 62,000 will need clean drinking water.

"What we are hearing lends credence to the fact that this has been a catastrophic storm and a catastrophic impact," Cochrane said.

Abaco and Grand Bahama islands, with a combined population of about

said.

Lawson Bates, a staffer for Arkansas-based Medic-Corps, flew over Abaco and said: "It looks completely flattened. There's boats way inland that are flipped over. It's total devastation."

The Red Cross authorized a half-million dollars for the first wave of disaster relief, Cochrane said.

U.N. humanitarian teams stood ready to go into the stricken areas to help assess the damage and the country's needs, U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said. The U.S. government also sent a disaster response team.

Abaco and Grand Bahama islands, with a combined population of about

70,000, are known for their marinas, golf courses and all-inclusive resorts.

To the south, the Bahamas' most populous island, New Providence, which includes the capital city, Nassau, and has over a quarter-million people, suffered little damage.

The U.S. Coast Guard airlifted at least 21 people injured on Abaco. Rescuers also used Jet Skis to reach some people as choppy, coffee-colored floodwaters reached roofs and the tops of palm trees.

"We will confirm what the real situation is on the ground," Health Minister Duane Sands said. "We are hoping and praying that the

loss of life is limited."

Sands said Dorian rendered the main hospital on Grand Bahama unusable, while the hospital in Marsh Harbor in Abaco was in need of food, water, medicine and surgical supplies.

He said crews were trying to airlift five to seven kidney failure patients from Abaco who had not received dialysis since Friday.

The Grand Bahama airport was under 6 feet of water.

Dorian also left one person dead in its wake in Puerto Rico before slamming into the Bahamas on Sunday.

It tied the record for the strongest Atlantic storm

ever to hit land, matching the Labor Day hurricane that struck Florida Gulf Coast in 1935, before storms were given names.

Scientists say that climate change generally has been fueling more powerful and wetter storms but that linking any specific hurricane to global warming would require more detailed study.

Across the Southeast, meanwhile, interstate highways leading away from the beach in South Carolina and Georgia were turned into one-way evacuation routes.

Several airports announced closings, and hundreds of flights were canceled.

Pence defends stay at Trump property in Ireland

BY JILL COLVIN
Associated Press

DUBLIN — U.S. Vice President Mike Pence on Tuesday defended his decision to stay at one of President Donald Trump's properties while in Ireland in the face of criticism by Democrats and good government groups that he's enriching Trump at taxpayers' expense. He called the Trump property a "logical" choice.

Speaking to reporters in Dublin, where he spent the day, Pence spoke about his

personal connection to the village of Doonbeg — the site of both the Trump International Golf Links & Hotel as well as family history.

"It's deeply humbling for me to be able to come back to Ireland and have the opportunity to go to the very hometown of my mother's grandmother," said Pence. He also had dinner Tuesday at a pub in the village where he worked several weeks during his first visit to the island when he was 22.

Trump, who owns hotels and golf clubs across the U.S. and in Europe, has come under intense criticism for frequenting properties he owns and profits from.

Marc Short, Pence's chief of staff, told reporters aboard Air Force Two earlier that the decision to stay at the Trump property was made at the president's "suggestion" and that Pence and his entourage were not staying for free.

Short said Pence's office followed official protocol

and received a State Department signoff. He said the club is the "one facility" in the Doonbeg area able to accommodate a group of their size.

Pence, who is traveling with his wife, mother and sister, had originally planned to visit the village at the end of a trip to Europe, spending a single night in the village after visits to Iceland, London and Dublin. But then Trump canceled his planned visit to Poland because of Hurricane Dorian,



CHARLES MCQUILLAN/GETTY
Vice President Mike Pence holds a news conference in Dublin, Ireland.

NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

AP source: Texas shooter purchased rifle at private sale

ODESSA, Texas — The gunman in a West Texas rampage that left seven dead obtained his AR-style rifle through a private sale, allowing him to evade a federal background check that previously blocked him from getting a gun, a law enforcement official told The Associated Press.

The official spoke to The Associated Press on Tuesday on condition of anonymity because the person was not authorized

to discuss an ongoing investigation.

Responding police officers killed 36-year-old Seth Aaron Ator on Saturday outside a busy Odessa movie theater after a spate of violence that spanned 10 miles, injuring around two dozen people in addition to the dead.

A neighbor of Ator's, Rocio Gutierrez, said Ator was "a violent, aggressive person" who would shoot at animals, mostly rabbits, at all hours of the night

Daniels eager to testify in probe of Trump hush payments

Adult-film actress Stormy Daniels said Tuesday she's ready to testify before Congress amid revelations that House Democrats are gearing up to investigate President Donald Trump's role in salacious hush payments issued to her and another woman before the 2016 election.

"I have no fear of being under oath because I have been and will be honest. Bring it!" tweeted Daniels,

whose real name is Stephanie Clifford.

Daniels' missive came on the heels of sources confirming that the House Judiciary Committee plans to pick up as early as October where federal prosecutors left off and dig into the \$130,000 payment to her on Trump's behalf in exchange for her promising to keep her lips sealed about allegedly having sex with him in 2006.

Sheriff: 14-year-old killed five in his family, later confessed

ELKMONT, Ala. — A 14-year-old boy admitted to killing five members of his family including his three younger siblings, Alabama authorities said Tuesday.

Limestone County sheriff's spokesman Stephen Young said the teen called 911 at about 11 p.m. Monday. He told arriving deputies that he heard gunshots upstairs while he was in the basement and ran out the door,

but the teen later confessed to being the shooter, Young said.

The suspect's 6-month-old brother, 5-year-old sister and 6-year-old brother were among the victims. The adult victims were identified as the 38-year-old father of the suspect and the teen's 35-year-old stepmother.

They did not release the teen's name because he is a juvenile, but he could face adult charges.

WASHINGTON — Pentagon officials on Wednesday will begin notifying lawmakers who represent districts where key military construction projects will be delayed due to construction of President Donald Trump's border barrier, according to two congressional officials.

Trump issued an emergency declaration in February in an attempt to free up new federal funding for his controversial U.S.-Mexico border wall that had been denied by Congress and triggered a record-long partial government shutdown earlier this year. But

since the border emergency was issued earlier this year, the Trump administration had not detailed publicly which projects would be affected.

Under the declaration, about \$3.6 billion designated for military construction projects would be rerouted for border barrier construction.

Of that, about \$1.8 billion would be taken from military projects overseas, while the other half would come from projects in the continental U.S. and territories, according to one of the congressional officials who spoke on the condition

of anonymity because the announcement was not public.

House Democrats were informed of the Pentagon's plans at a Tuesday afternoon caucus-wide call.

Defense Secretary Mark Esper had notified House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., earlier in the day.

Though the administration has characterized the projects as merely being delayed, it would depend on Congress approving new funds to revive them, something House Democrats have vowed not to do.

Feds offer reprieve on immigrant medical cases

BOSTON — Federal immigration authorities have partly reversed course on a controversial decision to stop considering requests for foreign nationals to remain in the country for medical treatment or other special circumstances.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services said letters will go out this week reopening all cases pending as of Aug. 7.

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services had previously said on that date that it would no longer consider the requests and ordered all pending applicants to leave the country within 33 days.

Mahsa Khanbabai of the American Immigration Lawyers Association says the reprieve isn't sufficient because it doesn't address new requests.

The American Civil Liberties Union said it's weighing a lawsuit.

In Yemen: By arming and backing a Saudi-led coalition fighting in Yemen, the United States, Britain and France may be complicit in potential war crimes, the United Nations said in a scathing report Tuesday.

The U.N. Human Rights Council found that all parties in the conflict had perpetrated possible war crimes through airstrikes, shelling, snipers and land mines, as well as arbitrary killings, torture and other abuses.

The Saudi-led coalition, which is aligned with Yemen's internationally recognized government, is accused of intentionally starving Yemenis and killing thousands of civilians in airstrikes. The coalition's foes, known as Houthis, are accused of planting land mines and deploying child soldiers.



Police officers detain a man suspected of looting in Johannesburg, South Africa, on Tuesday in the latest wave of anti-foreigner violence. Many nationals are blaming immigrants for high unemployment, and are targeting shops owned by foreigners.

Pentagon to tell which projects delayed to pay for border wall

WASHINGTON — Pentagon officials on Wednesday will begin notifying lawmakers who represent districts where key military construction projects will be delayed due to construction of President Donald Trump's border barrier, according to two congressional officials.

Trump issued an emergency declaration in February in an attempt to free up new federal funding for his controversial U.S.-Mexico border wall that had been denied by Congress and triggered a record-long partial government shutdown earlier this year. But

since the border emergency was issued earlier this year, the Trump administration had not detailed publicly which projects would be affected.

Under the declaration, about \$3.6 billion designated for military construction projects would be rerouted for border barrier construction.

Of that, about \$1.8 billion would be taken from military projects overseas, while the other half would come from projects in the continental U.S. and territories, according to one of the congressional officials who spoke on the condition

of anonymity because the announcement was not public.

House Democrats were informed of the Pentagon's plans at a Tuesday afternoon caucus-wide call.

Defense Secretary Mark Esper had notified House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., earlier in the day.

Though the administration has characterized the projects as merely being delayed, it would depend on Congress approving new funds to revive them, something House Democrats have vowed not to do.

Iran tanker sought by US mutes tracker near Syria

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates — An Iranian oil tanker blacklisted and pursued by the U.S. turned off its tracking beacon off the coast of Syria, leading to renewed speculation Tuesday that its oil will end up there, despite earlier assurances it wouldn't.

The disappearance of

the Adrian Darya 1, formerly known as the Grace 1, follows a pattern of Iranian oil tankers turning off their Automatic Identification System to try and mask where they deliver their cargo amid U.S. sanctions targeting Iran's energy industry.

Its disappearance comes

after the British territory of Gibraltar seized the tanker and ultimately released it weeks later when officials there said they received assurances its oil wouldn't go to Syria, underscoring the challenges authorities face as a U.S. maximum pressure campaign against Iran continues.

Chicago Tribune

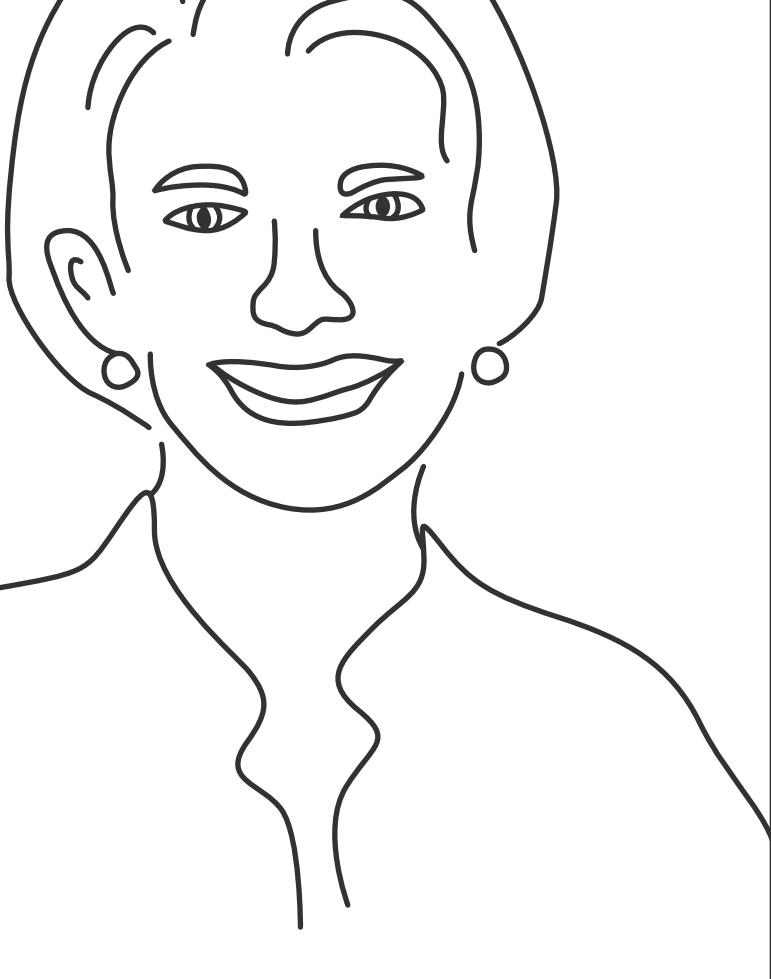
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EDITORIALS

Go U Northwestern

The customer service question that matters most

On Aug. 20, one of us at the Tribune Editorial Board had an annual checkup with a Northwestern Medicine physician. Love the staff, love the doc. All good.

That is, until Aug. 24, when the needlessly long customer satisfaction survey arrived. The sales pitch alone ran 257 words — half the length of this editorial: "... The enclosed survey asks about your recent experience with Northwestern Medical Group. By sharing your thoughts and perspectives, you can help us improve the care we provide. Please take a few minutes to complete the following survey. Your feedback will be used blah blah blah ..." (Emphasis ours. Define "few.")

Hmm. Journalists are word merchants. We urge one another to never, ever, write for free. Plus we know the game: Customers who complete surveys tend to give generous scores. So the upshot often is a middle manager boasting to a top manager that, under the middle manager's keen leadership, frontline workers have improved the customers' experience: *Note how, since I took command, our metric for Scent In Waiting Area has leaped from 7.7 to 7.9.*

Still, love the staff, love the doc. We invested (more than) a few minutes, heaping earned praise.

On Tuesday, though, we had to call Northwestern Medicine's Customer Service team to unravel a billing complication — less worrisome than a medical complication, but not always.

Again, though, all good. A personable agent with wicked-quick wit had to excavate deep into her computer, but she resolved our problem. We were so impressed by her perseverance — and feeling oh, so witty ourselves — that we told her we wished she worked with us here at the Chicago Tribune. It's true.

So imagine our shock

when she switched us to the automated customer satisfaction survey and heard its one and only question for rating her performance: "Would you hire this person? Dial 1 for Yes, 2 for No." We're actually a 3: "In an EKG-approved heartbeat!"

Why doesn't every customer satisfaction survey start, and end, with that question? Time-pressed consumers would feel respected, response rates would rise and bosses would learn what matters most: Did our employee solve the customer's needs? Exceed his or her expectations? Make the customer covet our worker?

Tuesday's efficient survey experience took us back to our job at a news organization that forced supervisors to complete infuriatingly long employee evaluations — a time-wasting, morale-destroying experience for everyone. We supervisors appreciated, though, how one top editor supplemented the forms with his own question about our subordinates: *Would you urge us to hire this person for this position? Explain.*

Superb question. The *Would-you Urge Us* put supervisors' credibility on the line. It sabotaged the temptation for us supervisors to think, "Hey, you sent these employees, I'm not responsible for how they're doing in the jobs you gave them." And supervisors' candid answers to the *for-this-position* showed the editor which good employees were cast in the wrong roles, or perhaps mismatched with supervisors who weren't using them properly.

So, having criticized one survey, we come in praise of another. With the tip of a purple beanie to the "Go U Northwestern" fight song:

Go, You, Survey Author Two. Thanks for respecting our time. And for focusing everyone on the customer service question that matters most.



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A girl below a photo of Davantae Jackson at a Monday vigil for the 15-year-old who was fatally shot Sunday.

From Little League to 'wrong crowd' to dead at 15

Davantae Jackson died over Labor Day weekend at age 15, young enough for the memory of his boyhood innocence to be within easy reach for mourners. At 6, he started playing Little League. At 12, he visited Sox Park for a special training session and got to wear a Major League Baseball uniform.

"I'mma be here one day," he told his coach, Frank Brim, at the ballpark. "This is awesome. I love this."

Instead, the boy known as "Lefty" for his left-hand throws in his Garfield Park Little League days was called outside and shot in the leg and back in the Austin neighborhood on the West Side. That happened Sunday, two days before he would have started his freshman year of high school. He died on the sidewalk, where his mother found him after she heard gunshots, reports Alice Yin in the Tribune.

It was a long way from that day at the ballpark. "I saw the innocence, I see the little boy, and I remember that forever," Brim said at a memorial for the teen on Monday. "For his life to end like this ... it's been rough for me."

Davantae was among the youngest victims of gun violence in Chicago over the Labor Day weekend,

which saw 44 people shot, nine of them fatally. That's a sharp rise from the same weekend last year. At this writing, no one has been arrested in Davantae's killing.

Brim says Davantae had fallen in with the wrong crowd the last couple years. He had once been the first to show up for practice and the last to leave. He was a helpful kid who would joke around and encourage other players. But now he wasn't playing baseball anymore. "He drifted ... and started hanging out with the wrong crowd," Brim said. "I'm not going to deny that. But at the same time, the sum of his life is that he was an awesome kid."

Maybe pro baseball wasn't in the cards for Davantae. Exceptional talent or smarts shouldn't be the only way forward for any young person. In a more support-

ive environment, rather than a disadvantaged neighborhood high on crime and low on social, economic and educational opportunity, he might have had room for youthful error. Maybe he would have enjoyed high school and found new friends and interests.

Maybe he would have grown up and gotten a job, ridden the CTA, shared White Sox season tickets and coached Little League, paying it forward to the next generation of boys who need to be guided as they nurture, then outgrow, their big-league dreams.

The loss of Davantae is a tragedy for his family and his city.

Burying the future Mr. Jackson or coach Jackson adds to another deficit haunting Chicago, that of the men it needs these promising, dedicated little boys to become.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

As the United States pursues a peace deal with the Taliban and plans to withdraw forces from Afghanistan, one important consideration is notably missing from the deliberations: What will happen to our Afghan partners who served the U.S. mission after we leave?

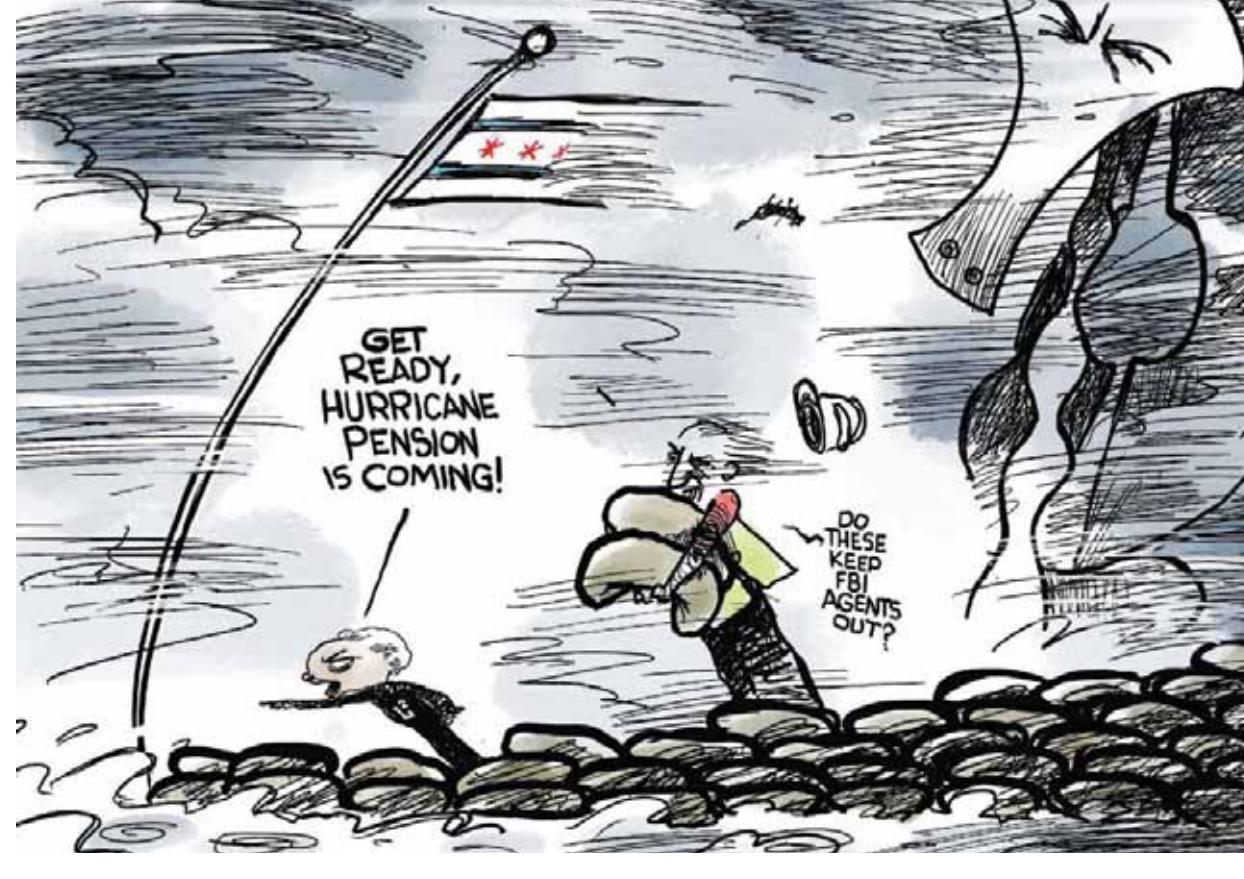
When I was the U.S. ambassador to Afghanistan, our embassy in Kabul relied on hundreds of Afghan staffers working in myriad roles. They risked their lives every day to work for the betterment of their country and ours. Likewise, U.S. forces and humanitarian workers relied on local staff who served as linguists, cultural advisers, security guards and maintenance staff. Because of their service to the U.S. mission, these trusted allies regularly faced and continue to face threats from anti-American forces, particularly by the Taliban, who have hunted and executed many Afghan partners and their families...

Let us not repeat the mistakes of the U.S. withdrawal from Vietnam. The United States, eager to end a prolonged conflict, signed the Paris Peace Accords, an ineffectual document gesture that did not result in peace. U.S. officials who had served shoulder to shoulder with Vietnamese partners watched in horror as their associates fled the country by sea or were executed or jailed for their service to the United States. Who can forget the horrifying image of desperate Vietnamese allies reaching for a helicopter leaving Saigon?...

As the United States is contemplating its exit strategy, the least we can do is ensure that our closest allies are part of the plan.

Ryan Crocker, The Washington Post

SCOTT STANTIS



Chicago Tribune

PERSPECTIVE



ROGELIO V. SOLIS/AP

Friends, colleagues and family members watch as U.S. immigration officials remove workers from a poultry plant in Morton, Mississippi, early last month.

Chicken-factory employees in the US illegally work in fear. Their employers, not so much.



ERIC ZORN

Saturday will mark a month since U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents swooped down on seven poultry processing plants in Mississippi and rounded up for deportation 680 workers believed to be in the country illegally.

And, barring a surprise announcement from the Department of Justice between now and then, Saturday also will mark the end of a month during which no charges will have been filed against the owners and managers of the companies that operate the plants.

It would be a surprise because such charges are vanishingly rare — an analysis by researchers at Syracuse University of the year beginning on April 1, 2018, found that the government prosecuted zero companies and fewer than a dozen individuals for the “crime” of employing workers living in the U.S. illegally.

I put the word crime in quotes because those workers are integral to agriculture and other sectors of the economy where employees do jobs that many Americans don’t want to do at the wages that are paid.

But the Mississippi raids were

worse than simply an unnecessary, cruel and hypocritical flex by the Trump administration in its war on immigrants in the U.S. without permission.

They were a shot across the bow of all such workers, reminding them not to complain, not to organize or otherwise make trouble. Because they, not their employers, are vulnerable to spasms of anti-immigrant fervor and show crackdowns.

Wednesday, Human Rights Watch is issuing a particularly well-timed report titled “When We’re Dead and Buried, Our Bones Will Keep Hurting” — Workers’ Rights Under Threat in US Meat and Poultry Plants.”

The 105-page document is a follow-up to the international organization’s 2005 report “Blood, Sweat, and Fear” that outlined how government and business have conspired to institute policies that violate the rights of some of our most vulnerable workers.

Wednesday’s report, based in part on interviews with nearly 50 workers at 15 processing plants (though none in Mississippi), describes low-paying, hazardous work performed at an exhausting pace.

“To ensure production speed,” says the report, “some workers said that supervisors even refuse to let them use the restroom during their shift or require them to wait for replacements who may never come, and described their colleagues wearing diapers as a

result.”

The report cites estimates that a quarter of the 330,000 plant workers who kill, cut, debone and package American-grown meat are in the U.S. illegally. Their average pay is less than \$15 an hour, 44% lower than the national average for manufacturing work, while rates of job-related injury and illness are “significantly higher than the average for manufacturing workers.”

Anthropology professor Angela Stuesser from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill reported in a recent Washington Post op-ed that the predominance of Latin America-born workers in such plants is a direct result of recruiting efforts begun in the 1990s by poultry companies trying to weaken budding efforts by African American workers to unionize.

A U.S. Supreme Court decision in 2002 helped seal the deal when it held that workers living here illegally are not entitled to back pay even after being illegally fired for union organizing.

In responding to Human Rights Watch investigators, meat and poultry companies said they participate in E-Verify, a government-run eligibility checking program aimed at screening out workers who lack the proper documentation for employment. But that program is famously porous and susceptible to fraud.

The report describes an interview with a woman who said she’d been

working at a poultry plant for nearly 10 years when managers told her the government had flagged her paperwork as phony. “She stopped going to work but returned about a month later and applied to work at the same plant with new papers and a new name,” says the report. “She now works at the same position ... with the same supervisor and same coworkers — but with a new name.”

Among the report’s recommendations are strict enforcement of new, lower work-speed standards and increased audits of the injury rates at plants as part of an overall focus on increased safety.

The report also recommends that Congress pass a law to require the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to stay deportation orders for individuals with credible claims to “have suffered abuses or retaliation resulting from workplace violation claims.”

The broader but unspoken demand is for American consumers, particularly those who are in a perpetual lather about the “invasion” of brown-skinned people across our borders, to get real. Your meats are as cheap as they are because the boot of hypocrisy is on the necks of those forced to live and work on the perilous bottom rungs of society.

It is a crime to pretend otherwise.

ericzorn@gmail.com
Twitter @EricZorn

What we keep getting wrong about mass shootings

BY RUDOLPH BUSH

There is a special kind of stupidity that approaches terrible and repeating problems with an obstinate assurance of what the answer will or won’t be.

Or maybe it’s cynicism — just digging in against any sort of movement that might be politically dangerous, even if it promises to break the paralysis of doing nothing repeatedly.

By now, after the shooting Saturday in Odessa, Texas, that left at least seven dead and 21 injured, the latest in a long list of mass shootings, we have to acknowledge that we are a deeply unwell nation. Or at least we are a nation cultivating terribly unwell people with the nihilistic will to kill all in their paths.

Motive isn’t really sortable. Yes, racism has emerged as an important theme. But mass shootings come with or without ostensible motives. We’re guessing each time another one occurs at what exactly drove the killer. Often, once the facts are settled, we’re wrong.

What these shootings mostly have in common is the presence of a disturbed (generally white, generally young) man and a powerful weapon.

An honest assessment of how to prevent these killings has to look at both elements and try to understand (a) what in our culture is creating monsters and (b) what do we do about the easy access to the weapons they use to kill people.

These are social and political questions that we could begin to answer if we were willing to do so honestly.

The guns question is turning, and with each shooting it has become harder for Second Amendment absolutists to defend

broad access to high-powered military-style semi-automatic rifles. Texas Gov. Greg Abbott is left with a series of increasingly embarrassing tweets celebrating the kinds of weapons that most of us now associate first with wanton murder. Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, meanwhile, is stumbling through Twitter about how “We need to do MUCH more to stop violent criminals & those w/ dangerous mental illness BEFORE they murder.”

He’s not wrong about that. He just refuses to consider the other half of the problem in the name of what he has made a religious, versus a political, matter. He throws around Bible verses in defense of the AR-15, citing Exodus 22:2, which justifies killing a burglar in your house as long as it’s at night. That might appeal to a certain constituency, but it does nothing to draw most Americans into the conversation or to advance this genuine human crisis toward a political solution.

Abbott has apparently realized the politics are shifting and is rolling out a plan to address mass shootings, although the details aren’t yet known. He understands that with each new horror, Americans become more inclined toward greater restrictions. That’s a normal and healthy human response. Most of us come to realize why hot stoves burn.

With guns, there are obvious, easy compromises with background checks, red flag laws and limits on magazine capacity that a more serious political class would have already engaged. (Although tougher background checks may be harder to propose as a solution after Odessa. The gunman there failed a background check but was able to get his hands on a rifle anyway.)

That brings us to the second half of the

equation, the disaffected man. This is the question that the left is less equipped to deal with and where its leaders stumble badly.

There are deep holes, wounds really, in our culture that are nurturing nihilists. Only the most profound spiritual emptiness could lead a human being to slaughter people just going about their daily lives. It is the deepest immoral expression of the conclusion that life is meaningless. Why does someone come to that conclusion? Because evil, the only name this sort of killing deserves, will fill a vacuum in a soul. So where does the vacuum come from? Where is the loss of meaning and grounding in basic human decency?

Leaders on the left would be wise to speak more openly of the problem of a moral and cultural relativism that persistently undermines, as old-fashioned as it might sound, the value and dignity of human life.

After the killings in El Paso, Rep. Ted Lieu, D-Calif., slammed Walmart for “blaming video games,” a common response now from the left. The company had, in fact, called on employees to “remove signing and displays referencing violence.” That wasn’t a moral decision by Walmart, of course. It was a public relations response. But, it, too, was a hot-stove human reaction that we ought to be attentive to. Something in our gut is telling us this isn’t what a society should be celebrating and promoting, no matter how much money it makes.

If we are willing to open the question of what we should do about the availability of weapons of war, shouldn’t we also be willing to look deeply into the culture we have created and ask what in it is empty and



Celeste Lujan, left, and Yasmin Natera mourn friend Leila Hernandez during a service Sunday for the victims of a mass shooting in Odessa, Texas.

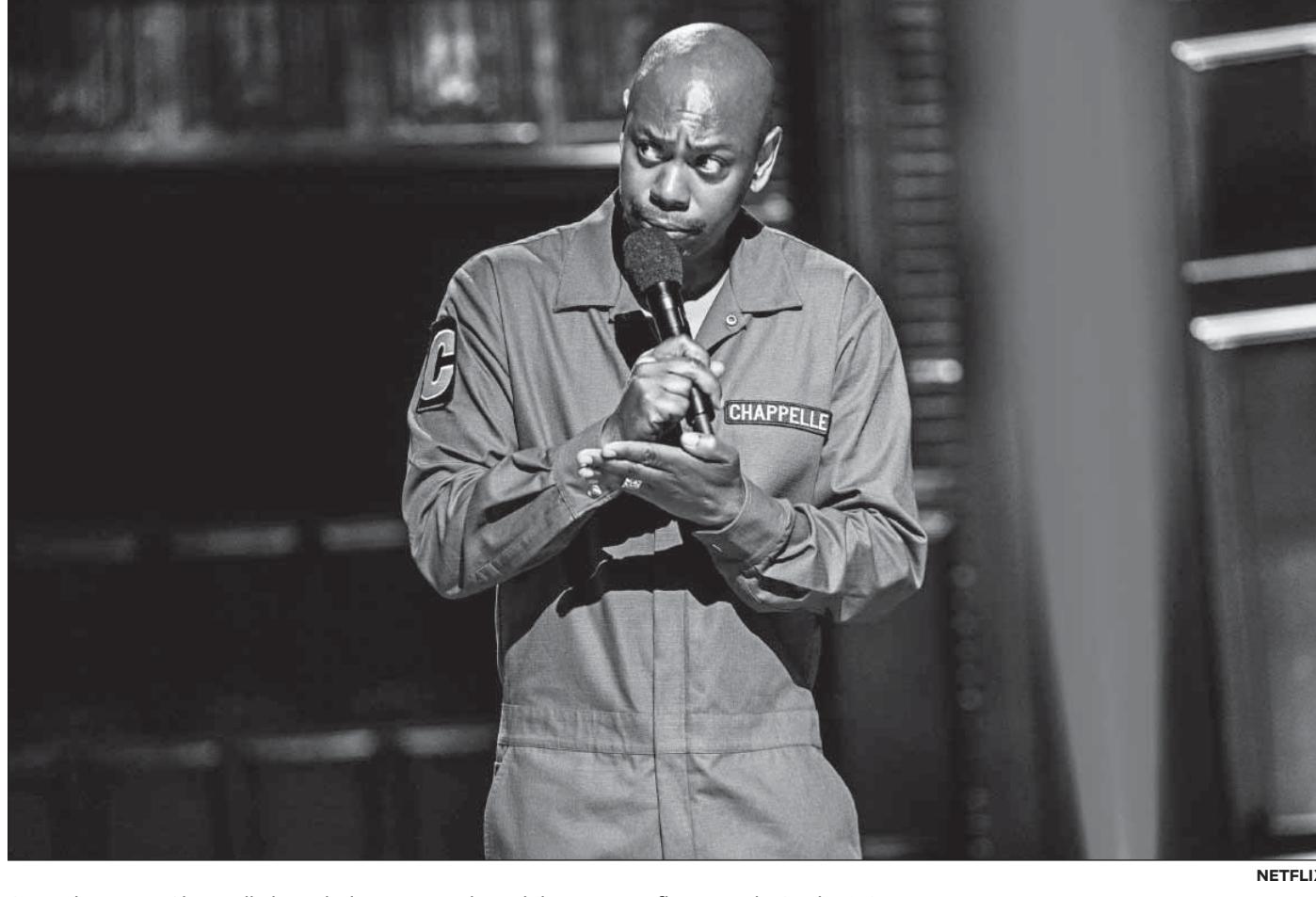
wanting? What in it is leading killers to believe that human life has no value?

There is no single answer to the terrible thing we are living through. There is not even a multiplicity of answers that can be applied to each circumstance. The only appropriate and serious response to this wave of soulless terror is a willingness to consider every possible answer, to set aside biases and pre-conclusions and listen wholly to those with whom we might disagree and then to offer compromises and considerations that address both the killer and the weapon.

Tribune Content Agency

Rudolph Bush is the deputy editorial page editor for The Dallas Morning News and director of journalism at The University of Dallas.

PERPECTIVE



NETFLIX

Comedian Dave Chappelle has riled some people with his new Netflix special, "Sticks & Stones."

Chappelle pushes the same boundaries that once got Lenny Bruce arrested



CLARENCE PAGE

Part of the fun of watching edgy stand-up comedians is what I call the “Demolition Derby Effect.”

Just as demolition derbies were born out of the belief that a lot of ticket buyers would rather watch cars wreck than race, a lot of people pay to watch edgy comedians in the anticipation that maybe, just maybe, any minute now they’re going to (gasp!) go too far.

In that regard, notoriously edgy comic Dave Chappelle takes the prize with his latest — and fifth — Netflix stand-up comedy special, “Sticks & Stones,” judging by the volume of complaints buzzing online in news and social media.

But, as longtime Chappelle fans — like me — know, that’s not unusual. What is unusual is how much the blowback against Chappelle’s special has come mostly from the liberals and progressives and how much praise he is receiving from conservatives and the far right.

“Dave Chappelle’s New Stand-Up Is Hilarious (And Even Subversively Pro-Life)” says The Federalist’s headline on senior editor Molly Hemingway’s essay.

Iconoclastic author Bret Easton Ellis tweeted, “Did I just watch Dave Chappelle save America from itself in 65 minutes on Netflix?”

A headline on the conservative Townhall site crows, “Dave Chappelle: The Middle Finger America Needs.”

But on the more liberal or mainstream side, a critic for The Atlantic calls the set “a temper tantrum.” The Root calls it

“lazy.” Vice urges its readers to just skip it altogether. The Guardian sniffs, “Dave Chappelle’s ‘reckless’ #MeToo and trans jokes have real after-effects.”

Transgender YouTube commentator Natalie Wynn said on the progressive The Young Turks that Chappelle’s jokes, particularly about transgender people, were stale, “out of touch” and “far from his best.” She charged, for example, that Chappelle’s mockery of transgender people, saying “I identify as Asian,” steals from Ricky Gervais’ declaration in his own Netflix special earlier this year that he identifies as “a chimp.”

But transgender people are only one of the usually taboo targets Chappelle chews over in his whine list.

On abortion rights, for example, he sets us up with a disclaimer about how he supports “the right to choose,” and that “If you’re a man, you should stay out of the abortion debate altogether.”

But then he whips around to say, “And ladies, to be fair to us, I also believe that if you decide to have the baby, a man should not have to pay,” he said. “That’s fair.”

The audience quiets down for a moment as if waiting for a punchline, but that was the punchline. Does Dave really believe that’s a fair equivalence? He smiles, says it’s something worth thinking about, then he moves on to his next targets.

Among them, he skewers people who are badgering the victims of excessive appreciation, otherwise known as celebrities. He attacks the “cancel culture” promoted by the #MeToo movement and others for targeting his friends in the comedy industry, particularly Louis C.K., who has lost work after admitting to incidents of sexual misconduct, and Kevin Hart, who withdrew from consideration to host the Oscars after some of his old homophobic tweets surfaced.

“This is the worst time ever to be a celebrity,” Chappelle moans in a rant about “alphabet people,” his term for the LGBTQ rights movement. Really? I think the ghost of Lenny Bruce, who was arrested in Chicago in 1962, as well as in other cities, for jokes that were tamer than those that Chappelle and other edgy comedians say every night.

Bruce died in 1966 of a drug overdose, but he lives on as a martyr to the sort of free speech that has enabled comedians and others to break taboos, speak freely, expose contradictions and, at best, move society toward better understanding of American diversity and freedoms.

Or as Chappelle explained himself on “PBS NewsHour”: “I don’t think people pay money to see a guy who speaks precisely and carefully ... (or) is worried about some repercussions. They just want to see a guy try to give them something honest or something relatable or maybe have some fun with something.”

Right. Above all else, we expect comedians to be funny and fearless. Even when Chappelle seems to go off the rails in his monologue, he more often than not is raising serious concerns — such as how the rules of etiquette for relations across racial, sexual and political lines keep changing.

Sometimes it is courageous comics who provide the catalyst we need for serious discussions about such tough topics. When comedians bomb, they may be behind the times. Or, as with Lenny Bruce, they may be ahead of their time.

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Senate Democrats’ unprecedented threat against the Supreme Court

BY MARC A. THIESSEN

In 2017, Senate Minority Leader Charles Schumer, D-N.Y., accused President Donald Trump of showing “a disdain for an independent judiciary that doesn’t always bend to his wishes” after Trump criticized a federal judge who ruled against his administration. Senate Democrats, by contrast, have launched an unprecedented attempt to actually bend the Supreme Court to their wishes — threatening to restructure the court if the justices do not rule as they see fit.

The threat came over the Supreme Court’s decision to hear a challenge to New York City’s restrictions on how gun owners who have residential permits can transport their guns. In a legal brief, Sens. Sheldon Whitehouse, D-R.I., Mazie Hirono, D-Hawaii, Richard Blumenthal, D-Conn., and Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., argued that the case against New York was moot because it had rescinded the gun regulations in question. Fair enough. It is perfectly fine for the senators to make legal arguments in a legal brief to the court.

What is not acceptable is openly threatening the court with political retribution if it does not rule a certain way. That is precisely what these Senate Democrats did. “The Supreme Court is not well,” they wrote. “And the people know it. Perhaps the Court can heal itself before the public demands it be ‘restructured to reduce the influence of politics.’” As all 53 Senate Republicans wrote in a letter to the court last week, “the implication is as plain as day: Dismiss the case, or we’ll pack the Court.”

Talk about disdain for an independent judiciary! Can you imagine if Trump

issued such a preemptive threat? Heads would explode. And in contrast to Trump’s impulsive Twitter rants, the Democrats issued their threat in a carefully crafted legal brief submitted to the court. They thought this through and decided that blackmailing the Supreme Court was a good idea.

Not only was their brief inappropriate; it was brimming with cognitive dissonance. The Democrats accused the Supreme Court of being too political, but their plan to “reduce the influence of politics” on the court is to have senators order the justices how to decide or face political consequences? What utter hypocrisy. Keep in mind that these are not backbenchers. Among the signatories to the brief is Dick Durbin, the second-ranking Democratic leader in the Senate. He should know that the Supreme Court is an equal branch of government that does not answer to the Senate, much less its minority.

The Democrats justify their unprecedented intimidation tactics by pointing out that since 2005, the court has issued 78 5-to-4 or 5-to-3 opinions in which Republican appointees provided all five votes in the majority. “With bare partisan majorities,” they declared, “the Court has influenced sensitive areas like voting rights, partisan gerrymandering, dark money, union power, regulation of pollution, corporate liability, and access to federal court, particularly regarding civil rights and discrimination in the workplace. Every single time, the corporate and Republican political interests prevailed.”

Give me a break. In each of the cases to which they object, the liberal bloc voted in unison as well. Were they behaving as a “partisan” minority? Senate Democrats

would have no problem with these 5-to-4 decisions if they had been decided by a liberal majority. Their complaint is not with the rise of “political influence” on the court, but rather with their lack of political influence on the court.

The judicial left has gone off the deep end because it is losing its battle for an activist liberal court. When Justice Antonin Scalia died in 2016, they saw a once-in-a-lifetime chance to shift the ideological direction of the court for a generation. By appointing two conservative justices, Trump has thwarted those dreams. And now they are worried, due to concerns over Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s health, that Trump might get a third appointment. So, many Democrats are now openly talking about adding more justices if they gain power.

Those threats will backfire, because they dramatically raise the stakes in the 2020 election. In 2016, over a quarter of Trump voters said that the Supreme Court was the most important factor in their decision to support him. With Trump already having secured a conservative majority on the court, his ability to appoint justices was shaping up to be a less powerful argument this time around. But now that Democrats have threatened to pack the court with liberal judges if they win the White House and the Senate, the Supreme Court will once again be front and center. For the president, this is a massive stroke of luck.

The Washington Post Writers Group

Marc Thiessen is a Washington Post columnist. He is a fellow at the American Enterprise Institute, and the former chief speechwriter for President George W. Bush.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Making city operations more efficient

If the mayor’s office told all city departments to reduce their staffs by “xx” percent, those remaining would take longer to do the same workload while making more mistakes. It never fails when ordered staff cuts are made before workloads and processes are reengineered for fewer people.

Harvey Firestone, when starting out, visited all his tire plants and asked two questions: “Is this process/procedure necessary?” If “Yes,” he asked, “How can we do it cheaper?” If “No,” he said, “Get rid of it.”

This would be a good first step in making city government smaller, cheaper and more efficient. Too bad the politicians wouldn’t like it.

— Lewis R. Elin, Chicago

Shorting pensions is like interest-free loan

It is time for the Tribune Editorial Board to fess up to its false narratives about public pensions. Its Sept. 1 editorial, “Lightfoot wants to poke the pension monster ... How about it, Springfield?,” states that selling pension bonds would add to the city’s “already enormous debt burden.” At other times, the editorial board has said the same about state pensions.

The fact is, for the state and city, the debt burden already exists. Even the editorial board admits that for years, administrations failed to make the required payments to the funds to “temporarily” fill the structural deficit in both budgets. As such, shortchanging the pension funds actually provided the city and state with interest-free loans. The result exacerbated both the pension crisis and the structural deficit. In short, the state and city took the least expensive approach to borrowing by getting the equivalent of zero interest loans from the pension funds.

But debt is debt, regardless of where it shows on the books. Buying pension obligation bonds does not increase the debt; it just moves the debt from one place on the balance sheet to another. True, buying bonds increases the cost of borrowing, since there is interest to pay. If the pension trustees had been allowed to recognize that they are banking the city and state’s debts, they could have charged the city and state interest at competitive rates. But the politicians have preferred the no-interest rate loans while the Tribune has preferred to falsely claim that the problem is solved by reducing the benefits public employees earn in future years.

In reality, reducing the benefits means defaulting on the loans from the pension funds, something which the state’s constitution currently forbids. It is possible to default on real bonds. In the unlikely event that this happens, it hurts a much smaller group of bondholders, who are generally banks or people in the upper end of the wealth spectrum, and who bought the bonds knowing of the risk of loss.

The bottom line is, as the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability has shown for years, the best way to solve the pension problem is to sell pension obligation bonds in the short term, dump the pension ramp and restructure the repayment to a flat rate over a period of 35 to 45 years. This even saves the city and state millions of dollars in the long run.

— Mark Michaels, Chicago

Mocking real concerns about football

Adam Lewandowski, the football coach at Andrew High School in Tinley Park, ridicules parents who are concerned about chronic traumatic encephalopathy (CTE), calling them “the kind who get scared and run and hide and cover their kids in bubble wrap,” adding, “That’s no way to live” (“Across state, football numbers taking a hit,” Aug. 30). It is therefore unsurprising that the number of Illinois high school football players has fallen by 25% in recent years, as parents are understandably wary of entrusting their sons to CTE deniers like Lewandowski.

As I hope the Consolidated High School District 230 board will soon acknowledge, no educator should belittle parents who want to protect their children from concussion risks. Kids can live quite well without football but much less so with brain damage.

— Steven Lubet, Williams Memorial professor of law, Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, Chicago

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Chicago Tribune

BUSINESS

Walmart to stop selling handgun ammo

Shoppers also urged not to openly carry firearms at its stores

BY ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Walmart says it will discontinue the sale of handgun and short-barrel rifle ammunition and also publicly request that customers refrain from openly carrying firearms in stores even where state laws allow it.

The announcement comes just

days after a mass shooting killed 7 people in Odessa, Texas, and follows two other back-to-back shootings last month, one of them at a Walmart store.

The Bentonville, Arkansas-based discounter said Tuesday that it will stop handgun ammunition as well as short-barrel rifle ammunition, such as the .223 caliber and 5.56 mm caliber used

in military style weapons, after it runs out of its current inventory.

It will also discontinue handgun sales in Alaska.

Walmart stopped selling handguns in the mid-1990s, with the exception of Alaska. The latest move marks its complete exit from that business and allows it to focus on hunting rifles and related ammunition only.

"We have a long heritage as a company of serving responsible hunters and sportsmen and women, and we're going to continue doing so," according to a memo by Walmart's CEO Doug McMillon to be circulated to employees Tuesday.

The retailer is further requesting that customers refrain from openly carrying firearms at its Walmart and Sam's Club stores unless they are law enforcement officers. However, it said that it

won't be changing its policy for customers who have permits for concealed carry. Walmart says it will be adding signage in stores to inform customers of those changes.

Last month, a gunman entered a Walmart store in El Paso, Texas, killing 22 people with an AK-style firearm that Walmart already bans the sale of and marking the deadliest shooting in the company's history.

Turn to Walmart, Page 2

Kmart to close Bridgeview location

Only one store will remain in Illinois after December

BY LAUREN ZUMBACH

A Kmart in southwest suburban Bridgeview will close by mid-December, leaving just one Kmart store in Illinois.

The parent company of the Sears and Kmart chains declined to comment on news reports of additional store closures across the country.

Transform Holdco, an entity controlled by Sears' former CEO and largest shareholder, Edward Lampert, and his hedge fund, bought the Hoffman Estates-based retailer in a bankruptcy auction in February, including 425 stores.

The company did not say how many of those stores remain open.

Just last month, the retailer said it would close 26 Sears and Kmart stores between late October and mid-November, including Sears stores at the Stratford Square Mall in Bloomingdale and Southlake Mall in Merrillville, Ind. At the time, the retailer said it wanted to shift to smaller stores and couldn't rule out additional closings.

"As we continue our transformation efforts, we are working closely with our stakeholders, and evaluating our network of stores, operations and business strategy in order to stabilize the business and support a long-term path to profitable success," Sears and Kmart spokesman Larry Costello said in an email Tuesday.

A liquidation sale at the Bridgeview Kmart is expected to begin in mid-September, Costello said.

When that store closes, the only remaining Kmart in the company's home state will be in Des Plaines.

Once the Bloomingdale Sears closes, there will be five remaining Sears department stores in Illinois, with locations in Chicago Ridge, North Riverside, Schaumburg, West Dundee and Peoria, as well as a handful of Sears Hometown and Appliance Outlet stores.

lzumbach@chicagotribune.com



Citizenship and Immigration Services officers can now create fake social media accounts to watch foreigners seeking visas, green cards and citizenship.

WILFREDO LEE/AP

US to use fake social media posts

Officers can check those seeking visas, green cards

BY TAMI ABDOLLAH

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services officers can now create fictitious social media accounts to monitor social media information on foreigners seeking visas, green cards and citizenship.

An updated Homeland Security Department review of potential privacy issues dated July 2019 that was posted online last week essentially reversed a prior ban on officers creating fake profiles.

A USCIS statement explaining the change says fake ac-

counts and identities will make it easier for investigators to search for potential evidence of fraud or security concerns as they decide whether to allow someone entry into the U.S.

The change in policy was preceded by other steps taken by the State Department, which began requiring applicants for U.S. visas to submit their social media usernames this past June, a vast expansion of the Trump administration's enhanced screening of potential immigrants and visitors.

It's unclear how the creation of fake social media accounts would work given policies of

platforms like Facebook and Twitter, which both specifically state that impersonation — pretending to be someone other than yourself — violates their terms of use.

Twitter and Facebook recently shut down numerous accounts believed to be operated by the Chinese government using their platforms under false identities for information operations.

"It is against our policies to use fake personae and to use Twitter data for persistent surveillance of individuals. We look

Turn to Visas, Page 4

Alderman rejects building tower

Neighbors oppose apartment plan for Barnes & Noble site



RYAN ORI
On Real Estate

Plans to replace one of Chicago's last remaining Barnes & Noble bookstores with a 39-story apartment tower have been scuttled, after an outcry from Near North Side neighbors.

Chicago developer Newcastle Ltd. has withdrawn its plan for the 368-unit building at 1120 to 1130 N. State St. at the request of 2nd Ward Ald. Brian Hopkins, the alderman said.

Hopkins said he heard overwhelming community opposition to Newcastle's plan, regarding the proposed tower's height, design and overall density.

"It's excessively tall for that lot, it's not an attractive structure and it does not fit in with the neighborhood," Hopkins said. "They missed the mark on all counts."

Newcastle has not bought the site. It's unclear whether the company or another developer might propose a less ambitious project for the site near the Gold Coast, Hopkins said.

Turn to Ori, Page 2



SOLOMON CORDWELL BUENZ
Developer Newcastle Ltd. withdrew plans to build an apartment tower on the current site of Barnes & Noble.

Can't find that Starbucks croissant?

Coffee chain cites supply problems

BY CORILYN SHROPSHIRE

Some local Starbucks are posting signs apologizing for food and beverage shortages.

Tuesday morning, the Starbucks at Millennium Station posted a sign on a sparsely filled glass pastry case that read, "We are currently experiencing outages of some of our food and beverage items." It was unclear which items were unavailable. The same sign was taped to the case at the chain's location at Merchandise Mart.

Another location, in Aon Center, had brown cardboard boxes of lids and other paper supplies stacked up in its window. The pastry case and refrigerator appeared to be fully stocked with food.

Last month, nearly 300 drivers and warehouse workers who are represented by Teamsters Local 710 rejected a proposed contract with Starbucks supplier DPI Specialty Foods. DPI supplies more than 900 Starbucks stores in the greater Chicago area, Minneapolis and Indianapolis, according to a recent news release from the Teamsters.

The Canadian-based company, which has local operations in Hodgkins, has been negotiating a contract with the Teamsters, but the union said the offer was unacceptable because it asked workers to accept a short-term contract of seven months instead of the usual 5-year contract.

Both Starbucks and the Teamsters said the contract dispute between DPI and the union had nothing to do with the shortage. "Due to some reallocations we made, some orders to select stores ended up having too much product

or too little product," said Erik Moser, a Starbucks spokesman. "The local team is working to rebalance supply and we anticipate stores should be returning to normal availability soon."

DPI did not respond to requests for comment.

In its news release last month, Local 710 said Starbucks is likely dropping DPI as a supplier.

"It's pretty clear to us that since DPI's only customer in the area is Starbucks, in the near future Starbucks is planning to move the work away from DPI and to a different company," Mike Cales, secretary-treasurer of Local 710, said in the news release, dated Aug. 23. "We think that's why DPI is asking workers to agree to a short-term contract of only seven months, instead of the usual 5-year contract. This extremely short contract is one of the reasons why our members voted it down."



The food display case at the Starbucks in downtown Chicago's Merchandise Mart has a sign apologizing for food and beverage shortages.

ALLY MAROTTI/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Walmart

Continued from Page 1

ny's history, Texas became an open carry state in 2016, allowing people to openly carry firearms in public.

Walmart's moves will reduce its market share of ammunition from around 20% to a range of about 6% to 9%, according to Tuesday's memo. About half of its more than 4,750 U.S. stores sell firearms.

The nation's largest retailer has been facing increasing pressure to change its gun policies by gun control activists, employees and politicians after the El Paso shooting and a second unrelated shooting in Dayton, Ohio, that killed nine people. A few days before that, two Walmart workers were killed by another worker at a store in Southaven, Mississippi.

In the aftermath of the El Paso shooting, Walmart ordered workers to remove video game signs and dis-

plays that depict violence from stores nationwide. But that fell well short of demands for the retailer to stop selling firearms entirely. Critics have also wanted Walmart to stop supporting politicians backed by the National Rifle Association.

At least one gun control activist group applauded Walmart's moves.

"Walmart deserves enormous credit for joining the strong and growing majority of Americans who know that we have too many guns in our country and they are too easy to get," said Igor Volsky, Executive Director and Founder of Guns Down America in a statement. "That work doesn't end with Walmart's decision today. As Congress comes back to consider gun violence, Walmart should make it clear that it stands with Americans who are demanding real change."

The retailer has long found itself in an awkward spot with customers and gun enthusiasts. Many of



Authorities block access to a Walmart after a mass shooting killed 22 people last month in El Paso, Texas.

its stores are in rural areas where hunters depend on Walmart to get their equipment. Walmart is trying to embrace its hunting heritage while being a more responsible retailer.

In 2015, Walmart stopped selling semi-automatic weapons like the

AR-15 style rifle, the type used in the Dayton shooting.

The retailer also doesn't sell large-capacity magazines, handguns (except in Alaska) or bump stocks, nor the AK-style firearm that was used by the El Paso shooter.

Ori

Continued from Page 1

Newcastle president and CEO Michael Haney did not respond to requests for comment.

The Tribune reported in September 2018 that trusts controlled by David Blum and his Wilmette-based firm, Lawrence Management Co., were putting the property, at State and Elm streets, up for sale as a potential high-rise development site. Jones Lang LaSalle broker Tom Kirschbraun, who is representing the seller in the potential sale, at the time said Barnes & Noble is on a short-term lease that can be canceled to make way for a redevelopment of the site.

A neighboring Lou Malnati's pizzeria would not be displaced by a redevelopment.

In April, Newcastle unveiled its 39-story proposal in a community meeting, amid plans to buy the site.

The Solomon Cordwell Buenz-designed building would have included restaurant and retail space, an indoor-outdoor roof deck with a swimming pool, 161 parking spaces and 220 bike parking spaces.

With zoning approval, Newcastle had planned to begin construction in early 2020.

A smaller Newcastle project just north of the site, an 11-story apartment building proposed at 1200 to 1206 N. State, is still under review by the alderman. Newcastle already owns that site at State and Division streets, which it bought for \$10.1 million in August 2018, according to Cook County property records.

Hopkins said he has not decided whether to support the 95-unit project. But he said that proposal, which would include fine dining on the ground floor, has much stronger community support.

*rori@chicagotribune.com
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MULTI-FAMILY • 5720 W. CERMAK RD., CICERO, IL

Well located one storefront and (3) three bedroom apartments on a hard corner.

Previously Valued to \$599,000 • Suggested Opening Bid \$265,000

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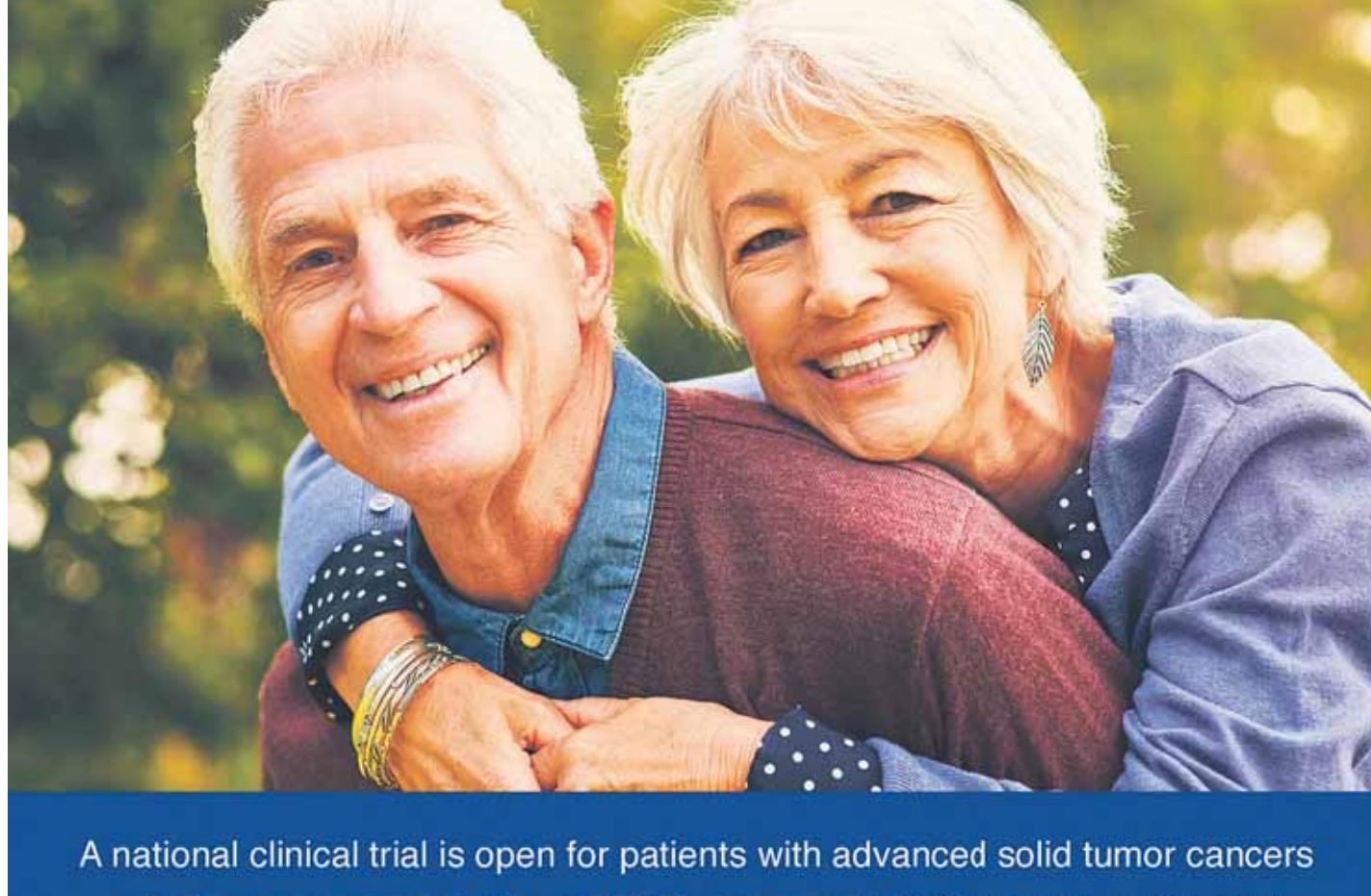
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Survey: US manufacturing activity fell in Aug.; factories cut jobs

BY BANI SAPRA

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. factory activity shrank in August for the first time since August 2016, a sign that the trade war with China is weighing down a crucial sector of the economy.

The Institute for Supply Management, an association of purchasing managers, said Tuesday that its manufacturing index slid to 49.1 last month, from 51.2 in July. Any reading below 50

signals a contraction. That's the lowest for the index since January 2016.

A global softening in demand, worsened by an increasingly high-risk trade war between the U.S. and China, appears to be hurting American manufacturers. More than half of the public comments from companies surveyed by ISM pointed to economic uncertainty as a drag on their businesses.

Investors were dismayed by the news. Stock prices, which had already fallen at

the market's open, dropped further after the report's release. The Dow Jones Industrial Average closed at 26,118.02, down 285.26 or -1.08%.

Factories are cutting jobs for the first time since September 2016, as the employment index fell 4.3 points to 47.4. A measure of new orders fell by 3.6 percentage points, a sign that output may continue to decline. A measure of production declined by 1.3 points.

Timothy Fiore, chairman

of the ISM's Manufacturing Business Survey Committee, said that the decline in new orders was driven by the contraction in new export orders, which fell to their lowest since April 2009, when global trade was hit by the financial crisis.

"Tariffs are still weighing heavily on supply managers' minds as they adjust their supply or manufacturing sources," Fiore said. "Some industries can do it quickly while others need more time."

As the report indicates a steady decline in future manufacturing, economists have also speculated whether a grim picture of U.S. manufacturing will spill over to affect other areas of the economy.

"Another couple of months of declines on this scale would leave the U.S. facing an entirely unnecessary and self-inflicted recession," Ian Shepherdson, the chief economist at Pantheon Economics, wrote in a research note.

Surveys of purchasing

managers this week have suggested that the uncertainty generated by the trade war has hit manufacturers on a global scale. While surveys of purchasing managers showed mixed results in China, manufacturing activity declined across Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea. In Europe, German manufacturing activity remained close to July's seven-year low, as new orders fell, producers scaled back output, and job losses rose steeply.

For mass shootings, AI not just eyes

Surveillance cameras can ID people and suspicious behavior

BY IVAN MORENO

Associated Press

Paul Hildreth peered at a display of dozens of images from security cameras surveying his Atlanta school district and settled on one showing a woman in a bright yellow shirt walking a hallway.

A mouse click instructed the artificial intelligence-equipped system to find other images of the woman, and it immediately stitched them into a video narrative of where she was currently, where she had been and where she was going.

There was no threat, but Hildreth's demonstration showed what's possible with AI-powered cameras. If a gunman were in one of his schools, the cameras could quickly identify the shooter's location and movements, allowing police to end the threat as soon as possible, said Hildreth, emergency operations coordinator for the Fulton County School District.

AI is transforming surveillance cameras from passive sentries into active observers that can identify people, suspicious behavior and guns, amassing large amounts of data that help them learn over time to recognize mannerisms, gait and dress. If the cameras have a previously captured image of someone who is banned from a building, the system can immediately alert officials if the person returns.

At a time when the threat of a mass shooting is ever-present, schools are among the most enthusiastic adopters of the technology, known as real-time video analytics or intelligent video, even as civil liberties groups warn about a threat to privacy. Police, retailers, stadiums and Fortune 500 companies are also using intelligent video.

"What we're really looking for are those things that help us to identify things either before they occur or maybe right as they occur so that we can react a little faster," Hildreth said.

A year after an expelled student killed 17 people at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, Broward County installed cameras from Canada-based Avigilon



CODY JACKSON/AP

Paul Hildreth, emergency operations coordinator for the Fulton County School District, works with "intelligent video" in the emergency operations center at the Fulton County School District Administration Center in Atlanta on July 30.

throughout the district in February. Hildreth's Atlanta district will spend \$16.5 million to put the cameras in its roughly 100 buildings in coming years.

In Greeley, Colorado, the school district has used Avigilon cameras for about five years, and the technology has advanced rapidly, said John Tait, security manager for Weld County School District 6.

Upcoming upgrades include the ability to identify guns and read people's expressions, a capability not currently part of Avigilon's systems.

"It's almost kind of scary," Tait said. "It will look at the expressions on people's faces and their mannerisms and be able to tell if they look violent."

Retailers can spot shoplifters in real time and alert security or warn of a potential shoplifter. One company, Athena-Security, has cameras that spot weapons.

And in a bid to help retailers, it recently expanded its capabilities to help identify

big spenders when they visit a store.

It's unknown how many schools have AI-equipped cameras because it's not being tracked. But Michael Dorn, executive director of Safe Havens International, a nonprofit that advises schools on security, said "quite a few" use Avigilon and Sweden-based Axis Communications equipment "and the feedback has been very good."

Schools are the largest market for video surveillance systems in the U.S., estimated at \$450 million in 2018, according to London-based IHS Markit, a data and information services company. The overall market for real-time video analytics was estimated at \$3.2 billion worldwide in 2018 — and it's anticipated to grow to more than \$9 billion by 2023, according to one estimate.

AI cameras have already been tested by some companies to evaluate consumers' facial expressions to determine if they're having a

pleasant or unpleasant shopping experience and improve customer service, according to the Center for Democracy and Technology, a Washington nonprofit that advocates for privacy protections. Policy counsel Joseph Jerome said companies may someday use the cameras to estimate someone's age, which might be useful for liquor stores, or facial-expression analysis to aid in job interviews.

Police in New York, New Orleans and Atlanta all use cameras with AI. In Hartford, Connecticut, the police network of 500 cameras includes some AI-equipped units that can, for example, search hours of video to find people wearing certain clothes or search for places where a suspicious vehicle was seen.

The power of the systems has sparked privacy concerns.

"The issue is personal autonomy and whether you'll be able to go around walking in the public square or a shopping mall without

tens, hundreds, thousands of people, companies and entities learning things about you," Jerome said.

"People haven't really caught up to how broad and deep the technology can now," said Jay Stanley, a senior policy analyst at the American Civil Liberties Union who published a research paper in June about how the cameras are being used. "When I explain it, people are pretty amazed and spooked."

When it comes to the potential for stemming violence that may be less of an issue, Shannon Flounnary, executive director for safety and security for the Fulton County School District, said no privacy concerns have been heard there.

"The events of Parkland kind of changed the game," he said. "We have not had any arguments or any push-back right now."

ZeroEyes, a Philadelphia-based company, began testing gun-detection software last winter at Ranocas Valley Regional High

School in New Jersey, which became a client. Since the company began selling their product last month, it said it's signed up another four schools — in Pennsylvania, Georgia, Tennessee and Florida.

The company also brought on a government agency in New York that it says it can't name. Co-founder Rob Huberty said ZeroEyes will be marketing the product to "stadiums, shopping malls — anywhere with a potential for a mass shooting."

Even supporters of these systems acknowledge the technology is not going to prevent all mass shootings — especially considering how quickly damage is done. But supporters argue they can at least help reduce the number of casualties by giving people more time to seek shelter and providing first responders with information sooner.

"This is just one thing that's going to help everybody do their job better," Huberty said.

American Airlines extends its Boeing 737 Max cancellations

American Airlines says it is delaying the expected return date for its Boeing 737 Max jets.

The airline said Sunday that while it "remains confident" that coming software updates and training will mean recertification of the aircraft this year, it is extending cancellations for Max flights through Dec. 3.

The airline says this means about 140 flights per day will be canceled through Dec. 3. Not all flights scheduled on the Max will be canceled, though. The airline says it will use other aircraft for some of the flights. But some flights not scheduled on the Max jets may also be canceled.

United Airlines has also delayed its Max return date through Dec. 19.

Max jets have been grounded since March after two accidents that killed a



ELAINE THOMPSON/AP

American Airlines says it is delaying the expected return date for its Boeing 737 Max jets. The airline said Sept. 1 that it is extending cancellations for Max flights through Dec. 3.

total of 346 people.

Boeing is working to fix flight-control software implicated in the crashes off the coast of Indonesia and in Ethiopia and solve another problem that Federal Aviation Administration test pi-

lots discovered in June.

Boeing's 737 assembly plant near Seattle is still running but at a slower rate, and completed jets are going into storage.

— Chicago Tribune

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on September 19, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. CDT (the "Date of Sale") in the offices of Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner LLP, 161 North Clark Street, Suite 4300, Chicago, Illinois, P2BInvestor Incorporated ("Lender"), pursuant to Section 9-610 of the Uniform Commercial Code, as adopted under applicable law, and under the following agreements: (i) that certain Financing and Security Agreement dated as of October 4, 2016 (the "2016 FSA") and that certain Financing and Security Agreement dated as of October 2, 2017 (collectively with the 2016 FSA and each as amended, modified or supplemented from time to time, the "Loan Agreement") pursuant to which Lender has made certain loans and other extensions of credit available to Lifeprint Products, Inc. ("Borrower"); (ii) that certain Secured Promissory Note dated May 29, 2018 by Borrower in the original principal amount of \$2,500,000 (as amended, modified or supplemented from time to time, the "Note"); (iii) that certain Secured Promissory Note dated November 19, 2018 by Borrower in the original principal amount of \$350,000 (the "Second Note") and (iv) that certain Consolidated Secured Promissory Note by Borrower in the original principal amount of \$4,110,824.67 dated December 31, 2018 (the "Consolidated Note") and together with the Loan Agreement, the Note, the Second Note and all other related documents, the "Loan Documents" will hold a public sale (the "Sale") of all of Borrower's estate, right, title and interest in and to in certain personal property of the Borrower constituting Collateral under the Loan Documents, including, but not limited to, certain patent rights, trademark rights and copyright rights (collectively, the "Assets").

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Assets will be sold to the bidder or bidders with the highest or otherwise best bids (as determined by Seller), for cash, except as otherwise provided herein, and such other commercially reasonable terms as the Seller may determine on an "AS IS, WHERE IS" basis with all faults and without any express or implied representations or warranties whatsoever, including, without limitation, warranties of merchantability, quiet enjoyment or fitness for a particular purpose or as to the title, value or quality of the Assets. Seller reserves the right, on or prior to the Date of Sale, to modify, waive or amend any terms or conditions of the Sale or impose any other terms or conditions on the Sale and, if the Seller deems appropriate, to reject any bids and/or to continue, adjourn or terminate the Sale. Seller or its assignee or designee reserve the right to credit bid for all or a portion of the Assets at the Sale and, notwithstanding the requirement that such Sale be for cash, to apply all or any part of the total amount of the indebtedness owed to the Lenders under the Loan Documents, in satisfaction of the purchase price. The winning bidder will be required to deposit twenty-five percent (25%) of winning bid in cash or by wire transfer to Seller on or before the Date of Sale, and close the Sale and transmit the remainder of its winning bid amount to the Seller no later than five (5) business days after being declared by Seller as the winning bidder at the Sale. Other bid procedures apply, and a full set of the bid procedures are available upon request.

All requests for information relating to the Assets, the bid procedures, the terms and conditions of the Sale and other inquiries should be directed to Jeremy Becker (847) 414-5740, or to Seller's counsel, Leslie Allen Bayles, Bryan Cave Leighton Paisner, LLP, (312) 602-5000.

AUCTION MART

PLEASE CALL 312.222.4089 TO PLACE AD

OBITUARIES

PATRICIA DODSON 1925-2019

Feminist, activist in civil rights and anti-war efforts

BY GRAYDON MEGAN

Patricia Dodson was a remarkable combination of feminist and friend, Girl Scout leader and globetrotter and always an activist for causes she believed in, especially those benefiting women.

"I remember once distinctly she was working (as a volunteer) at a shelter (in Evanston) for abused women and she would go to court with the women," said longtime neighbor and friend Judith Spurgin. "She would go as kind of an advocate and for moral support."

"She was a strong feminist, as was I," said longtime friend Hedy Ratner. "She was involved in issues of social justice and reproductive rights, civil rights and women's rights."

Dodson, 94, died of natural causes Aug. 4 in an assisted living facility in Salt Lake City, according to one of her five daughters, Leslie. She lived in Evanston for more than 30 years and on the North Side of Chicago for about 25 years before moving to Utah about six years ago to be closer to family.

She was born Patricia Ungaro in 1925 in the Montclare neighborhood of Chicago within a large extended Italian family. When she was about 12, her family moved to Winnetka. She attended New Trier East High School, graduating at 16 and going on to study chemistry at Vassar College in New York. Her daughter said she was part of a class scheduled to graduate in 1945, but accelerated because of World War II to graduate in late 1944 as the Vassar class of 1945-4, known as the class with a dash.

She passed up further studies in chemistry to return to Chicago and work as a research chemist, her daughter said. In 1947, she married Leonard Dodson. The couple lived in Evanston while raising their daughters. The couple divorced in 1972.

In the turbulent 1960s,



FAMILY PHOTO

Patricia Dodson was born in the Montclare neighborhood of Chicago.

Dodson's older daughters spurred her interest and her activism in anti-war and civil rights movements.

Leslie Dodson said her mother and some of her sisters marched in Evanston in favor of the Equal Rights Amendment and against the Vietnam War. In Chicago, Dodson participated in labor marches in support of migrant farmworkers, marched in Chicago's Gay Pride Parade and in Washington, D.C., attended protests in support of women's reproductive rights.

"I think she was a feminist (starting) from her days at Vassar," her daughter said.

Dodson returned to school in 1966 to pursue an MBA at Northwestern's Kellogg School of Management, joining the first cohort to include women, her daughter said. With her new degree, she first worked in marketing but soon shifted to financial planning, helping other women navigate the intricacies of personal finance and investment strategies.

She put that knowledge to work on her own behalf at the Chicago Board Options Exchange, where she traded from the mid-1970s to about the mid-1980s. She owned a seat on the exchange from 1979 until 2007.

Her interest in learning wasn't limited to profit-making, as in 1982 she got a master's degree in anthropology from the University of Illinois at Chi-

cago, her daughter said.

Dodson was a world traveler whose trips ranged from study at anthropological sites in Brazil, Bolivia and India to trips more centered on geopolitics. Those included visits to Israel, Iran, Afghanistan, the West Bank and Gaza, often traveling with one or another of her daughters to, as she put it, "see what my government was doing in my name."

She also participated in archaeological digs at Native American sites in Kampserville, Illinois, as well as at pre-Colombian sites in Peru and Bolivia with members of the University of Chicago and the Field Museum of Natural History.

Until moving to Utah, she continued to study geopolitics at Northwestern University's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute.

Dodson kept in shape for all those travels, marches and other activities with a regular regimen of early morning workouts at Chicago's East Bank Club. She was in the club's masters swimming program and competed in the Senior Olympics and the Huntsman Senior World Games in Utah in swimming. She twice made the Avon 3-day Breast Cancer Awareness Walk and hiked up Machu Picchu in Peru.

"She had the most remarkable energy and enthusiasm for life," said Ratner, "which attracted people to her as if she were a magnet."

Dodson is also survived by four other daughters, Daryl Dodson Wilson; Dee McLaughlin, Lindsey and Karen; four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be 4 to 8 p.m. Friday in Ryan-Park Funeral Home, 120 S. Northwest Hwy., Park Ridge.

Mass will be celebrated at 9:30 a.m. Saturday in St. Paul of the Cross Catholic Church, 320 S. Washington St., Park Ridge.

Graydon Megan is a freelance reporter

graydonmegan@chicagotribune.com

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Chicago Tribune Death Notices

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

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Cassano, Celeste

Celeste Cassano, nee Scarpelli, age 88; Dearest wife of the late Federico; Loving mother of Filomena (the late William) Willis and Francesca (Dino) Braglia; Caring grandmother of Vanessa (Steve) Stelloh, James (Stephanie) Willis, Anthony and Nicholas Braglia; Loving great grandmother of Nathan and Logan Stelloh; Beloved sister of Ida, Yolanda and the late Maria; Fond aunt of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Thursday 3-9:00 p.m. at **BELMONT FUNERAL HOME**, 7120 W. Belmont Ave. Chicago, IL. Funeral Service Friday 10:00 a.m. at the Funeral Home. Entombment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Info: www.belmontfuneralhome.com or 773 286-2500

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Ceferin, George R.

George R. Ceferin, age 72, a resident of Naperville, IL since 2000, formerly of Brookfield, IL and LaGrange, IL, passed away on Monday, September 2, 2019 at Edward Hospital in Naperville. He was born November 5, 1946 in Berwyn, IL.

Arrangements by **Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services**, Naperville, IL.

For service times and a complete obituary, please visit www.friedrich-jones.com or call (630) 355-0213 for more information.

Friedrich Jones
Funeral Homes & Cremation Services

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Charnota, Camille

Camille Charnota (nee Pinto), beloved wife of the late William Charnota; loving mother of Mark (Lina) Esposito, the late Christopher (Patricia) Esposito and Melissa (Robert) Rascia, David (Piera) Charnota and Michael Charnota; cherished Nani of Lexee, Madeline, Vincent, Sophia, Marcella and great-grandson Dominic, Bianca, Marissa, Taylor, Carly and Joseph, Kyle, William and Kendall; dear sister of Mary Lou (Anthony "Butch") Dalesandro, Marguerite Caliendo, the late John Michael (Louise) Pinto; fond aunt of many nieces and nephews. Past President and long time member of the Italian American War Veterans Women's Auxiliary. Funeral Thursday beginning with Visitation from 9:30-10:00 a.m. at St. Vincent Ferrer Church, 7600 W. North Ave., River Forest, 60305 followed by Mass at 10:00 a.m. Entombment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Arrangements by **Sciaraffa Funeral Directors**. For information call (773) 889-1700.

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David, Charlotte

Charlotte David, nee Carl, 85, beloved wife and best friend of Melvin for over 57 years; proud and devoted mother of Scott and Monica (Brett) Lotsoff; adored Grammy of Sofia and Ava; dear sister of Sandra (Barry) Weiss and the late Sam (Joan) and the late Howard "Hershey" (Judy) Carl; treasured aunt and cousin to many; cherished companion and confidant to countless friends, both old and new. A shining star to all. Chapel service Thursday 12 Noon at **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. Interment Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to **WTTW** (interactive.wttw.com) or **WFMT** (wfmt.com). For information or to leave condolences: 847-255-3520 or shalom2.com

Shalom
Memorial Funeral Home

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Dee, Jacob R.

Jacob Robert Dee, 41, died August 14 in Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo. He worked for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control in the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief, where he made significant contributions to the suppression of HIV in the Caribbean and in Africa. He was the CDC's Chief for Strategic Information and Science in the Congo, and in that capacity he did transformative work in data analysis and visualization that profoundly improved the global HIV program. He was beloved by his father, Ivan; his mother, Phyllis; his stepmother, Barbara; his brothers, Gabriel, Alexander, and Joshua; his sister, Sara; and by his extended family and many good friends and colleagues. Jacob was born in Chicago, grew up in Evanston, and studied at the University of Illinois. He did graduate work in Victorian literature on a fellowship at Princeton, then worked in service organizations in Chicago before taking a degree in public health at Emory University and joining the CDC. He had a noble spirit, a fine intelligence, a subtle wit, and a dedication to humanitarian service that endeared him to many around the world. His loss is a great sorrow. Contributions in his memory may be made to Doctors Without Borders.

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Doyle, Genevieve

Genevieve Doyle, nee Dixon, age 99. Married to the late Larry for 50 years and dedicated mom of 5 boys. Set an example for everyone she knew that happiness is found in being surrounded by family and friends. Orchestrated family dinners every Sunday with her sisters Betty and Lorraine, as they had learned from their mom and aunts on Green St. Renowned baker of countless birthday cakes, cupcakes, and Christmas cookies. Cared for everyone around her until the tables turned, then humbly accepted help from all those that were honored to return the favor. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Support Our Aging Religious, www.soaar-usa.org. Visitation: Thurs., Sept. 5th 4-8 PM at **Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home**, 44 S Mill St. Naperville, IL 60540. Mass: Friday, Sept. 6th 11 AM at St. Irene's Catholic Church, 28 W. 441 Warrenville Road, Warrenville IL 60555. Interment at Assumption Cemetery, Wheaton. Info: 630-355-0213.

Friedrich Jones
Funeral Homes & Cremation Services

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Fine, Myrna

Myrna Fine, nee Palles, 83, beloved wife of the late Edwin; loving mother of Lynn (Mark) Thomas, Holli (Jerry) Parker, Dori Mapel and Gary Rashkow; cherished grandmother of Jake and Sam Thomas and Riley and Charlie Parker; Myrna was a lover of movies, plays and an avid reader. Services have been held. Interment Shalom Memorial Park. Donations in Myrna's memory may be made to The Good People Fund, c/o Ani Shlishi, 2511 Elm Ave., Evanston, Illinois 60201 (Memo should note Ani Shlishi). For information or to leave condolences: 847-255-3520

Shalom
Memorial Funeral Home

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Fitzgerald, Patricia M.

Patricia M. Fitzgerald, of Western Springs; beloved wife of Donald J. Fitzgerald; loving mother of Brehan, Kieran (Ryan), Garrett (Jennifer), Patrick, & Bridget; proud grandmother of Ryan, Brenna, Lucy, Francis, Eamon, Neve, & Jack; dear cousin, aunt, & friend of many. Visitation 10 a.m. until time of Funeral Mass, 11 a.m. on Thursday, September 5 at St. John of the Cross Catholic Church, 5005 S. Wolf Road, Western Springs. Interment at Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Memorial donations in Patricia's name to the Misericordia Home (<https://www.misericordia.com/giving/donate-online/>) are appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, Countryside. Info: (708) 352-6500 or hjfunerals.com.

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Giannini, Ann

Ann Giannini, nee DeVivo, age 99, of Oak Brook. Beloved wife of the late Mario; loving mother of Phyllis "Cookie" (Joseph) Scolari, Sandra, Peter Giannini, and preceded in death by her son Carmen; devoted grandmother of Joseph, Nicholas, Mario, and Dominic Giannini. Visitation Thursday, September 5th, 9 AM until time of funeral mass at 10 AM at St. Mary of Gostyn, 444 Wilson St., Downers Grove. Entombment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Memorials to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital are appreciated. Funeral Info: knollcrest.net or 630-932-1500.

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Grennan, Judith "Judy"

(nee Phillips) Age 79 Loving mother of Linda (Dr. John) Perryman, and Daniel (Liz) Grennan. Cherished grandma of Brian and Nicole Grennan, Sean and Katie Perryman. Dear sister of the late John (Diane) Phillips. Beloved aunt, cousin, and friend to many. Always the first to arrive and last to leave, Judy was the life of the party. She acquired many unique nicknames over the years, and will be deeply missed by her friends and family. A celebration of life will be held at a later time. Arrangements entrusted to Robert J. Sheehy & Sons Funeral Homes. sheehyfh.com 708-857-7878

**Robert J.
Sheehy & Sons**

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Hansen , Eileen G.

Eileen G. Hansen, (née Smyth), 88, Aug. 28, loving wife of the late Kenneth; beloved mother of Brian, Jeff (Joy) and Susan Hansen, Mary (Bill) Metzler and Beth (Steve) Rockey; dear grandmother of Nicole, Michelle and Ashley Hansen, Charlie, Jack, Danny, Katie, Bill and Elizabeth Metzler, Kara, Matt and Emily Rockey; devoted sister of Kay (the late Bill) Dodd, Elaine (the late Eugene) Barry and Patricia (Ed) Harmening; cherished aunt of numerous nieces and nephews; and a loyal, empathetic friend to many. A graduate of Mundelein College, Eileen started out as a Chicago Public Schools teacher. She later earned her Masters in psychology/counseling and went on to build a second career as a marriage and family counselor, first at Little Company of Mary Hospital, where she co-founded the bereavement support program, and then in private practice. She was a kind, fair, sensitive, spiritual person with a strong social conscience who did her best to make her community and the world more peaceful and just. She never gave up. Peace and love, Mom. You will live in our hearts forever—you were beautiful inside and out. Funeral Saturday 9 a.m. from Donnellan Funeral Home 10525 S. Western Ave. to St. Barnabas Church 10134 S. Longwood Dr. Chicago, for 10 a.m. Mass. Int. Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Visitation Friday, 4 to 9 p.m. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Margaret's Village/Maria Shelter, 7315 S. Yale, Chicago, IL 60621. Info (773) 238-0075 or sign guestbook at www.donnellanfuneralhome.com.

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Hudson, Oralia H.

Oralia Hernandez Hudson, 92, passed away peacefully at her home in Chicago on August 31, 2019. Beloved wife of Robert C. Hudson, Jr.; loving mother of Robert C., III (Sarah), William (Patrice), the late D. James (Barbara), the late Susan Oralia and Armida Betty (Dennis) Perez-Koukounaras; cherished grandmother of Jennifer, Elizabeth, Devon (Ryan) Murphy, David, Katherine (William) Van Wig, Michelle, Carolyn, Rachel, Jane, and Constantine Koukounaras; proud great-grandmother of Vivian, Benjamin, and Gabriel. Services will be private.

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Hutton, Theresse

Theresse Hutton, age 73, passed away peacefully on August 30, 2019. Theresse (Terri) was born on June 30, 1946 to the late Francis and Mary Lecinski. Beloved wife of Richard for 50 years; loving mother of Audrey (Risty) Ketola, Debora (Damian) Scoles, and Timothy (Gina); cherished grandmother of Nicholas, Sarah and Matthew Scoles and Alyssa, Kaitlin, Claire and Michael; dear sister of Francis (Elaine), Joseph (Susan) and Richard (Christine) Lecinski; fond aunt of many nieces and nephews. She loved her family, friends, reading, horses and dogs. With her determined spirit, she lived with and battled carcinoid cancer for 23 years. Visitation at **Oehler Funeral Home**, 2099 Miner Street, Des Plaines, IL on Friday, September 6, 2019 from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. Friends and family may gather at the funeral home at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 7, 2019 and proceed to St. Zachary Catholic Church, 567 W Algonquin Road, Des Plaines, IL for Mass at 11:30 a.m. In lieu of flowers, Masses would be appreciated. Funeral info 847-824-5155.

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Hyde, Joanne B.

Joanne B. Hyde 82 of Norridge was born on January 2, 1937 to the late Julian and late Helen Betley and passed away August 31, 2019. Joanne was the beloved wife of the late David F. Hyde; loving mother of Anne Hyde, David (Shelly) Hyde, Amy Hyde and the late Jenifer Hyde; caring grandmother of Stefani (Brittney) Hyde, Anna Hyde, Benjamin Hyde, Christian Hyde and Sophie Hyde; dear sister of Eileen (Betley); fond aunt to many nieces and nephews. Visitation Thursday from 3-8pm at **Oehler Funeral Home** 2099 Miner St Des Plaines, IL. Prayers will be said Friday, September 6 at 9:45am at the Funeral Home and proceed to Our Lady Mother of the Church 8747 W. Lawrence Ave. Chicago, IL. Mass 10:30am. Interment St. Adalbert Cemetery. Funeral info 847-824-5155 or oehlerfuneralhome.com

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Ilic, Mary Weil

Mary Weil Ilic, age 74. Beloved daughter of the late Myron and Virginia Weil; loving mother to Bradimir, Michael and Barrett Ilic; fond sister of the late Frederick Weil and Daniel Weil; cherished sister of Virginia Walker; adored Grandmother of Jaden, Miles, Julian and Edie Ilic; treasured Mother in-law to Eileen, Angie and Kiran; fond Aunt of Nicole, Kerri and Kendra as well as the late Lisa Weil. Service Thursday, 12:00 p.m. at The Chapel, 8851 Skokie Blvd, Skokie (at Niles Center Rd.). Interment Waldheim, Forest Park, IL. Contributions may be made to the Charity of your Choice. Info: **The Goldman Funeral Group**, www.goldmantfuneralgroup.com (847) 478-1600.

GOLDMAN
FUNERAL GROUP

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MCCORMACK, Patrick J.

Patrick J. McCormack, 64, retired Chicago Police Detective; cherished father of Annie (Gabriel Dziekiewicz), Karen (Roberto Luna), and Patrick (Vallory); loving partner of Maritza Merced (Angelica and Claudia) and former husband of Carol; affectionate grandfather of 8; dear brother of Susan, Michael, James, Mary Therese, Thomas, and Jeanne; fond uncle, friend and mentor to many; Funeral Friday 10:15 AM from **Gibbons Family Funeral Home** 5917 W. Irving Park Rd. (1/2 Block East of Austin) to Immaculate Conception Church (Harlem & Talcott). Mass 11 AM. Interment Maryhill Cemetery. Visitation Thursday 3-8 PM. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to Chicago Police Memorial Foundation. For Info 773-777-3944 or www.GFFH.com

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Opp, James C.

Jim Opp was born February 26, 1950 and passed away unexpectedly on August 31, 2019. He had many hobbies and loves but Jim had a strong passion for the game of golf. A Lifetime Member of the PGA of America he dedicated his life to that passion serving the game in a variety of roles. As the longtime GM/ Head Golf Professional at Bonnie Dundee Golf Course in East Dundee, he was instrumental in overseeing the operation and providing exceptional customer service. His dedication to all PGA Members led him to being serving on countless Section and National Committees and Boards and ultimately as an Officer of the Illinois Section culminating with him being President 2015- 2016. Even in retirement he continued to give back to the game by serving as a Rules Official for Professional and Amateur golf tournaments, working as a Player Ambassador at Medinah Country Club and a strong advocate and fundraiser for the Folds of Honor Charity.

Besides golf, Jim was madly in love with his wife of almost 20 years Susan. She was his soulmate and shared his love for food, traveling, entertaining and of course fishing. Jimmy was a beloved father to Tony, Kristin and Megan as well as the proud Papa Jim for grandson Jaden. He shared a special love with his sister-in-law Cary as well as maintaining a unique relationship with his children's mother Gina and her extended family. Jim will be missed by all, he never met a stranger rather just a soon to be new friend.

Visitation Friday 3 - 8 pm at the **Meadows Funeral Home**, 3615 Kirchoff Road, Rolling Meadows, where the funeral service also will be held on Saturday at 11 am. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, Jim would love for donations to be made to the Folds of Honor. Meadowsfh.com

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Ott, Judith A. 'Judy'

Judith A. Ott, nee Kanabay, age 81, passed away peacefully on September 1, 2019. Judy was the beloved wife of Charles G. for 63 wonderful years; loving mother of Charles G., Joseph N. and Russell E. (Karen) Ott; dearest daughter of the late Anne and Joseph Kanabay; cherished grandmother of Hailey (Alex Nordin) and Emily (Jordan Landwehr) Ott; dear sister of the late Joan (the late Eugene) Tisza and a fond aunt of many. Memorial visitation Friday, September 6, 2019, from 3:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m., with memorial service at 7:00 p.m., at **Cumberland Chapels** 8300 W. Lawrence Ave., Norridge, IL. For more information www.cumberlandchapels.com or (708)456-8300.

CUMBERLAND CHAPELS

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Chicago Tribune Death Notices

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

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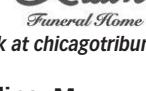
Rosinski, Leo F.

Leo F. Rosinski, age 72, Vet. U.S. Army National Guard; Beloved husband of Karen Caldwell Rosinski (nee Henderson); Loving father of Renee Caldwell; Son of the late Leo and Anna Rosinski (nee Blaha); Fond uncle of many nieces and nephews. 44 year employee of R.R. Donnelley, Avid sports fan with the Chicago Cubs being his favorite, Life-long bowler and Classic car enthusiast. Visitation Friday 3 to 9 P.M.; Funeral service Saturday 11 AM at the Orland Funeral Home, 9900 W. 143rd St.; Interment Private. Please sign guestbook at orlandfuneralhome.com, for info 708-460-7500.

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Schreck, Charles J. 'Charlie'

Charles J. 'Charlie' Schreck, age 60, beloved son of Mary J. (nee Benevelli) and the late Joseph C. Schreck; loving brother of Joyce Schissler and Christine (Daniel) Alvarez; dearest uncle of Angelique (Derek) Dotson, Jen Brya, April Godlewski, Nicholas Schissler, Justine Alvarez and Julia Alvarez; caring great uncle of Tori Godlewski. Visitation Thursday 3-9 P.M. Funeral Service Friday 10:00 A.M. at **Lawn Funeral Home**, 7732 W. 159th St. Orland Park. Interment St. Mary Cemetery. Funeral info 708-429-3200.



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Schlitas, Marilyn

Marilyn Schlitas nee: Schifo; Loving and devoted partner of Daniel J. Laverne Sr.; Cherished mother of Dana Buttacavoli, Cari Koss; Dear sister-in-law of Sally Schlitas; Devoted Grandma of Ava, Lydia and Jimmy. Funeral Thursday 9:30 a.m. at **Salerno's Rosedale Chapels**, 450 W. Lake Street, Roselle, 60172 (3/4 mile west of Bloomingdale/Roselle Rd.), Chapel Service 10:30 a.m. Interment St. Mary Catholic Cemetery, Evergreen Park. Visitation Wednesday 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. For info 630-889-1700 or www.salernofuneralhomes.com



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Schlosser, Elizabeth

Elizabeth L. Schlosser, age 85, passed away Saturday, August 31, 2019. She was born in Evanston, IL, December 9, 1933, daughter of the late Raymond and Gertrude (Nee: Richards) Rau. Survivors include her husband, Rudolph; children, Kurt (Maureen) Schlosser, Peter (Karen) Schlosser, Rudolph (Stephanie)

Schlosser III, James (Tracy) Schlosser, Sara (Richard) Hartian; 10 grandchildren; 1 great grandchild; other relatives and friends. Visitation will be held at the **Maresh Meredith Funeral Home** on Friday September 6, 4-6 in Racine, WI. Services to follow at 6 pm. Please see funeral home website for a full obituary. <https://meredithfuneralhome.com>.

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Schneider, David M.

David M. Schneider, 65, beloved husband of Randi nee Rice for 41 years; loving father of Jamie (David) Fintz and Jeffrey (Julie) Schneider; cherished Grumpy of Olivia; dear brother of Devra (Jim) Clinton, Judi (Bill) Phalen and the late Sol Schneider; fond brother-in-law of Susan (Lloyd) Schneider and Ken (Lauren) Rice; devoted son of the late William Schneider and Shirley Freedman; many loving nieces and nephews. Chapel service Thursday 2:30 PM at **Zarzycki Manor Funeral Home**, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. Interment Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the Shirley Ryan Ability Lab (www.sralab.org/give). For information or to leave condolences: (847)255-3250 or www.shalom2.com.



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Seery, Jr., Patrick Joseph

Patrick Joseph Seery, Jr., age 54, of Chicago; beloved son of Margaret Mary (nee Celli) Seery and the late Patrick Joseph Seery, Sr.; loving brother of Kevin & Michael (Tracie); proud uncle of Justin, Kate, Maxwell, Jack, & Emma; loving nephew of Marianne (Charles) Sincell, Edith (Raymond) Gaumond, & John Cella; cousin and friend of many. Visitation 3 to 8 p.m. on Friday, September 6 at **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, 1025 W. 55th St., Countryside. Family & friends will meet at the funeral home for prayers at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 7. Procession to Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church in Darien will follow for 10:30 a.m. Mass. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Mercy Home for Boys & Girls are appreciated. Info: (708) 352-6500 or hjfunerals.com

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Seery, Sr., Patrick Joseph

Patrick Joseph Seery, Sr., age 80, of Burr Ridge; beloved husband of Margaret Mary (nee Celli) Seery; loving father of Kevin & Michael (Tracie), and preceded in death by loving son Patrick Joseph Seery, Jr.; proud grandfather of Justin & Kate and Maxwell, Jack, & Emma; dear brother of Marianne (Charles) Sincell; dear brother-in-law of Edith (Raymond) Gaumond & John Cella; loving uncle, cousin, & friend of many. Visitation 3 to 8 p.m. on Friday, September 6 at **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, 1025 W. 55th St., Countryside. Family & friends will meet at the funeral home for prayers at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 7. Procession to Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church in Darien will follow for 10:30 a.m. Mass. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to the Mercy Home for Boys & Girls are appreciated. Info: (708) 352-6500 or hjfunerals.com

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Sebastian, Helen

HELEN SEBASTIAN nee Obradovich, well known to generations of kindergarten students at Byrne School in Chicago. Mrs. Sebastian was on the Roll of Honor, having taught for 41 years when she retired in 2003. Her desire to nurture and educate did not end there. For the next 9 years, Helen continued to substitute teach and to volunteer as a Project Care Tutor for Morton College. Born in Duluth, Minnesota on December 2, 1925, Helen was a proud University of Minnesota alumna and a member of St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in Joliet. She and her late husband, William Robert Sebastian, had been married for 54 years and raised 3 children, Dr. Geoffrey (+ Celeste) Sebastian, Nadine (Vytautas) Paukstys and Yvonne (Lawrence) Taylor. Helen's legacy of her thirst for knowledge and sharing it with others will live on in the lives of her 7 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

Visitation Thursday, September 5, 2019, 2-8 p.m. at **Zarzycki Manor Chapels, Ltd.**, 8999 South Archer Avenue, Willow Springs. Pomen Service at 7 p.m. Funeral Services Friday, 10 a.m. at funeral home. Interment Lithuanian National Cemetery. (708) 839.8999 or www.ZarzyckiManorChapels.com.



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Chicago Tribune

Wallace, Richard Gordon 'Dick'

Richard Gordon "Dick" Wallace, 72, passed away peacefully in Gurnee, IL on September 2, 2019. The son of Earl and Jeanne Wallace, Richard was born on August 19, 1947 in Syracuse, New York. Dick was a long time executive in the beverage alcohol industry working for companies such as E&J Gallo Winery, Monsieur Henri Wines, a division of PepsiCo, and Palace Brands, a division of Heublein Inc, among others. His work took him across the globe and he enjoyed his domestic and international travel experiences and the friendships he developed through his work. Richard is survived by his wife of 34 years, Ania (Kwiatkowski), and their children Jerome (Erica), Shannon (James) Kramarz, and Kelly (Lowell) Abbott. He was Pop to grandson Jack Kramarz (4 months). Dick is also survived by his siblings Jerry (Cyndi), Edward (Patricia), Pat Houser (Dennis Whipple), Dan (Stephanie) Swart, Karen (Rick) Susko, and Peggy Lane. He was a dear friend to many and an uncle to many nephews and nieces. Dick was always eager to help friends and family. Dick's passion and focus was his family. He had many cherished memories of family dinners, sporting events, graduations, and trips together. Dick loved Ania for her loving, warm, and positive personality. He was extremely proud of their three children and he beamed with pride when discussing their accomplishments. Family and friends will gather Friday, September 6 for memorial visitation at 9:30am until the time of memorial mass at 10:30am at St. Joseph's Church, 121 E. Maple Ave, Libertyville, IL 60048. Donations in Richard's memory can be made to Shatterproof at shatterproof.org/donate.

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Wells-Johnson RN, Ruby J.

Ruby J. Wells-Johnson RN, nee Edwards, age 65. Beloved wife of Willie. Loving mother of Sean (Pamela McKenzie) and Corey (Amanda Ellis). Cherished grandmother of Aryus, Destini and Miranda. Fond sister of Clinton Duckworth Jr. and the late Dwayne Duckworth. Many nieces, nephews, relatives and friends. Memorial Service September 7, 2019, 11 A.M. at Greater Saint John Missionary Baptist Church 310 South Kostner Avenue, Chicago, IL 60615. For information contact [Brust Funeral Home](#) Carol Stream at 630-510-0044.

[Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries](#)

Yang, Charles Chung-Cheng

October 29, 1926 -August 24, 2019.

For service information, please contact [Donnellan Family Funeral Services](#) 10045 Skokie Blvd. at Old Orchard Road, Skokie, IL 60077.

847-675-1990 or www.donnellanfuneral.com.

Donnellan
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Zralek, Rita Ann

Rita Ann Zralek, 87, of Chicago, Illinois, died peacefully in her sleep on August 26, 2019. She loved the symphony, the opera (oh, she loved opera!), the Art Institute, the White Sox, swimming, yoga, and her parakeets. She made delicious chocolate chip cookies, and loved Scotch, a nice glass of wine, a good beer and The Beatles. She also loved Charles Dickens, Shakespeare and traveling, visiting many parts of Europe, both by herself and with her sisters. As recently as last fall, Rita and her brother took a walking tour in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. She adored her 18 nieces and nephews and their children, attending almost every baptism, first communion, graduation and wedding. Rita was humble, funny, kind and generous, and she will be deeply missed. She loved all creatures great & small. She always greeted every dog and cat she saw.

Rita was born on July 16, 1932 in Chicago, the youngest of five children. She had a happy childhood on the South Side, walking to school and spending summers at the lake in Indiana. She graduated from Visitation High School, worked in the children's department of the Harold Washington Library, and then earned a bachelor's degree in humanities from Loyola University, as well as a master's degree, after 12 years as a part-time student. She later attended the University of Vienna, beginning what would later inspire countless nieces and nephews to study and live abroad. She worked with Illinois Bell until she retired in 1984, after which she worked on a doctorate in English and volunteered for years with Literacy Chicago. Rita was the daughter who lived unselfishly with her parents through health, sickness and death.

She is survived by her brother Jim Zralek of Nashville; 17 nieces and nephews: Chris Halm of Charleston, Mary Halm Small of Boston, Joan Halm Welbourn of Nashville, Carol Halm of Austria, Jimmy Halm of Chicago, Kathy Halm Elinsky of Denver, Laura Halm of Chicago, Barbara Halm Rangel of Chicago, Marty Halm of Austin, Janet Halm Sambor of Chicago, David Halm of Denver, Michael King of Mohave Valley, Arizona, Barbara King Casablanca of Mohave Valley, Jim King of Los Angeles, Laura King Valdiviez of Los Angeles, Stephen Zralek of Nashville and Brian Zralek of Buffalo; 26 great nieces and nephews; and 13 great-great nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her parents, Mary Cecilia Casey Zralek and Stephen Joseph Zralek; her sisters Marguerite Zralek, O.P., Marie King, Helen Halm; and her nephew Charlie Halm.

Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Nicholas of Tolentine, at 6200 S Lawndale Ave. on Saturday, September 7 at 9 a.m. Visitation will be held at Kenny Bros. Funeral Home, at 3600 W. 95th St. on Friday, September 6, from 3-8 p.m. Memorials may be made to Housing Opportunities & Maintenance for the Elderly, www.homeseniors.org, a charity that Rita generously gave to, which helps older adults with low incomes.

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Trotta, Gloria

Gloria Trotta, nee DeBellis, age 93, of Naperville formerly of Lombard. Beloved wife of the late James Trotta; preceded in death by sisters Florence, Adeline, Blanche and Fran, and brothers John and Frank; aunt of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Sunday, September 8th, 5-8 PM at Knollcrest Funeral Home, 1500 S. Meyers Rd. (3 blks. S. of Roosevelt Rd.) Lombard. Funeral Monday, 9:15 AM from the funeral home to St. Pius X Catholic Church, 1025 E. Madison, Lombard. Mass 10AM. Entombment at Queen of Heaven. Funeral info: www.knollcrest.net or 630-932-1500.

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Vetrano, Ross

Ross J. Vetrano, 52 years of age. Passed away August 29th. Son of Ross (deceased) & Yolanda, brother to Peter (Christine), Vicki (Dan) Sopacak, Joseph, Maria (Jack) Hendry; uncle to Ross, and Sadie Hendry.

Ross was a laborer for the City of Chicago, Water Department for 20+ years. Mass was held Tuesday September 3 at St. Gertrude Church. For additional information call **Barr Funeral Home** (773) 743-4034 or leave an online condolence for the family at BarrFuneralHome.com.

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Photo of Rita Ann Zralek

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with the County Clerk of Cook County

File No.
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Date August 23, 2019
Under the Assumed Name of ELDELEO
with the business located at:
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CHICAGO, IL 60659

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the owner is: MERITA MILA
5718 N MAPLEWOOD
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File No.
Y19001987 on the
Date: 8/13/2019
Under the Assumed Name of Nulife Auto
Accessories
with the business located at:
2629 N Meade Ave
Chicago, Illinois 60639

The true name and residence Address of
the owner is: Juan E Rios
2629 N Meade Ave
Chicago, Illinois, 60639

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION**LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION**

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK
COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND
CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD
PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF
Taylor Harvey AKA Baby Girl Turcu AKA
Baby Girl Unknown AKA Baby Girl Mc
Queen

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF Adriana Turcu
(Mother)

JUVENILE NO.: 19JA00496

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Unknown (Mother),
respondents, and to All Whom It May
Concern, that on May 16, 2019, a petition
was filed under the Juvenile Court Act
by KIM FOXX, STATE'S ATTORNEY OF COOK
COUNTY through her assistant State's Attorney
in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge
Steven Bernstein in the 1100 South Hamilton,
Chicago, Illinois on 09/18/2019 at 9:00 AM in
CALENDAR 4 COURTROOM 8,

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS
CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY
AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO
TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS, AND
TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO
CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL
PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD, IF THE
PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF
YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT
OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT
TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL
RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled
to further written notices or publication
notices of the proceedings in this case,
including the filing of an amended petition
or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and
show cause against the petition, the
allegations of the petition may stand
admitted as against you and each of you,
and an order or judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT
COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
September 4, 2019

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Emmanuel Griffin, Sr.(Father),
aka Emmanuel Griffins, respondents, and to All Whom
It May Concern, that on July 14, 2019, a petition
was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by
KIM FOXX, STATE'S ATTORNEY OF COOK
COUNTY through her assistant State's Attorney
in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge
Steven Bernstein in the 1100 South Hamilton,
Chicago, Illinois on 09/18/2019 at 9:00 AM in
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September 4, 2019

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KIM FOXX, STATE'S ATTORNEY OF COOK
COUNTY through her assistant State's Attorney
in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge
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COUNTY through her assistant State's Attorney
in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge
Steven Bernstein in the 1100 South Hamilton,
Chicago, Illinois on 09/18/2019 at 9:00 AM in
CALENDAR 4 COURTROOM 8,

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS
CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY
AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO
TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS, AND
TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO
CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL
PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD, IF THE
PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF
YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT
OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT
TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL
RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not

Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO SPORTS

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



CHICAGO TRIBUNE



RANKING
THE **BEST BEARS**
PLAYERS EVER

'Some people
are born to
play football.
Football was
born for
Dick Butkus.'

Our pick at No. 2, **Back Page**

■ **The sweet reveal:**
The best Bears player ever in
Thursday's Chicago Sports.



DAVID HAUGH
In the Wake of the News

Starting as
they ended:
Bears still
need kicker

Congratulations to Bears
kicker Eddy Pineiro, declared
the winner Sunday of the
worst job in the NFL this
season.

No other task in the league
is as tenuous, combining such
high pressure with low
expectations.

"I think it's a lot less now,"
Pineiro said of the pressure
after getting the nod.

He must be new here.

The Bears said all the right
things and will believe in
Pineiro until they don't. Until
he misses a kick he should
make, which could come as
early as Thursday night in the
opener against the Packers.
Starting the season on the
roster hardly guarantees
Pineiro will end it that way —
or even the month.

The last time Pineiro
kicked at Soldier Field, he not
only missed an extra-point
attempt in the final preseason
game but shanked it so badly
some observers initially
thought it was blocked. It
wasn't. It was simply — wildly —
inaccurate.

Truth is, Pineiro survived
the final cuts because nobody
more proven ended up on the
waiver wire. The Packers kept
Mason Crosby. The Vikings
held on to Dan Bailey. Either
veteran probably would have
instilled more confidence in
the kicker position than
Pineiro, who finished the
preseason 8-for-9 on field
goals and 3-for-4 on extra
points — with that PAT miss
too indelible to overlook.

It creates enough doubt to
legitimately wonder if the
Bears feel more settled about
their kicking situation than
they did a year ago at this
time, when the exiled Cody
Parkey had yet to disappoint.
Parkey, still unemployed and
out of pocket in Florida,
hasn't responded to several
interview requests. The Bears
fulfilled their contract with
Parkey by paying him \$3.5
million to go away after his
43-yard playoff miss and
"Today" appearance.

Turn to **Haugh, Page 5**

SEASON OPENER
PACKERS AT BEARS

7:20 P.M. THURSDAY, NBC-5

'YOU BETTER KNOW WHAT YOU'RE ALL ABOUT'

Matt LaFleur got a wake-up call five years ago.
Now, can the new coach and **Aaron Rodgers**
make the Packers Super Bowl champs again?

BY RICH CAMPBELL

GREEN BAY — Matt LaFleur knew he bombed the interview.

Someone else would be Maryland's wide receivers coach. He was certain of that by the time he left campus that day in 2014.

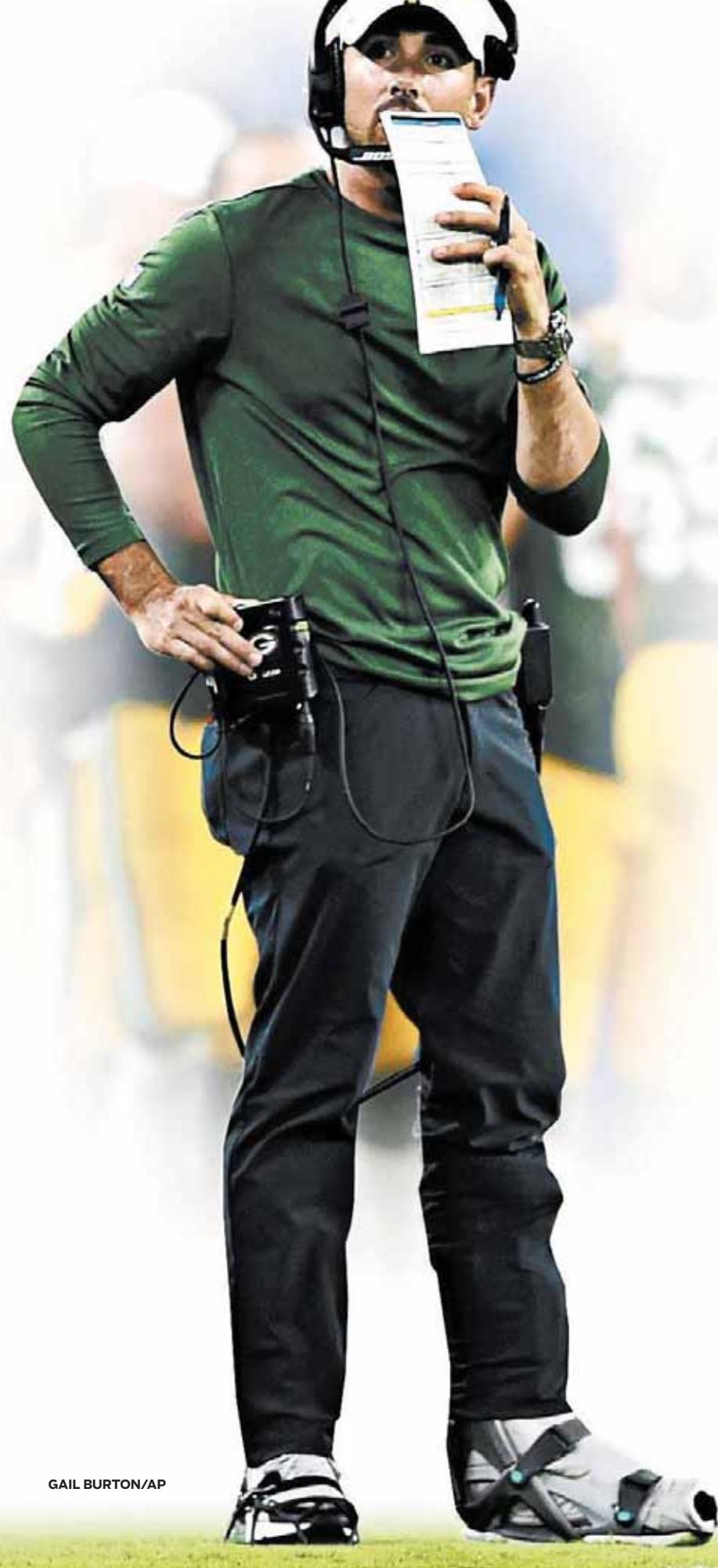
LaFleur's conversations with everyone from Terrapins coach Randy Edsall on down to the compliance officer left him with a pit in his stomach. He had that unmistakable sense of failure. Of an opportunity missed. Of embarrassment by his inadequacy.

Five years later, though, on a June evening, LaFleur finishes his dinner salad and settles into a leather couch in the head coach's office at Lambeau Field.

His office.

Thunderstorms are soaking the home of the Packers, but that's meaningless to LaFleur tonight. After an unscheduled but necessary afternoon meeting with his star quarterback, he's hunkering down to review the day's minicamp practice.

Turn to **LaFleur, Page 6**



GAIL BURTON/AP

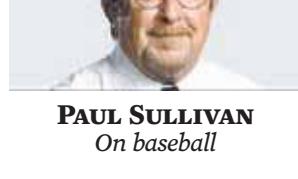


ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/TRIBUNE

CUBS 6, MARINERS 1

2 in, 2 out in 'W'

Javier Baez and Kris Bryant were out of the lineup, but the Cubs still had more than enough firepower to defeat the Mariners 6-1 at Wrigley Field. Willson Contreras, fresh off the injured list, hit a 450-foot home run, and Kyle Schwarber and Nicholas Castellanos also homered. Jon Lester struck out a season-high nine in a six-inning, 110-pitch performance. The win kept the Cubs three games behind the Cardinals with 24 games left. Ben Zobrist, making his first appearance since May 6, went 1-for-3 with two runs scored. For more coverage, go to chicagotribune.com/sports



PAUL SULLIVAN
On baseball

For Cubs,
will it be
Zo effect or
no effect?

Everything seemed right in the Cubs world when Ben Zobrist stepped into the batter's box in the bottom of the first inning on a gorgeous Tuesday night at Wrigley Field.

After a month of breathless updates on Zobrist's minor-league tour and wall-to-wall speculation about what he would bring to the Cubs for the stretch run, it finally was time to find out whether Zo really was the missing link.

If the Cubs get on a roll and catch the Cardinals, maybe we'll all be talking about the Zobrist effect come playoff time. But if the Cubs continue their bipolar season and miss the postseason, perhaps we'll be wondering what the fuss was all about.

The truth is we have no idea what will happen, and that's one reason the Cubs brain trust has tried to tamp down expectations for Zobrist, pointing out he won't play regularly.

Judging from the reaction of Cubs fans when Zobrist walked to the plate to the familiar "Bennie and the Jets" walk-up song sung by his wife, Julianna, there can be only one obvious outcome: the Tao of Zo will lead them to October.

If only it were that simple.

The beauty of baseball is things can change on a dime, and no single game means more than another.

Remember when the Cubs came back to beat the Giants 12-11 at Wrigley on Aug. 21 and Anthony Rizzo described it as a "season-defining win"? There certainly was reason to believe in the Cubs, who six days earlier suffered what could've been called a season-defining loss on Bryce Harper's walk-off slam in Philadelphia.

Yet the Cubs marched into Tuesday's game against the Mariners with a so-so 6-5 record since that comeback victory over the Giants, going from a half-game ahead of the Cardinals to three behind. Manager Joe Maddon is not a fan of determining a "defining" game or stretch until the season is over.

Turn to **Sullivan, Page 3**

TOP OF THE SECOND



TEDDY GREENSTEIN

Book choppy in Irish win

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Chase Claypool caught a short pass from Ian Book and switched into Forrest Gump mode.

Across the field he went. Running and running.

He chewed up so much land going east to west that when Louisville finally tackled him, Claypool stayed down.

Was he injured?

Nah, just winded.

"I'm good," Claypool said. "Just trying to get a breather out there."

So things are not always as they appear.

But in the case of Notre Dame's 35-17 victory over Louisville, the postgame analysis was exactly what you'd expect. Safety Alohi Gilman called the win "sloppy," and Book called his performance "rusty."

This was Notre Dame's first-ever trip to the Commonwealth of Kentucky. (The Irish have visited 37 states.)

Here are three takeaways from Monday night's game.

1. Book had some surprising chapters.

He looked brilliant on Notre Dame's opening drive, scampering for 37 yards on the first play.

"He is smart and athletic," raved Irish coach Brian Kelly. "He has changed his body."

Notre Dame needed just six plays to go 75 yards. The line dominated. Book cruised. But then Louisville's defense started causing problems. The Cardinals played more Cover-2 (two safeties) than Notre Dame anticipated. Book bailed on some plays too soon.

"There was some uncharacteristic flushing from the pocket that we hadn't seen from him," Kelly said. "He was getting out of things a little quick because of some uncertainty."

Book said he did not like the way he played in the first half — 7 of 12 for 63 yards with one lost fumble after he collided with tight end Brock Wright on a scramble. He also missed Claypool on a short first-down throw he can make in his sleep.

Book was better after the break — 7-for-11 for 130 passing yards and no turnovers.

"We've got a lot to learn from," he said.

Kelly was not about to admonish him, saying: "We're not going to beat him with a shoe. He knows he can be better. He will be better."



ANDY LYONS/GETTY

Notre Dame quarterback Ian Book ran for 37 yards on the first play, but it wasn't all good.

2. The defense rose to the occasion.

Notre Dame's veteran linebackers and safeties looked bewildered on Louisville's first two drives — both touchdowns.

Slithery quarterback Jawon Pass confused the Irish with keepers, jet sweeps and option fakes. He went untouched on touchdown runs of 8 and 17 yards as Louisville took a 14-7 lead. Speedy sophomore Javian Hawkins peeled off runs of 15 and 44 yards.

But after allowing 163 yards on the Cardinals' first two drives, Notre Dame gave up just 220 on their next 12. Those 12 resulted in five punts, three lost fumbles, a field goal, a turnover on downs and two that ended at the conclusions of each half.

"It's hard to replicate game speed in practice," said Gilman, the veteran safety. "After a few series, we were able to settle down. Young guys got the jitters out. Adjustments from the coaches helped."

Kelly said the adjustments were technical — and needed.

"We were out of sorts," he said, "overrunning plays, not in good cutback (lanes)."

3. Down a man, the Irish still thrived.

Jafar Armstrong looked sharp on the first series, rushing twice for 10 yards and turning a short reception into a 16-yard gain. But then he exited the game with a pain somewhere between his groin and "midline," as Kelly put it.

Tony Jones (110 rush yards) Jahmir Smith (two touchdowns) compensated, with Jones saying: "To be honest we could be a 1-2-3 punch."

Jones was beaming after the game, feeling bullish about his team's skill players: "You saw (tight end) Tommy Tremble balling in his first game. Jahmir was balling. Chase was balling."

Tremble, by the way, is a 6-foot-3, 235-pound redshirt freshman from Georgia thrust into the spotlight after Cole Kmet broke his collarbone.

"He's an outstanding athlete," Kelly said. "We knew that when recruited him. He had crazy numbers. It was a matter of maturation, mostly off the field, as he transitioned to college."

LET'S PLAY 2

	Thursday Packers 7:20 p.m. NBC-5	Sept. 15 @Broncos 3:25 p.m. FOX-32
	Thursday @Brewers 6:10 p.m. NBCSCH	Friday @Brewers 7:10 p.m. NBCSCH
	Wednesday @Indians 6:10 p.m. NBCSCH	Thursday @Indians 12:10 p.m. NBCSCH
	Sept. 14 FC Dallas 2:30 p.m. Univision	Sept. 21 @Cincinnati 6:30 p.m. ESPN+
	Friday @Sun 6:30 p.m. WCIU-26.2	Sunday @Mystics 3 p.m.

WEDNESDAY ON TV/RADIO

BASEBALL	6 p.m. Regional Coverage	MLB
	6:10 p.m. White Sox at Indians	NBCSCH

WGN-AM 720

BASKETBALL	6 p.m. WNBA: Wings at Sun	CBS Sports
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TENNIS	11 a.m. U.S. Open	ESPN
	6 p.m. U.S. Open	ESPN

VOLLEYBALL	7 p.m. Women: Minnesota at Texas	FS1
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ASK THE REPORTER

BRAD BIGGS

During practices, does Matt Nagy ever get animated and angry to the level of other coaches we see on shows such as "Hard Knocks?"

— @nmbbf

I've seen Nagy get hot at players during practice. There was an instance recently when the offense was backed up deep, and after a short series of poor plays, he lit into players. But it was brief, and they moved on. I'm not sure coaches blowing up at players on the field or behind closed doors regularly is necessarily productive. If a coach does that too often, players are not going to be very responsive.



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CUBS & WHITE SOX

Aching knee keeps Bryant out of lineup

Joins Baez on bench just as Zobrist, Contreras return

By MARK GONZALES

The return of Ben Zobrist and Willson Contreras was supposed to signal a Cubs lineup at full strength.

"We have the pieces, we have the ingredients for quite a meal," said Nicholas Castellanos, whose arrival last month from Detroit helped keep the Cubs' offense afloat.

"Now we've just got to put it together."

Whether the Cubs turn all of their offensive parts into a fine-tuned machine remains to be seen, as Kris Bryant became the latest to break down.

Bryant was scratched from Tuesday night's lineup against the Mariners because of persistent soreness in his right knee that has lasted for more than two months.

"I don't have real conjecture, one way or the other at this point," manager Joe Maddon said. "I just talked to him. He didn't sound like he was in dire straits. It's just bothering him."

The Bryant news came hours after shortstop Javier Baez was ruled out for the second consecutive start because of a sore left thumb. Maddon reiterated that Wednesday's day off could serve as a mini All-Star break before the Cubs' four-game series against the rival Brewers starting Thursday night.

Bryant, who is batting .280 with 26 home runs and 64 RBIs, originally hurt his knee during a weekend series in Cincinnati in late June and didn't play July 3 in Pittsburgh.

He tweaked the knee during batting practice and was scratched from the lineup on July 24 against the Giants.

Bryant's latest scratch came while he's in the midst of a 7-for-36 slump (.194) with two doubles and no home runs in his last 11 games.

"He's missed some of his pitches," Maddon said. "It's just about expansion of his strike zone a little bit. You'd have to talk to him about that."

Bryant wasn't available for comment, but Maddon intended to bat Bryant cleanup, moving him out of the third spot for the first time since July 2, when he batted second.

With Bryant and Baez out of the lineup, Maddon kept Anthony Rizzo in the cleanup spot after originally penciling him third. Zobrist returned to the lineup for the first time since May 6 in the leadoff spot, with Kyle Schwarber batting second and Castellanos third for the first time as a Cub. It was the 121st lineup used by the Cubs this season.

Maddon thought moving Schwarber to the No. 2 spot would serve two purposes — create more run-producing opportunities for Castellanos and set up a mix of left- and right-handed hitters to cause late-inning problems for the Mariners bullpen.

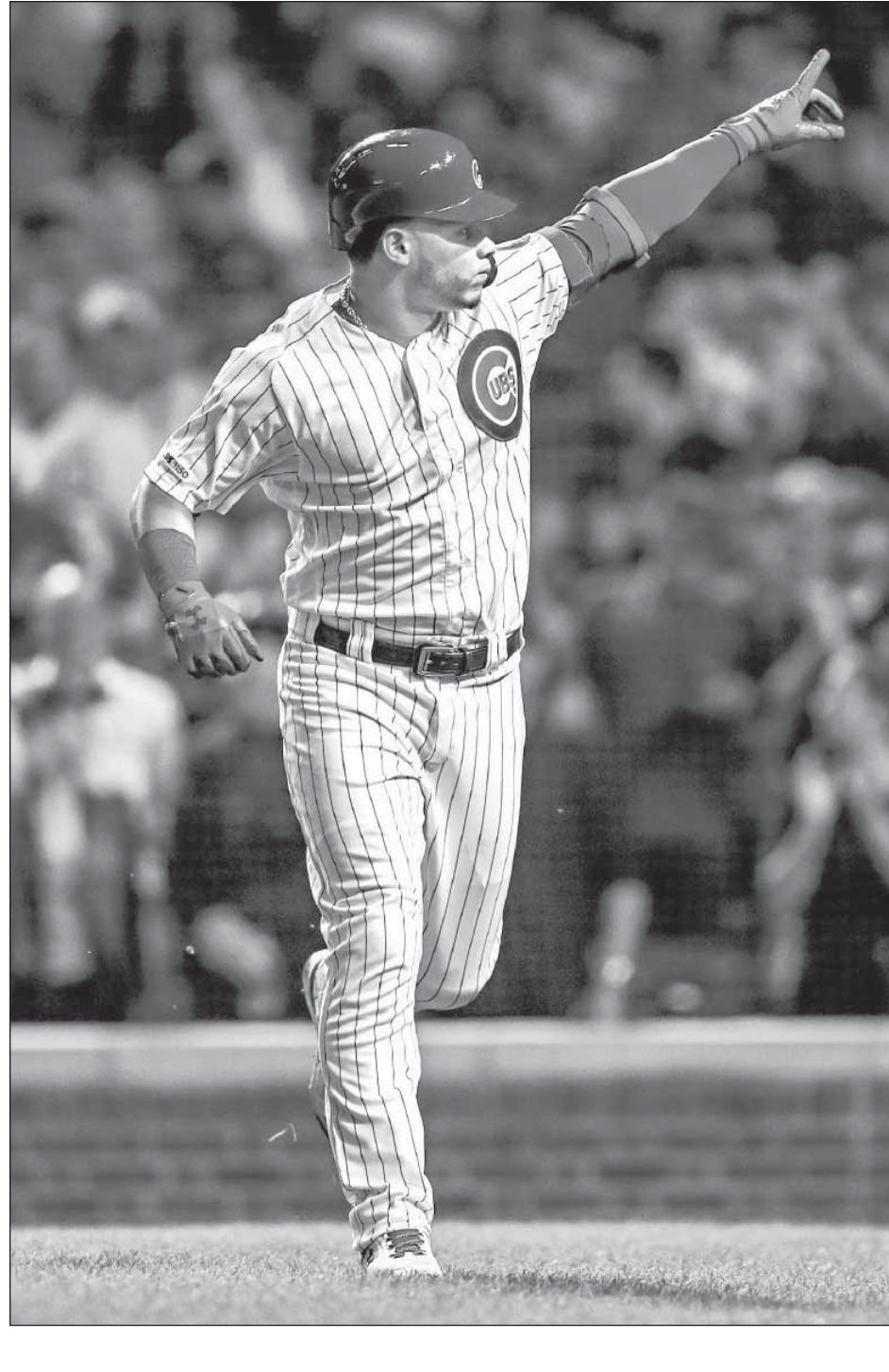
Maddon admitted submitting different lineups because of injuries and other circumstances has been the story of the season.

"But we have nine good names in the lineup regardless," Maddon said. "It would have been good to see what it would have looked like with everybody, but it just did not want to occur (Tuesday)."

With less than four weeks left, the Cubs may need to get hot before facing the Cardinals in seven of their final 10 games.

"I cannot be more specific," Maddon said of they key to another extended run. "It's just organization of the strike zone. We pitch well enough. We've caught the ball enough, regardless of people being hurt or not, we have good players. We just have to make it more difficult to get us out of the strike zone. That's it."

Getting shut out by the Brewers in two games at Wrigley Field over the weekend cost the Cubs the momentum they built in their previous series when they beat the Mets' Marcus Stroman, Noah Syndergaard and Jacob deGrom in succession at Citi Field.



CUBS 6, MARINERS 1

Contreras back with a big blast

By MARK GONZALES

Willson Contreras made a surprising return to the Cubs lineup Tuesday night and believes he's ready to catch a complete game.

"My last game I played seven innings," said Contreras, referring to Monday's game for Triple-A Iowa in his final game on a minor-league rehab assignment. "It took me 3½ hours to play (seven innings)."

Contreras was exaggerating but said, "I feel like I can play 10 innings out there. I feel good."

Contreras originally wasn't supposed to join the Cubs until later this week, but he and the medical staff were convinced that the All-Star catcher had regained full strength in his right hamstring, which he strained Aug. 3.

The increase in strength, combined with Jon Lester's comfort in throwing to him and Wednesday's day off, convinced the Cubs to activate and play him against the Mariners.

Contreras said his timing at the plate was better than his 1-for-7 performance at Iowa showed, and he backed it up by smacking a home run off former American League Cy Young Award winner Felix Hernandez in the second inning.

Manager Joe Maddon intimated that Contreras is likely to play Thursday night against the Brewers before the rest of the playing time is assessed.

Contreras believes he can start behind the plate four times a week and felt much better about the recovery of his hamstring after enduring a similar injury two years ago that sidelined him for five weeks.

"This one was way better than the first one," Contreras said. "I feel like 120% better. The first one was longer. This one I worked hard with the training staff, and we had a tough plan, and now we're here."

went 18-6 from that day on, while the Cubs finished 14-12, setting up Game 163 at Wrigley Field.

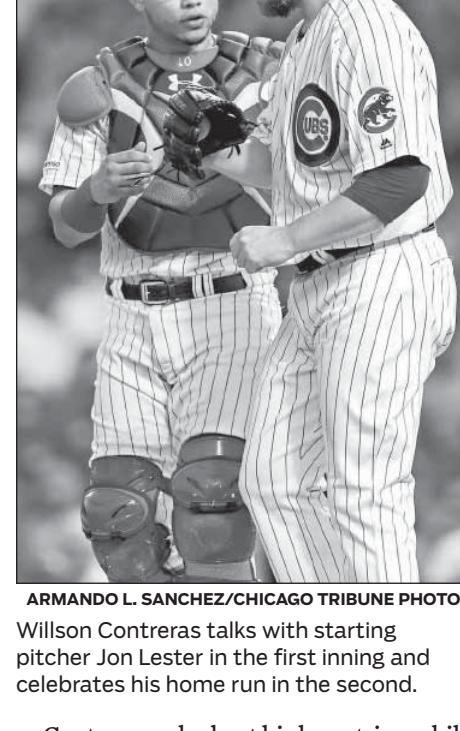
After losing the division tiebreaker, the Cubs faced the Rockies in the NL wild-card game already wearing the look of a defeated team.

"As an opponent, you always notice that," former Rockies outfielder Carlos Gonzalez said in June after signing with the Cubs. "We came in and we knew they were struggling, we knew they were limping. It seemed like they were down. You never want to show that attitude to an opponent because that's exactly what we did. We took advantage of it."

The Rockies ended the Cubs season and altered the perception of this group of players. When the Cubs didn't repeat in 2017, it was mostly attributed to a World Series hangover. When they stumbled down the stretch last year it sewed doubts about the ability of the nucleus to hit in the clutch.

This year's team has only amplified those doubts, especially since the offense that looked so good in April and May has been so hit-and-miss in July and August and entering September. The 24-inning scoreless stretch from Friday into Monday can't be ignored as a fluke.

President Theo Epstein said last week



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Willson Contreras talks with starting pitcher Jon Lester in the first inning and celebrates his home run in the second.

Contreras, who hurt his hamstring while running out of the batter's box, promised to be careful running the bases.

"I'm running at 80 to 90%, behind the plate I'm 100%," Contreras said. "I want to be smart running the bases."

Maddon said: "I think what he's talking about there is his exuberance. When you pull the hammy, it's in the back of your head. It lingers back there. I'm fine with him making sure it doesn't happen again."

"it's within us" to revert to form.

"I mean April and May, I don't think it was a mirage," he said. "But at the same time we can't just show up and say that's who we are, because you are what you do and the last couple months haven't been what we're looking for. Usually as the weather warms up, your production improves, and ours has gone in the other direction this year, on the heels of last year's second half too."

"So you actually have to be kind of honest with ourselves and get back to the best version, more dynamic offense."

We'll soon find out if that "dynamic" offense can put together a consistent stretch for the next month. Willson Contreras returned Tuesday after missing a month with a strained hamstring and homered in his first at-bat, providing hope he can be the spark plug the Cubs need.

Before Bryant was scratched with right knee soreness Tuesday, the Cubs had eight players from the '16 champs in their starting lineup. Epstein doubled down last winter when he kept the core together and added only free agent Daniel Descalso, perhaps retaining a soft spot for the men who brought Chicago so much joy in 2016.

Will Epstein's faith be rewarded or was the Cubs' start a mirage?

Time to find out.

WHITE SOX 6, INDIANS 5

Robert not included in 4 Sox call-ups

Mendick, Collins, Covey, Palka earn promotions

By LAMOND POPE

CLEVELAND — Luis Robert surpassed the goals the White Sox set for the highly regarded prospect in spring training.

He remained healthy and produced at an advanced level for his age.

But the Sox held off on calling up the center fielder Tuesday.

The Sox announced four additions to the roster, purchasing the contract of infielder Danny Mendick from Triple-A Charlotte and recalling catcher Zack Collins, pitcher Dylan Covey and outfielder Daniel Palka. Pitcher Jose Ruiz will join the team when he becomes eligible Wednesday.

Fans will have to wait until 2020 to see Robert and second baseman Nick Madrigal at Guaranteed Rate Field.

Thumb injuries forced Robert to the injured list on a couple of occasions in 2018.

He showed what he's capable of while healthy this season. In 122 games at Class A Winston-Salem, Double-A Birmingham and Charlotte, Robert had a .328 average, 32 home runs and 92 RBIs. He also stole 36 bases, becoming the first Sox minor leaguer since at least 1988 to join the 30-30 club.

"He had an outstanding season," Sox general manager Rick Hahn said during a conference call. "He stayed healthy. We did ask a lot of him. He performed at three levels. He was in the Arizona Fall League last year which led to a shortened offseason for him prior to playing 122 games for us, which obviously was far beyond his previous career-high of 50 as a pro."

"So, now, at this point, instead of adding a fourth level in a single year and continuing to increase his career high in games, as much fun as it would have been for us all to see him continue here in Chicago, sometimes it is our job to say enough, this has been a very successful season. It's time to shut it down, go home, rest, recover and come back next season fully rested and ready for even greater challenges that lie ahead."

Robert, 22, is the top prospect in the organization and the No. 5 prospect in baseball.

"It should go without saying, but just in case, we are all here very, very excited about his future," Hahn said. "And view him as extremely well-positioned to play a major role for us during the 2020 season."

Like Robert, Madrigal saw time and had success at three levels this season. He hit .311 with 27 doubles in 120 games. He struck out just 16 times in 473 at-bats.

Madrigal is the No. 4 prospect in the organization. Madrigal and Robert represented the Sox at the All-Star Futures Game in July in Cleveland.

Hahn said Madrigal wasn't called up for the same reasons Robert wasn't, noting "the physical demands that we were putting on these players."

"I expect to see Nick in spring training in big-league camp and coming in knowing he's extremely close to getting to that next level," Hahn said.

Hahn said team control was not a factor in either decision.

Collins is the No. 10 prospect in the organization and was the No. 10 overall pick in the 2016 draft. He struggled in nine games (June 18-July 16) with the Sox earlier this season, hitting .077 (2-for-26). But he batted .323 after returning to Charlotte.

"I was up here to get some learning experience, not necessarily to play a whole lot," Collins said of his first stint. "I learned a lot when I was up here. I went back and kind of put those learning experiences into reality."

Palka and Covey also hope to bounce back. Palka went 1-for-45 (.022) in 17 games while Covey was 1-7 with a 6.88 ERA in 16 games (10 starts) this season with the Sox.

Mendick, 25, is getting his first chance with the Sox. He had a .279/.368/.444 slash line with 26 doubles, 17 home runs and 64 RBIs in 133 games at Charlotte.

Mendick called the opportunity "a dream come true."

The Sox transferred outfielder Jon Jay to the 60-day injured list with a strained right hip.

WHITE SOX RECAP

The White Sox snapped their seven-game losing streak in dramatic fashion Tuesday night. James McCann and Eloy Jimenez hit back-to-back homers in the eighth as the Sox rallied for a 6-5 win against the Indians in front of 17,397 at Progressive Field. The Indians took a 5-2 lead on a three-run homer by Roberto Perez in the seventh. McCann responded with a three-run homer with two outs in the eighth to tie it. Jimenez followed with a home run to right-center. It was his second homer of the game and the 24th of his rookie season. Jimenez went 3-for-4 with a double and three RBIs. Sox starter Dylan Cease pitched well but didn't factor in the decision. He allowed four runs on four hits and had a career-high 11 strikeouts in 6 2/3 innings. For more coverage, go to chicagotribune.com/sports

Sullivan

Continued from Page 1

"Then you can retrace and (say), Yeah, that's really when I thought it turned around," Maddon said. "I mean, every time everybody makes proclamations it normally bites you right in the butt.

Always. When you start proclaiming big series, heads-up. ... Honestly, those are the kind of things best left (alone).

"If somebody else wants to say it, that's fine. I prefer that method."

The Cubs have plenty of time to catch the Cardinals, and chances are they haven't played their "defining" game yet.

One year ago today, on Sept. 3, 2018, the Cubs led the second-place Brewers by five games and held a one-run lead heading into the bottom of the eighth inning at Miller Park. But Carl Edwards Jr. walked in the tying run with the bases loaded in the eighth, and the Brewers won it in the ninth when Kris Bryant fielded a Christian Yelich grounder with the bases loaded, tagged third and threw to first for what he hoped would be an inning-ending double play.

But Yelich beat the throw, the Brewers won, and the rest is history. Milwaukee

BEARS

Lowdown on NFL's big party in Grant Park

BY TIM BANNON AND PHIL ROSENTHAL

You don't have tickets to the Bears-Packers game at Soldier Field?

Here's the next closest thing: a party Thursday in Grant Park. It's the NFL Kickoff Celebration.

So what is this?

Since 2002, the NFL has held events around the season's first game. The first year it was in Times Square, where Bon Jovi, Alicia Keys and the "Rent" cast performed. Other performers over the years have included Aerosmith, Taylor Swift, Kanye West, Soundgarden and Mariah Carey. This is the first time it has been in Chicago.

In addition to the music, there will be autograph sessions, activities (field-goal kicking, NFL combine drills), a "Madden NFL 20" tournament and photo opportunities with the Lombardi Trophy and all 53 Super Bowl rings. Gates open at noon and it's first-come, first-served. No tickets are required. Lines could be long, so arrive early.

Where is it?

Around Buckingham Fountain, roughly between Jackson on the north, Balbo on the south, Michigan Avenue on the west and Lake Shore Drive on the east.

Entrances are on Congress Parkway just east of Michigan Avenue.

The musical stage is just north of Buckingham Fountain and the activities will be west of Columbus.

Musical performers?

Rapsody ("Sassy") takes the stage at 3 p.m. She's from North Carolina.

Meghan Trainor ("All About That Bass") at 5:15 p.m. She's from Massachusetts.

And then Meek Mill ("Going Bad") at 6:25 p.m. He is from Pennsylvania — Philadelphia to be exact.

If you notice, none of the performers is from Chicago, or even the Midwest. What is up with that?

And if that weren't bad enough, Mill is a huge Eagles fan. In 2017, the team used his "Dreams and Nightmares" as the team's theme song.

Wasn't Chance the Rapper supposed to perform?

Yes, he was.

On July 21, Bears Chairman George McCaskey said Chance would likely be the headliner at Thursday's concert. He even joked that the alligator who lurked in the Humboldt Park lagoon might be there: "We'll see if Chance the Snapper is going to show up and make a guest appearance."

Alas, neither Chance will be there Thursday.

Why? Good question. A Bears spokeswoman said Chance was never confirmed. Chance's people did not respond to a request to explain why he won't be there. One possible conflict is that Chance's 34-city arena tour starts Saturday in San Francisco; a rapper needs his rest.

But it sure would have been nice to have a Chicago performer rather than a huge Eagles fan. Common was not available?

Autographs?

Well, at least the guys signing have Chicago connections. And it's free. Here's the schedule:

- Richard Dent, 1-2 p.m.
- Jim McMahon, 2-3:30 p.m.
- Matt Forte, 4:15-5:45.
- Charles Tillman, 6-7:30 p.m.

Can we watch the game from there?

Sure can. The festival will conclude with a viewing party, with the game shown on 17-foot-tall screens. Kickoff is scheduled for 7:20.

Transportation?

It's going to be really crowded down there Thursday night, so public transportation is wisest.

If you insist on driving, try parking in the Millennium Park garages.

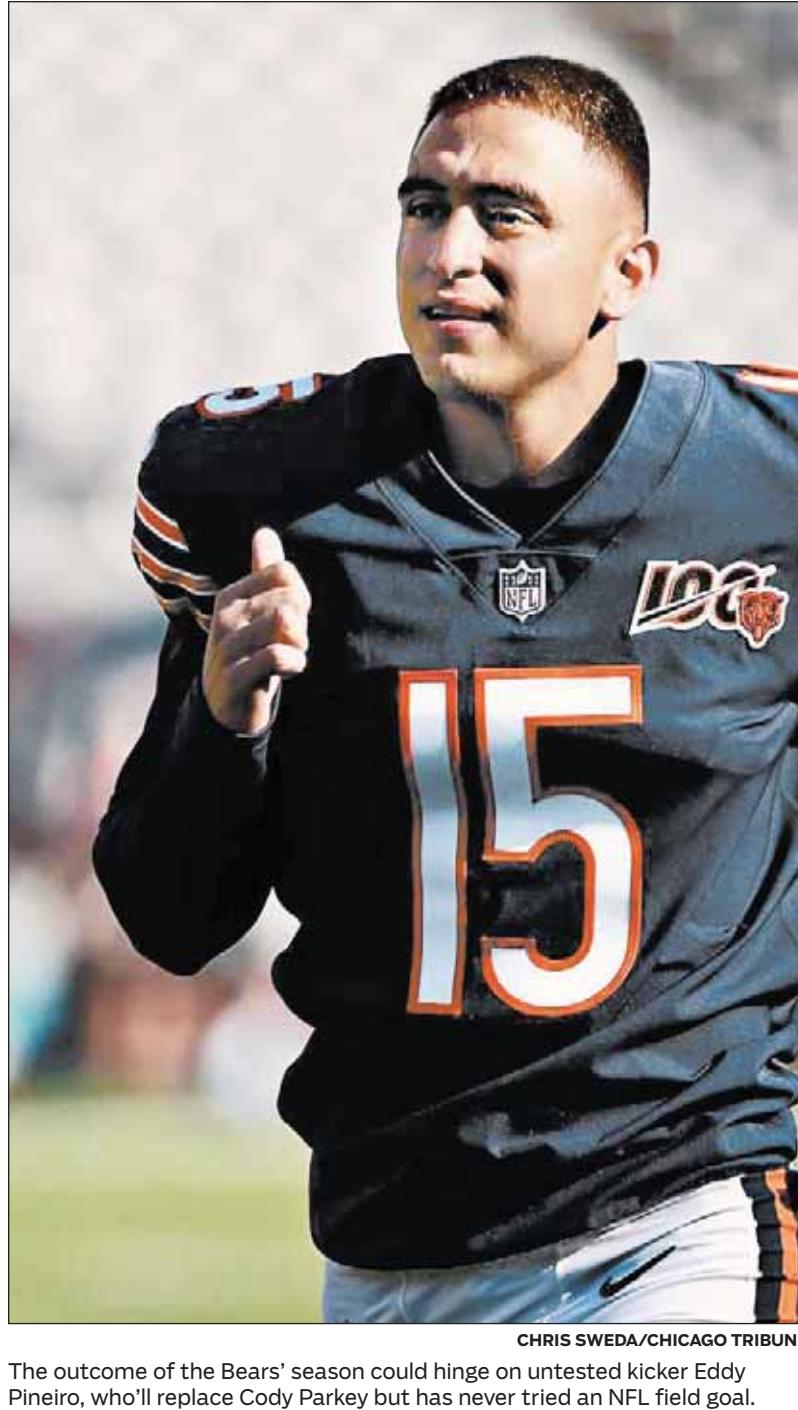
Or, here's an idea, it's going to be a lovely night: Ride your bike. Bike parking is available on the edges of both Grant Park and Millennium Park. Or try a Divvy.

Are there rules about what we can bring?

There certainly are.

Just like at Bears games, any bag must be clear and no larger than 16-by-16-by-6 inches.

The security screening process will include walk-through and handheld metal detectors.



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The outcome of the Bears' season could hinge on untested kicker Eddy Pineiro, who'll replace Cody Parkey but has never tried an NFL field goal.

Haugh

Continued from Page 1

Are the Bears better off in 2019 without Parkey?

Probably. Maybe. We don't know yet. That the question is a fair one a day before the opener indicts the Bears and underscores how they failed to solve their biggest offseason problem. When Pineiro lines up Thursday night on national television in front of his home crowd, it will be his first NFL field-goal attempt. Yikes.

Fans and media love transparency from teams, and teams that comply typically do so because they have earned the benefit of the doubt, which the Bears did after a surprising 12-4 season under coach Matt Nagy. But turning the kicker competition into a five-month-long public spectacle backfired.

The Bears ultimately brought in two kickers to compete at training camp. Before that, they tried out at least 10 in the months after releasing Parkey. The Bears can't complain about the noise surrounding the kicking situation, not after being the ones who invited the circus to Halas Hall.

Now, "Double Doink" is on T-shirts and part of NBC analyst Cris Collinsworth's legacy. Now the uncertainty over Pineiro makes the optimism surrounding the Bears so cautious that the lights inside Club Dub should be flashing yellows.

Now the Bears have an opportunity to prove they have enough talent on both sides of the ball to make the kicker a moot point.

They quite possibly do.

Defensively, enough All-Pro players such as Khalil Mack and Eddie Jackson exist to make any goal attainable. Analysts looking for flaws regurgitated the concept of "regression" throughout the preseason because they couldn't find anything else to say about a unit with no obvious weakness. Chuck

Pagano replaces Vic Fangio as defensive coordinator, but Pagano's experience suggests a smooth transition. Under Pagano, expect the Bears to vary their interior alignment more and perhaps blitz second-year linebacker Roquan Smith regularly, but the results will look familiar. Another 36-takeaway season for the defense seems unlikely, but holding opponents under 17 points every week — it led the league in scoring defense at 17.7 last year — is realistic and would keep the Bears among the NFL's elite.

Offensively, the Bears solidified their line by switching James Daniels to center and Cody Whitehair to guard, where Whitehair will stay after signing a five-year, \$52.5 million extension. They added weapons in all-purpose threat Cordarrelle Patterson, dependable free-agent running back Mike Davis and rookie running back David Montgomery, who looks to have a bright future. They still have explosive running back Tarik Cohen and wide receiver Allen Robinson, both Pro Bowl-caliber playmakers. And they have quarterback Mitch Trubisky, the only player to receive more offseason scrutiny than the kicker.

The combination of Nagy's brain and Trubisky's athleticism can make the offense good enough to see the Bears going 11-5. A great defense makes winning the NFC within reach, even with a tougher schedule.

Special-teams questions, though, give understandable pause. Predicting the Bears to get to the Super Bowl would be much easier if they didn't have such a quandary at kicker.

How funny that last season ended with everybody saying the same thing.

Except nobody's laughing.

David Haugh is a special contributor to the Chicago Tribune and co-host of the "Mully and Haugh Show" weekdays from 5-9 a.m. on WSCR-AM-670.

Problematic groin will make Burton 'a game-time decision'

BY COLLEEN KANE

Bears tight end Trey Burton was limited again in practice Tuesday in the final tuneup for the opener against the Packers on Thursday night at Soldier Field.

Coach Matt Nagy said it will be "pretty much a game-time decision" whether Burton will play after he suffered a minor groin strain last week. Nagy said he thinks the injury is "getting slightly better" but the Bears are preparing both ways.

Offensive lineman Rashad Coward (elbow) and defensive lineman Bilal Nichols (knee) also were limited. Nagy said limiting Nichols was precautionary because the Bears were practicing indoors/ on turf. They used similar precaution with him late last year.

Burton had offseason sports hernia surgery to correct an injury that kept him out of the Bears' playoff loss. But general manager Ryan Pace said this is a separate issue.

Nagy pointed Monday to his many tools on offense as a reason the Bears would get through a Burton absence.

"The beauty of what Ryan has done, and what the personnel has done with this team, is ... we don't have one person that we rely on," Nagy said. "So there's some teams that this happens to and you're in trouble. That's not the case with us."

As the Bears wrapped up practices Tuesday, they were approaching 48 hours to go before the season opener. The players, many of whom didn't play in the preseason, were itching to play in front of a crowd they expect to be hyped.

"It's like a big heavyweight boxing match to start out — there's a couple big shots that are taken early on and then everybody settles in," Nagy said. "All of our guys, our players, coaches, (should) just understand that, be prepared for it, and don't make this thing bigger than it is. Just play our game, be us. Human nature is to get excited for it."

NFL POWER RANKINGS

Still high on Patriots

BY BRAD BIGGS | Chicago Tribune

1. Patriots (11-5 in 2018): The champions remain No. 1 to start the season and why wouldn't they? If Josh Gordon can avoid off-field issues, he could be a huge weapon.

2. Chiefs (12-4): Patrick Mahomes will have a difficult time topping the 50-touchdown season he had last year when he won NFL MVP. Andy Reid has a wealth of talent on offense.

3. Rams (13-3): There are questions about the durability of Todd Gurley, who reportedly has an arthritic knee condition. Managing his workload is imperative.

4. Saints (13-3): Drew Brees, 40, doesn't have a lot of time left, but the Saints made receiver Michael Thomas happy with an extension and Alvin Kamara is an all-around running back.

5. Bears (12-4): Mitch Trubisky is expected to take a big step forward in his second year in the offense. Chuck Pagano inherits a defense with elite players at all three levels.

6. Chargers (12-4): They are bracing for a holdout by running back Melvin Gordon. The loss of safety Derwin James is bigger, who will miss at least half the season with a foot injury.

7. Eagles (9-7): The Eagles did a fine job of handling some serious injuries last season and they absolutely need Carson Wentz to remain healthy as fix-it-man Nick Foles has departed.

8. Cowboys (10-6): With Ezekiel Elliott expected to arrive sooner than later, the Cowboys will have the team's most important component in place.

9. Seahawks (10-6): The trade for pass rusher Jadeveon Clowney completes a rebuilt front seven after defensive end Frank Clark was traded.

10. Browns (7-8-1): The hype machine is probably running ahead of the Browns, but the job general manager John Dorsey has done in reshaping this roster is impressive.

11. Steelers (9-6-1): Things are a lot more tranquil in Pittsburgh with Antonio Brown gone, and that's a good thing. JuJu Smith-Schuster looks capable as a No. 1 receiver.

12. Ravens (10-6): Lamar Jackson is going to have to improve as a passer because it's going to be challenging for him to remain durable running the ball as much as he did last season.

13. Vikings (8-7-1): The Vikings spent the offseason trying to upgrade an offensive line that did a poor job protecting Kirk Cousins last season.

14. Falcons (7-9): Injuries decimated the Falcons on defense a year ago. If they can have a little more luck and Matt Ryan gets hot, they could challenge the Saints in the NFC South.

15. Texans (11-5): The Texans made a bold move that will upgrade a porous offensive line by trading for Dolphins left tackle Laremy Tunsil. Good news for Deshaun Watson.

16. Jaguars (5-11): If you believe in Nick Foles as a starter, the Jaguars could be positioned to return to the successes the franchise enjoyed in 2017.

17. Colts (10-6): Coach Frank Reich was dealt a tough hand with the retirement of Andrew Luck. The Colts like Jacoby Brissett a lot, but he's going to need time to develop.

18. Packers (6-9-1): The marriage of new coach Matt LaFleur with two-time MVP Aaron Rodgers is likely going to work spectacularly or blow up.

19. Panthers (7-9): Cam Newton enters the season coming off an ankle injury suffered in the preseason, which has to be at least somewhat concerning.

20. Broncos (6-10): Vic Fangio inherits a better roster than the Bears had when he joined them in 2015 as defensive coordinator. But Joe Flacco isn't the QB of the future.

21. Titans (9-7): It's now or never for Marcus Mariota in Tennessee as he is entering the final year of his contract. He has led the Titans to the postseason once, a one-and-done.

22. Bills (6-10): Josh Allen has a huge arm and a ton of athletic ability, but the best passers operate at a high level in the pocket, and he has a long way to go there.

23. Giants (5-11): General manager Dave Gettleman rid the roster of the circus act known as wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. Presumably that will mean fewer problems.

24. Jets (4-12): Sam Darnold looked like the real deal at times during his rookie season and new coach Adam Gase might be a really good match for him.

25. Lions (6-10): The Lions made plenty of changes after Matt Patricia's first season, bringing in Darrell Bevell to run the offense. It will be interesting to see if his scheme is a fit.

26. Buccaneers (5-11): Bruce Arians is a highly regarded offensive mind and he's going to earn even more cache if he can be a quarterback whisperer with Jameis Winston.

27. 49ers (4-12): Pressure is mounting for coach Kyle Shanahan and GM John Lynch to get things going, but no one is as high on Jimmy Garoppolo as they once were.

28. Redskins (7-9): When Colt McCoy went down with an injury, Case Keenum was given the job by default. Left tackle Trent Williams hasn't shown up and would like to be traded.

29. Raiders (4-12): If Antonio Brown's new helmet isn't a troublesome issue, all Jon Gruden has to worry about is the next thing that will set off his prized wide receiver.

30. Bengals (6-10): The Bengals will be without their best offensive player, wide receiver A.J. Green, for at least a couple of weeks as he recovers from an ankle injury.

31. Cardinals (3-13): Kliff Kingsbury may prove to be the next sharp offensive mind in the NFL and Kyle Murray might become the next exciting QB but those are two big ifs.

32. Dolphins (7-9): First-year coach Brian Flores did his best to dismiss talk of the Dolphins tanking in 2019 and possibly beyond, saying, "I wouldn't disrespect the game."

BEARS**LaFleur**

Continued from Page 1

LaFleur's renowned offensive system does a lot of good things, but it doesn't install itself.

So how the heck did he get here? From being humbled at Maryland to the Packers' head coaching job quicker than an Aaron Rodgers fastball? At age 39, no less?

The answer traces to that interview and why he fell flat.

LaFleur hadn't realized it during the previous four seasons, which he spent as the Redskins quarterbacks coach. But, suddenly, as he stood there unemployed, there it was.

"It was the first time I had ever really been in that type of situation where you have to have something you truly believe in," LaFleur explains. "You better know what you're all about. You better know yourself."

The Maryland coaching staff had grilled LaFleur with a line of questioning standard in the profession. What's important to you as a person? As a coach? What are your philosophies on leadership and relationships?

LaFleur had never really thought about it. He had no answers. At least none he was prepared to articulate on the spot.

It jolted him into a period of introspection, and look where it led. From Notre Dame quarterbacks coach later in 2014 to the Falcons, Rams and Titans before this January, when he was entrusted with maxing out the years Rodgers has left in his golden right arm.

Asked to detail those pillars of his coaching philosophy, LaFleur now has them on the tip of his tongue. The former Division II quarterback discusses them with his new team all the time.

"Character," he says. "The importance of communication. Consistency. Competition. And being true to yourself."

His challenge is to turn those into victories for a franchise that isn't used to changing coaches. That's not accustomed to missing the playoffs. That begins every season with legitimate Super Bowl ambition because Rodgers is on their side.

Connecting with the future Hall-of-Fame quarterback is the key to it all, of course. As partners, they have everything to prove, beginning with Thursday night's opener against the Bears at Soldier Field.

"It boils down to developing a relationship and communicating," LaFleur says of that ongoing process. "It's taking time and talking, just making an effort and making sure the communication is crystal clear. I know it's not something that happens overnight."

Patience, though, is not a luxury they can afford. Not with the Packers one more face-plant from missing the playoffs in three straight years for the first time since Brett Favre arrived in 1992.



TODD OLSZEWSKI/GETTY

Can Matt LaFleur sync with Aaron Rodgers and end the Packers' playoff drought?

At least LaFleur knows a little something about succeeding quickly.

Middle ground

At Packers minicamp in June, a sloppy red-zone period at the end of practice left LaFleur with a salty aftertaste into the night. It underscored how challenging it is to install an offense and polish it for the regular season in only seven months.

That difficulty, however, does not detract from the marvelous throws Rodgers completes in practice daily. LaFleur was aware of them by reputation, but they're a novelty for anyone seeing them firsthand at field level for the first time.

During that June practice, one was a checkdown, the simplest of throws. LaFleur watched it from a golf cart underneath the team's nine NFL and Super Bowl championship banners hanging from the wall of the indoor practice field. He had been taken off his feet two weeks earlier by a torn left Achilles' tendon he suffered playing basketball at team headquarters.

Rodgers' shoulders were turned parallel to the sideline when he wrapped his right arm across his front side, flicking a no-look throw to a running back in the left flat. The ball had zip and was placed perfectly for the back to catch it in stride.

"His talent," LaFleur said, "speaks for itself."

In the next breath, though, LaFleur points out there's so much more to Rodgers' success than physical ability. It's how he remains calm and thinks quickly and clearly in pressure situations. It's how he creates advantages at the line of scrimmage before the play.

The latter was a major focus during the offseason. Simply put, LaFleur's system — which he learned from coaches Mike and Kyle Shanahan — does not feature the pre-snap flexibility and freedom that his Green Bay predecessor Mike McCarthy's did.

Rodgers has created a legacy of shredding defenses partly by changing plays or adjusting elements of a play before the snap. Remember, he has played in McCarthy's scheme since 2008.

Now, here comes LaFleur with a new system in which the quarterback breaks the huddle with two or three plays, picks one based on the defense and goes.

"I don't think you want me to turn off 11 years" Rodgers told NFL.com in June. "There's stuff that not many people in the league can do at the line. That's not a humblebrag. That's just a fact."

LaFleur isn't rigid (or dumb) enough that he'd strip Rodgers of what makes him comfortable. So their work to this point has involved brainstorming about how they can mesh the new system with Rodgers' successful processes.

"We've given him all the freedom," LaFleur revealed Monday to reporters in Green Bay. "So if he sees something, he's got the green light to do whatever he needs to do to get us into a good play. We're not going to take that from him."

Throughout their collaboration, LaFleur's mind has been propped open. Rams coach Sean McVay is one of LaFleur's best friends from their time on the Redskins staff from 2010-13. LaFleur was McVay's offensive coordinator in Los Angeles in 2017, the year they jump-started quarterback Jared Goff's career and McVay won NFL Coach of the Year.

Says LaFleur: "Sean used to say this all the time: 'It's not about who's right. It's about what's right.'"

Rodgers seemed to grasp that, as well, when he spoke to Green Bay reporters last month about the importance of communication between quarterback and coach.

"You have to set aside your ego and sensitivity and communicate honestly about your feelings," he said. "And then you have to know who the boss is. I know who the boss is — him."

A completely new vibe'

On the shelves behind LaFleur's desk, next to the two Packers helmets that were displayed at his introductory news conference in January, is a commemorative coin from Super Bowl LI.

The game ended excruciatingly, with the Falcons blowing a 28-3 lead to the Patriots and losing 34-28 in overtime. But that season was special. With LaFleur as quarterbacks coach, Matt Ryan was named NFL Most Valuable Player.

LaFleur's confidence grew. At his Packers introduction, in the context of his new role overseeing Rodgers, he told the story of the first time he corrected Ryan's mechanics in practice. For LaFleur to have gone from tweaking the quarterback's footwork to overseeing an MVP season gave him credibility that followed him to Los Angeles the following year.

With the Rams, LaFleur helped implement changes to Goff's play-action passing mechanics, including when Goff would turn his back to the line of scrimmage, how he executed keepers and threw on the move.

"It's Matt's attention to detail on everything, and then his ability to communicate with people open and honest," McVay said. "That's a great trait because everybody (who) knows Matt knows what a great person he is, and everything he ever says always comes from such a great place."

"He has a great ability to be candid with people, whether it's delivering good information or things that aren't always that easy to deliver. But because he is such a great guy, because he's so open, I think it's always received the right way."

Of course, that extends beyond the quarterback position for LaFleur in his new role, his first as a head coach at any level.

He's building his program by borrowing from mentors such as Falcons coach Dan Quinn. LaFleur loved working for Quinn because kept things unpredictable. The staff had fun together within a constant air of competitiveness.

With that in mind, LaFleur has encouraged basketball shooting competitions at Packers headquarters. Players take quizzes about the new offense, and sometimes random trivia questions are mixed in. Their springtime outing as a team was to a paintball course.

Those things don't guarantee victories. But after having the same coach for 13 seasons, even a coach who made the playoffs nine times in that span, as McCarthy did, there's an appreciation in the locker room for change.

"A completely new vibe," receiver Davante Adams said. "It has been real positive, a lot of good feedback that I've gotten from other guys. It has been a complete switch-up from the past as far as his approach. He's really hands on. He cares a lot about the guys."

"He's got a lot of energy, a lot of passion," offensive lineman Bryan Bulaga added. "He has a way that he wants things done. He knows the way it's supposed to look. When you have a quarterback like we do, he knows, OK, if I get it to look this way with that quarterback, this is going to be really good."

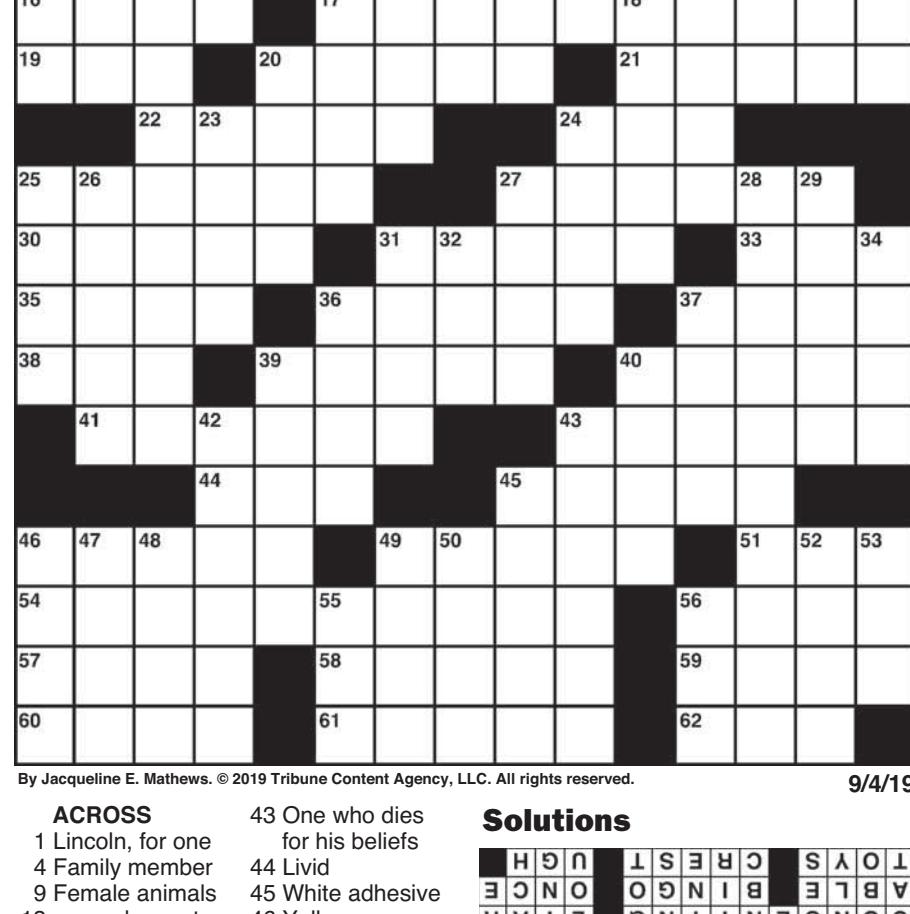
There it goes, back to the quarterback. Doesn't it always?

If the Packers do get it to look right, though, it would validate LaFleur's swift ascent and put him alongside McVay and Bears coach Matt Nagy in the group of promising, offensive-minded NFL coaches.

So, is he ready?

"I don't know if you're ever ready," LaFleur says on his office couch. "You have to go through it a little bit and get battle-tested and callused."

That lesson he learned five years ago is ready to serve him again.

Crossword

By Jacqueline E. Mathews. © 2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

9/4/19

ACROSS

- 1 Lincoln, for one
- 4 Family member
- 9 Female animals
- 13 ___-up; busy at the moment
- 14 Wear away
- 15 Pristine
- 16 Troubles
- 17 Canadian province
- 19 Pressure unit
- 20 Poke along
- 21 Dethrones
- 22 Gladden
- 24 "Who ___ seen the wind?"
- 25 Harsh
- 27 Sahara or Gobi
- 30 "___ home is his castle"
- 31 Ermine
- 33 Turn a deaf ___ to; ignore
- 35 White lies
- 36 Ability
- 37 "Wish you were ___"; postcard words
- 38 Perpendicular annex
- 39 Actor Michael
- 40 Black-and-white critter
- 41 Pines (for)

DOWN

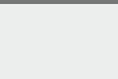
- 1 Feels miserable
- 2 Credible
- 3 Marinaro & Begley
- 4 Serve as a sign of
- 5 Ascended
- 6 Symbol of peace
- 7 WWII turning point
- 8 Approval
- 9 Mate
- 10 Time-___; kids' penalties
- 11 Court decree
- 12 Caspian & Black
- 13 Money for the waiter
- 18 Seaside
- 20 One of the planets
- 23 Camera's eye
- 24 Recuperate
- 25 Out of danger
- 26 Brontë or Post
- 27 Mete out
- 28 Going in again
- 29 Not prompt
- 31 Does the slalom
- 32 Cheap metal
- 34 Fanny
- 36 Beach stuff
- 37 Male red deer
- 39 Wooden box
- 40 Free ticket

Solutions

- 43 One who dies for his beliefs
- 44 Livid
- 45 White adhesive
- 46 Yell
- 49 Obstacles
- 51 Lobster's color
- 54 Agreeing
- 55 Teller of tall tales
- 57 Suffix for avail or approach
- 58 Game of chance
- 59 "___ in Love with Amy"
- 60 Gifts for kids
- 61 Summit
- 62 "Ick!"
- 42 Entertains
- 43 Disgusting insect larva
- 45 Hunger pains
- 46 "Take a hike!"
- 47 Transient
- 48 "For Your Eyes ___"; 007 film
- 49 Recipe verb
- 50 Midmorning
- 52 Per unit
- 53 Rap's Dr. ___
- 55 "Jeopardy!" network
- 56 ___ Diamond Phillips

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Philadelphia -117 at Cincinnati +107
at Pittsburgh -178 Miami +166
at St. Louis -118 San Fran. +108
at Arizona -117 San Diego +107
at LA Dodgers -340 Colorado +310

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

WEEK 2 **FRIDAY**

Wake Forest 17½ at Rice
at Boise St 10½ Marshall

SATURDAY

at Pittsburgh 6½ Ohio
at Virginia Tech 28 Old Dominion

UAB 9 at Akron

at Michigan 23 Army

at Purdue 7½ Vanderbilt

at Iowa 19 Rutgers

Syracuse 2½ at Maryland

at Missouri 14 W. Virginia

at Ohio State 16 Cincinnati

at Kansas State 23 Bowling Green

at Utah 21½ N Illinois

at Georgia Tech 6½ South Florida

Tulsa 6 at San Jose St

Nebraska 3½ at Colorado

at Clemson 17 Texas A&M

at Wisconsin 35 Cent. Mich.

at Appalachian St 22 Charlotte

at Miss. St 16½ Southern Miss

Illinois 20 at UConn

at UNLV 1½ Arkansas St

at Baylor 25½ UTSA

at Alabama 54½ New Mexico St

at UCLA 7 San Diego St

at Florida St 21 La.-Monroe

Wyoming 7 at Texas St

at SMU 3½ North Texas

at Tennessee 3½ BYU

UCF 10 at FAU

at FIU 7½ W Kentucky

at Kansas 8 Coast. Carol.

at La.-Laf. 13 Liberty

at Michigan St 16 W. Michigan

LSU 5½ at Texas

at Auburn 18 Tulane

at Mississippi 7 Arkansas

at Oregon 23½ Nevada

at Penn St 29½ Buffalo

at Kentucky 14½ E. Michigan

at Texas Tech 34½ UTEP

Miami 4½ at N. Carolina

at USC 2½ Stanford

at Washington 14 California

Minnesota 3 at Fresno St

at Hawaii 6½ Oregon St

NFL **WEEK 1** **O/U** **THURSDAY**

at Chicago 3 46½ Green Bay

SUNDAY

at Minnesota 4 48 Atlanta

at Phila. 10 45½ Washington

at NY Jets 3 41 Buffalo

Baltimore 7 38 at Miami

San Fran. 1 49½ at Tampa Bay

Kansas City 3½ 52 at Jacksonville

LA Rams 3 50½ at Carolina

Detroit 2½ 47½ at Arizona

at Seattle 9½ 44 Cincinnati

at LA Chargers 6½ 43½ Indianapolis

at Dallas 7½ 46 NY Giants

at New Eng. 6 51 Pittsburgh

MONDAY

at New Orl. 7 53½ Houston

at Oakland Pk 43 Denver

NFL

WEEK 1

THURSDAY'S GAME

Green Bay at Chicago, 7:20 p.m.

SUNDAY'S GAMES

L.A. Rams at Carolina, Noon

Tennessee at Cleveland, Noon

Kansas City at Jacksonville, Noon

Baltimore at Miami, Noon

Atlanta at Minnesota, Noon

Buffalo at New York Jets, Noon

Washington at Philadelphia, Noon

Indianapolis at L.A. Chargers, 3:05 p.m.

Detroit at Arizona, 3:25 p.m.

New York Giants at Dallas, 3:25 p.m.

San Francisco at Tampa Bay, 3:25 p.m.

Pittsburgh at New England, 7:20 p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES

Houston at New Orleans, 6:10 p.m.

Denver at Oakland, 9:20 p.m.

WNBA

EASTERN **W** **L** **PCT** **GB**

x-Washington 24 8 .750 -

x-Connecticut 22 9 .710 1½

x-Chicago 19 13 .594 5

Indiana 11 21 .344 13

New York 9 23 .281 15

Atlanta 7 25 .219 17

WESTERN **W** **L** **PCT** **GB**

x-Los Angeles 20 12 .625 -

x-Las Vegas 20 12 .625 -

x-Seattle 17 15 .531 3

x-Minnesota 17 15 .531 3

x-Phoenix 15 17 .469 5

Dallas 10 21 .323 9½

x-clinched playoff berth

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Washington 93, New York 77

Seattle 82, Phoenix 70

Los Angeles 70, Atlanta 60

WEDNESDAY'S GAME

Dallas at Connecticut, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Las Vegas at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.

Seattle at Los Angeles, 9 p.m.

SOCCER

MLS

EASTERN **W** **L** **T** **PT** **GF** **GA**

x-Philadelphia 15 8 6 51 54 42

x-N.Y. City FC 14 5 8 50 51 34

Atlanta 15 10 3 48 47 33

D.C. United 11 10 9 42 39 38

N.Y. Red Bulls 12 12 5 41 47 44

New England 10 9 9 39 41 47

Toronto FC 10 10 8 38 44 45

Montreal 11 15 4 37 42 56

Orlando City 9 13 7 34 35 39

Chicago 8 12 10 34 44 43

Columbus 8 15 7 31 33 44

Cincinnati 5 20 3 18 28 67

WESTERN **W** **L** **T** **PT** **GF** **GA**

x-Los Angeles FC 19 4 5 62 74 30

Seattle 13 8 7 46 46 43

Minnesota 13 9 6 45 46 37

San Jose 13 10 5 44 48 43

Real Salt Lake 13 11 4 43 40 35

FC Dallas 10 12 7 43 47 38

LA Galaxy 13 12 3 42 41 45

Portland 12 11 4 40 43 40

Sporting KC 10 11 7 37 41 45

Houston 9 15 4 31 38 49

Colorado 8 14 6 30 45 54

Vancouver 6 15 9 27 30 53

x-clinched playoff berth

SATURDAY'S MATCHES

New England at NYC FC, 2:55 p.m.

Toronto FC at Cincinnati, 6:30 p.m.

Los Angeles FC at Orlando City, 6:30 p.m.

Seattle at Colorado, 9:50 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 11

Toronto FC at N.Y. City FC, 6 p.m.

Minnesota at Houston, 7:30 p.m.

LA Galaxy at Colorado, 8 p.m.

San Jose at Real Salt Lake, 8:30 p.m.

NWSL

CLUB **W** **L** **T** **PT** **GF** **GA**

Portland 9 4 6 36 39 22

North Carolina 10 3 4 31 32 17

Chicago 9 8 2 29 29 26

Utah 8 6 4 28 19 15

Reign FC 7 5 6 27 16 20

Washington 7 7 4 25 22 19

Houston 6 8 4 22 18 28

Sky

RANKING THE **BEST BEARS** PLAYERS EVER#2 *Dick Butkus*

'I don't think there will ever be another': LB as skilled as he was vicious

BY WILL LARKIN

Dan Jenkins introduced Dick Butkus to the nation with the first sentence of his cover story for the Oct. 12, 1964, issue of *Sports Illustrated*.

"If every college football team had a linebacker like Dick Butkus," Jenkins wrote, "all fullbacks would soon be 3 feet tall and sing soprano."

The city, the state and the rest of the Midwest already were familiar with Butkus. The Far South Side native was one of the best players Chicago ever produced, and after a dominant career at Vocational he became the Big Ten's best player at Illinois.

He was a year away from joining his hometown Bears, with whom he became a legend still spoken about in hushed tones 46 years after his final game — even though he never made the playoffs and enjoyed two winning seasons out of nine in the NFL.

Butkus was just that good.

What made the 6-foot-3, 245-pound middle linebacker different from every other player in the 99-year history of the Bears and the NFL was the ferocious way he played. His highlight reels still are shocking for their violence, as he was able to tap into a part of himself that even the most hardened professional football players find difficult to reach.

He simply had no regard for his opponents.

Rams defensive end Deacon Jones, a Hall of Famer and one of the most feared defensive players ever, once said: "I called him a maniac. A stone maniac. He was a well-conditioned animal, and every time he hit you, he tried to put you in the cemetery, not the hospital."

The films tell the story.

In them, Butkus pushes back guards and centers with ease, slams quarterbacks to the ground and chases down and finishes off wide receivers.

The most striking moments occur when a running back hits a hole with a full head of steam, meets Butkus there and is propelled backward at an even higher rate of speed, like a four-wheeler suddenly thrown in reverse and giving its driver whiplash.

Dave Osborn, a tough 6-foot, 208-pound Viking who played halfback and fullback and made the 1970 Pro Bowl, told the Tribune's Don Pierson on Feb. 6, 1979: "With my running style, when I got hit by a linebacker, I usually could drag him 2 yards. When Butkus hit me, I'd go backwards 2 yards."

Lions center Ed Flanagan, a longtime Butkus nemesis from his days at Purdue, added, "Our backs were half-scared to death of him. If their number was called in the huddle, their eyes would look like two big marbles."

In the NFL Films production "The Best Ever: Professionals," between jarring hits, Butkus says, "It was all the same objective. Not only to tackle and put the guy down, but also to maybe put it in his mind that it's not gonna be just a plain-old tackle, fall down and go boom and lift the guy up and go back. That wasn't the way I wanted to get the point across."

Besides his violence, the next-most striking aspect about Butkus' reel is his skill, especially in pass coverage. He finished his career with 22 interceptions, and he did it his way. After some of his picks, Butkus wagged the ball in the nearest receiver's face before embarking on his return, taunting his opponent as if he were a younger kid on the playground in his Roseland neighborhood.

"Most of the time it was like a man out there playing against children," Bears center Rich Coady told Pierson.

Bill George, Mike Singletary or Brian Urlacher would be an easy choice for the best middle linebacker in most teams' histories. With the Bears they are, unquestionably, second-best at best.

As the voice-of-God narration in "Best Ever: Professionals" intoned: "No one has played middle linebacker better than Dick Butkus. And it's not likely that anyone ever will. He was the most dominant defensive player the game has ever known."

Pierson wrote on Feb. 4, 1979: "Some people are born to play football. Football was born for Dick Butkus."

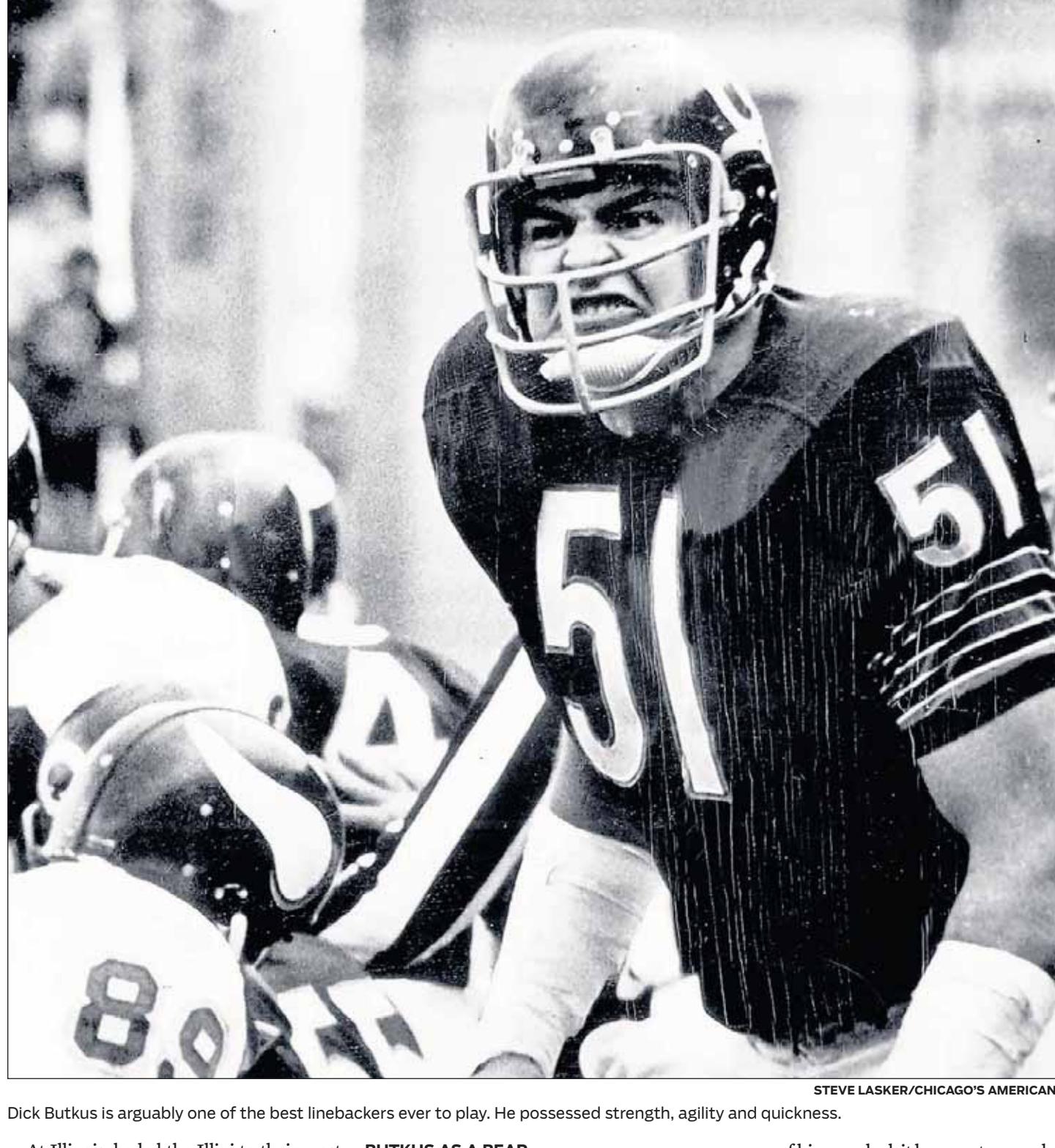
His size, speed, instincts and ferocity made Butkus the perfect middle linebacker. Ross Brupbacher, who played next to Butkus as an outside linebacker for the Bears from 1970-72, said, "If you wanted to put one together like a Frankenstein, you couldn't have put a better one together."

"Uh-oh," outside linebacker Doug Buffone — a Bear for 14 years and a teammate of Butkus for eight — said upon hearing his teammate's description. "If Butkus hears Bru said that, he'll choke him."

Butkus was voted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1979, his first year of eligibility. In 1994 he was named to the NFL's 75th Anniversary Team. The NFL Network named him the 10th-best player of all time in 2010, and a New York Daily News panel voted him No. 8 in 2014.

Butkus played nine seasons for the Bears, starting all 119 games he played. He was named first-team All-Pro five times and second-team once and he was voted to the Pro Bowl after his first eight seasons. He's the Bears' all-time leader with 27 fumble recoveries.

The Hall of Fame named Butkus to its All-Decade teams in both the 1960s and the '70s. The only other Bear to be named to two such teams was Walter Payton, in the 1970s and '80s.



STEVE LASKER/CHICAGO'S AMERICAN

Dick Butkus is arguably one of the best linebackers ever to play. He possessed strength, agility and quickness.

At Illinois, he led the Illini to their most recent Rose Bowl win, 17-7 over Washington on Jan. 1, 1964. He won the Chicago Tribune Silver Football as the Big Ten's best player the next season and finished third in the 1964 Heisman Trophy balloting behind quarterbacks John Huarte of Notre Dame and Tulsa's Jerry Rhome.

The Bears selected Butkus third in the 1965 draft and paired him with the fourth pick, Kansas running back Gale Sayers. They almost instantly became two of the game's best players, demonstrating elite talent and skill as rookies. Sayers beat out Butkus for rookie of the year, Butkus was named defensive rookie of the year and both made first-team All-Pro.

George, the Bears' middle linebacker since he practically invented the position in 1954, knew his days were numbered after watching Butkus take part in one practice, he said in Richard Whittingham's 1991 book, "What Bears They Were."

"I've never seen anybody who was such a cinch," George said. "From the day Dick showed up in camp I knew I was out of a job."

Despite the presence of Butkus and Sayers, two of the best ever to play in the NFL, the Bears of their time were mostly terrible. After a 9-5 season in their rookie year of 1965 and a mediocre 7-6-1 mark in 1967, the Bears never had another winning season with their Class of 1965 superstars.

With wins scarce, Butkus competed with himself. His greatest enjoyment came from his personal rivalries with offensive linemen, particularly the NFC Central Division's great centers: Mick Tingelhoff of the Vikings, a Hall of Famer; Flanagan, the Lions' four-time Pro Bowl selection; and Ken Bowman, who started for three championship teams with the Packers.

Butkus started three fights during a game against the Lions in 1969, and in a 1970 preseason game against the St. Louis Cardinals he was flagged for four personal foul penalties.

Was he a dirty player?

"Oh, yeah," said Flanagan, who like Butkus entered the NFL in 1965. "He'd kick, spit, grab my face mask, anything to get to the ball carrier. He bit me once in a pileup. In the leg. He was just nasty."

"He'd spit on the ball, insult me, my mother — we had a real resentment going. He used to love me on punts. He'd take three steps back and try to kill me."

Whether they liked or disliked Butkus — there was no in between — his opponents always respected him.

"Listen," Flanagan said. "We never liked each other. We sat two lockers away in some Pro Bowl games and never talked to each other. But I've played against the best — all of them — and he's right up there. You can't take that away from him."

Tingelhoff added: "He was rough and rugged, and you had to respect a guy like that."

The Vikings center said Butkus proved his intelligence by always being near the ball and seldom putting himself out of position: "He had an uncanny knack of knowing where the ball was going."

Butkus expanded on his instincts in great detail to *Sports Illustrated*'s Robert F. Jones in the Sept. 21, 1970 cover story on Butkus.

BUTKUS AS A BEAR

1965-73 | 9 seasons | 119 games

Bears record: 48-74-4 (.397).

Playoff appearances: 0.

Acquired: First round (third overall), 1965 draft from Illinois.

THE LIST

2. Dick Butkus
3. Bronko Nagurski
4. Gale Sayers
5. Sid Luckman
6. Bill George
7. Bulldog Turner
8. Doug Atkins
9. Dan Hampton
10. Brian Urlacher
11. Mike Ditka
12. Mike Singletary
13. Danny Fortmann
14. Richard Dent
15. Joe Stydahar
16. George Connor
17. Stan Jones
18. Steve McMichael
19. Devin Hester
20. Red Grange
21. Jimbo Covert
22. George McAfee
23. Jay Hilgenberg
24. Bill Hewitt
25. George Halas
26. Olin Kreutz
27. Joe Fortunato
28. George Trafton
29. Lance Briggs
30. Ed Healey
31. Link Lyman
32. George Musso
33. Ed Sprinkle
34. Paddy Driscoll
35. Harlon Hill
36. Rick Casares
37. Ken Kavanagh
38. Charles Tillman
39. Gary Fencik
40. Luke Johnson
41. Richie Petitbon
42. Ray Bray
43. Rosey Taylor
44. Johnny Morris
45. Joe Kopcha
46. Fred Williams
47. Matt Forte
48. Doug Buffone
49. Dave Duerson
50. Larry Morris
51. Dick Barwegan
52. Wally Chambers
53. Otis Wilson
54. Wilber Marshall
55. Dick Gordon
56. Jim McMahon
57. Neal Anderson
58. Mike Brown
59. Jim Osborne
60. Willie Galimore
61. Mark Carrier
62. Mark Bortz
63. Julius Peppers
64. J.C. Caroline
65. Ed O'Bradovich
66. Mike Pyle
67. Mike Hartenstine
68. Keith Van Horne
69. Tommie Harris
70. George Wilson
71. Jack Manders
72. James Williams
73. Jim Dooley
74. Robbie Gould
75. Bennie McRae
76. Johnny Lujack
77. Bill Osmanski
78. Jay Cutler
79. Jim McMillen
80. Khalil Mack
81. Eddie Jackson
82. Doug Plank
83. Zuck Carlson
84. Bill Wade
85. Kyle Long
86. Brandon Marshall
87. Lee Artoe
88. Alshon Jeffery
89. Beattie Feathers
90. Kevin Butler
91. Bill Karr
92. Matt Suhey
93. Ed Brown
94. Gary Famiglietti
95. Akiem Hicks
96. Joey Sternaman
97. Hugh Gallarneau
98. Tom Thayer
99. William Perry
100. Patrick Mannelly

"I can see it all about to happen," Butkus said. "At the key moment — the instant of the snap — I somehow know, most of the time, just how the flow pattern will develop. It's all there in the backdrop. I stare right through the center and the quarterback, right through their eyes. I watch for the keys, and they are very tiny keys, believe me. Tiny little twitches of their shoulders and their heads and their feet and eyes. There's just this split second, before it all starts to move, when you put those keys together and you know — you damned well know how it's going."

Like Sayers, knee injuries ended Butkus' career. Before the 1973 season Butkus and the Bears agreed to five one-year contracts of \$115,000 apiece. He had played in constant pain for three years, and during the first

season of his new deal, it became too much.

Butkus retired at 31, and in 1974 he sued the Bears and their team doctor, Ted Fox, for \$1.6 million for mistreating his injuries and administering painkillers that Butkus and his attorney claimed hastened his knee's deterioration. The court battle lasted two years before the Bears and Butkus settled for \$600,000.

Bears owner George Halas blacklisted Butkus during and immediately after the court case, but Papa Bear never could turn his back completely on a player that good. When the Bears owner published his autobiography, "Halas by Halas," in 1979, Butkus showed up to a book signing. Halas, according to Jeff Davis' 2005 biography, "Papa Bear: The Life and Legacy of George Halas," wrote an inscription above his signature.

"To Dick Butkus, the greatest player in the history of the Bears. You had that old zipperool!"

While Halas and Butkus returned to speaking terms, forgiveness was not in the cards. Halas never got around to retiring Butkus' number even though the linebacker obviously deserved the honor. The stubborn decision meant that Sayers' number also remained unretired. Halas wished to honor Sayers, with whom he never had any trouble, but he knew Bears fans would react negatively to one of the paired greats being honored without the other, so he shelved the issue indefinitely.

Butkus reentered the fold about 18 months after Halas died on Oct. 31, 1983. In 1985, Butkus, who had parlayed his humorous appearances in Miller Lite commercials into a full-time acting career, joined play-by-play man Wayne Larrivee and color commentator Jim Hart as a third man in the team's WGN radio booth.

Exactly 11 years after Papa Bear's death, on Halloween night 1994, his grandson, Bears President Michael McCaskey, finally retired Butkus No. 51 and Sayers' No. 40. McCaskey figured the move would boost his flatlining popularity. Instead the ceremony symbolized both the dysfunction of the 1990s Bears and the sorry state of the team during the days of Butkus and Sayers.

It rained 2.26 inches that day in Chicago with 45-mph winds when the Bears played the Packers on "Monday Night Football." The rollicking Pack, led by superstars Brett Favre and Reggie White, frolicked in the downpour to the tune of a 33-6 win. At halftime, the soaked Butkus and Sayers were honored during the deluge in front of a sparse crowd due to the weather.

Butkus, now 76 and a longtime California resident, has stayed involved with football with his Butkus Awards for linebackers at the pro, college and prep levels and his "I Play Clean" anti-steroids program.

To this day, almost five decades after his career ended playing for Bears teams that went a combined 48-74-4, no NFL player has surpassed the standard Butkus set for ferocious football.

"You don't start early in life and become a Butkus," Brupbacher told Pierson in 1979. "You're just born, and through certain breaks you get that opportunity to realize that ability. That's what happened to him."

"I don't think there will ever be another one. He has to be the toughest to ever play."

eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE



MITCHELL LEFF/GETTY

Carson Wentz high-fives fellow Eagles quarterback Josh McCown after McCown throws a touchdown pass against the Ravens in the Aug. 22 preseason game in Philadelphia.

Wentz is one of the guys

Quarterback endears himself to Eagles' teammates after leadership questioned

By JEFF McLANE
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Carson Wentz sat at a corner table at Barclay Prime with bottles of Remy Martin Louis XIII and Hennessy XO.

He didn't order the \$8,500 worth of liquor, although he was picking up the tab.

The Eagles quarterback had just signed a \$137,871,683 contract, and the extravagances, Wentz's guests presumed, were merely a drop in the Delaware.

But there was also a subtle implication behind the orders that Alshon Jeffery (Louis XIII) and DeSean Jackson (Hennessy) had placed at the posh Rittenhouse Square restaurant: When we celebrate, this is how we roll.

Wentz had treated his teammates before. He had gone out to dinner with Eagles wide receivers on other occasions. But this June feast, six days after the 26-year-old had agreed to a four-year extension, was different.

Wentz invited only his top three receivers — Jeffery, Jackson, and Nelson Agholor — and tight end Zach Ertz. He had already made an increasing effort to be more social with other teammates this offseason, partly in response to a January story published by PhillyVoice that, citing anonymous sources, painted the quarterback as a divisive presence in the locker room.

Wentz refuted the few details referenced in the article, but he didn't counter the characterizations that he could be selfish or uncompromising. He acknowledged that he had been weighed down by his injuries and performance last season and might have missed signs of strife.

But there was discord, particularly on the offensive side of the ball, and especially among Wentz's receiving targets. He recently downplayed the June dinner and drinks — "I'm not confirming or denying anything," he initially joked — but the players in attendance understood its significance.

"There was a lot of drama last year, on the field, off the field," Ertz said. "So we're just trying to get ahead of that and focus on being great teammates. I feel like that article, whether it was true or not, Carson looked internally and didn't brush it off. He reflected and tried to see that even if I'm not perfect, how can I be better?"

"And I think he's a little more outgoing and made an effort, for instance, to take us all out to dinner. He's extended himself this year, and hopefully all that drama stuff will be in the past."

Jackson wasn't on the team last year, but the 12-year veteran has seen his share of drama. The

quarterback-receiver dynamic can be a tenuous one. There could be 60 passing routes over the course of a game, but a receiver might see only a few targets. Communication is vital, but it helps if there is also a foundation built outside football.

"We want him to be comfortable with us. We want him to understand how we are," Jackson said. "I feel like when you're in the building, it's all football, football, football, and sometimes it's good to have a flip side to go out and see what people's other interests are."

"Obviously, we didn't grow up together, but the better he knows us as men, the better off we'll be, because he's going to be our guy, and he's going to be distributing the ball to us."

Wentz's first three seasons didn't necessarily allow for him to become an extroverted leader in the Eagles locker room. Even though he was thrust into a starting role from Game 1, he was still a rookie. He organically assumed more responsibility in his second season, but a season-ending knee injury and the subsequent recovery had, to some extent, isolated Wentz.

And then another injury — a stress fracture in his back — prematurely ended his season last December. Although Wentz watched Nick Foles lead the Eagles to a Super Bowl championship the year before, it would have never happened without his MVP-worthy regular season. But his play had regressed in 2018, and the Eagles were 6-7 when he was shut down.

Wentz, during a sit-down interview, said he had hit his boiling point.

"The pressure and the expectations that I have always done a good job of blocking out, and then you compound that with injury and then the struggle that we had last year early on, it just kind of got to me," Wentz said. "Seeing this game, it was more stressful and I was less free playing it. Finally, that injury, it just allowed me to release everything."

Wentz said he met with his pastor, Kyle Horner, at the Connect Church in Cherry Hill, and "let it all out." The outside criticism that every NFL player is susceptible to, especially quarterbacks, and especially in Philadelphia, had begun to affect him. Not only was he not playing his best, but his fourth injury in four years had some labeling him as brittle.

"I finally just kind of had to let it all go and then realize that I can't control what people think, what they say, what they write," Wentz said. "It doesn't really matter to me. I realize I play this game for a bigger purpose."



Eagles quarterback Carson Wentz, right, talks to his Jets counterpart Sam Darnold after a preseason game on Thursday.

maybe in some corner of the locker room there's one or two guys going, 'No, no, we got there with Nick, ultimately. Can we get there with Carson?'" Jeremiah said. "This kind of helps eliminate that doubt. Well, everyone upstairs sure thinks we can get there with Carson."

Ertz and Agholor, who have been with Wentz since his first year, said they considered him the future as soon as the Eagles traded up to draft the North Dakota State product with the No. 2 overall pick. But just as they needed time to grow into their roles, so did the quarterback.

Wentz had previously spoken about the importance of finding like-minded individuals in the locker room during his first few seasons. He had a posse, which centered on their shared Christian faith. The six-member group called itself a brotherhood, but after two years of attrition, only Ertz remains.

NFL rosters can turn over at an alarming rate. There have been approximately 300 players on the Eagles since Wentz arrived in April 2016, and only 15 have been there throughout his career. A franchise quarterback, often more than any other position, must be adaptable to the changing face of a locker room.

"You come in, you are a young guy, so you maybe have a smaller circle, so to speak, and less of an influence in the locker room," Wentz said. "And just getting to know guys on a personal level, whether they play linebacker, defensive back, or kicker. It doesn't really matter. It is just a bunch of guys who want to hang out and spend time together."

There were various reasons for extending Wentz early. The Eagles, for example, stood to benefit financially. But they also sent a message to the locker room, according to NFL Network's Daniel Jeremiah, that if you weren't on board with Wentz, you had better be now.

"I feel like I'm just mentally in a much different place, and physically I feel good too," Wentz said. "A little more relaxed, you could probably say."

"Some of those things were natural, so I didn't really overanalyze that. I've just always tried to look at myself through a really strict lens and just say, 'Where can I improve?'"

Wentz has had barbecues at his

South Jersey home before, but he invited more defensive players over this spring.

He's chilled out more at the NovaCare Complex and interacted with players outside his circle, several veterans said. And, perhaps more important, he has ventured out of his comfort zone, as he did during his celebratory dinner in June.

"That's so much out of his character," Eagles safety Malcolm Jenkins said. "But just the ability to be there with the receivers and kind of just build that bond outside the throwing camps and all the other stuff, that kind of fellowship is important."

Two years ago, Wentz had the receivers and tight ends out to North Dakota for summer workouts. But after taking a year off because of his rehab, he switched up the destination and flew everyone to his new home in Houston.

They practiced, but they also swam at his pool, took out jet skis, played ping-pong, and ate Wentz's patented bison burgers.

But it was also another opportunity for the quarterback, as Eagles coach Doug Pederson said he should in March, to be "more vulnerable" and "more accessible."

Jackson and Wentz may not have much in common off the field. One is from Southern California and lives a celebrity lifestyle, while the other is a North Dakotan who loves to hunt and fish. But that doesn't mean there aren't commonalities.

"He's not coming into the woods to hunt with me or anything like that," Wentz said, "but we can just talk life."

Wentz said that he also altered his training and has been more proactive after practice. As a result, he said, he feels he has more energy and can recover more quickly. But the greatest consequence, if the body fuels the mind, has been in the space between his ears.

"A lot of it is just up here," Wentz said, pointing to his head. "I do my best to stay even keel a little bit more and maybe not stress out so much about the game-planning."

But he said he must remain true to himself. While he said he's been more vocal "at times," Wentz picks his spots when to speak up.

Wentz and his receivers have worked extensively on chemistry, on the field and off, at the NovaCare and outside the practice facility. But the conversations haven't centered exclusively on football.

"It's just great to have him hang with the bros," Agholor said. "He's obviously married and he's very chill, but he's a young dude who can hang out with the guys. It means a lot. I love hanging out with him, cracking jokes, finding out what he's thinking about outside of the game."

← eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE →

Mired in mediocrity

Success eludes Redskins during Snyder's tenure

BY ADAM KILGORE

The Washington Post

As a boy attending Redskins games with his family at RFK Stadium, a short distance from his home in Maryland's Montgomery County, Dan Snyder would gaze across the field and peer into the owner's box. Other kids daydreamed about playing on an NFL field. Snyder envisioned himself lording over one.

"I'd just watch," Snyder once said, "and imagine what was happening in there."

Since 1999, when he was 34 years old, Snyder has watched the Redskins from the seat of power he once fantasized about. The desired trappings of NFL ownership have remained elusive, barely any closer to him than when he sat in the stands.

The upcoming NFL season marks the start of Snyder's third decade as the team's owner, an occasion to take stock of his impact on the franchise and examine the state of his stewardship. The Redskins have morphed under Snyder from one of the NFL's crown jewels to a success-starved organization in persistent unrest, a franchise lacking in on-field accomplishment and seeking its first playoff win since January 2006, rife with off-field issues and facing the monumental task of building a new stadium — Snyder's best opportunity to re-energize Washington's fan base and revitalize his franchise.

Interviews with current NFL power players, former league executives and former Redskins employees, most of whom spoke on the condition of anonymity to offer a more frank assessment, depicted Snyder as a competitive businessman who remains driven to return the Redskins to the championship level of his childhood, but one no closer to understanding how to do so than in his younger, more imperious ownership seasons. They showed an owner who has receded from the NFL's inner circle, whose insular personality has reduced his influence and willingness to fully engage on league matters.

Some worried about the direction of a historic franchise in a crucial market, while others expressed optimism despite Snyder's track record.

The skeletal details of Snyder's life would make many in his position a sympathetic figure: a local kid who made himself wealthy before middle age and devoted himself to restoring his beloved hometown team to greatness, only to find that the harder he tried to seize success, the more it slipped through his grasp.

Instead, Snyder's tenure helming the Redskins has cast him, to many fans, as an antagonist. The way the NFL views him and his franchise, like any relationship that lasts 20 years, is more complicated.

Franchise in decline

This summer, as the Redskins sweated through training camp in the Richmond, Va., heat, John Kent Cooke steered his boat, Bernadette, off the rocky coast of Maine. He took a break from his relaxed seafaring and pulled out his cell to respond to a reporter's message.

"Unlike Snyder," Cooke said, "I return phone calls."

Cooke, 77, grew up loving the franchise more intimately than most anyone. He is the son of Jack Kent Cooke, the owner who led the Redskins to three Super Bowl titles over a quarter century. It was Cooke whom Snyder watched in the owner's box, and it was Cooke's estate from which Snyder purchased the Redskins for \$800 million in 1999. His group beat out bidders that included Cooke's son.

"I think that what's happened over the 20-year period is that he has taken a franchise that has been universally respected in sports, not just the NFL, and proceeded to drag it down to mediocrity," Cooke said. "It's no longer one of the premier sports franchises in the United States."

Recent seasons have brought troubling external indicators — flagging ticket sales, opposing fans regularly invading FedEx Field, extensive personnel turnover on the franchise's business side. The Redskins ranked 27th in



MIKE STEWART/AP

Under Daniel Snyder's ownership, the Redskins haven't won a playoff game since January 2006.

the NFL in attendance last season and struggled to fill seats even after years of removing them, shrinking the stadium's capacity.

The Redskins' on-field performance places them near the bottom of the league. Their record under Snyder is 139-180-1, a .436 winning percentage. They won a home playoff game in 1999, Snyder's first season, and have only replicated the modest feat once, during the 2005 season. Since the NFL introduced its current divisional format in 2002, the Redskins have won two NFC East titles and finished last eight times.

In the eyes of some within the league, Snyder can turn the franchise around with a few tweaks and breaks.

Those bullish on the Redskins pointed to the capricious nature of success. The Rams, multiple executives pointed out, were languishing in St. Louis four seasons ago, and now they are defending NFC champions on the verge of opening a transformative new stadium. The Redskins drafted quarterback Dwayne Haskins, an Ohio State star who attended Bullis School in the D.C. suburbs, in the first round this April, providing the team's latest emblem of hope.

"You hit rough patches in your franchise's tenure where things don't go your way," Cowboys chief operating officer Stephen Jones said. "But it just takes the right quarterback and coach and leadership. You look up, and you've got a great situation on your hands. ... I've got nothing but respect for Dan and what he can get done there in Washington. He's a visionary."

In the view of many others, Snyder is the impediment to solving problems he created. League insiders described Snyder as an owner who has dialed back his involvement with football decisions, but one who still struggles to trust and listen to the people he hires, particularly when their opinions conflict with his.

"As long as Dan's there, they don't have a chance," one former

high-ranking Redskins official said. "Even though the players are much better than they were... at the end of the day, everybody has to be beating on the same drum. If you're not on your game [in the NFL], you're going to get exposed very quickly. And that's what's happened to him."

The totality of the Redskins' decline under Snyder has gained the attention of many within the league. The Washington market, ripe with history and rich in political connections, has unique meaning. For years, Redskins tickets were scarce, a sign of prestige and pride. Last year the team finally acknowledged that for the first time in decades it no longer had a waiting list for season tickets.

"If you'd have told me that the Redskins would have been an afterthought in the D.C. market, I would have told you you were crazy," one NFL power broker said. "But you're starting to see that. And it's a concern."

Television money has also prevented the Redskins' performance from affecting its franchise value. Last year, Forbes ranked the Redskins as the fifth-most valuable NFL franchise, valuing it at \$3.1 billion. NFL insiders estimate the franchise would theoretically sell for closer to \$3.5 billion to \$4 billion.

"It doesn't really affect our revenue sharing these days," one NFL owner said. "But it's an important market. It's a market we need to have a successful franchise."

Man misunderstood

Carmen Policy, a longtime NFL team executive and a member of the league's finance committee in 1999, remembers watching Snyder walk into the room. Snyder was 34, and he came before the committee to end an arduous process. Snyder had stepped forward to lead a group of business executives who had the highest bid. Some of the NFL's most powerful figures needed to meet

and approve him.

"He seemed like a kid," Policy recalled.

Snyder struck Policy as pleasant, far from arrogant. The vote to approve Snyder did not feel momentous. After the NFL's owners welcomed Snyder, the league's old guard tried to guide him.

"The reason they paid attention to him — because normally they wouldn't give him that much attention as a new owner, and especially a young new owner — is because the franchise is important," Policy said. "It's part of that Eastern gravitas that's brought to the media with significant, significant rating impacts. It wasn't so much Dan was that important. It was the Redskins are that important."

Two decades later, Snyder is increasingly viewed as an outsider within the cushy confines of NFL ownership. He still participates at owners meetings, and when he does his input is seen as valuable, multiple people familiar with those meetings said. But he is less active on league matters than he used to be, those owners said, and less active than most owners.

Even NFL peers who want to defend him, who view him as a committed business partner and a doting father of his two daughters and son, have difficulty overcoming his temperament. More than one person familiar with him described — or agreed with the description of — Snyder as someone who behaves the way a little kid imagines a rich person acts.

A former executive of the league office said Snyder has tried to mold himself after one of his allies: Cowboys owner Jerry Jones. In 2017, Snyder's affinity for Jones and his style came to the fore during the league's national anthem controversy. The former league executive recalled Jones yelling at NFL officials who argued players should not be disciplined for kneeling during the national anthem, and who believed the league should not accede to President Donald

Trump's rhetoric.

"Dan would repeat what Jerry was yelling," the former executive said. "Literally, he'd sit there yelling, 'Yeah, that's right! ... He wants to be Jerry when he grows up. I think he looks at the swashbuckling Jerry Jones in Dallas and says, 'Hey, I can do that, too!' He watches what Jerry does and mimics it in a way that just doesn't fit."

Snyder has alienated many around the league, and some former employees described him as an overly demanding boss, quick to lash out at minor miscreases. A former administrative assistant described his life after working for Snyder as being comparable to having post-traumatic stress disorder. "If a day went by where he said thank you for something and didn't yell at you, that was a pretty good day," the former assistant said.

But others, in three interviews facilitated by the Redskins after The Post requested to interview Snyder, described him as a caring man who has been mislabeled. Rams coach Sean McVay, who was previously the Redskins' offensive coordinator, said Snyder recommended his hiring to Rams owner Stan Kroenke, a gesture he felt grateful for in a league where many owners strive to keep their best coaches at any cost. Pedro Taylor, the father of Sean Taylor, the safety who in 2007 died from injuries sustained after he was shot in his home during a break-in, said Snyder still calls him multiple times a year "to check in and see you how you are," and that he counts on his support during holidays.

Even those who scorn Snyder do not doubt his business acumen, his intellect, his drive or his willingness to build a championship team.

"He just doesn't like a lot of the other owners, and he's a tough personality," one high-ranking member of an NFL organization said. "I do know he cares about the Redskins and wants to win, and I think he's frustrated he doesn't know how to."



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Gloria "Duchess" Gunn relaxes in her Englewood home with a portrait of her father, Jerry Jones, the screenwriter and co-star of the 1975 blaxploitation film "Dolemite."

'Everybody has taken advantage'

Eddie Murphy's upcoming Netflix movie about the making of 'Dolemite' uses the likeness of its Chicago screenwriter and his characters. His family wants to know why they weren't involved.

BY NINA METZ

Here's what it feels like when Hollywood makes a movie in which your deceased loved one is portrayed as a supporting character and doesn't include you in the process.

A biopic starring Eddie Murphy, Wesley Snipes, Chris Rock and others about the making of the 1975 blaxploitation film "Dolemite," will premiere Saturday at the Toronto International Film Festival. Called "Dolemite Is My Name," the Netflix movie will be available on the streaming service later this year, but its inclusion at TIFF is a strong indication of the company's hopes for the film as an awards contender.

There has been considerable anticipation surrounding Murphy's return in a starring role. He steps into the shoes of Rudy Ray Moore, a singer-turned-comedian who would go on to produce and star in a number of small and exuberant movies (including two "Dolemite" sequels) before his death in 2008. But when he first began



NETFLIX

Eddie Murphy is featured in the movie "Dolemite Is My Name." Murphy portrays Rudy Ray Moore.

76TH VENICE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

'The Laundromat' chock-full of dirty money



CLAUDETTE BARIUS/AP

Meryl Streep in a scene from "The Laundromat," in theaters on Sept. 27.

Steven Soderbergh movie has a distinct 'Brechtian' appeal



MICHAEL PHILLIPS

Talking Pictures

VENICE, Italy — "The Laundromat" is a deliberately drab metaphor of a title, duller than director Steven Soderbergh's nimble, sardonic movie deserves. It skips along as a black comedy about fishy offshore companies and insidious, global tax shelters, before landing on an agitating polemical flourish worthy of Bertolt Brecht. At the Monday news conference here, in fact, the film's star, Meryl Streep, used the

b-word to describe Soderbergh's approach.

Nothing says Netflix-and-chill like the adjective "Brechtian."

Full review to come closer to the U.S. theatrical premiere Sept. 27, to be followed by Netflix streaming beginning Oct. 18. A first look at "The Laundromat," meantime, reminds us of just how razor-sharp the line between passive cynicism and active outrage can be, in black comedies of serious social and political engagement. Or maybe the line's in the eye of the beholder. Or both.

That line has snaked its way through a lot of movies in recent years, ever since Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11" made hundreds of millions of dollars in profit while probably, in a small, unintended way, helping George W. Bush to get reelected. The bleakly satiric "Big Short" and "Vice," Adam McKay's forays into recent, outlandish American history, played with fractured storytelling techniques and sketch-comic

stratagems, entertaining us all the way to the inescapable conclusion offered by the films themselves: *nothing to be done*.

Premiering Monday in competition at the Venice film festival, "The Laundromat" is Soderbergh's Panama Papers movie, written by frequent collaborator Scott Z. Burns. It combines a globe-trotting "Traffic"- or "Contagion"-sized story, to name two previous Soderbergh films, with the deadpan comic overlay of his Decatur, Ill.-set financial scandal docudrama "The Informant!"

Screenwriter Burns (a frequent Soderbergh colleague) works from the Jake Bernstein nonfiction account "Secrecy World." Remember the Panama Papers? The whistle-blown document dump back in 2016, a global collaboration of various investigative journalist teams, exposed the spectacular oil slick of a Panamanian law firm, Mossack Fonseca & Co., whose

Turn to Phillips, Page 5

CELEBRITIES

Tribune news services



ARTHUR MOLA/INVISION

Timothee Chalamet at the premiere of "The King" in Venice, Italy, on Monday.

Chalamet: Becoming 'The King' terrifying

VENICE, Italy — Timothee Chalamet is already one of the most acclaimed young actors working today, but he says that the prospect of playing young Henry V in "The King" was terrifying.

"It was a real challenge for me," Chalamet said at the Venice International Film Festival, where the film is having its world premiere. "It was terrifying at the same time but I had an amazing time."

He was drawn to the project simply because he was out of his wheelhouse. The 23-year-old has been nominated for an Oscar, but he's never done stunts, worked with swords or played a role quite like this.

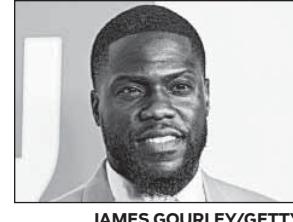
The film is drawn from Shakespeare's "Henry V" as well as "Henry IV" parts one and two. The film follows young Henry, or Hal, from his drunken days in Eastcheap to his early days as King of England, a position he never wanted and takes reluctantly when his father, Henry IV (Ben Mendelsohn), dies.

"The King" is playing out of competition at Venice, and is one of three Netflix films, including "The Laundromat" and "Marriage Story" making their debut on the Lido. It will open in theaters Oct. 11, before hitting Netflix on Nov. 1.

Chalamet, meanwhile, also has "Little Women" coming to theaters this Christmas, reuniting him with his "Lady Bird" director Greta Gerwig.

"I'm really trying to just do great projects and things that are challenging," Chalamet said. "I feel I'm really still learning and trying to chase whatever best version of an actor I can be."

— Associated Press



JAMES GOURLEY/GETTY

On the mend: Comic actor Kevin Hart's wife says he's "going to be just fine" following a weekend car crash that left him with a major back injury. Eniko Hart was questioned by a TMZ reporter while visiting him at the hospital Monday. She gave no details beyond that assurance. Hart was a passenger in a 1970 Plymouth Barracuda that went off a highway above Malibu early Sunday. The 40-year-old Hart and the car's driver both had back injuries.

Benefit: A benefit concert for suicide prevention featuring the music of the late star Avicii is being planned for Dec. 5 in Stockholm, Sweden. Proceeds will support the work of the new Tim Bergling Foundation, named for the musician who killed himself in April 2018. The concert will feature many of the singers, including Adam Lambert and Rita Ora, who were on Avicii's recordings.

Arrested: Police in Las Vegas say rapper Fetty Wap was arrested after allegedly assaulting three employees at a hotel. Police say the 28-year-old whose real name is Willie Maxwell was arrested Sunday morning on three counts of battery.

Sept. 4 birthdays: Actress Mitzi Gaynor is 88. Actress Judith Ivey is 68. Actor Lawrence Hilton-Jacobs is 66. Actress Khandi Alexander is 62. Actor-comedian Damon Wayans is 59. DJ-music producer Mark Ronson is 44. Actor Max Greenfield is 39. Singer Beyoncé is 38. Actress Whitney Cummings is 37. Comedian Kyle Mooney is 35. Singer James Bay is 29. Actor Trevor Gagnon is 24.



ASK AMY

BY AMY DICKINSON

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

Distant dad has generous sons

Dear Amy: I am a mother of two boys, ages 12 and 14. Their father is in and out of their lives. He rarely contributes to their upbringing.

The boys have spent a total of 10 days with him this entire year. He lives 20 miles away. While with him, my sons decided their dad could use a new cellphone. I have no idea if this was their dad's idea or theirs, but my boys asked to put their savings together (earned from doing chores and/or saving birthday money) to buy a new phone for their dad.

Amy, their dad has taken numerous vacations this year, including cruises and flights out of the country. He did not bother even once to take the boys. He even promised he was taking them on one of his trips to New York and did not take them. He didn't even bother to tell them he wasn't taking them; he just didn't show.

I am conflicted on whether I should let our sons buy him a phone. I don't want them to, obviously, and my thoughts are if he needs a new phone, he should skip a vacation and buy one.

But I'm not sure how, or even if, I should explain this to my boys. Should I just let them do a good deed for their father without interfering?

— *Trying to Be a Good Mom*

Dear Trying: Your sons' father is not an attentive or responsible parent. Your boys haven't had consistent contact.

This is what I think is going on: These boys love their father; they want him in their lives, and they are

turning themselves inside out to please him. Human nature leads children to seek love, and to try mightily to have contact with, and please, their parents.

These boys are secure in your love for them, which means, paradoxically, that they won't be giving you a new phone anytime soon. They know your love isn't contingent on the shallow pleasure of receiving material things.

In short, they are trying to win over their father, and he is taking advantage of this dynamic, because he isn't the man he should be.

Say to them, "You have earned this money. Are you sure you want to do this? I know that Dad can take care of himself, but I won't stop you, if that's what you really want to do. It's your money to spend as you wish."

Make sure they understand that you will not make up for this expenditure, and make sure that you will be there for them (emotionally) when they get burned. Unfortunately, there is a high likelihood that this purchase will not be a good investment.

Dear Amy: My husband has OCD. He refuses to seek treatment. His behaviors annoy and irritate me in many ways.

The worst for me is when we must ride in the car together. He cannot be still and simply drive. We both love listening to music. However, he must add a jaunty whistle, an enthusiastic percussion drummed on the steering wheel or his lap, or, most annoyingly, a "ch-ch-ch-ch" sound.

Without going into

detail, suffice it to say that the music we listen to is NOT enhanced by jaunty whistling. There is no point in asking him to stop, because he will immediately turn it back on me and come up with something I do that he doesn't like.

Instead, I sit in the car and dig my nails into my fists. I want to slice my ears off. What can I do to make this better?

— *Not Van Gogh*

Dear Van Gogh: If you and your husband learned how to lovingly and respectfully communicate, you might be able to tackle this together.

It's possible that you each have ironic and repellent disorders: OCD for him and misophonia (an outsized rage-reaction to certain sounds) for you. What are the odds?

Given that he won't even acknowledge or validate your struggle with his various tics, you'll have to resort to your own fixes. Deep breathing and earbuds might help to distract you.

Dear Amy: Thank you for your practical advice to "Travel Bugged." If you don't enjoy traveling with family members, then don't do it!

— *Solo Traveler*

Dear Solo: Once people have successfully suffered through an experience, and survived it, they sometimes feel locked in for a repeat. Don't do it!

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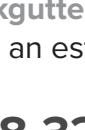
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Movie

Continued from Page 1

work on the original "Dolemite" in the early 1970s, he was a film novice.

The script was written by a Chicago actor and playwright and recent Los Angeles transplant named Jerry Jones, who also co-stars. Jones died in 2012 and in the years since, his daughter, Gloria Gunn, has made efforts to secure his legacy with little success.

She is wary of the impending Netflix film.

Gunn and her siblings learned of "Dolemite Is My Name" only recently, she said, and were taken aback. Though their father is a character in the movie (played by Keegan-Michael Key), she maintains no one reached out to her or her family during the making of the film, despite what they see as their father's integral role in "Dolemite's" creation. "There's no way they can tell me that my family should not benefit some way from all of this that they are gaining," Gunn said.

The first she heard from Netflix was a phone call late in June — one day after the Tribune spoke to a Netflix publicist and alerted the streaming network to Gunn's concerns. (She is the spokesperson on behalf of her half-siblings Stephan Turner and Mia Miller; their half-sister Judith Jones Brown died in 2010.)

This is the story of Gunn's attempts to ensure that her father's talent and contribution are not lost, and how Hollywood works.

From "Dolemite's" origins in the early '70s to the forthcoming Netflix biopic nearly half a century later, the Jones portion of the story is a complicated one.

Born in Arkansas and raised in Chicago, Jones was a theater actor who performed in local productions before moving to Los Angeles in the late 1960s. There he landed small roles on episodes of "The Doris Day Show," "The Brady Bunch," "The Odd Couple," "Mission: Impossible" and others.

"Dolemite" was his first movie script and it was a hit, taking in \$12 million at the box office on a \$100,000 budget. It would remain the most significant credit on his resume throughout his career.

Gunn is his oldest child. She lives in Englewood and goes by Duchess, a nickname given to her at birth that has stuck. She said she lacks savvy about the movie business and it has been difficult to seek out what she sees as her father's (and now his surviving family's) rightful due.

"It feels like we're left out," she said. "People keep telling me I should not let my father's legacy die, but it seems like it is. He felt this movie was very important and he absolutely loved the fact that he was involved with it: 'I did this movie, I wrote this.' He was absolutely fierce about it."

"Dolemite Is My Name" is a behind the scenes look at the making of the original 1975 film and Gunn was under the impression that if screenwriters Scott Alexander and Larry Karaszewski wanted to use Jones as a character, the movie's producers were obligated to reach out to his family to secure their permission and buy his life story rights.

But that is not how it works. Though it may not be common knowledge outside of Hollywood, the reality is that no one is required to get your sign-off in order to make a movie or TV series in which you (or a deceased loved one) are a character.

"There are two primary reasons for that," said Chicago-based entertainment attorney Ilya Zlatkin.

"Facts aren't protectable by copyright. So if someone's life is particularly interesting, the facts that occurred in their life aren't protectable by copyright."

Also: "The First Amendment provides significant protections for expression ... (and) grants a lot of leeway to use people's names and identities in creative projects."

It's entirely legal. But it can also leave people feeling as though filmmakers have run roughshod over them.



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Actor and "Dolemite" screenwriter Jerry Jones would make scrapbook images of himself, which are now in the possession of his daughter, Gloria "Duchess" Gunn.

To avoid that kind of ill will, sometimes producers do secure life rights. For an agreed upon price, there is usually a stipulation that the person won't sue and will also provide some kind of added value to the project, "whether it's in terms of providing juicy details that aren't commonly known, or to provide some positive publicity for the project," Zlatkin said.

Netflix provided the following statement to the Tribune:

"Netflix and the creative team behind 'Dolemite Is My Name' have tremendous respect for Rudy Ray Moore and those who worked with him. This film has been made with love and carefully researched over the past 10 years. First-hand interviews were conducted with Rudy Ray Moore, Jerry Jones, (composer) Ben Taylor and many other cast and crew members of the original 'Dolemite' film. All of the necessary rights and clearances were obtained. We look forward to sharing the film with the family members of Rudy Ray Moore, Jerry Jones and others, and to introducing Moore's legacy to a new generation of fans."

Talking to Entertainment Weekly last month, "Dolemite Is My Name" director Craig Brewer didn't mention Jones at all, but did say he brought original "Dolemite" director of photography Nick Von Sternberg to the set when they were shooting.

Gunn wonders why her family wasn't extended a similar opportunity.

"No one reached out and said anything. Not even: 'We're making this movie, would you like to come?' And not because they don't want to be sued, but just to be courteous. A lot of people want to meet Eddie Murphy, that would have been nice: 'Why don't you come and join us and be involved with this experience and memory of your dad?' I feel slighted. Don't erase his importance to 'Dolemite.'

"I just think it's unfair," she said. "This Netflix movie happened because Jerry Jones wrote 'Dolemite' back in the day and I would like to keep his name alive."

Netflix has extended no financial offers to Gunn, but is flying her to LA for a private screening ahead of the movie's premiere at TIFF. (At the time this story went to press, Gunn had not yet seen the film.)

When asked if her feelings might change after seeing the film — and the possibility that she may like the way it portrays her father's contributions — Gunn had this to say: "I'll probably still have mixed emotions. Like we were an afterthought."

When the original "Dolemite" had its Chicago premiere in 1975 at the Woods Theatre in the Loop, Gunn was not in attendance. Her parents had split up years earlier and by the time the film came out, she was in her late 20s. "I didn't go because I was still living with my mother and she was frowning: 'No, you don't need to see it.' She didn't like my dad."

Interspersed with action sequences, comedy set pieces, karate fights and soft-core sex scenes, the movie has a clunky, low-fi charm despite the occasional visible boom mic.

Moore self-financed the project with money from the sale of his ribald comedy records and cast himself

in the title role as the wildly costumed, happily sleazy pimp who takes down a criminal syndicate that's working in cahoots with LA's corrupt mayor.

More than anything, Dolemite is a man of style. He may be profane but it's always with flair; enemies are "rat-soup eating" so-and-so's. Fresh out of prison, he discards his dungeeers in favor of an eye-catching suit and drives off in a Cadillac filled with adoring women, one of whom introduces herself as Chi — "short for Chicago," she says, prompting him to reply: "I hope you ain't cold as the Windy City because the way I feel now, babe, I could sure warm you up."

Jones plays Blakeley, an undercover cop who shares Dolemite's goal: To take down the criminal Willie Green, played by the film's director D'Urville Martin. Late in the movie, Blakeley discovers the aftermath of a fight as Dolemite stares down at his dismembered nemesis. Instead of letting him take the rap, Blakeley casually points his pistol at the dead body and shoots, his expression unchanging as he explains: "That's on me."

The cultural importance of the film extends to that of the blaxploitation genre itself, which allowed black filmmakers — long denied opportunities in Hollywood — to build high-octane, breezily entertaining stories saturated in cool and rooted in themes of black liberation, autonomy and sexual agency. The films specifically and intentionally star black actors and were made with black audiences in mind, a demographic all but ignored by the movie business.

It would be years until Gunn finally saw the movie herself. "I was like, oh this is really weird! They talk so funny — I was always brought up with proper grammar — and oh my God, the clothes! I remember my pastor asked me, 'Your father wrote "Dolemite"?' We used to watch that in college!" And I said, "No, you didn't!" And he said, "Yes, I did! I'm human!"

During preproduction, Jones would make trips back to Chicago, Gunn said. "I would hear him on the phone talking about planning the movie, interviewing people they were going to hire and 'Rudy's sending so-and-so over and we're talking about doing it this way,' or 'I don't like that idea, I want it like this.'

"My dad was really arrogant. A lot of people did not like him, and especially in Hollywood. I think that's why he didn't get further than he did because he ruffled a lot of feathers. We got close in the later years when I would go out and see him in California, and I learned more about him than I ever knew when I was younger. When he was up, he was up. He was a really funny person and he always had jokes — he could make a joke out of anything."

Her father was a Buddhist. He could also be blunt and embarrassing at times, she said. "I remember an actor told me, 'I'm really upset with your father.' And I said, 'Why?'

And she said, 'Because he told me that I was fat and needed to lose weight.' And I talked to him about that later and he said, 'Oh hell, she is fat!' And I said, 'Don't say that, please don't say that!'

In the years after "Dolemite," Jones would continue to collaborate with Moore, but he also

wrote several plays on his own — Gunn says at least 100 — including one with the memorable title "Girl, I Knew He Was a Dog When He Barked in His Sleep."

"I want the world to know I exist." That's a line spoken by Eddie Murphy's character in the trailer for "Dolemite Is My Name."

Gunn said she feels equally protective about Jones and echoes that sentiment for her father.

Her frustrations extend to a company called Xenon, which asserts it is the sole owner of the copyrights for the Dolemite character and any future remakes or sequels. Xenon purchased the rights from Rudy Ray Moore in 2007.

However, according to Gunn, her father always said he owned the rights — and a 2007 contract she was able to provide (for a remake that never came to be) Jones does warrant that he owns the rights to the character.

That's not how Xenon sees it. And it's not the story Moore told during his lifetime. Writing for the Chicago Reader in 2002, David White interviewed Moore ahead of an appearance at Beat Kitchen and White describes the character's origins this way:

"A toothless derelict" named Rico wandered into a LA record store where Moore was working and as he "watched his buddies bust a gut at Rico's raunchy tale du jour, an idea popped into his head: if a winehead like Rico could crack up a roomful of hipsters with these routines, a professional like himself should be able to make a killing with them ... What Rico recited on that fateful day was a profane narrative starring a folk hero called Dolemite."

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Travolta's in 'no regrets' stage of his career

He's playing roles that appeal to him, regardless of critics

BY SONIA RAO
Washington Post

WASHINGTON — John Travolta paces a Georgetown hotel room on this mid-August morning, imitating the pronounced physicality of a few of his more recent characters.

He highlights his versatility by switching from the long strides of Robert Shapiro, an attorney in the FX miniseries "The People v. O.J. Simpson: American Crime Story," to the hesitant baby steps of Edna Turnblad, the protagonist's anxious mother in the movie musical "Hairspray." Satisfied with the demonstration, he eventually returns to the couch where he has been sipping an iced tea, specially requested with a slice of lemon.

Travolta points out that he is bald, a beauty decision inspired in part by the rapper Pitbull, whose music video the veteran actor, 65, recently appeared in — a random fact he volunteers to back his claim that he's in the "no regrets" stage of his career. That's not to suggest he's playing it safe, as that has never been his forte. He's just taking on the projects he's always wanted to take on, marketability be damned.

Playing a race-car driver had long been on Travolta's bucket list, he says, so when the opportunity arose with February's "Trading Paint," also starring Shania Twain, he seized it. Similar reasoning might have led him to accept the title role in last year's crime drama "Gotti," which stewed in development for nearly a decade and ultimately wound up with a zero-percent rating on Rotten Tomatoes, based on 55 reviews.

Regardless of how his films have been received as of late, the passion with which Travolta takes on each role is palpable. The New Yorker critic Pauline Kael once praised his performance in "Saturday Night Fever" by writing that he "isn't just a good actor, he's a generous-hearted actor," words he still holds close to his heart decades later. This generosity has most recently been granted to the lead character of "The Fanatic," a movie about an avid fan-turned-stalker — a "stan," in the modern parlance — named "Moose."

"I don't mind watching people that have made a career out of being themselves; that's just not my thing," Travolta says of his varied roles. "It's not even a



BRIAN DOUGLAS/QUIVER DISTRIBUTION

John Travolta appears as Moose, an avid fan turned stalker, in a scene from "The Fanatic." Travolta says it's "just not my thing" to play similar characters in each of his movies.

fear of typecasting, it's a fear of getting bored. ... If you don't have that level of pleasure in your performance, people pick up on it: 'Oh, he doesn't want to be there, he's phoning it in,' whatever. I really love embracing the pleasure of it."

There's a lot to unpack with "The Fanatic," beginning with the fact that it was directed by Limp Bizkit frontman Fred Durst, whom Travolta says is "a terrific actor too, by the way." The rap-rock band once famously incurred the wrath of Eminem, who in 2000 released the chart-topping track "Stan," written from the perspective of an obsessed fan, which led to the creation of the slang term. The accompanying music video's stan appears in the form of teen idol Devon Sawa, who also plays Hunter Dunbar, the action star.

Travolta's character is obsessed with in, yup, "The Fanatic."

Durst had apparently written the role of Moose with Travolta in mind, loosely basing the character off a real person who the actor says was on the disablity spectrum to some degree. Travolta purposefully leaned into that characterization as a way to "justify for the audience why he's crossing the line."

It might be more accurate to say that Moose, a mistreated Hollywood street performer, leaps past the line — after Hunter abruptly ends a meet-and-

greet before Moose has the chance to talk to his hero, Moose uses a paparazzo friend's connections to start stalking Hunter, who eventually winds up tied to his own bed.

Travolta has been on the Hunter side of things twice before, once in Santa Barbara, Calif., many years ago and for a second time within the past decade. He says he wouldn't place the "curious and naive" pair of home intruders in the "Moose category of invasion," though, explaining that one of them had simply had too much to drink and that the other one was "just a scared girl." Then he pauses.

"Well, now that I think of it, they did go past the line," he said. "It's just that I wasn't tied up."

Moose goes full Kathy Bates in "Misery," short of smashing Hunter's ankles with a sledgehammer. Most of his actions were scripted, though Travolta says he was allowed to improvise quite a bit because Durst trusted that Travolta knew exactly what Moose would say or do in any given situation. As the actor put it, "Improvisation is the cherry on the cake, you know. It's not the cake. The script has to be the cake."

The projected spontaneity of Travolta's performances might be more akin to a thick layer of frosting than a mere cherry.

He licked the side of someone's face in "Face/Off," for instance, after which he says the studio

asked, "What is he doing?" Even with "Pulp Fiction," Travolta says there was pushback on how slowly he walked and talked as Vincent Vega. It took Quentin Tarantino's confidence for them to let Travolta do his thing, he says, and they eventually realized he was playing "the heroin high and low."

Travolta explains his recent spate of smaller films including "The Fanatic" and "Trading Paint" by suggesting they allow actors, writers and directors a great deal more creative freedom.

"We couldn't have done half the things we did with 'The Fanatic' if a Big Brother had been watching over us," he says. "Your Mike Nichols ... your Quentin Tarantino, your Robert Altman, those

would be the guys who could trump the studio. But not everybody else. You either get in bed with the people who have the power or, if you can't have that, the best thing is to have freedom within your choices."

Having worked in the industry for nearly five decades, Travolta's career can quite easily be separated into stages. There was his breakout role as a high school heart-throb in the sitcom "Welcome Back, Kotter," which began to air in September 1975 and coincided with his playing a bully in "Carrie" the next year. His success peaked later in the decade with 1977's "Saturday Night Fever," which earned the

20-something his first Oscar nomination, as well as the following year's "Grease."

The 1980s were rougher, filled with a string of critical and often commercial duds. It took "Pulp Fiction" in 1994 to revive his career, landing him a second Oscar nomination and triggering an onslaught of movie offers — among them titles such as "Get Shorty," "Face/Off," "Primary Colors" and more.

Then, in 2000, Travolta starred in and produced the universally panned sci-fi film "Battlefield Earth," based on a novel by the Church of Scientology founder, L. Ron Hubbard.

The actor's adherence to the practice has long courted controversy, but he continues to work steadily, if not always

prominently.

Fame is a funny, fickle thing, as Travolta seems aware — after Danny Zuko, younger generations might very well describe him as the man who introduced singer Idina Menzel as "Adele Dazeem" at the Academy Awards several years ago.

The way an actor's fame operates in an era when entertainment has proliferated onto an ever-growing number of platforms is a "whole conversation,"

Travolta says, but his general view is this: As a self-described "old-timer," he benefits from having become famous at a time

when it was more exclusive. It's incredibly difficult to achieve that sort of ubiquity.

uitous fame nowadays because content, fandom and even notoriety are divided among subcategories.

"The luxury is that someone like myself, a Tom Hanks or a Tom Cruise, a Brad Pitt or a Leonardo DiCaprio, we are in a beautiful zone where, because we had this rarefied time where we could become globally famous, we can now parlay that into doing the bits we want, even if there's only going to be a select audience," he continues. "You get this wonderful luxury of being able to do the kinds of films you believe in, without waiting for someone to give them to you."

Animated in his speech and demeanor, Travolta exudes a sense of optimism greatly lacking from "The Fanatic," in which a narrator comments on Moose's experience by saying that Hollywood can take the life out of a person. And yet the actor also finds that sentiment accurate, explaining that there is "a pretty wide spectrum" of how unethical or "two-faced" behavior within the industry can bring people down.

"All of that can happen in a place where the stakes are high," he laments. "If you put simple souls with innocent intentions in the middle of something that is so cynical — or potentially so cynical — you have this unfortunate juggernaut."

The industry has never been as self-reflective as it is today thanks to movements such as Me Too, Travolta says, though he believes that one is currently "in the confusion" state — an opinion he expands upon in a meandering spiel.

"Even sexuality is used as a political leverage," he explains, adding that everyone closely examining their own behavior might simultaneously be "losing a global perspective." He is careful not to express disapproval of the movement itself, but of the manner in which it has progressed.

"It's like an engine — it's right to start the engine, but no one's letting off the accelerator," he says. "Now you've got a runaway vehicle. Who knows what brings that into focus, where it's actually, in relativity, looked at correctly, as opposed to any knee-jerk reaction to it? ... You're on eggshells, don't want to say the wrong thing, political correctness. Good, old-fashioned thought and steadfast logic is sometimes missing from these things."

He takes another sip of iced tea, laughing. "I never expected to go there."

Critic diversity appealing to Rotten Tomatoes

Movie-review site helping tear down cultural barriers

BY ANOUSA SAKOU
Bloomberg

Shannon McGrew admits she's had it a little easier than other women establishing her chops as an online film critic.

Unlike some of her contemporaries, she said, "I have not received death threats." But during her nearly five years as a critic of horror movies at her own website, Nightmarish Conjurings, McGrew has battled detractors who belittled her work.

"I think sometimes we are not considered as serious as our male counterparts," she said.

That's starting to change, with help from Rotten Tomatoes, the influential website known for tagging badly reviewed films with a splattered green tomato.

McGrew is one of 600 critics — writers not already working with a major media outlet — who were approved to post reviews on the site over the past year as part of a diversity initiative.

More than half are women, the company said Wednesday.

"It was a huge moment for me," McGrew said in an interview.

After four years of writing reviews and waiting a year for her application to be recognized, the Los Angeles-based reviewer and interior designer will get greater access to screenings and industry events for new movies.

With the growing reach of social media, online reviews and aggregator sites such as Rotten Tomatoes can make or break a movie. Consumers can quickly look up a rating before deciding whether to see a new film. The site has become so influential that some producers have rallied against the company — even though it's owned by two Hollywood studios.

Up to now, though, the contributors have been largely white and male. This is particularly true of Rotten Tomatoes' "Top Critics," reviewers employed by mainstream publications. While some studios such as Comcast Corp.'s Universal Pictures have made commitments to diversifying their directors, casts and crews, the ranks of movie reviewers have barely shifted.

In the horror genre, "Women don't have much of a voice," McGrew said.

"There has to be opportunities to allow new voices to come in."

Rotten Tomatoes said

that of the 600 new critics, freelancers account for 60%



and minorities were flooded with negative commentary. "Captain Marvel" and "Black Panther" were among the movies targeted. Now people trying to submit an audience review have to prove they've seen it.

As a newly recognized Rotten Tomatoes contributor, Hanna Flint will head to the Toronto Film Festival next month knowing her reviews will automatically appear on the site for the first time in her eight years covering the entertainment industry and be included in the site's all-important Tomatometer.

Back in May, the London-based writer of Tunisian descent found herself scrolling through Rotten Tomatoes to find a review of "Aladdin" from a critic from South Asia, the Middle East or North Africa. She put a call out on Twitter but found very few, and ultimately raised this lack of diversity with the website.

And 10% publish via YouTube or podcasts. Of the 100 or so publications that have Top Critics status, only 30% of their contributors are women.

In all, the company has about 1,100 unaffiliated individual reviewers, with about 42% women. The website is also working to increase the ethnic diversity of its lineup but hasn't surveyed its ranks on that basis.

Nearly all the newly added reviewers surveyed by Rotten Tomatoes said that becoming a so-called

"Tomatometer-approved" critic has helped "amplify and legitimize" their voice; 73% saw an increase in web traffic, views and social media following.

But gender and ethnicity aren't the only hurdles reviewers have to clear.

Some are financial.

The cost of attending high-profile film festivals can be prohibitive for independent critics. They also have to gain access to the free screenings that major publications enjoy.

To help these newest critics, Rotten Tomatoes'

parent company — the ticketing website Fandango — is committing another \$100,000 next year to support diversity at festivals and industry inclusion initiatives. Fandango itself is owned by AT&T's Warner Media and Comcast Corp.'s NBCUniversal.

With its growing influence among film fans, Rotten Tomatoes has taken other steps in recent years to make the site fairer.

It changed its audience ratings to stop so-called "review bombing" in which films with more women

and minorities were flooded with negative commentary.

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As much as film is diversifying, film criticism has to respond to that and reflect that," Flint said. "As a reader of reviews, I look for someone who is like-minded, as a woman and a woman of color.

"It's nice to be that person for other people, but I want other people to be that person for me."

WATCH THIS: WEDNESDAY



Kary Brittingham

"The Real Housewives of Dallas" (8 p.m., 10:30 p.m., Bravo): The hit series returns for its fourth season with "Of Friends and Frenemies," which finds LeeAnne overwhelmed by wedding planning as her big day inches ever closer. After finally inheriting the family business, D'Andra is dismayed to discover it's not doing nearly as well as she had thought. New housewife Kary Brittingham joins the group.

"MasterChef" (7 p.m., FOX): For the first time in this show's history, the six remaining "cheftestants" cross the pond to London for an unforgettable culinary experience in the new "London Calling — Pt. 1." Once there, the chefs are split into two teams and tasked with feeding 36 diners, including the judges and host Gordon Ramsay's family — at Restaurant Gordon Ramsay, his flagship eatery. Knowledge that two of the chefs face elimination only cranks up the pressure further.

"BH90210" (8 p.m., FOX): A chilling threat halts production on the first day of filming, prompting the cast members to make a list of current and past enemies in the new episode "Picture's Up." Ultimately, they suspect a former co-star may still be nursing a grudge. Meanwhile, Jason's (Jason Priestley) directorial insecurities have the women growing frustrated, and Tori (Tori Spelling) can't help obsessing over a sexy upcoming scene she has with Brian (Brian Austin Green).

"Ghost Hunters" (8 p.m., 12:03 a.m., AE): Paranormal investigator Grant Wilson returns to a location featured on the original run of "Ghost Hunters" in the new episode "Return to St. Augustine," in which Grant and his team are summoned to the famous haunted lighthouse in that Florida city, to investigate a reported uptick in spooky activity.

"Mountain Monsters" (8 p.m., 11 p.m., TRAVEL): Even after making a number of startling discoveries among the cornfields of Jackson County, the AIMS team continues seeking more evidence and information about the legendary Waya Woman. Their trail leads the nervous investigators to an abandoned blue house, reputed to be the location where two families were killed under mysterious circumstances.

"Pearson" (9:01 p.m., 12:01 a.m., USA): Keri (Bethany Joy Lenz) embarks on a trip with Stephanie Novak (Betsy Brandt), wife of the mayor (Morgan Spector), in the new episode "The Political Wife." Meanwhile, Angela (Chantel Riley) tries to help her neighbors, and Jessica contends with a thorny problem that is plaguing Yoli (Isabella Arraiza). Simon Kassianides and Eli Goree also star.

TALK SHOWS

"Conan" (10 p.m. 11:30 p.m., TBS): Conan travels to Japan to learn about the country's culture.*

"The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" (10:34 p.m., NBC): Actor Orlando Bloom; actress Constance Wu; musicians Jack White and Brendan Benson; The Raconteurs perform.*

"The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (10:35 p.m., CBS): Democratic presidential hopeful Joe Biden.*

"Jimmy Kimmel Live!" (10:35 p.m., ABC): Celebrity guests and comedy skits.*

*Subject to change

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

'She-Ra' actors imagine characters hanging out

BY TRACY BROWN

Los Angeles Times

Warning: This story contains slight spoilers for "She-Ra and the Princesses of Power" Season 3.

"She-Ra and the Princesses of Power" Season 3, which dropped recently on Netflix, saw Catra make some moves that had dire consequences for Etheria and the Princess Alliance. And these choices managed to widen the rift between her and Adora even more — perhaps to the point of no return.

Even more than that, Catra's actions seem to have shaken Scorpia's absolute loyalty to her. This is an especially devastating development after Catra appeared to respond to Scorpia's affections this season, finally, and admit that they "make a good team."

Despite being villains, Catra and Scorpia are both characters beloved by fans of the DreamWorks/Netflix series (including its cast and crew). Scorpia voice actress Lauren Ash credits that enthusiasm to the characters' relatability.

"I think that most people have experienced a relationship in their life — whether it be romantic, friendships, family, whatever — where there's somebody who you just really, really idolize," Ash previously told The Los Angeles Times. "You just want them to feel the same way about you so bad that you kind of miss the red flag that maybe this person isn't super healthy for you."

Before things got more complicated between the characters, Ash shared what she believed Scorpia would consider an ideal day out with Catra.

"I think it would start with just some doodling. Scorpia sketching the two of them," Ash said. "This is not canon. This is not part of the show, but I want to believe that Scorpia makes



Catra (voiced by AJ Michalka), left, and Scorpia (Lauren Ash) in "She-Ra and the Princesses of Power."

her own comic strips where she draws them doing stuff, like 'Scorpia and Catra's Adventures.'"

After waking up but before they have "a nice light breakfast," she thinks Scorpia would draw Catra while she's still sleeping.

"Scorpia might prepare Catra something that's perhaps fish-based even though that feels like a conflict of interest," said Ash. "Since her scorpion claw kind of might make her relate in some way to crustaceans in general."

Afterward, Ash believes Scorpia would like it if the two of them went frolicking through some flowers.

"They'd find a field and just skip, just paw to claw, the two of them frolicking through the meadow," she said. "They'd maybe end it off with a nice movie and popcorn snuggled on the couch. And if all things go well, maybe Catra falls asleep in the crook of Scorpia's arm."

"I think that would be the perfect day for her."

When asked about this hypothetical day, voice

actress AJ Michalka thought a lot of character growth would have to happen before her character Catra would be ready for any snuggling.

"I love the idea, but Catra's not that way," said Michalka. "I don't see that happening for a while."

She thinks Catra would center this day of fun more on herself and that it would involve a bit more action.

"This is not something that's in the show, but I think their ideal hang would be like Catra throwing Scorpia on the back of a motorcycle for a ride through the hills," said Michalka. "I think it would be something that's really pleasurable for Catra while Scorpia would be hanging on for dear life. I just picture that in my head."

Fans, of course, will have to wait for future episodes of "She-Ra and the Princesses of Power" to see what is actually in store for Catra and Scorpia after everything that happened in Season 3.

But it's fun to dream.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, SEP. 4

	PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	MOVIES	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS 2	Big Brother (N) © HD	SEAL Team: "Rock Bottom." © HD	S.W.A.T.: "Day of Dread." © HD	News (N) ♦				
	NBC 5	America's Got Talent: "Live Results 4." (N) ©	(8:01) Songland: "Charlie Puth." (N) © HD	Hollywood Game Night: "Whatcha Hough To?" (N) ♦	NBC 5 News (N) ♦				
	ABC 7	The Goldbergs ©	Schooled ©	Modern Family	(8:31) Single Parents	Celebrity Family Feud © HD	News at 10pm (N) ♦		
	WGN 9	Savoring Sweetness ©	black-ish ©	Last Man Standing ©	Last Man Standing ©	WGN News at Nine (N) (Live) © HD	WGN News at Ten (N) ♦		
	Antenna 9.2	Alice ©	Alice ©	B. Miller	B. Miller	Johnny Carson ©	3's Comp.		
	This TV 9.3	Sabata (PG-13, '70) ★★	Lee Van Cleef. ©	Animal Babies: First Year on Earth (N) © HD	Adios Sabata (PG-13, '71) ★ ©	NOVA: "Rise of the Superstorms." © HD	Magical (N) ♦		
	PBS 11	Chicago Tonight (N)							
	The U 26.1	Bulletproof (N) HD		Hypnotize Me (N) ©	Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©		
	MeTV 26.3	Andy Griffith Andy Griffith	Gomer Pyle	Green Acres	Hogan Hero	Hogan Hero	C. Burnett		
	H&I 26.4	Star Trek ©		Star Trek: Next	Star Trek: Deep Space 9	Star Trek ©			
	Bounce 26.5	The Game	The Game	The Brave One (R, '07) ★★	Jodie Foster, Terrence Howard, ©				
	FOX 32	MasterChef: "London Calling -- Pt. 1." (N) ©	BH90210: "Picture's Up." (N) © HD		Fox 32 News at Nine (N)			Modern Family ©	
CABLE	Ion 38	Blue Bloods ©	Blue Bloods ©	Blue Bloods ©	Blue Bloods ©	Blue Bloods ©	Blue Blood ©		
	TeleM 44	• Exatlón EE. UU. (N)	El final del paraíso (N) ©	Preso No. 1 (N) ©	Preso No. 1 (N) ©	Chicago (N)			
	MNT 50	Chicago P.D. © HD	Dateline © HD	Dateline © HD	Dateline © HD	Dateline © HD	Chicago ♦		
	UniMas 60	• (6) Stalked by My Ex ('17)	Apocalipsis		Noticias Uni Nosotr.	Noticias Uni Nosotr.	B. Demon ♦		
	WJYS 62	Salem Baptist Church	Joyce Meyer	Robison	Coach's Cor.	Paid Prog.	Monument		
	Univ 66	La Rosa de Guadalupe	Juntos, el corazón (N)		Sin miedo a la verdad (N)	Noticias (N)			
	AE	Ghost Hunters ©	Ghost Hunters (N) ©	(9:01) Psychic Kids (N)	(9:01) Psychic Kids (N)	Ghost ♦			
	AMC	Independence Day (PG-13, '96) ★★★	Will Smith, Bill Pullman, ©				John Carte ♦		
	ANIM	North Woods Law ©	North Woods Law (N)	I Was Prey (N) ©	I Was Prey (N) ©	Prey (N) ♦			
	BBCA	Zero Dark Thirty (R, '12) ★★★	Jessica Chastain. Elite operatives hunt Osama bin Laden. ©						
	BET	• (5) Sparkle ('12) ★★ ©	Big Momma's House (PG-13, '00) ★★	Martin Lawrence, Nia Long.					
	BIGTEN	Big Ten Elite ©	The BIG Show ©	BTN Football in 60 ©	BIG Show ♦				
	BRAVO	Real Housewives-Dallas	Real House. (Season Premiere) (N)	Housewives/OC	Watch What				
	CLTV	News at 7	News (N)	News at 8	News (N)	SportsFeed ©	Politics		
	CNBC	Shark Tank ©	Shark Tank ©	Jay Leno's Garage (N)	Jay Leno's ♦				
	CNN	Joe Biden: Bernie Sanders: Climate	Elizabeth	Pete Buttigieg	Beto O'Rourke: Climate				
	COM	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	Daily (N) ♦		
	DISC	Expedition Unknown (N)	Expedition Unknown (N)	(9:01) Contact (N)	(9:01) Contact (N) ©	Expedition ♦			
	DISN	Raven	Roll With It	Bunk'd ©	Bunk'd ©	Coop	Sydney-Max Raven		
	E!	Growing Up	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Dating		
	ESPN	• (6) 2019 U.S. Open Tennis: Men's and Women's Quarterfinals. (N) (Live)					SportCtr (N)		
	ESPN2	• (6) NFL Live (NFL N)	NFL (N)	NFL's Greatest Games	E:60 Profile	NFL Live ♦			
	FNC	Tucker Carlson (N)	Hannity (N) ©	The Ingraham Angle (N)	Fox News				
	FOOD	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Guy's Grocery Games	Grocery ♦				
	FREE	• (6) Beauty and the Beast	The Lion King (G, '94) ★★★	Jeremy Irons © (SAP)	700 Club ♦				
	FX	• (6:30) Jurassic World (PG-13, '15) ★★	Chris Pratt. ©	Snowfall: "Blackout." (N)	Snowfall ♦				
	HALL	Surprised by Love (NR, '15)	Hilarie Burton. ©	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls			
	HGTV	Property Brothers ©	Property Brothers (N) ©	Hunters (N)	Hunt Int'l (N)	Property ♦			
	HIST	Forged in Fire ©	Forged in Fire (N)	Forged in Fire (N)	Forged in Fire (N)	Forged ♦			
	HLN	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic		
	IFC	Ace Ventura: Pet Detective (PG-13, '94) ★★ ©	Showcase	Ace Ventura ♦					
	LIFE	Married (N)	Married at First Sight (N) ©	Marrying Millions (N) ©	Married ♦				
	MSNBC	All in With (N)	Rachel Maddow Show (N)	The Last Word (N)	The Last Word (N)	11th Hour (N)			
	MTV	Ridiculous	Ridiculous	The Challenge (N) ©	The Challenge © ♦				
	NBCSCH	• (6) MLB Baseball: White Sox at Indians (N)		Postgame	White Sox	Baseball ♦			
	NICK	Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel ('09) ★★		Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ♦			
	OVATION	• (6) The Crow (R, '94) ★★	Brandon Lee, The Hand That Rocks the Cradle (R, '92) ★★ ♦						
	OWN	Queen Sugar: "I'm Sorry."	Queen Sugar: "Here."	(N) David Makes Man (N)	Sugar ♦				
	OXY	NCIS ©	NCIS ©	NCIS ©	NCIS ©	NCIS ©	NCIS ♦</td		

Horoscopes

Today's birthday (Sept. 4): Domestic joys increase this year. Maintain regular practices for fun, passion and romance. Fall in love again this winter, before a twist in group plans interrupts. Changes at home next summer require resolution, before your team scores a valuable win. Seeds planted long ago flower.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 7. You may not feel like going out. Allow yourself permission to lay low. Make choices you can live with. Educational opportunities appear.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 8. Avoid distractions. Don't fall for a trick. Read the fine print before signing. Review numbers, and do the math. Collaborate to manage positive cash flow.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 9. Diversity of opinion enriches a conversation. Listen to conflicting viewpoints. Check data, and choose freely. Find solutions with your partner that work for both of you.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 9. Distractions abound. Stick to practical priorities. Don't drop fitness routines, and make time for yourself. New projects demand more attention.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 8. Stay sensitive to your sweetheart's feelings. Listen more than you speak. Find a game you both enjoy. Share something delicious. Relax together, and have fun.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 8. Domestic projects have your attention. Sort, clean and organize things. Nostalgia sparks when reviewing possessions. Keep what you love and what serves you well.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 8. You're especially clever with words. Write and share your story. Creative assignments can pay well. Avoid illusions and fantasies. Stick to reliable connections.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 9. Weigh financial options carefully. You may not have the full story. Research before purchasing. Make sure you know what's required.

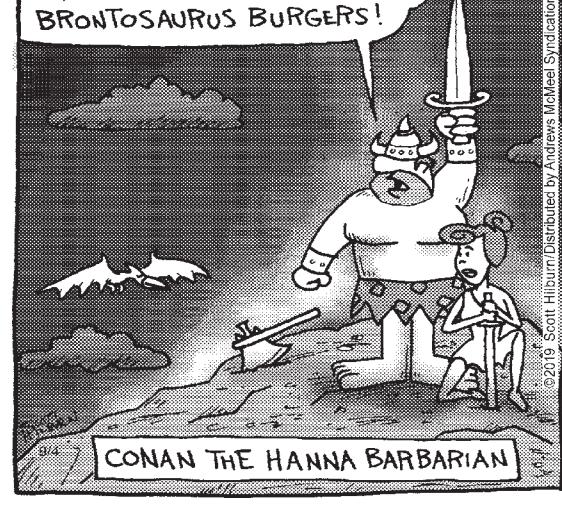
Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 9. You may get a moment in the spotlight. Consider diplomatic ways to frame an issue. Avoid foolish misunderstandings. Take leadership for a personal cause.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 6. Costs may be higher than expected. Slow down to think things over. Rest and recharge. Wait for developments before committing.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 8. Discuss dreams with friends and allies. Bring a possibility from a vague idea to an articulated plan with detailed steps. Share brilliant ideas and resources.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 8. Your professional dream could use revision. A new work dynamic may not be what you expected. What does it take to go for what you want?

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater By Scott Hilburn**Bliss** By Harry Bliss**Bridge**

Both vulnerable, East deals

North

♠ 10 8 7 6 5 2
♥ J
♦ Q 7
♣ K Q 6 5

East

♠ K 9 4
♥ 3
♦ A J 9 8 6 4 3
♣ 8 4

South

♠ A 3
♥ Q 10 9 7 6 5 4
♦ Void
♣ A 9 3 2

Today's deal is from the European Open Team Championship earlier this year. Three no trump by East-West might have made on the jack of hearts lead. Five diamonds might also have made if the defense didn't take its two club tricks right away. West settled for defending four hearts undoubled.

Declarer ruffed the opening diamond lead and led a heart to dummy's jack, winning the trick. How should he get back to his hand? He chose to lead a spade to his ace and West's queen, and then led the queen of hearts. West won with the king and led another diamond. South ruffed and led the 10 of hearts to

West's ace. West now led the jack of spades. The position was obvious to East, who overtook the jack of spades with the king to lead a third spade. This promoted West's eight into the setting trick. Nice defense!

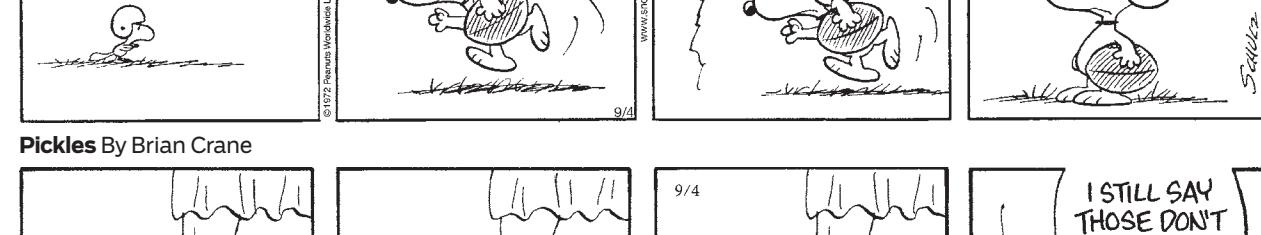
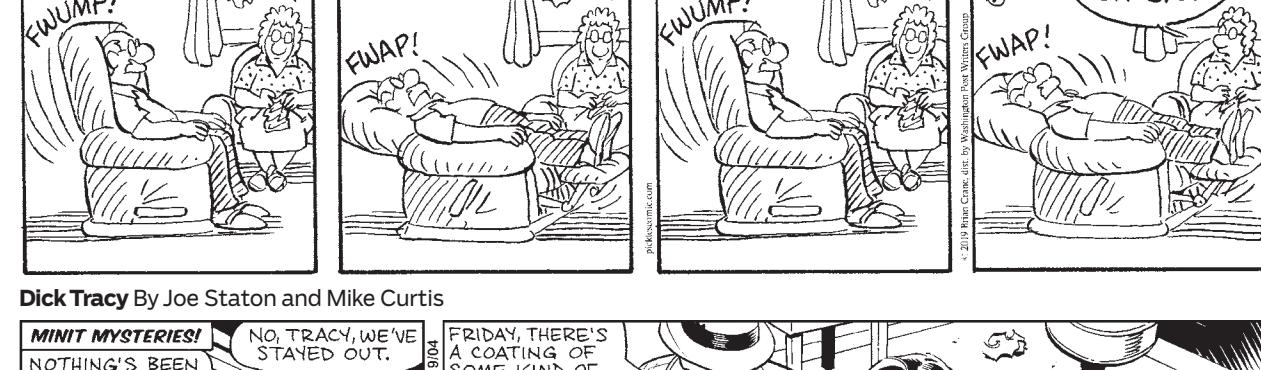
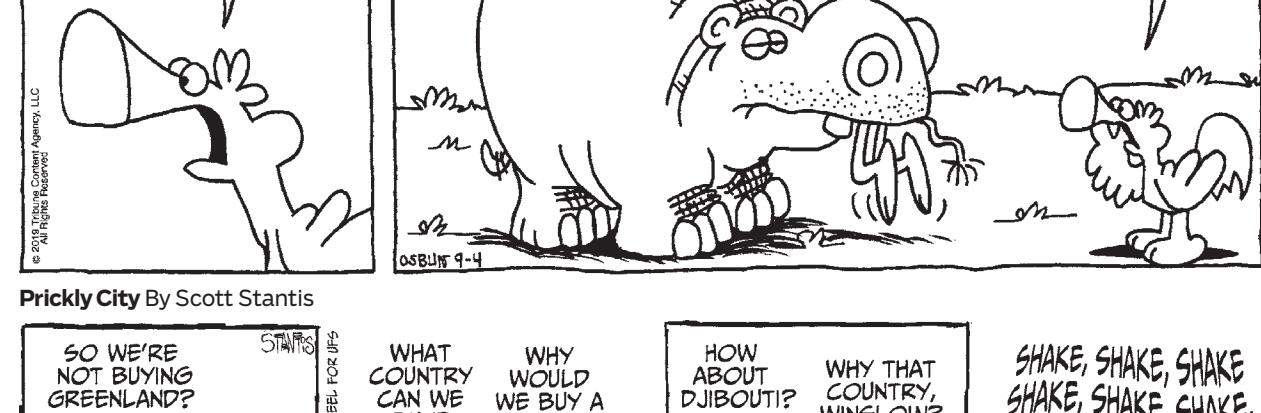
At the other table, South jumped directly to four hearts over the pre-empt. He also ruffed the opening diamond lead and led a heart to the jack. Rather than leading a spade, however, this declarer chose to lead a club to his ace. West won the queen of hearts continuation with the king and shifted to the queen of spades, threatening the same trump promotion that occurred at the other table. South thwarted this nicely by allowing the queen of spades to hold the trick.

The defense was now helpless, as South was able to continue drawing the trumps without incident. Well played!

— Bob Jones
tcaeditors@tribpub.com

Dilbert By Scott Adams**Baby Blues** By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott

Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman (Zits is on vacation until September 16. Please enjoy this strip from 2015.)

**Mr. Boffo** By Joe Martin**Frazz** By Jef Mallett**Classic Peanuts** By Charles Schulz**Pickles** By Brian Crane**Dick Tracy** By Joe Staton and Mike Curtis**Animal Crackers** By Mike Osburn**Prickly City** By Scott Stantis

— Bob Jones
tcaeditors@tribpub.com

Dustin By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



For Better or for Worse By Lynn Johnston



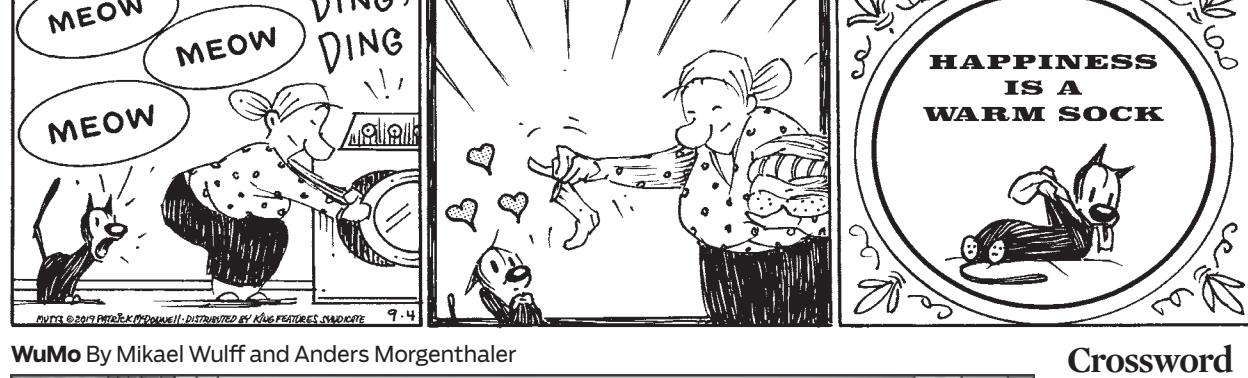
Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



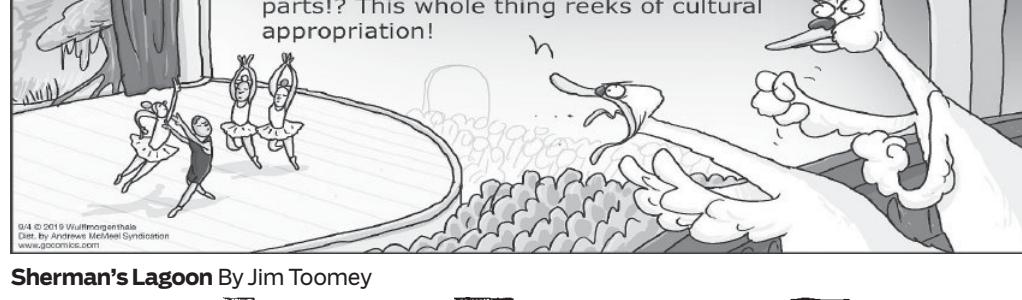
Hägar the Horrible By Chris Browne



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



WuMo By Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Sherman's Lagoon By Jim Toomey



Brewster Rockit: Space Guy! By Tim Rickard



Broom-Hilda By Russell Myers

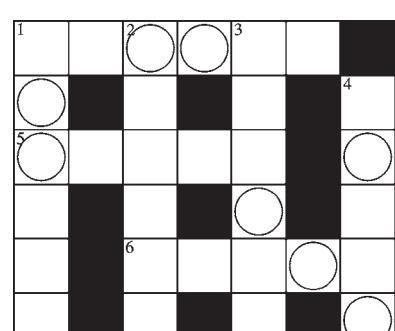
**Trivia Bits**

An ava bowl, a whisk and a coconut tree are depicted on a U.S. quarter representing what territory?

- A) American Samoa
B) Guam
C) Puerto Rico
D) U.S. Virgin Islands

Tuesday's answer: The Cup of the Americas and the Camacho Cup are historic polo events.

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Jumble Crossword

CLUE: This astronomer, mathematician and scientist never got married.

BONUS

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ACROSS

1. Set, dictate
5. Tiny bit, morsel
6. Pronunciation, order
7. ___ test

DOWN

1. ___ tax
2. Sensible
3. Die down
4. Break

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

ANSWER

- P M E O S I
U R C B M
C E T I D
S R S T S E

CLUE

- C E I M N O
D R E P T N U
D S S B U E I
A I S H U T

ANSWER

Tuesday's solution

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

By Julie Berube. Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis.
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Sudoku

1 2 3 4

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

9/4

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

Tuesday's solutions

By The Mepham Group
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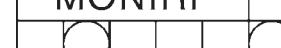
Jumble

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

VINGE



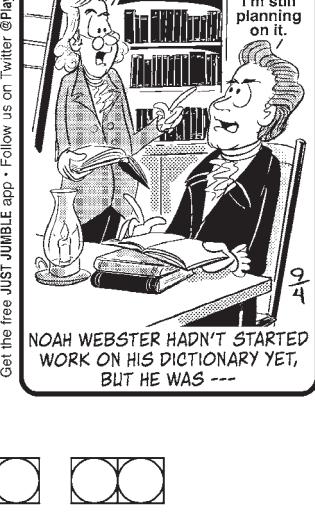
CHOTN



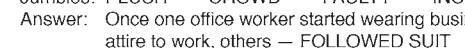
MONIRF



GGLGEA



Answer here

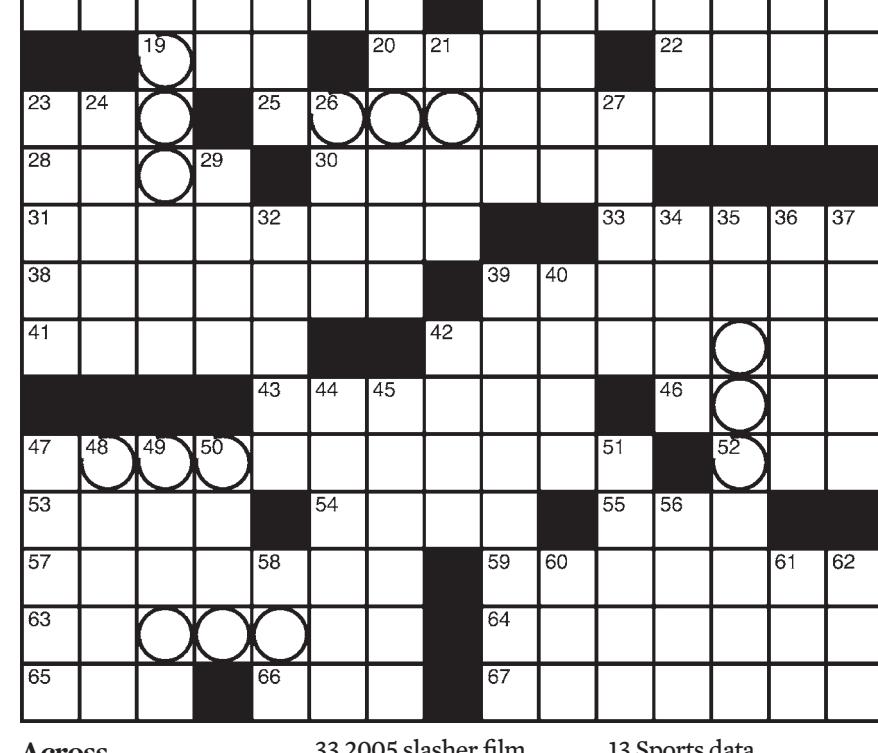
**Tuesday's answers**

Jumbles: PLUSH CROWD FAULTY INCOME
Answer: Once one office worker started wearing business attire to work, others — FOLLOWED SUIT

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

Crossword

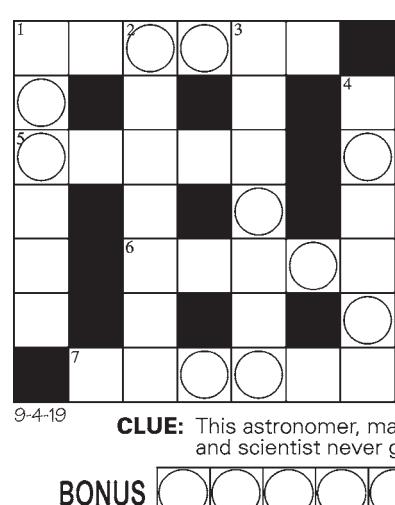
9/4

**Across**

1. Devices at one's fingertips
5. Bowl over
11. Old NCAA football ranking sys.
14. Music genre for Ladysmith Black Mambazo and King Sunny Adé
15. Chemist's garb
17. Kick: martial arts maneuver
18. Adriatic country whose flag has a double-headed eagle
19. Corp. bigwig
20. Pen pal greeting?
22. Impudent
23. Split — soup
25. Apples on teachers' desks
28. "The Wire" actor Idris Elba
30. Very thin
31. Floorboard-ruining insects
33. 2005 slasher film sequel
38. Rather cross
39. Some losers
41. Food truck fare
42. Tiny organisms
43. Across capital
46. Premier League soccer team, to fans
47. Soccer powerhouse from Spain
48. "Middle" note
52. Flowery rings
54. Young newts
55. Epidemic-fighting agcy.
57. Prohibited
59. Go along with
63. Bony thoracic structure
64. Place setting item
65. Eastern principle
66. Object
67. Waters near the South Pole

Down

1. Some grad students
2. Org. with Colts and Broncos
3. Curios assortment
4. Take a beating
5. Salts
6. In addition
7. Toothed wheel
8. Post-rehab support group
9. Bit part
10. Retreat, as the tide
11. Ugly mistake
12. Tahrir Square city

Jumble Crossword

CLUE: This astronomer, mathematician and scientist never got married.

BONUS

ANSWERES: 1A-IMPULSE 5A-CRUMB 6A-EBELT 7A-SERIES 1D-HOUSE 2D-SUBSIDY 3D-SUBSIDY 4D-HOUSE 5D-SUBSIDY 6D-HOUSE 7D-SUBSIDY

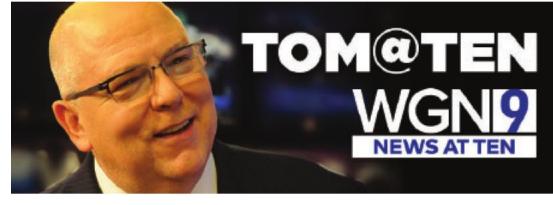
By David L. Hoyt. © 2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC & Hoyt Designs. All Rights Reserved.

ANSWERES: 1A-IMPULSE 5A-CRUMB 6A-EBELT 7A-SERIES 1D-HOUSE 2D-SUBSIDY 3D-SUBSIDY 4D-HOUSE 5D-SUBSIDY 6D-HOUSE 7D-SUBSIDY

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CHICAGO WEATHER CENTER

chicagoweathercenter.com | BY TOM SKILLING AND WGN9



WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 4

NORMAL HIGH: 79°

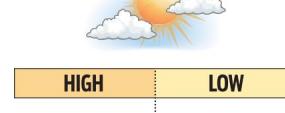
NORMAL LOW: 59°

RECORD HIGH: 95° (1983)

RECORD LOW: 45° (1997)

Cooler and less humid today and tomorrow

LOCAL FORECAST



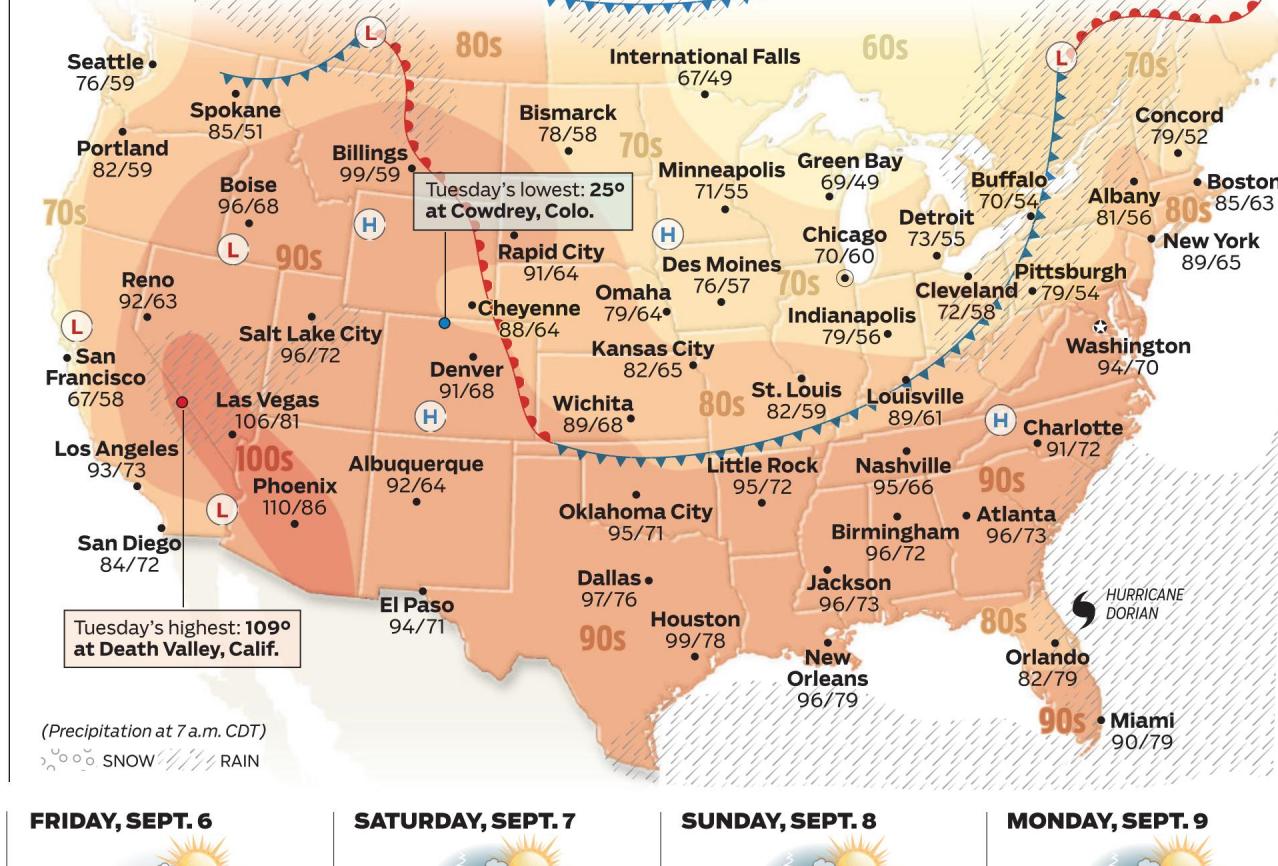
■ Abundant sun early with some fair weather cumulus clouds in the afternoon. Breezy and noticeably cooler and less humid. High near 70 but cooler near the lake.

■ High pressure moving toward the Great Lakes helps clear the skies and bring cooler and drier conditions as the cold front that passed the area Tuesday night moves to the southeast.

■ N-NE winds 10-18 mph produce cooler lakeside temperatures.

■ Scattered clouds, cooler overnight; temps near 60 in city, low to mid 50s well inland. Winds turn ENE.

NATIONAL FORECAST



THURSDAY, SEPT. 5



Mostly sunny, cool and comfortable with a high in the low 70s but cooler lakeside with light north winds turning east. Clouds increase overnight as winds turn to the south. A seasonable low near 60.



FRIDAY, SEPT. 6



Chance of a shower. Partly cloudy, breezy and warmer. High in the upper 70s but only upper 60s at the lake. SW morning winds turn NE 7-10 mph with gusts to 15 mph. Clouds decrease overnight with light N winds.



SATURDAY, SEPT. 7



Early sun gives way to increasing afternoon clouds. Cool with a high in the low 70s but cooler lakeside. NE winds 6-10 mph. Slight chance for evening/overnight showers, possibly a t-storm with light E winds.



SUNDAY, SEPT. 8



Mostly cloudy, breezy and a little cooler. High near 70 but cooler lakeside. Isolated showers and thunderstorms possible. East winds 8-12 mph. Mostly cloudy, cool overnight with scattered showers and storms.



MONDAY, SEPT. 9



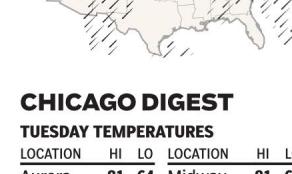
Breezy, warmer with mostly cloudy skies. Scattered showers and thunderstorms. East winds 8-12 mph with gusts to 18 mph. High in the mid 70s but only in the 60s at the beaches. Cloudy overnight; a shower possible.



TUESDAY, SEPT. 10



Becoming breezy, much warmer and more humid. Partly sunny with an above normal high in the mid 80s. SSW winds 8-12 mph. Mostly cloudy overnight with a chance of evening and overnight showers.



ASK TOM

Dear Tom,
What month, on average, is Chicago's hottest month? I believe it is July.
Tommy Mahl
Waukegan

Dear Tommy,
In weather records dating from 1871, Chicago's hottest month is July, with an average temperature of 73.9 degrees. That is followed by August, whose average temperature is 72.5 degrees; and then by June, with an average temperature of 67.8 degrees. (Averages are calculated by summing the daily highs and lows in the month and then dividing by the number of entries.)

The hottest July (and, in addition, the all-time hottest month) was in 1955, with an average temperature of 84.0 degrees. Nineteen days that month saw temps of 90 degrees or higher. The hottest August was in 1947, with an average of 82.9 degrees. And the hottest June was in 1933, with an average of 76.2 degrees.

Write to: ASK TOM
2501 W. Bradley Place
Chicago, IL 60618
asktomwh@wgntv.com

WGN-TV meteorologists Mark Carroll, Steve Kahn, Richard Koerner, Paul Merzock 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.

Winds to churn lake; taste of autumn into early next week

TUESDAY'S CHICAGO AREA WINDS (Peak wind gusts through 6 p.m.)

AIRPORT LOCATIONS	SPEED	DIRECTION	TIME
Aurora	51 mph	S	8:55 a.m.
Waukegan	51 mph	SW	1:00 p.m.
Wheeling	47 mph	S	7:49 a.m.
Lansing	46 mph	S	9:55 a.m.
Midway	46 mph	SSE	8:31 a.m.
Monroe (Bult Field)	43 mph	S	11:45 a.m.
O'Hare	41 mph	S	8:24 a.m.
Joliet	37 mph	S	9:35 a.m.
Kankakee	35 mph	WSW	10:55 a.m.
Romeoville	33 mph	SSW	9:55 a.m.

TUESDAY'S CHICAGO AREA RAINFALL (Through 6 p.m.)

AIRPORT LOCATIONS	RAIN TOTALS
Morris	1.24"
Aurora	0.52"
Wheeling	0.27"
O'Hare	0.22"
Waukegan	0.20"
West Chicago	0.18"
Midway	0.17"
Lansing	0.06"

SOURCES: Frank Wachowski, National Weather Service archives

PEAK FLORIDA WIND GUSTS SO FAR (Through 8:30 p.m. CDT)

Juno Beach Pier	61 mph
Patrick AFB	54 mph
Vero Beach	52 mph
Government Cut	52 mph
Ft. Pierce	49 mph
Ft. Lauderdale	47 mph
Melbourne	47 mph
Pompano Beach	45 mph
Jupiter	40 mph

'NORTH' WINDS TO PRODUCE LAKE MICHIGAN HAZARDS

Wednesday afternoon forecast

BEACH HAZARD STATEMENT

Rip Current Threat

High Waves

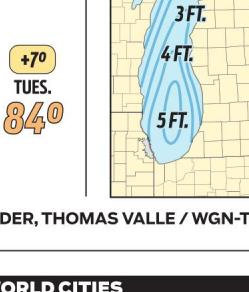
Lakeshore Flood Advisory

Lakeshore Flood WARNING

WIND FORECAST



WED. 5 P.M. WAVE HEIGHT SNAPSHOT



A TASTE OF AUTUMN IN CHICAGO

High temps and departures from normal (SEPT. 4-10 FORECAST)



TOM SKILLING, MARK CARROLL, BILL SNYDER, THOMAS VALLE / WGN-TV

NOTE: Predicted high/low temps on Tribune weather page are chronological—the "high" refers to maximum reading expected during day and "low" is the minimum reading expected the following night.

CHICAGO DIGEST

TUESDAY TEMPERATURES

LOCATION	HI	LO	LOCATION	HI	LO
Aurora	81	64	Midway	81	68
Gary	82	66	O'Hare	80	67
Kankakee	82	62	Romeoville	81	65
Lakefront	81	66	Valparaiso	82	62
Lansing	80	63	Waukegan	80	65

CHICAGO PRECIPITATION

PERIOD	2019 NORMAL
Tue. (through 4 p.m.)	0.22" 0.11"
September to date	0.56" 0.35"
Year to date	28.31" 25.48"

WEDNESDAY SUNBURN FORECAST

TIME OF EXPOSURE BEFORE SUNBURN BEGINS	7 a.m.	2 hours, 45 minutes
1 p.m.*		25 minutes
4 p.m.	1 hour, 05 minutes	

*Peak intensity

SOURCE: Clear Skin Dermatology; Dr. Bryan Schultz

LAKE MICHIGAN CONDITIONS

WEDNESDAY PEAK POLLEN LEVEL

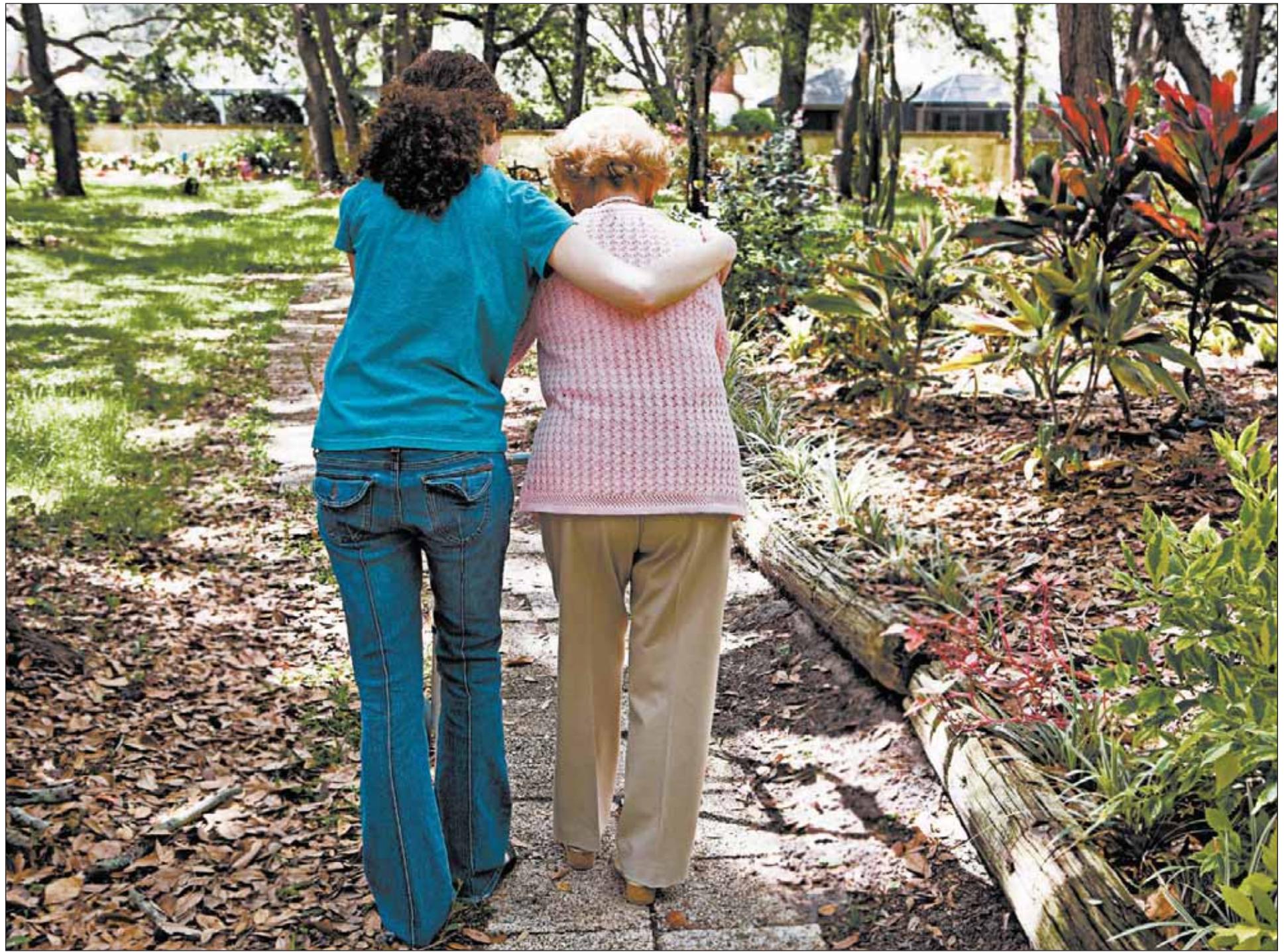
POLLEN	LEVEL
Tree	0
Grass	Moderate
Mold	High
Ragweed	Moderate
Weed	High

SOURCE: Gottlieb Memorial Hospital

Allergy Count, Dr. Rachna Shah

Chicago Tribune

HEALTH & FAMILY



GETTY

Alzheimer's is a strange purgatory of a place between life and death, where the physical being is present but the person who raised and loved you is gone.

A balancing act

Between kids and a parent with Alzheimer's, a lifeline found on a playground

**BY MEG OUNSWORTH
STEERE**
The Washington Post

My mom's Alzheimer's diagnosis and decline were a painful and lonely journey, one that coincided with an otherwise unbearably hectic time.

My two children were still in diapers. The nights were ridiculously long and the days were often tedious and mundane. Juggling work, kids and my own health was challenge enough.

My mom didn't want to be a burden, so she hid what would have been helpful facts and ferociously guarded her privacy and independence.

Balance was elusive. But my friends and I commiserated about parenting young children. We talked about how difficult it is to maintain a connection with your spouse when you are both

reduced to assembly-line workers, taking turns with dirty dishes, lunchbox prep, bath time and bedtime stories before falling into bed empty and exhausted.

We discussed developmental milestones, food allergies and recommendations for day care or a new pediatrician. But when it came to my mom's slow devolution and the unfortunate reverse milestones of dementia, my friends listened, but they couldn't relate.

My friends' mothers still remembered their birthdays, their names. My friends didn't spend their days arguing with Medicare about bills, securing power of attorney, hunting down missing account numbers and passcodes, hiring and managing caregivers, or otherwise respectfully but forcefully advocating for their mothers' safety, even when it was against their wishes.

In my years of caring for my mom, I had never met anyone in circumstances that mirrored mine.

That changed one September morning. The day started much like any other — serve breakfast, fill lunchboxes, pack backpacks and go.

My kids and I walked the narrow asphalt path to the elementary school's back entrance, cutting through fields and meandering by the playground. As soon as the school bell clanged, the playground and fields emptied.

The only people who remained were a little girl playing on the play structure and her mother, watching nearby. My daughter, who was 3, ran toward them and climbed the ladder to the structure's top. She greeted the girl and an instantaneous friendship took root.

The mom and I stood quietly, watching the girls play,

but not engaging, the grown-up version of parallel play. I don't remember how the dynamic shifted, but that first half-hour of awkward silence is the quietest we have ever been together. Slowly, we began to talk, exchanging the typical superficial playground chatter about the weather, the end of summer and the busyness of a new school year.

Tentatively, we waded into deeper water. The conversation quickened as we discovered more common ground. Our children were the same ages. We both had two siblings. Though we didn't grow up in the same country, we now lived not only in the same town, but on the same road, our house numbers a mere one digit apart.

When I asked if she still had family in her home country, she replied, "Yes, but my parents are divorced, and my mother has Alzheimer's."

My heart skipped a beat and my mouth slacked slightly. "Me, too."

From that moment, there was a space, a place, a friend, who truly understood, who could pivot from dissecting playground drama and surviving late night ER visits with a sick child to memory care considerations and unexpected financial discoveries.

There is a sad but heartening kinship in a friend whose attention was also perpetually torn by the increasing demands of a distant, beloved and failing mother.

We can share the aching emptiness of reaching for the phone to call your mom, and then remembering, before the phone even rings, that your mom doesn't really understand words anymore.

Our friendship blossomed from the strange purgatory of

Turn to Balance, Page 2



STEVE HELBER/AP

A report published Wednesday showed that females were more likely to be exposed to secondhand vapors, compared with males, and Caucasians more than minorities.

Teens more exposed to secondhand vapors

Increase attributed to adolescent e-cigarette use

BY KATE THAYER

About one third of middle and high school students were exposed in 2018 to secondhand vapors from e-cigarettes — a number that's increased in recent years, according to a report published Wednesday in *JAMA Network Open*.

The report, in one of the journals published by the American Medical Association, also shows about half of kids in that age group are exposed to secondhand smoke from tobacco cigarettes despite a nationwide decline in smoking.

Researchers from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston analyzed

data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Youth Tobacco Survey, from 2015 through last year. In the survey, between 17,000 and 20,000 adolescents each year were asked whether or not they were exposed to vapors from e-cigarettes or smoke from traditional cigarettes in the previous 30 days.

Results showed about one quarter of middle and high school students were exposed to e-cigarette vapors from 2015 to 2017, but that number increased to one third in 2018, representing "a significant jump," said Andy Tan, lead author of the report and

assistant professor of social and behavioral sciences at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

The results also showed females were more likely to be exposed to secondhand vapors, compared with males, and Caucasians more than minorities, according to the report.

Tan said the increase is likely attributed to the continued vaping trend among adolescents. And while there are laws in place to prohibit the sale of e-cigarettes to minors — like a recently enacted

Turn to Vaping, Page 2

Research links dirty air and mental illness

Cause and effect is uncertain, but new study sees pattern

BY AMY NORTON

HealthDay

As air quality declines, the prevalence of mental health conditions may rise, a large, new study suggests.

Looking at data on millions of people in the United States and Denmark, researchers found correlations between air pollution exposure and rates of certain psychiatric disorders. In both countries, poorer air quality was linked to a slightly heightened risk of bipolar disorder.

And in Denmark — where childhood data was available — people who were exposed to polluted air in the first 10 years of life had increased risks of depression, schizophrenia and personality disorders.

The big caveat: None of that proves air pollution is to blame.

"These are only correlations," said Dr. John Ioannidis, a professor of medicine at Stanford University in California.

"Inherently, data like these will never give you conclusive answers."

Ioannidis wrote an editorial published with the study in August in the journal PLOS Biology. At this point, he said, the findings are an "interesting observation" that can spur more research.

"If there really is a link, that would be very important," Ioannidis said.

Andrey Rzhetsky, senior researcher on the study, agreed that the findings point to an association — and are not proof of cause and effect. But animal research has offered clues about how polluted air might affect mental health, according to Rzhetsky, a professor in the departments of medicine and human genetics at the University of Chicago.

It's been shown, for



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Correlations between air pollution exposure and rates of certain psychiatric disorders raise questions over air quality's potential effect on mental health.

example, that fine particles in air pollution can travel to the rodent brain via the nose. And lab animals exposed to air pollutants have shown signs of brain inflammation, along with impaired learning and memory as well as depression-like behavior.

Ioannidis, however, cautioned against making too much of the animal research.

"You can find biology to explain whatever you want," he said. But that doesn't prove it's actually happening in humans.

For the current study, Rzhetsky's team mined data on two large populations to look for links between pollution and psychiatric conditions.

For the U.S. portion, the investigators looked at health insurance claims for

more than 151 million Americans — noting mental health diagnoses made between 2003 and 2013. They had no way to gauge people's personal exposure to air pollution, but they did have information on air quality in each person's county of residence — for the years 2000 to 2005.

The researchers broke those counties into seven groups (or septiles) based on air pollution. Overall, the prevalence of bipolar disorder was about 29% higher in the most polluted group of counties, compared with the group with the cleanest air.

The Denmark data, meanwhile, showed stronger associations. There, Rzhetsky's team had enough information to estimate childhood air-pollution exposure for

nearly 1.5 million people born between 1979 and 2002. The investigators found that people exposed to air pollution during their first 10 years of life had increased risks of developing bipolar disorder, major depression, schizophrenia or a personality disorder by age 37.

Again, the biggest difference was between the septile living in the most polluted areas versus those breathing the cleanest air. Their rates of schizophrenia and personality disorders were more than doubled, while their rate of depression was 50% higher and bipolar disorder 29% higher.

Overall, the Danish data provided a "stronger signal," Rzhetsky said. But does that mean that childhood exposure to air pollution during

early brain development is more important than adulthood exposure?

At this point, it's unclear, Rzhetsky said.

The findings leave many unanswered questions, according to Ioannidis.

"Is it childhood exposure to air pollution that matters?" Ioannidis said. "Is it bad, no matter when you're exposed? Or does it make no difference at all?"

That final question touches on the broader issue. Psychiatric disorders are complex, Ioannidis pointed out: They involve a mix of genetic vulnerability and a range of environmental influences.

And people living in the most polluted areas may have many other exposures that set them apart from people who breathe the cleanest air, Ioannidis said.

It's not possible, of course, to conduct a trial where people are assigned to live in polluted areas.

But, Rzhetsky said, there are other ways to approach the cause-and-effect question:

For example, studies might look at whether the prevalence of mental health diagnoses goes down after air quality improves.

It will be important to figure out whether air pollution is, in fact, a contributor, Rzhetsky said, because air quality is something we can change.

Ioannidis made another point: There are already plenty of reasons to want cleaner air, since poor air quality is strongly linked to heart and lung disease and to higher mortality.

"Air pollution is not good for us," Ioannidis said. "We know that."

It's a tiki party with Mary Ann



CHRIS ERSKINE
The Middle Ages

I'm always hot on the trail of something elusive — a free drink, a genuine compliment, two-for-one begonias at the gardening center. Today, I am chasing down a tip that "Gilligan's Island," one of America's most beloved shows, was filmed at Echo Park Lake, in the middle of downtown Los Angeles, an Eden-like urban oasis.

An internet site claims that the show's lagoon scenes were filmed near the north end of Echo Park Lake, and if you've been there, you know the busy park resembles the show's tropical setting.

Jungle overgrowth curls around its tiny island, and it is alive, really alive. Palm fronds and lily pads — nature's sedative — are all over the place. Makes me think that "Gilligan's Island" easily could have been filmed here during its mid-'60s run.

But I need to confirm.

Like the Beatles, the "Gilligan's Island" cast is now down to just two: Ginger and Mary Ann.

I chose Mary Ann (you surprised?).

"Yes, I think we might've shot there," says Dawn Wells, who played Mary Ann Summers, at an initial meeting in Altadena.

"Are you single?" she asks.

If you think this is a bizarre moment, how do you think I feel? I mean, I'm just a C student from Chicago, nothing special. Yet here I am, unremarkable in appearance and intellect — barely tall enough to drive — and I'm sitting on a couch with

America's sweetheart.

Pinch me.

Indeed, the template for Wells' character was Dorothy from "The Wizard of Oz," a Kansas farm girl with pigtails and gingham dresses. Certainly it wasn't the bare midriffs so much as it was a reassuring girl-next-door allure that made her a star.

Sure, in real life Wells was a former Miss Nevada and all that, and she reportedly beat out Raquel Welch for the Mary Ann role. But it was her simple, earnest decency that charmed millions of viewers. CBS paid her a whopping \$700 a week when she started.

As with Barbara Eden in "I Dream of Jeannie," the network wouldn't let Wells expose her navel, for fear of offending advertisers and audiences.

"Between my belly button and Tina's cleavage, we had to reshoot a lot of scenes," Wells says now.

Tina was Tina Louise, who played Ginger Grant, the on-the-make movie star. Wells denies reports that Louise was standoffish and disliked on set.

"I learned a lot from her," she says now, though she admits to being friendlier with the other castaways.

Other insights: The Professor (Russell Johnson) was the funniest person to hang with; goofy Gilligan (Bob Denver) was the most serious, but a kind and beloved friend.

"We were just seven characters with nothing in common, trying to get along on a tropical island," she says of the simple premise, though I still see traces of Sumerian mythology and an ode to lost souls.

Wells, who followed "Gilligan's Island" with a long career in theater, agrees to join an impromptu tiki party I'm planning, a pop-up event with a few friends on the edge of Echo Park Lake.



DANIA MAXWELL/
LOS ANGELES TIMES

Dawn Wells of "Gilligan's Island" fame is a guest of honor at a pop-up tiki party at Echo Park Lake.

There, I tell her, we will celebrate tiki culture, bongo music and her classic sitcom.

That's right, a half century after Mary Ann got off the island, we're taking her back.

In Echo Park, she settles into a beach chair, grabs a faux pineapple cup and starts to have second thoughts on whether the show has much connection to the place. She remembers shooting beach scenes in Malibu and Santa Barbara but probably not here.

Once the show was a hit, CBS built a permanent lagoon at the Radford lot.

Remarkably, the internet appears to be wrong.

The family of the show's creator, Sherwood Schwartz (who died in 2011), thinks some publicity sessions were shot in Echo Park though.

That's enough for me, for it gives us the chance to tiki-toast the ultimate survivor, Dawn Wells, who still has that girl-next-door glow and an appreciation for what has turned out to be a mostly fantastic life, sans the residuals that current shows generate.

After all, at 80, she'll always be an American reference point, in a post-modern Norman Rockwell way. In a world that runs on cynicism, she'll always be the ponytailed crush who never got kissed.

She'll always be the former beauty queen from Reno who showed up in Hollywood with a suitcase and little else.

And made America smile.

chris.erskine@latimes.com

Balance

Continued from Page 1

the land between life and death that is Alzheimer's, where the physical being is still present, but the person who raised you, the soul who shaped and loved you unconditionally, is gone; from the implicit understanding of grief over the Grammy who never got to play her most prized role; from the exhausting effort to live in the present for the sake of our kids, knowing that our moms would never want to rob us of this precious, fleeting time.

This is friendship and parenting in the sandwich generation. It's organizing play dates and parties, volunteering at field day and swapping treatment options for lice. It's sum-

mer outings with our kids, picnics and barbecues.

And it's a knowing hug and warming tea kettle when you appear unannounced, knocking on the back patio door, with debilitating, hiccuping tears spilling out over the impending decision to move your mom into a memory care facility. It's shocked and awed silence when a memory you share about your childhood and family dynamics mirrors hers. It's the predawn drive to the airport so she can make her flight for her mom's funeral. It's the selfie sitting next to your mom at her new care home while you are on vacation, just to reassure you. It's the knowing glances, the quiet acknowledgment that we are experiencing profound grief and profound joy simultaneously, the under-

standing that we each know inherently what that feels like.

Around the holidays in that first year of our friendship, I received a postcard. On the front were pictures of her children. On the back, penned in purple ink, simply, "Here's to serendipity." Indeed.

Here's to serendipity and to friendship that carries you through; to the unspoken promise to prop each other up; to surprise gift bags at the door, and cups of tea; to envisioning a future in which one of our daughters might one day call one of us, concerned that her mom is getting forgetful; and to understanding, even now, the dread of that call, but secure in the knowledge that, if it comes to that, we will help them to better bear the burden.

Vaping

Continued from Page 1

Illinois law that bans the sale to those under 21 — these policies have yet to make an impact.

"We're playing catch-up to smoke-free policies (surrounding traditional tobacco products) that have been around for longer," he said.

Warnings to parents and teens about the dangers of vaping have intensified in recent weeks with a rash of hospitalizations throughout the country where patients report difficulty breathing from an unknown respiratory illness and also have a history of vaping. One of those patients — an adult in Illinois — died earlier this month, public health officials announced late last week.

The CDC, the Food and Drug Administration, the Illinois Department of Public Health and other state health departments continue to investigate these cases and still don't know what products these patients vaped, or what

was in them.

But medical experts say that while vaping — a relatively new trend, especially popular among teens — needs more study, it's clear that the ingredients can cause harm. Physicians have warned that e-cigarettes can contain nicotine, THC or ingredients used for flavoring such as cancer-causing chemicals and lead.

Tan said the public should also be concerned about secondhand vapors, which his research shows young people are exposed to at an increasing rate.

Tan noted his research also showed that despite decades worth of anti-smoking public education campaigns and a decline in smoking, half of the middle and high school students surveyed in the report were exposed to secondhand smoke in 2018. While that represents a decrease over the previous three years, it serves as "one other reminder that this secondhand smoke piece is still there," he said.

"We're going to have to do better education that it's not good for you ... and educate our youth," he said. "Just like we did with smoking."

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tobacco smoke, including this new threat (of vaping)," Tan said.

While tobacco use among teens has declined, vaping continues to increase, according to the CDC. This is especially concerning because "we don't know enough about vaping right now," said Dr. Michael Vercillo, thoracic surgeon at Advocate Lutheran General Hospital in Park Ridge.

"It took 20, 30-plus years to realize how bad smoking was for your lungs," he added. As far as secondhand vapors, "it's hard to say it causes cancer because we don't have that data."

Given the recent hospitalizations and general knowledge of the harmful ingredients of e-cigarettes, "I can't imagine putting anything like that in your lungs is good for you," Vercillo said.

"We're going to have to do better education that it's not good for you ... and educate our youth," he said. "Just like we did with smoking."

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Researchers say depression symptoms might be part of the Alzheimer's process in some.

Depression-Alzheimer's link found in some aging brains

HealthDay

New research is untangling the complex relationship between symptoms of depression and losses in memory and thinking that often emerge together with Alzheimer's disease.

In fact, the new data suggests that "depression symptoms themselves may be among the early changes in the preclinical stages of dementia syndromes," explained study lead author Dr. Jennifer Gatchel. She works in the division of geriatric psychiatry at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston.

In the study, researchers examined brain scans and other data gathered over seven years from 276 older adults enrolled in the Harvard Aging Brain Study. All of the participants were still living independently in the community at the beginning of the study and were considered healthy.

However, the analysis revealed a significant link between worsening depression symptoms and mental decline over two to seven years, and both of these trends seemed to be linked to a buildup of amyloid protein in brain tissue.

The slow accumulation

of amyloid has long been considered a hallmark of Alzheimer's disease.

"Our research found that even modest levels of brain amyloid deposition can impact the relationship between depression symptoms and cognitive (thinking) abilities," Gatchel said in a hospital news release.

The new insight that depression symptoms might be part of the Alzheimer's process could further research into the prevention or treatment of the illness, she added.

It "raises the possibility that depression symptoms could be targets in clinical trials aimed at delaying the progression of Alzheimer's disease," Gatchel said, so "further research is needed in this area."

The researchers stressed that not all older adults with depression and amyloid buildup will have memory and thinking declines, however. That suggests that other factors — for example, brain metabolism, or the volume of the brain's memory center, the hippocampus — could link depression and mental decline. Other mechanisms — including brain degeneration caused by the protein tau (another protein long associated with Alzhei-

mer's), high blood pressure and inflammation — might play a role and need to be investigated.

Overall, the findings suggest that depression could have multiple causes and might also "work synergistically with amyloid and related processes to affect cognition over time in older adults," Gatchel said.

"This is helpful research in that it identifies behavioral manifestations that may precede a diagnosis of dementia," said Brittany LeMonda, a clinical neuropsychologist at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City. "It may alert providers to look into mood changes and depression as early symptoms of an underlying dementia and may allow patients to be diagnosed earlier."

"Whereas in the past, depression and dementia were viewed as separate conditions that could co-occur in the same individual, we have learned now that mood and cognitive symptoms may actually be symptoms of the same underlying condition with shared pathology," LeMonda said.

The new research was published online in August in JAMA Network Open.

PEOPLE'S PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

Melatonin may help you fall asleep, but not stay asleep

BY JOE GRAEDON AND TERESA GRAEDON
King Features Syndicate

Q. When is a good time to take melatonin? Typically I go to bed at 10:30 p.m. and read for an hour before lights out. I often awaken at 1 or 2 a.m. and can't fall back to sleep.

A. Melatonin appears to be most helpful if taken 30 minutes to an hour before sleep. In your case, that would mean taking it at bedtime.

Although melatonin could help you fall asleep more quickly (Neurological Research, June 2017), we don't know whether it will help you stay asleep. A prolonged-release formulation might be useful for that purpose (Expert Opinion on Pharmacotherapy, April 2012).

Q. I have restless legs syndrome, which keeps me awake at night unless I take a magnesium supplement at bedtime. This gives me excellent results.

On the rare occasion that I get that creepy-crawly feeling anyway, I rub magnesium oil on my lower legs. This helps almost immediately, and I am able to go back to sleep.

A. Restless legs syndrome was first described in 1944 by a Swedish neurologist, Dr. Karl-Axel Ekbom. People with this condition describe an unpleasant creeping or crawling sensation in the legs that is relieved by moving them. RLS mostly happens when the person is resting, and it frequently interferes with sleep.

Many people report that magnesium supplements can help with insomnia, RLS and leg cramps. Unfortunately, we found only one uncontrolled study on magnesium therapy for



DREAMSTIME

Melatonin is most helpful if taken 30 minutes to an hour before you go to bed.

RLS (Sleep, August 1998).

In this "open" study, people with RLS or a related problem, periodic limb movement during sleep, took magnesium supplements and found them beneficial. We wish that scientists had followed up on this approach.

An important warning: People with limited kidney function must not take supplemental magnesium. It could overwhelm the kidneys and build up to dangerous levels. It isn't clear whether topical magnesium oil would provide enough magnesium to be dangerous, but it wouldn't make sense to push the envelope.

Q. I just heard on the news that the FDA will allow drugs to be imported from Canada. When I had no drug coverage for 10 years (between 1996 and 2006), I bought my medications from Canada with no problems. What has changed?

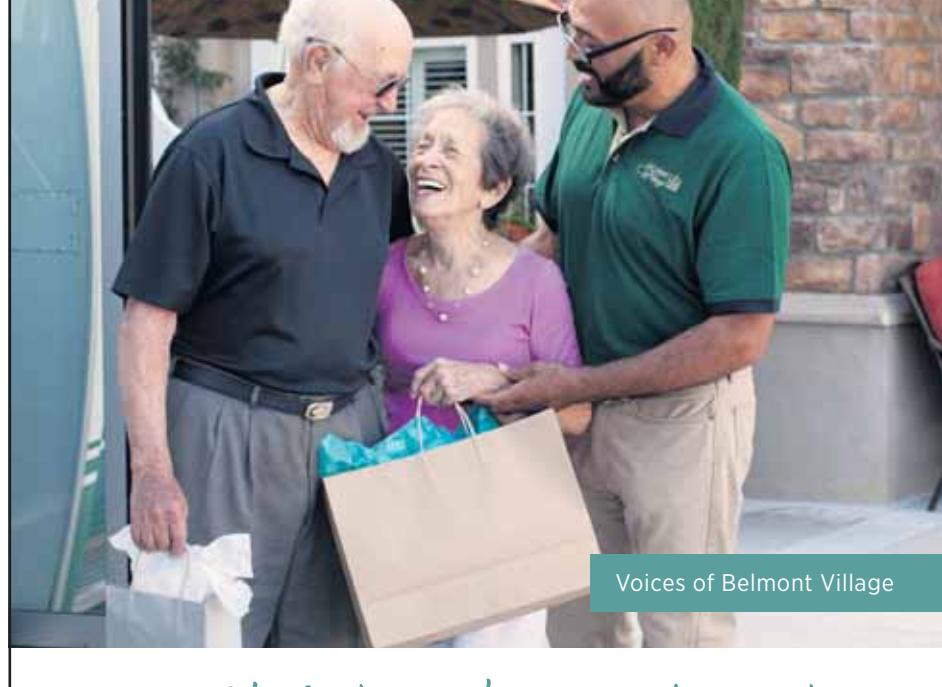
has an impact on every tissue in the body, from your brain to your toenails.

An underactive thyroid gland can make you feel lethargic and can interfere with your ability to exercise and lose weight. You might ask your doctor to review a more complete thyroid panel to see whether increasing the dose of your thyroid hormone replacement (levothyroxine) would be helpful.

Q. I just heard on the news that the FDA will allow drugs to be imported from Canada. When I had no drug coverage for 10 years (between 1996 and 2006), I bought my medications from Canada with no problems. What has changed?

A. It is currently illegal for individuals to purchase their medications from Canada, and the administration's new Safe Importation Action Plan does not appear to apply to individual patients. It is focused on pharmacies, states and wholesalers. We don't yet know how, if or when it will be implemented.

In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Send questions to them via www.peoplestharmacy.com.



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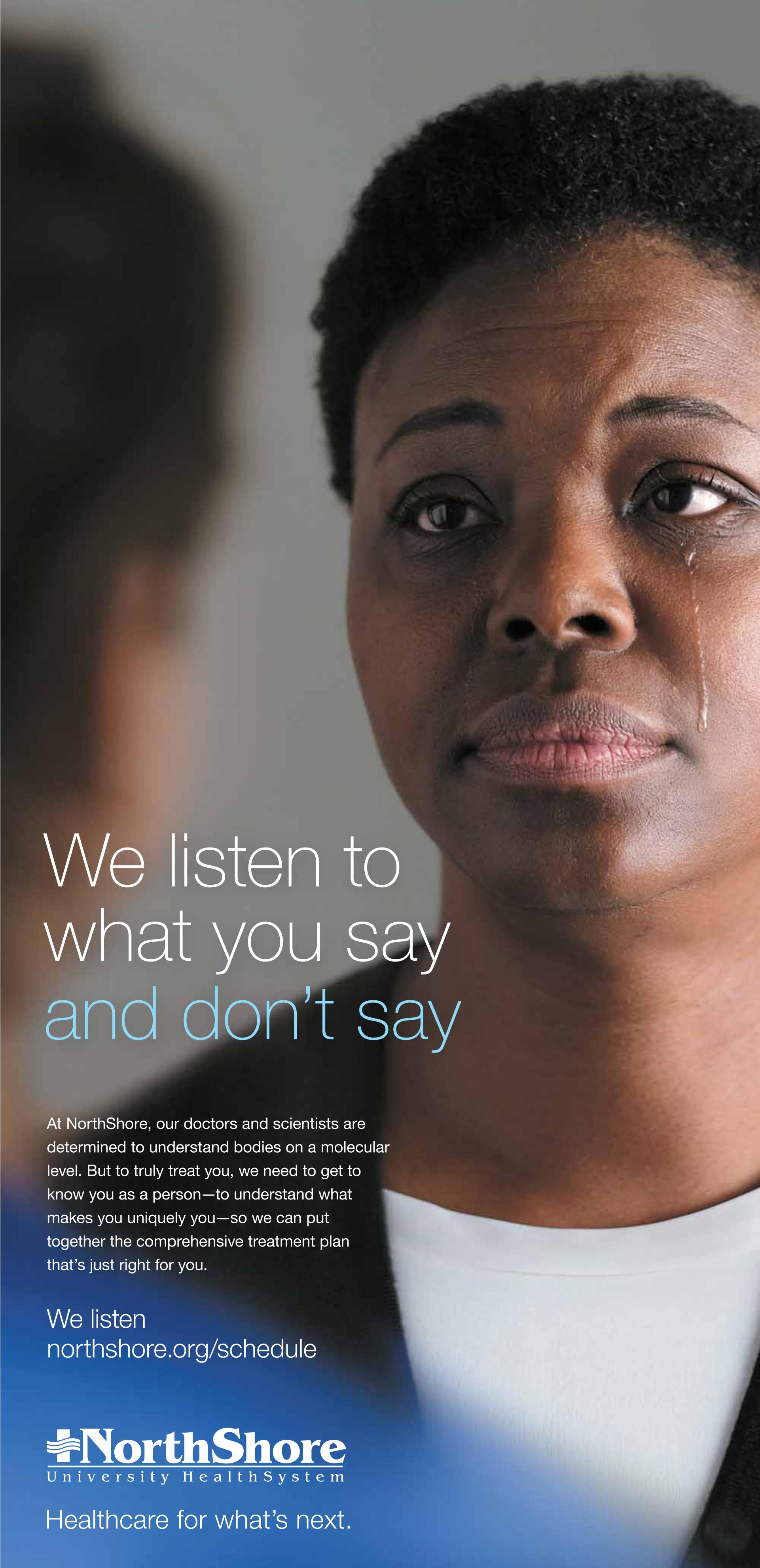
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Chicago Tribune
FOOD & DINING



Savor or save 'em?

What to do with your late-summer tomatoes, from pie to salad to preserving

BY ROBIN MATHER

If anything says "the end of summer," it's school buses and tomatoes. The bright yellow of the buses and the vivid colors of tomatoes — especially heirloom tomatoes — presage autumn's changing leaves with almost the same palette.

Naturally you'll want to make some salsa to can or freeze. Certainly you'll want to make your secret signature pasta sauce to warm up winter nights.

And surely you'll want to enjoy tomatoes at their peak, whether your favorite way is in a drippy tomato sandwich or in a caprese salad with milky fresh mozzarella and fragrant fresh basil anointed with your best olive oil. We have three additional ways you can enjoy fresh tomatoes this season: a cherry tomato conserve, a chicken-tortellini-tomato salad and a tomato pie topped with pimento cheese.

Now's the time to stock up if you want tomatoes to use year-round in

your kitchen. Whether you can them, freeze them or dehydrate them, a little bit of work now guarantees good eating in the year to come.

Here's what you need to know for each method of preserving.

To can tomatoes: Whether you're canning diced tomatoes or whole tomatoes, you can use either the boiling water bath method or pressure can them. To make sure they can safely, add bottled lemon juice before filling

the jars. Hand-squeezed lemon juice isn't a good idea because fresh lemons vary wildly in acidity, while bottled juice is always the same. Add 2 tablespoons of bottled lemon juice to a quart jar, or 1 tablespoon per pint. Add salt if you wish — a teaspoon per quart or $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon per pint. Process both pints and quarts for 85 minutes in a boiling water bath, 25 minutes in a pressure canner.

Turn to **Tomatoes, Page 5**

REVIEW St. Clair Supper Club ★★

Ode to a Wisconsin tradition

Alinea Group opens a subterranean supper club with near-perfect prime rib

BY PHIL VETTEL

Having conquered elevated fine-dining, sci-fi cocktails and the cuisine of ancient Rome, the Alinea Group (Alinea, The Aviary, Next, Roister) has set its sights on the haute-est of culinary archetypes — the Wisconsin supper club.

Yes, the supper club, in all its brandy Old-Fashioned, fulsome portioned glory.

St. Clair Supper Club opened July 1 in the basement space

beneath Roister. There's no separate entrance; you enter through Roister, ask for a table downstairs (walk-ins are welcome, though reservations are recommended) and descend the long staircase to the dimly lit dining room.

The supper-club elements have been faithfully re-created. Paper place mats announce, "We're glad you're here!" Plates are simple stoneware. Egg-washed rolls come with whipped butter. The dark interior gets some of its lighting from animal-head

sconces. Vintage cartoons decorate the walls. When you call for the check, it arrives with a foil-wrapped Andes chocolate mint.

There is prime rib, available in several cuts, and one daily special. That's it for the entree choices. The rest of the menu is devoted to appetizers (Caesar salad, shrimp cocktail), sides (Yorkshire pudding, mashed potatoes, creamed spinach) and sauces (from horseradish cream to mint jelly).

Turn to **Vettel, Page 5**



ALLEN HEMBERGER PHOTO
Supper-club elements have been faithfully re-created with simple plates and paper place mats that announce "We're glad you're here!"

Make lunch more luxe

How to upgrade your brown bag sandwich with twists on 3 classics

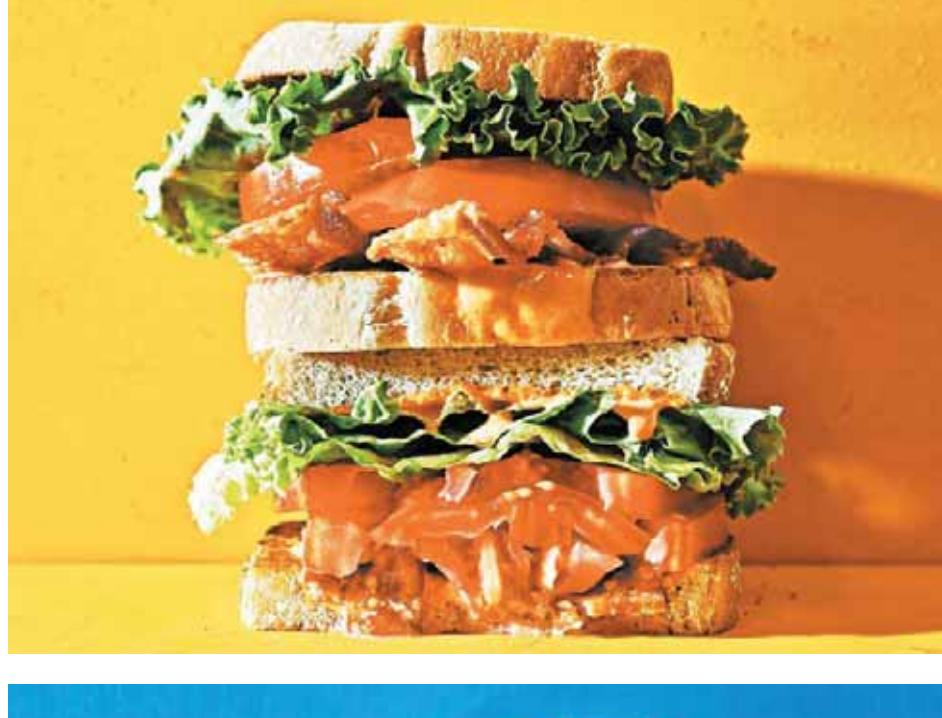
By BECKY KRYSYL
The Washington Post

The greatest thing since sliced bread. We've all heard and probably used the adage, and as transformative as that innovation was, to me it leaves out half (at least) of the equation — that is, everything that goes between those slices. Without the filling, all you have with sliced bread is ... thinner bread.

There are about as many reasons to love sandwiches as there are

ways to make them. They're portable and you can eat them with your hands. They're fast, easy and cheap to make. Oh, and they're fun!

That's where these recipes come in. If your familiar brown-bag sandwich has left you feeling kind of blue, fear not. We took three classic lunch sandwiches and gave them a boost. These updates won't make them unrecognizable or twee, but they will make them taste fresh, flavorful and special.



BLT with Sriracha mayo

Here's a sandwich where it doesn't pay to go too far off script. Good bacon, good tomatoes and good mayo, tweaked ever so slightly for extra flavor impact, turn this diner staple into a desk lunch worth savoring. **Makes:** 1 sandwich

2 slices white bread
2 slices cooked thick-cut bacon, drippings reserved
1 tablespoon mayonnaise
1 teaspoon Sriracha
2 to 3 slices ripe tomato, sprinkled with salt
2 to 3 leaves green leaf lettuce

Brush one side of each slice of bread (something sturdy such as country or hearty white) with the bacon drippings. Toast the greased side for a few minutes, either in a skillet or under the broiler set on high, until golden brown. In a small bowl, mix together the mayo - Duke's or bust in my house - and Sriracha. Spread half the Sriracha mayo on each of the toasted bread sides, then assemble the bacon, tomato and lettuce between the slices of bread.

Variations: Peach instead of tomato. Leave the Sriracha out of the mayo. Try a different kind of lettuce — classic iceberg and butter are both good.

Nutrition information per serving: 480 calories, 25 g fat, 6 g saturated fat, 25 mg cholesterol, 47 g carbohydrates, 8 g sugar, 14 g protein, 900 mg sodium, 5 g fiber



Double mango curry chicken salad

A double dose of mango — fresh and chutney — goes into this aromatic salad inspired by Washington chef Scott Drewno. My version is based on a yogurt dressing reminiscent of a tandoori marinade. The recipe scales up easily if you want to make enough chicken salad for a few days. **Makes:** 1 sandwich

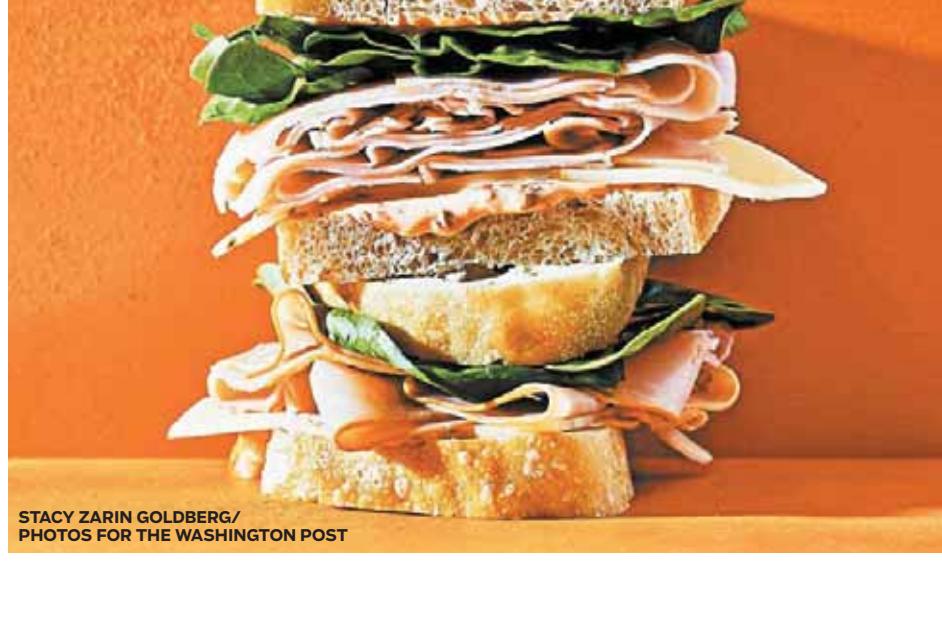
3 tablespoons whole milk Greek-style yogurt
1/2 teaspoon curry powder
1 tablespoon olive oil
1 squeeze fresh lemon juice
1 pinch kosher salt
1 pinch sugar
3 to 4 ounces cooked chicken, torn into 1- to 2-inch pieces
1 tablespoon chunky mango chutney, such as Major Grey's
1 tablespoon toasted slivered almonds, see note
2 tablespoons diced mango
2 or 3 leaves butter lettuce
2 slices challah

In a medium bowl, whisk together the yogurt, curry powder, olive oil, lemon juice, salt and sugar. Stir in the chicken, chutney, almonds and diced mango. Pile the chicken salad on top of the lettuce in between the slices of challah.

Variations: Use cucumber instead of mango. Opt for another kind of nut. Change the flavor profile with a different spice blend. Try in a wrap or pita.

Note: Toast the almonds in a small dry skillet over medium heat, tossing frequently, until fragrant, 3 to 5 minutes.

Nutrition information per serving: 720 calories, 33 g fat, 5 g saturated fat, 80 mg cholesterol, 66 g carbohydrates, 17 g sugar, 38 g protein, 680 mg sodium, 4 g fiber



Spicy, smoky turkey sandwich

Chipotle mayo and smoked turkey will remind you of the outdoors even if you are eating it at your desk. **Makes:** 1 sandwich

1 chipotle in adobo, minced
3 tablespoons mayonnaise
2 slices sourdough bread
1 slice pepper jack cheese
4 ounces smoked turkey
Baby spinach leaves

In a small bowl, combine the chipotle and mayonnaise. You'll need about a third of it for the sandwich; the rest will keep in the fridge for a few days. Spread mayo on one side of each slice of bread. Assemble the cheese, turkey and spinach between the slices of bread.

Variations: Decrease the chipotle or leave it out. Swap in Monterey jack, or any sliced cheese, for the pepper jack. This would also be good on a kaiser roll.

Nutrition information per serving: 520 calories, 21 g fat, 7 g saturated fat, 75 mg cholesterol, 53 g carbohydrates, 10 g sugar, 28 g protein, 1,790 mg sodium, 3 g fiber

Starbucks expands annual pumpkin spice lineup

Coffee giant adds pumpkin cream cold brew to menu. Spoiler: We like it

By GRACE WONG

Call me basic, but making a pilgrimage to the nearest Starbucks for a once-a-year pumpkin spice latte is one of my favorite rituals to celebrate the start of fall.

This year, the coffee giant launched a new pumpkin spice menu item: the pumpkin cream cold brew, its first pumpkin coffee drink since PSL debuted in 2003. The new drink was released Tuesday, which is also the much-hyped annual return of PSL for the season.

Starbucks' website describes it as "Starbucks' Cold Brew sweetened with vanilla syrup and topped with a pumpkin cream cold foam and dusting of pumpkin spice topping." Although it was nearly 80 degrees, it was imperative for a die-hard PSL lover like me to break my annual taste-of-fall ritual and try the potential usurper.

Admittedly the original PSL is a sugar bomb, with a



Starbucks' new pumpkin cream cold brew, left, is a counterpart to its pumpkin spice latte.

tastes more like coffee and certainly doesn't have a mountain of whipped cream on top.

Instead of an aggressive pumpkin spice flavor, the drink tastes more like a mild cup of coffee with vanilla syrup and notes of the cinnamon, nutmeg and clove, plus a hint of fruity pumpkin. It's unavailable in a hot format, but for a drink that's less sugary and less creamy, plenty of year-round iced coffee drinkers will go for it.

If you're familiar with cheese tea, the pumpkin cream cold brew is engineered in a similar way — a sweet, light, creamy foam floating atop a more bitter drink base. Cream and pumpkin spice syrup is blended before it's poured on top of the cold brew and ice, so when you tilt the cup, you sip on the foam and liquid simultaneously and they blend in your mouth.

If this all sounds too complicated, just let the pumpkin cream cold brew sit out for a while and the foam will start to blend itself into the drink. With a few swirls, the majority of the foam blends into the rest of the drink for a more uniform consistency.

For the right ratio, I'd recommend getting a grande (\$4.95), and be sure to ask for less ice. While the tall (\$3.95) has the same components, the ratio of coffee to foam made the drink too creamy and sweet. The grande felt more balanced, with a greater cold-brew-to-foam ratio that gave the overall drink a more pronounced coffee flavor. While the PSL (\$4.45 for a tall) has more toasty notes, the pumpkin cream cold brew is simply easier to drink.

As a daily coffee drinker who prefers plain lattes and black coffees but also enjoys a once-a-year PSL, this newcomer is trouble. I found myself thinking that I would order the pumpkin cream cold brew again, which doesn't usually occur after I have a PSL, usually because I'm experiencing a sugar crash or stomachache from drinking it too fast.

Even though a PCCB doesn't carry the same ring, the new drink is a winner. My only wish is that Starbucks would make it hot for those chillier fall nights when your oversize scarf isn't oversize enough.

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distinct orange color that makes you wonder what exactly is in it. Starbucks says it's made with espresso, milk, pumpkin, cinnamon, nutmeg and clove, plus whipped cream and more pumpkin pie spices on top, but I'm pretty sure they forgot to include oversized scarves, red and

orange fall leaves and cognac-hued riding boots. The common complaint about the original PSL is that it's too sweet and too creamy. "It's a coffee drink for noncoffee drinkers!" or "It tastes like chemicals!" people say. The pumpkin cream cold brew is Starbucks' answer to the

detractors. People have often described pumpkin spice lattes as having an odd sour taste to them, which I suspect is related to how Starbucks makes it so darn sweet in pursuit of a pumpkin spice flavor. The pumpkin cream cold brew eliminates that. It's less sweet,

'Spirit-free' drinks gaining popularity

Here's how to make complex, balanced zero-proof cocktails

BY M. CARRIE ALLAN
The Washington Post

A new era of moderation seems to be upon us, with people — especially you healthy, clean-living millennial types — drinking less overall and having lighter forms of booze when you do drink.

The current trend seems to be driven by factors as diverse as physical and mental health concerns, access to increasingly legal marijuana and the #MeToo movement's bringing back to the fore old arguments about the role alcohol may play in abusive behavior.

New products are chasing this trend, some delicious, some atrocious. Meanwhile, bars catering to nondrinkers are popping up to welcome the sober and the "sober curious," and the term "mocktail," which detractors say suggests a lesser drink or a lesser drinker, has been replaced by "zero-proof," "spirit-free" and the like.

For years, nondrinkers were the vegetarians of the bar world: neglected by menus, eye-rolled by servers, forced to settle for soda. The few nonalcoholic drinks available tended to taste as if they had been siphoned from a kindergarten juice pouch.

Today, while not every bar can be Existing Conditions, the cocktail lounge in New York that has put complex nonalcoholic cocktails up top on its menu, any bar (or host) worth their rim salt should have a go-to option, something better than a random tonic with a muddle of random fruit.

A hurdle the industry hasn't fully surmounted is how to make a bar into a place that someone who's not drinking still wants to go, says co-owner Dave Arnold, author of the James



LAURA CHASE DE FORMIGNY/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

The No-Booze Penicillin substitutes rich, smoky lapsang souchong black tea for the Islay whisky in the original.

Beard award-winning cocktail book "Liquid Intelligence." A bar that provides bespoke cocktails for drinkers and throws Diet Cokes at the sober isn't doing that.

"The message we want to send is that you are as important to us if you don't drink alcohol as if you do," he said.

How do you make a good nonalcoholic drink? Here are some tips:

1. Get better with bitter. This flavor acts as an appetite stimulant, so its presence may help a nonalcoholic cocktail play the role that traditional aperitifs do.

But it's also a challenge. Aromatic cocktail bitters, one of the easiest means to add bitterness, are almost always alcoholic, but they're used in such tiny portions that they can still

be a good tool. Someone who's not drinking because they're driving may be fine with a few dashes, but someone avoiding alcohol completely will not, so if you use them, you'll want to be sure the drinker approves.

2. Taste for texture. The viscosity conferred by sugar or gomme syrup, the astringent qualities of the tannins in wines that can be echoed with teas and herbal concoctions, the froth of egg-white: All can help create a sort of *trompe la bouche*, reminding your palate of the textures and sensations of cocktails.

Arnold spoke of the tickle in the back of the throat that comes with some drinks. "It's a product of fermentation, and that's one of the things we replicate," using plant extracts

and teas to create a similar mouthfeel. Existing conditions often uses glycerin for viscosity without a massive boost in sweetness and a combination of acids to create flavor reminiscent of Champagne.

3. Find a new hook. Intensity may be the quality that I've found hardest to replicate in spirit-free drinks: the mouthfeel of a beverage that contains a spirit and makes people drink a cocktail differently. Drinks writer Camper English noted that he uses the word "slow" to talk about what makes good nonalcoholic drinks — "something bitter or spicy or weird that makes you sip rather than gulp."

I think that's right on, but I've found that "something" can also be a trapdoor: In trying to echo the

heat of alcohol, it's easy to overcompensate with an aggressive hook that skews a drink out of balance, making it too bitter, spicy or sour. Shrubs, drinking vinegars that evolved from old preservation techniques, are all over these days. Mix vinegar with fruit and sugar and you can get something delicious; you can also get something truly vile, in which the vinegar makes your eyes water before you even sip.

Drinks writer Kara Newman put it best, tweeting in response to my social media query, "Zero-proofs used to always be too sweet. Now so many are acid bombs... . Salad dressing in a glass, undrinkable."

4. Don't overthink it. In my testing, I kept returning to the qualities that make a good "regular" cocktail. It's

No-Booze Penicillin

Makes: 10 to 12 servings

The Penicillin, bartender Sam Ross' blended scotch cocktail, has become a modern classic, known for its rich, spicy balance of flavors. This nonalcoholic riff picks up many of the original drink's notes, substituting rich, smoky lapsang souchong black tea for the Islay whisky in the original. You can prep this drink up to two days in advance; refrigerate it until you're ready to serve, and shake it before pouring.

3 tablespoons loose-leaf lapsang souchong tea

3 cups boiling water

3 tablespoons minced fresh ginger

1 cup honey

8 to 10 ounces fresh lemon juice (from about 6 lemons)

Candied ginger, optional

1. Steep the tea in the boiling water, about 4 minutes. Strain out the leaves.

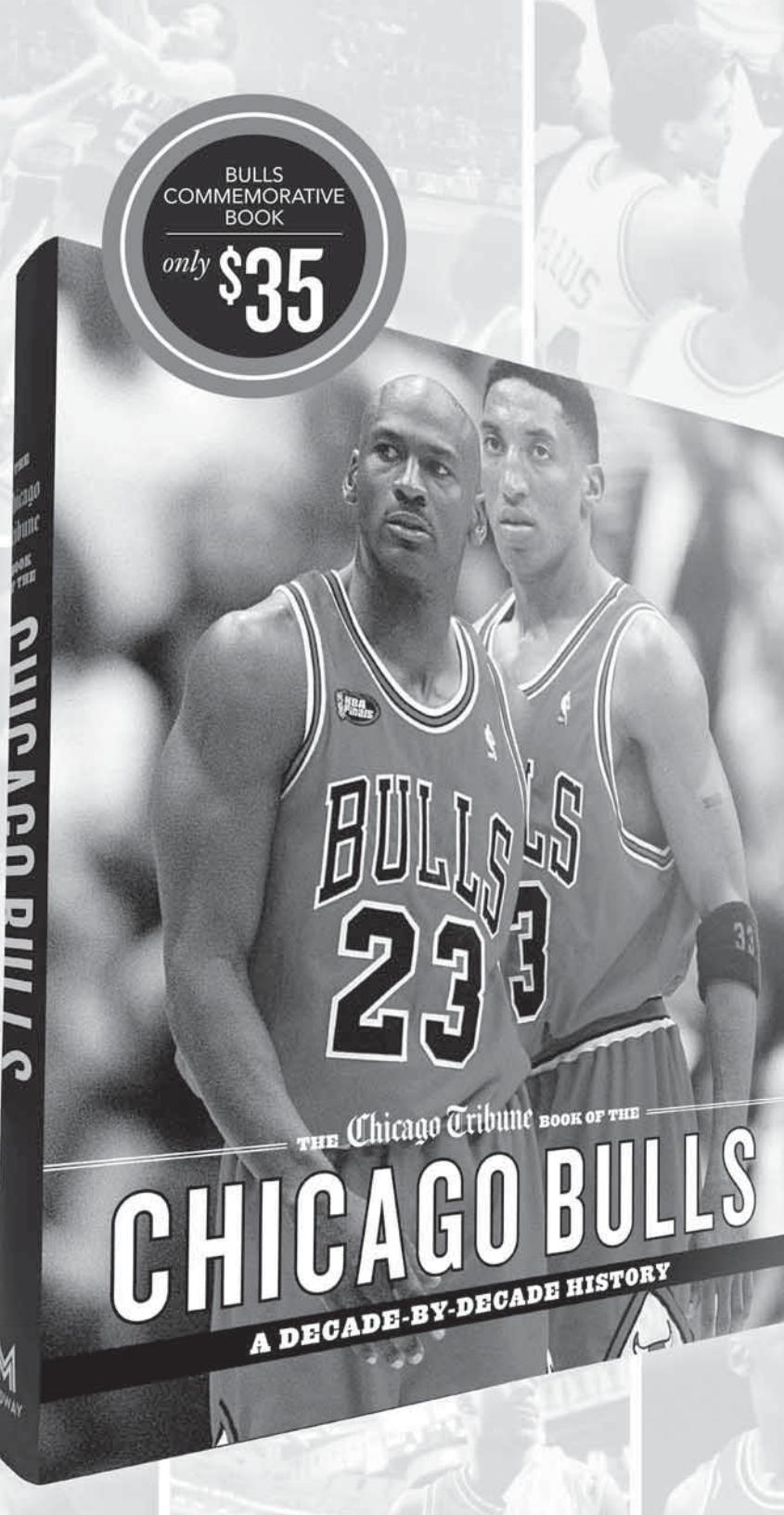
2. Add the ginger and honey, stirring gently until the honey is dissolved. Allow the mixture to infuse, 15 to 30 minutes. Strain out the ginger, pressing gently on the solids to squeeze out any remaining liquid. You should have about 3 1/2 cups liquid.

3. Add 6 ounces lemon juice; taste and add more until the balance of sour, sweet and spicy is to your liking. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

4. Serve over ice, garnished with a slice of candied ginger.

not just what's in the glass, but the entire experience, a mysterious brew of flavors and aesthetics and atmosphere.

M. Carrie Allan is a freelance writer.



Chicago Tribune

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Ketchup chips: Ranked

Yes, they're a thing. And we tried 13 brands from Canada

BY LOUISA CHU

Maple syrup, round bacon and poutine may be the best-known Canadian exports, but our neighbors to the north are keeping more than national health care and Justin Trudeau all to themselves.

Ketchup potato chips have long been the national snack of Canada, but we can't get them in the United States widely. Yet we love ketchup and we love potato chips. So what's the story, eh?

"In the '70s, we were trying to mimic the taste of french fries and ketchup, and put it on a potato chip," said Katie Ceclan, senior director of marketing at Lay's in the U.S. "It's almost a sweeter barbecue."

The origin story of ketchup chips remains disputed, but Lay's does make one of the best-selling brands.

"It has become an iconic flavor in Canada," said Ceclan.

That's a claim corroborated anecdotally by just about every Canadian who politely asked why I was getting so many bags, from Walmart and Whole Foods, as well as my many Chinese-Canadian cousins, who all added to the collection.

Why no ketchup chips here? In Chicago, we have a complicated relationship with the condiment. We love it on our fresh cut fries, but never on hot dogs.

"We tend to see in the United States some of the profiles that are a little more smoky, even tangy," said Ceclan. "Think of the different barbecue flavors you might see that vary regionally."

That might explain another Canadian potato chip I have seen stocked in Chicago area stores: All Dressed Ruffles. This flavor was also born in the '70s, evidently as the free-love child of barbecue, ketchup, sour cream and onion as well as salt and vinegar.

So what are the chances we'll get ketchup chips in this country?

"It has been on the list for many years," said Ceclan. "We just need something to push it over the edge, from our fans re-



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE; SHANNON KINSELLA/FOOD STYLING

questing it. If we hear it, we usually respond."

Meanwhile, like just about anything, you can find them on Amazon, where Canadian ketchup chips are resold at a premium price. They currently range from around \$9 for a snack-sized bag of Old Dutch, including shipping, to \$255 for a 15-pack of standard-sized bags of Hardbite. You can order Herr's Heinz ketchup chips from Pennsylvania too, one of the few American brands.

After a family road trip to Canada earlier this summer, I brought back every brand of

ketchup chips from the Greater Toronto Area that I could find, 13 in all. As an American, I feel I should note that this may be the biggest and best taste test of ketchup chips ever published. Most of the chips were potato, with a few exceptions, as you will see.

Eight Tribune journalists assembled in our test kitchen to taste the chips blind, writing tasting notes, then scores that determined the final ranking. Only two of us had ever had them previously, and only recently, so we held no nostalgic flavor memories. While I knew which brands I

had bought, and did taste a few, I waited to taste them all in our test.

My dad, George Chu, 84, a big potato-chip fan, however, tasted all 13 brands himself in about a month.

"They're nonsense," he said. "They're too sweet. I wouldn't eat a whole bag watching the game on TV."

His preferred chips are Ruffles original flavor, bought on sale with coupons from his Sunday Trib whenever possible.

Here are the results of the great American taste test of Canadian ketchup chips, from worst to best.



13. Pringles

"Is this a low-calorie ketchup Pringle?" wrote Sadé Carpenter, Food & Dining deputy editor, who ranked these chips her lowest. "I thought excessive vinegar was the worst part of these chips, but the boring texture, lack of salt and flavor make this one a loser in my book."



12. Selection

"Bleh, too tomatoey. With an odd hint of cinnamon? WHY?" wrote Grace Wong, F&D reporter, who ranked these her worst. You may remember Grace became known as ranch dressing girl when her ranch dressing story went viral.



11. Quaker

"What is this B.S.?" wrote Nick Kindelsperger, F&D reporter, who ranked these his worst. "Small, circular rice cakes taste like sadness."

Joe Gray, F&D editor, also ranked them worst. "Look like the surface of someone's brain. Too sweet. Not much tomato at all, but at least salt is in there."



10. No Name

"So sour there must have been a vinegar accident at the plant," I wrote about these chips that I ranked as worst.

Nick shockingly ranked them as a top three. "This one understands the balance of vinegar and sugar, which is the secret to ketchup's power."



9. Frank

"These chips are the most like drinking ketchup straight out of the bottle," wrote Natalie Wade, former RedEye and Chicago Tribune intern and current DePaul University graduate student, who ranked these worst. "That doesn't mean I would recommend them."

On the other hand, Tony Purcelli, digital news editor, ranked them best. "This seems like it must be the classic ketchup chip. Good crisp ridges, strong standard ketchup flavor." Tony even drew a little winner's ribbon on his tasting notes.

Frank is the oddball store brand at the big box Canadian Tire stores for food, cleaning and home products.



8. Hardbite

"These taste like stale Cheetos," wrote Tony about these, which he ranked worst.

Joe thought they looked like cheese snacks too but ranked them in his top three. "Cheeto-orange dustings. Has a bit of smoke at the end. Like barbecue chips with a sweet edge, but not tomatoey."

Grace liked them even more. "Tasty as heck," she wrote, underlined three times.



7. Lay's

"Dark red and bursting with fine flavor of ketchup," wrote Nick, who ranked these best. "It's like dusting your chips in a vat of Heinz. Sweet and tangy. This is the only one worth keeping."

Grace, though, a self-proclaimed condiment queen, was not a fan. "Again with the barbecue flavor. I'm not into it. Ketchup ≠ BBQ."



6. President's Choice

"Most ketchupy. Rich tomato flavor. My favorite," wrote Stephanie Sokol, Tribune print production specialist, who ranked these best. "Tastes like what I'd put on fries!"



5. Neal Brothers

"Full of folded chips!" I wrote about these, and ranked them as best. Potato-chip connoisseurs know folded chips are the most coveted because they're super crackly. "Nailed the Huy Fong Sriracha flavor too."

Joe also ranked them best, noting however, "But no tomato."

Nick ranked these high too, but he suspected I'd thrown in a ringer. "Looks like an all-American barbecue chip. Extra crunchy and shockingly spicy. What the hell is going on? Is this a joke?"



4. Covered Bridge

"The ketchup flavor is a little more subtle here. Since I prefer kettle chips, I also kind of prefer this texture," wrote Natalie, who ranked these best, with a caveat. "It's much crunchier but tasted a little burnt."

Sadé ranked them low. "My first bite was like biting into a fried-green tomato, and I don't know how to feel about that. Least favorite so far."



3. Old Dutch

"Neon red, almost radioactive red," wrote Nick who ranked these high. "These attack your taste buds with sweet ketchup flavor."

"Eats more like a vinegar chip than a ketchup chip," wrote Joe, who ranked them high, noting the prominent vinegar flavor, with tomato in the background.



2. Great Value

"Good balanced flavor, sweet, but not overly," wrote Tony, who ranked these high. "Hints of maple syrup? It is Canada after all."

Natalie, though, ranked them low. "I know ketchup has a lot of sugar, but these are too sweet. They're also somehow simultaneously too bland. The texture wasn't as crunchy as I would like either."



1. Doritos

The winner of our ketchup chip taste test? The limited-edition Doritos ketchup tortilla chips!

"I wish American Doritos had this much seasoning, but of a different flavor," wrote Sadé, who ranked these best. "Tangy and a little sweet, is this the defining trait of Canadian ketchup chips?"

Grace also ranked them best. "Sour and sweet, not very ketchupy, but I really like the corn pairing with it!"

Nick, a tortilla authority who has ranked his 25 best tacos in Chicago, felt otherwise. "Ketchup flavor on a tortilla chip! Like a Doritos chip with no spine. What a wimp."

Vettel

Continued from Page 1

In its way, St. Clair captures the supper-club zeitgeist as unerringly as Next's resurrection of Escoffier's turn-of-the-century Paris (in its inaugural Paris 1906 menu), or Thomas Keller's mid-'90s California cuisine (in the 2016 French Laundry menu). St. Clair is one relish tray shy of being a time capsule.

Change the St. Clair name to "Next: Sheboygan," and you wouldn't be far off.

"The people who know what a supper club is get it immediately," said Alinea Group partner Nick Kokonas. "And a couple of people think they're going to Alinea — like everything we do is a gigantic tasting menu."

For a restaurant group that prides itself on subverting diner assumptions and expectations with one surprising twist after another, St. Clair Supper Club — which offers no surprises to anyone — represents a reverse approach. Part of the thrill of Alinea and Next is that the restaurants are doing things no other restaurant is doing. In adopting a format with deep, familial Midwestern roots, St. Clair Supper Club reaches for a familiarity that can breed contempt — or, at the very least, unflattering comparisons.

The virtual ink was barely dry on Kokonas' social-media-posted menu in July when the carping started, predictably fueled by the prices, which admittedly are on the high side. (Those thinking the Alinea Group is for bargain-seekers, step to the right and let the others through.) Prime-rib cuts run from \$48 to \$75; for loose comparison, the range is \$39 to \$59 at Lawry's the Prime Rib, and \$37-\$43 at Ishnala, a veteran supper club in Lake Delton, Wis. (Note that these prices include extras that St. Clair does not.)

The onus, then, is for St. Clair Supper Club to justify its existence on quality.

"It's all simple food," Kokonas said. "Mashed potatoes are mashed potatoes; creamed corn is



ALLEN HEMBERGER PHOTOS

The St. Clair Supper Club, the latest venture from Alinea Group, puts the spotlight on prime rib, available in several cuts.



Yorkshire puddings are among the classics on the menu.

creamied corn. So we just try to make the best versions of these dishes that we can. Which is hard with this group (of chefs); they want to innovate, not replicate."

The prime rib at St. Clair is not innovative, but it is sensational. The meat is dry-aged in-house for about 10 days, then cooked in whole roasts and sliced to order. The prime rib arrives to the table a perfect medium-rare, which is the only doneness level available; those looking for medium and beyond must search elsewhere. I've eaten a lot of prime rib in my life, sometimes navigating huge islands of fat to get to the tender meat; the well-trimmed, richly fla-

vored slabs at St. Clair are damn near perfect.

The prime rib is served, as the menu says, "with au jus," a redundancy common to prime-rib restaurants. (In French, "au" means "with.") I will defend the usage by noting that the umami-rich, meaty sauce beneath the beef (there's more in a separate pitcher, of course) is no mere jus (that's to say, pan drippings), but a satisfying, tongue-coating sauce that's integral to a prime rib dinner as the meat itself.

The only other entree option is whatever the day's special might be. Chef de cuisine Mark Hopper will whip up a fish fry on Fridays, something robust on a Sunday (think Italian Sun-



The frozen grasshopper pie is mercifully gentle on the mint.

day-gravy food) and a rotating, chef's-whim selection the other days. A planked salmon crusted with sesame seeds was a fine alternative one day; another day there was veal saltimbocca, but that I skipped.

Appetizers are worthy, and large enough to share. There are four extra-large shrimp in the shrimp cocktail, served whimsically in a heavy glass ashtray alongside a spiced cocktail sauce. Deep-fried crab cakes, also four to a portion, come with the requisite tartar sauce and a couple of spears of fried dill pickles. Caesar salad arrives in a large wooden bowl, buried under a blanket of finely shaved Parmesan.

Sides include "50-50

mashed potatoes," a joking suggestion that the dish is half butter. That's only a slight exaggeration, and the potatoes are so smooth you could eat them with a straw. Green beans are memorable with a creamy Dijon sauce and chopped pecans, and I loved the "cocktail mushrooms," sauteed button mushrooms mixed with pickled pearl onions.

Of course there's a frozen grasshopper pie for dessert, mercifully gentle on the mint component and topped with shaved chocolate; and a wedge-shaped chocolate-cherry torte crowned by a brandied cherry. Strawberry shortcake, boasting a fine shortcake biscuit above a bowl of

St. Clair Supper Club

951 W. Fulton Market
stclairssupperclub.com

Tribune rating: ★★★

Open: Dinner daily

Prices: Prime rib cuts \$48-\$75; daily specials generally lower

Noise: Conversation-friendly

Other: Online reservations; walk-ins accepted

Ratings key: Four stars, outstanding; three stars, excellent; two stars, very good; one star, good; no stars, unsatisfactory. Meals are paid for by the Tribune.

sliced strawberries, whipped cream and amaretto liqueur, is my favorite.

One of the steadfast rules at St. Clair and Roister is that nothing on one menu is available at the other restaurant. There is one exception. Because there is no elevator access to St. Clair, those who cannot access the downstairs dining room will be accommodated on the main level.

One thing that might change is the policy regarding wine. There are no by-the-glass pours at St. Clair, but the wine list offers very friendly prices. When you can get a nice bottle of syrah for \$45, who needs a \$15 glass of red? I'm told the by-the-glass ban is under further review.

Kokonas and chef/partner Grant Achatz both share supper-club memories from their respective childhoods, reflected in the restaurants. St. Clair refers to Achatz's hometown. The old-timey cartoons are from James Lunch, a Madison Street diner owned by Kokonas' father; one of the regulars would occasionally swap a cartoon for a meal. The overhead music consists of classic rock, from early Cream to Prince and a whole lot in between. "The soundtrack of 15-year-old me," said Kokonas. I suspect a lot of St. Clair's customers will dig it.

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Tomatoes

Continued from Page 1

To freeze tomatoes: A handy tip for freezing tomatoes is to wash, core and then just put them in zip-close bags and freeze them

whole. When you need one in the kitchen, its skin will slip off as you wash it under warm or cold running water. Chopped tomatoes can also be frozen in plastic containers to use in soups or stews.

To dehydrate tomatoes:

I like to halve cherry tomatoes and dehydrate them for use in salads and savory baked goods like cornmeal muffins and savory scones. Bigger tomatoes can be thickly sliced or halved for dehydrating. It's easiest to do this in a dehydrator —

check your dehydrator's instruction manual for time and temperature guidelines — but you can also dehydrate in the oven. To do so, lay the slices or halves on a rimmed baking sheet lined with parchment paper and put them into your oven on its lowest

setting. Prop the door open by closing it on a long-handled wooden spoon. Depending on their size, it may take 12 to 24 hours for the tomatoes to reach the leathery-but-pliable stage. Let them cool completely before you tumble them into glass jars for storage.

Robin Mather is a longtime food journalist and the author of "The Feast Nearby," a collection of essays and recipes from a year of eating locally on \$40 a week. Her third book, "The Feast of the Dove," will be published later this summer.

Chicken-tortellini-tomato salad

Prep: 45 minutes **Marinate:** 8 hours

Cook: 20 minutes **Makes:** 6 to 8 servings

Marinating the chicken in a tahini-olive oil marinade helps it stay juicy as it cooks. For extra insurance, we've chosen boneless, skinless thighs, but boneless, skinless chicken breasts will work too. Or shave a cooking step and use about 2 cups of diced leftover cooked chicken. This salad holds well, but save the parsley garnish until just before serving.

1/4 cup tahini
3 tablespoons olive oil
3 tablespoons water
3 cloves garlic, smashed, peeled
1 1/2 pounds boneless, skinless chicken thighs

1 package (7 to 12 ounces) dried tricolor or regular cheese tortellini, cooked according to package directions, drained

4 green onions, green and white parts, thinly sliced

2 ribs celery, diced

1 cup diced tomatoes or halved cherry tomatoes

1 cup chopped walnuts, optional

Dressing:

4 large Roma-type tomatoes, seeded, coarsely chopped

1/2 cup olive oil

1/4 cup balsamic vinegar

Juice of 1 lemon

2 green onions, white and green parts, coarsely chopped

2 cloves garlic, smashed, peeled

Salt and **pepper**

1/2 cup parsley, finely chopped

1. Make the marinade by stirring together the tahini, olive oil, water and garlic in a bowl, or blend in a zip-close bag. Add the chicken, turning to coat all sides; refrigerate, 8 to 12 hours.

2. At cooking time, remove the chicken from the marinade and pat dry. On an oiled grill grate or in a heavy nonstick grill pan, cook the chicken over medium-high heat until it's cooked through, turning to avoid burning, about 20 minutes. Remove the chicken to a clean plate; set aside until cool enough to handle. When cool, cut the chicken into 1/2-inch dice; place in a large bowl.

3. Add the tortellini, green onions, celery, tomatoes and walnuts, if using.

4. Make the dressing: Place tomatoes, olive oil, balsamic, lemon juice, green onions and garlic in a blender or food processor. Whiz until the mixture is smooth. Makes: 2 1/4 cups.

5. Pour 1/2 to 3/4 cup dressing over the chicken mixture. (Save the remainder for other salads or as a marinade.) Stir to combine, then season to taste with salt and pepper.

6. Transfer the salad to a serving bowl; garnish with chopped parsley before serving.

Nutrition information per serving (for 8 servings, with 3/4 cup dressing): 257 calories, 12 g fat, 4 g saturated fat, 91 mg cholesterol, 17 g carbohydrates, 2 g sugar, 19 g protein, 394 mg sodium, 1 g fiber

Tomato pie with pimento cheese

Prep: 30 minutes **Cook:** 2 hours, 5 minutes **Makes:** 6 to 8 servings

This satisfying savory pie will scratch your tomato itch. Blind-baking the crust lessens its risk of becoming sodden, and starting with a bottom layer of cheese helps too. Serve as a vegetarian main dish, or as a side dish at a cookout. Refrigerate leftovers for an enviable lunch the next day. If using a store-bought crust, roll it out a bit so that it fits the deep-dish pan.

Pie:

6 large tomatoes, cored, sliced vertically in 1/2-inch slices

2 teaspoons olive oil

1/2 teaspoon salt

Pastry for one 9-inch deep-dish pie, homemade or purchased

2 cups grated American or mild cheddar cheese, divided use

10 to 12 fresh basil leaves, torn into pieces

1 sleeve buttery crackers, such as Ritz, crumbled (25 crackers, about 1 cup crumbled), or 3/4 cup panko crumbs

Topping:

1 cup grated American or mild cheddar cheese, divided use

3/4 cup mayonnaise

3/4 cup sliced green onion

1 jar (4 ounces) pimentos, drained, diced

2 cloves garlic, minced

2 teaspoons hot sauce, such as Tabasco, Frank's or Cholula

Freshly ground black pepper

1. Heat the oven to 425 degrees. Arrange the sliced tomatoes on a rimmed baking sheet. Drizzle the olive oil over the tomatoes; scatter salt over the slices. Roast the tomatoes, on the middle shelf, until dry, 1 hour, 20 minutes. Slice one to test it; it should be dry all the way through.

2. Prepare the pie shell for blind-baking. Fit the pastry into the pie dish, fluting the edges to stand up. Prick the bottom and sides of the pastry with a fork in many places. Lay a sheet of parchment paper over the pie; pour about 2 cups dry beans, rice or pie weights into it, pushing the weights around so all parts of the bottom are covered. Place the pie shell on the oven's top shelf; bake until lightly brown, 15 to 20 minutes, or according to package directions.

3. Make the topping: Combine 1 cup shredded cheese, mayonnaise, green onion, pimentos, garlic, hot sauce and black pepper in a small bowl. Set aside.

4. Remove the tomatoes and the pie shell from the oven; set aside to cool, 5 to 10 minutes. Begin to fill the pie: Scatter 1 cup cheese over the bottom of the pie shell; make a layer of tomatoes. Toss about half the torn basil leaves over the tomatoes. Scatter half the crumbled crackers over the basil leaves.

5. Repeat with another layer of cheese, tomatoes, basil and cracker crumbs, ending with another layer of sliced tomatoes. Spread the topping over the tomatoes; scatter black pepper over the topping.

6. Bake until the crust is deep golden brown, 30 to 45 minutes. If the crust begins to brown too quickly, shield with foil crimped around the edges. Remove pie from oven; allow to cool for 30 minutes before serving.

Nutrition information per serving (for 8 servings): 519 calories, 41 g fat, 14 g saturated fat, 53 mg cholesterol, 27 g carbohydrates, 4 g sugar, 14 g protein, 792 mg sodium, 3 g fiber

Cherry tomato-onion conserve

Prep: 10 minutes

Cook: 45 minutes

Makes: about 8 cups, or 4 pints

While it's hard to resist snacking on just-picked cherry tomatoes, this complexly flavored conserve may persuade you to save them. Mix up the colors to make a brightly colored conserve. Its warm spice flavors make it an ideal companion for a cheese platter, over an omelet or alongside grilled chicken. It will keep up to a month in the refrigerator, but freeze for longer storage.

1 large sweet onion, such as Vidalia, sliced in half-moons

4 pounds cherry tomatoes

1/4 cup olive oil

1/2 cup cider vinegar

1/2 cup brown sugar

12 cloves garlic, peeled, sliced

2 teaspoons kosher salt

1 1/2 teaspoons black pepper

1 teaspoon each: cinnamon, ground ginger

1/2 teaspoon each: ground clove, ground nutmeg

1. Place all ingredients into a 12-inch shallow pot or 5- to 6-quart Dutch oven. Place the pot over medium-high heat, bring it to a boil and reduce heat to a simmer. Cook, uncovered, and stirring occasionally, until the mixture attains the consistency of jam, 40 minutes. (It's OK if the

Kveik yeast takes craft beer by storm

Now the world's first kveik festival is coming to Chicago this week

BY JOSH NOEL

As the legend of kveik yeast spread among American brewers, few could believe what they were hearing.

Virtually unheard of in the U.S. just five years ago, kveik — pronounced either with a hard “v” to rhyme with “bike” or a soft “v” to sound like “kwike” — is a Norwegian strain of yeast that was reputed to lend clean, fruity flavors while fermenting at shockingly high temperatures and rapid speeds.

Lance Shaner, founder of Chicago’s Omega Yeast Labs, figured there were two options regarding Kveik.

It might have been a game changer.

“Or else they’re making terrible beer in Norway,” Shaner said.

Shaner finally got his hands on a kveik strain in 2015 and did what he does to test-drive any new yeast: He made beer. It turned out the Norwegians knew what they were doing.

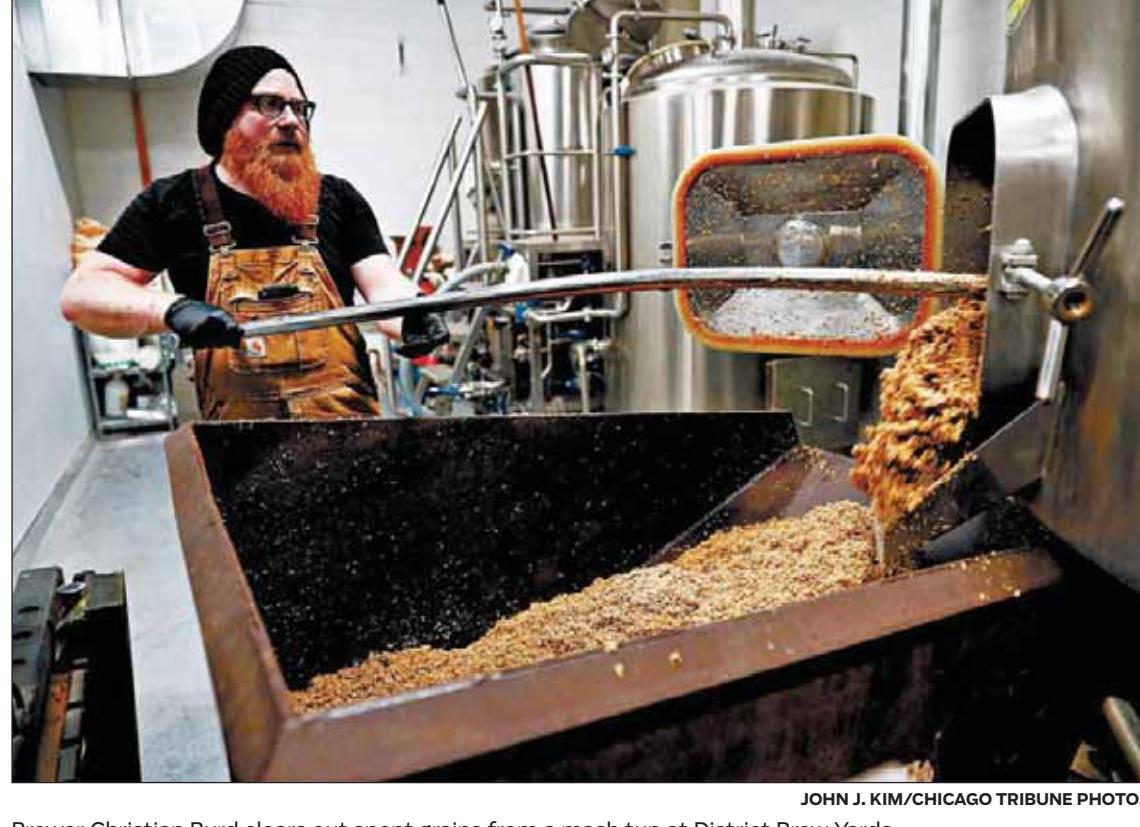
“The real deal,” Shaner said.

Omega became the first company in the U.S. to sell kveik, and the three strains (which have subtle flavor differences) have collectively become Omega’s second-biggest selling type of yeast. As an easy replacement for British ale yeasts — used for generations to make an array of ales, from brown ales to IPAs to porters and stouts — kveik has become a beer industry darling, lending flavors desired by contemporary palates and assisting the bottom line by freeing up equipment more quickly to take on production of additional beer.

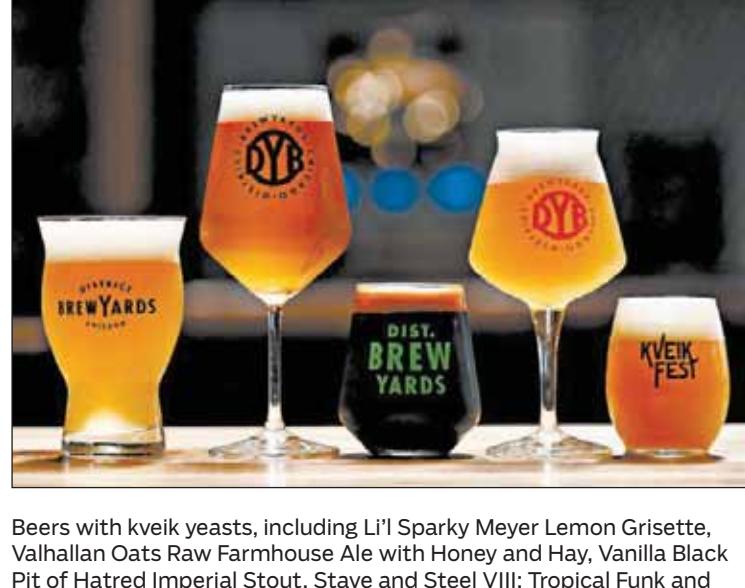
Among Omega’s most frequent kveik customers is Chicago’s Burnt City Brewing, which has made about 15 recipes with the yeast. Like the rest of the beer industry, Burnt City’s head brewer, Ben Saller, was skeptical about kveik, but was quickly won over.

“It took me a while to believe you could get away with such a quick fermentation, but the flavors are just great,” Saller said. “Anybody with an open mind, I don’t know that they could pick out anything negative about well-made beer made with kveik.”

The current draft list at Burnt City’s District Brew Yards tap-



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS
Brewer Christian Burd clears out spent grains from a mash tun at District Brew Yards.



Beers with kveik yeasts, including Li'l Sparky Meyer Lemon Grisette, Valhallan Oats Raw Farmhouse Ale with Honey and Hay, Vanilla Black Pit of Hatred Imperial Stout, Stave and Steel VIII: Tropical Funk and Narwhal Polka Party Double NEIPA.

room underscores kveik’s flexible nature. Burnt City used the yeast in a grist, a farmhouse ale, an imperial stout, a hazy IPA and a pale ale made with *Brettanomyces* yeast, coconut and key lime.

The broad application for the yeast — and the degree to which it has subtly transformed the industry — gave Saller an idea: teaming up with Omega Yeast Labs to

stage a festival celebrating kveik.

Though a San Francisco bar had a tap takeover of kveik-made beers earlier this year, Burnt City’s Kveik Fest, on Saturday at District Brew Yards (417 N. Ashland Ave.; \$75), is believed to be the world’s first commercial beer festival dedicated to kveik-fermented beers. (A homebrew kveik fest was staged last year in Norway.)

JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS
Brewer Christian Burd clears out spent grains from a mash tun at District Brew Yards.

Thirty breweries — from a dozen states, plus about 15 from the Chicago area — will pour 60 kveik beers across a range of styles. Also on hand will be the person widely credited with bringing kveik to the mainstream: Lars Marius Garshol, a Norwegian blogger and beer enthusiast who started writing about kveik on his blog, Larsblog, in 2013.

Garshol will give a presentation about kveik and his work documenting the yeast at Kveik Fest, which he affirmed on his blog as “the world’s first-ever kveik festival.”

Most American brewers assumed a yeast loosely defined as a “Norwegian farmhouse ale”

would echo the earthy, peppery Belgian farmhouse yeast. Instead,

kveik’s character veered an entirely different direction: one of ripe tropical fruit. It happened to dovetail with the current interests of American beer drinkers and makers: hazy IPA.

Kveik “showed up at a great time,” Saller said. The yeast threads seamlessly with the low bitterness and lush fruity qualities of hazy IPA. Better still, Saller said, kveik lends balance to hazy IPA with “a touch of perceived acidity.”

“A lot of breweries are using it

and a lot in the festival have been

experimenting (with kveik) very

intensely,” he said.

Kveik has become the house ale yeast for Cinderlands Beer Co. of Pittsburgh (pouring at Kveik Fest) and used in about 90% of beer made by Ebb and Flow Fermentations of Cape Girardeau, Mo. (also pouring at Kveik Fest).

Ebb and Flow likely wouldn’t exist if not for kveik, said that brewery’s founder, DeWayne Schaaf (who is also a chef and restaurateur).

Schaaf started brewing with kveik three years ago as a home brewer. Its ability to ferment in a broad range of temperatures — a window as wide as 50 degrees — convinced him to turn professional last year with a unique approach: making beer dependent on seasonal variation, and how yeast ferments at different temperatures.

“We let the seasons dictate how we brew,” he said.

“There’s no way my business model would survive without kveik.”

He is such a fan he launched a blog and podcast, both called Kveik World Order.

The yeast has led to an array of newfound hybrids, such as Ebb and Flow’s beer made with pilsner malt and classic pilsner hops (SaaZ) and fermented at ambient temperatures that pilsner yeast would never survive. Though Schaaf said the beer “retains pilsner character,” it is also a touch fruitier and has heartier body, akin to an unfiltered pilsner — but still not quite a pilsner.

Schaaf isn’t sure how to describe the result, though for now he’s taken to calling it an “Amerapils.”

Such hybrids make Saller optimistic about the future of kveik — and the festival, where brewers are bringing a mix of modern beer styles (largely code for hazy IPA) and classic styles.

He said he wanted to organize the festival not only for what kveik can lend to beer, but to get beer drinkers thinking differently during an era where hops are king. One of Saller’s favorite experiments with kveik has been Burnt City’s barleywine aged in rum barrels. It wound up with a light pineapple flavor and tropical-fruity element.

“Not to sound like a crotchety old man,” he said, “but to add a little more acidity or structure or type of fruitiness that isn’t the same thing we’ve tasted over and over is a cool possibility to me.”

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Dormant Logan Square brewery finds new resident

Ravinia Brewing will move into the former Ale Syndicate space

BY JOSH NOEL

A long-empty brewery is giving a long-wandering beer company a home.

Ravinia Brewing, which has overcome an unusual number of hurdles since launching in 2017, is moving into the Logan Square building that once housed Ale Syndicate, a brewery that closed abruptly after failing to pay rent in 2016.

The space sat unused for nearly three years. But its dormant brewing equipment, visible through windows along bustling Diversey Avenue, had led to a festering question: Would a new brewery move in?

In brewery-packed Chicago, the answer was always likely “yes,” and it turns out to be Ravinia, which has had two other high-profile plans scuttled during its short life and even had to fight for its name.

Ravinia will launch a production brewery next month in the 7,000-square-foot space at 2601 W. Diversey Ave., followed in early 2020 by a taproom and kitchen specializing in Mexican street food. Its 20-barrel brew house and array of fermentation tanks — almost all brand new equipment after selling Ale Syndicate’s stuff — will allow Ravinia to make 7,500 barrels of beer per year. But quick growth isn’t the goal with the brewery’s newfound stability.

“We’re not looking at it that way,” said co-founder Kris



RAVINIA BREWING
Ravinia Brewing will open in the space formerly occupied by Ale Syndicate.

Walker. “We want to be able to pay bills and make a few dollars, but there’s no goal to be at X amount of production at a certain time. We’re focused on community and beer.”

Ravinia has traveled an arduous path during its short life, which led it to be coy about the new space since signing a lease in April. Walker and his partners even kept the “For Lease” sign in the window. They finally announced plans after being approved this week for a state liquor license.

“We were being a bit more sensitive this time to be sure it was all systems go,” Walker said with a laugh.

Ravinia’s first false start came in 2017, after announcing a tentative deal to move into a brewery recently vacated by Finch Beer Co. on Montrose Avenue. After brewing there for three months, Ravinia abandoned plans because it could not agree on a price to

buy the building. Twisted Hippo Brewing now operates there.

“That was huge,” Walker said. “We loved the neighborhood and had established some connections with the local community. After putting time, work and money into it, and having to pull out at the last minute, it was hard.”

Ravinia started making beer under contract at Finch’s current production brewery, on the Near West Side, which allowed Ravinia to start sending cans of beer into the market in early 2018.

Meanwhile, Ravinia’s four founders, three of whom live in the Ravinia area of Highland Park, worked to open a brewpub in that northern suburb. However, on the day they were due to break ground on a property owned by one of the partners, the iconic outdoor music venue Ravinia Festival demanded royalties from the brewery for use of the name.

The partners put the project on hold as locals relentlessly asked when they would open — an experience that only furthered the secrecy of recent months.

As a stopgap measure six months later, Ravinia opened a taproom and taco bar, also in Highland Park

though far smaller than what they had envisioned, in a former tea shop that had been owned by Smashing Pumpkins frontman Billy Corgan.

Ravinia Brewing ultimately appeased Ravinia Festival by making the words “Brewing Company” larger on its packaging.

“We stopped everything until we could work through that, but we have a good understanding and are on cordial terms these days,” Walker said.

As the Highland Park pub operated in the former tea shop, where it will remain open, the partners continued looking for a space to launch a production brewery.

They considered several suburban locations before landing at the former Ale Syndicate, whose founders wound up helping Ravinia’s efforts. Before shuttering, Ale Syndicate worked to overturn a moratorium on alcohol sales at that location, which included canvassing the neighborhood for signatures.

“I’m sure it was a monumental effort,” Walker said. “It sounds like a heck of a lot of work.”

Ravinia will produce a portfolio that includes year-round brands Steep Ravine IPA, Food Truck Pilsner, Flight of the Rooster Saison and Grunsfeld Lager. It will also rotate other styles: a wit, a porter and a version of Flight of the Rooster aged in cabernet

barrels called Drunken Rooster. They also want to get deeper into barrel aging, including sour and wild ales.

“One reason we’re so excited is we have so much more flexibility to do unique one-off beers,” Walker said.

Ravinia will be less than half a mile from Maplewood and Metropolitan breweries and Pipeworks’ future brewpub.

Several more breweries aren’t much farther in Logan Square, which is one of the city’s densest brewing neighborhoods.

“We think we bring a unique element that will complement the other breweries in the neighborhood quite nicely,” Walker said.

Among those elements is a partnership with Southern Illinois University announced this week, which will have Ravinia operating a brewery with the school’s Fermentation Science Institute at the Carbondale campus. Ravinia and SIU will provide students practical brewing experience, but Ravinia will have access to the school’s laboratory and malting facility, in addition to other resources. Such access will facilitate experimentation and improve the quality of its beer made in Chicago, Walker said.

To celebrate its launch in Logan Square, Ravinia Brewing will host a block party with neighboring restaurant Arbor from 6:30 to 10:30 p.m. Thursday in the parking lot between Ravinia and the neighboring Green Exchange. (The Bears’ season opener will be projected on an over-size screen.) Food from Arbor, a restaurant in The Green Exchange, and beers from Ravinia will be available for purchase.

LAST CALL FOR COOKING SCHOOL ENTRIES!

Attention, cooking teachers and schools: We want to include you in Food & Dining’s annual guide to area cooking schools and classes, to be published Sept. 18.

Please send the school or class name, address, daytime phone, website and brief information about your classes, including dates, subjects, fees, address and telephone number. Wine classes also will be

included.

Send to food@chicagotribune.com; write “Cooking Schools” in the subject line. Listings must be received by Sept. 9.

SERIOUSLY SIMPLE

Cheddar adds savory note to sweet corn pudding

BY DIANE ROSEN
WORTHINGTON
Tribune Content Agency

As summer begins to wind down, I like to take advantage of the sweet corn varieties I find at my local corn stand. It's true that you can find really good corn in your supermarket now, but I love the tradition of visiting a corn and tomato stand. It feels folksy and fun. And the produce is usually exceptional.

I always ask if I can taste a kernel to make sure it is just-picked and not starchy. When selecting corn, you can gently squeeze it, starting at the bottom with the husk on, to make sure it feels firm, the kernels feel plump and no kernels are missing. Also, the husk should be bright green, wrapped tightly against the corn and slightly damp. These tips should help you pick great corn for this pudding. You can use either white or yellow corn with equally



BILL HOGAN/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2013

A bundt pan will catch kernels as you cut them off the cob.

good results.

I have combined two of my favorite flavors, corn and sharp cheddar, for this side dish. The sharp cheddar adds a savory note to the sweetness of the corn. The versatile dish is just the right accompaniment

to any barbecued meat, poultry or fish. I like to cut the pudding into squares and serve it right from the baking dish, but I have also served it in rounds with sauteed or grilled shrimp or scallops sitting atop the creamy corn pudding.

Cheddar corn pudding

Prep: 30 minutes **Cook:** 50 minutes **Makes:** 8 to 10 servings

4 cups corn kernels, from about 4 large ears of corn, divided
4 eggs
2 cups whole milk
2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh basil
1/4 cup cornmeal
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 teaspoon baking powder
1 1/4 teaspoons salt
1/2 teaspoon black pepper
3/4 cup shredded sharp cheddar, divided

- Grease** a 6-cup shallow baking dish. Heat the oven to 350 degrees.
 - Combine** 2 cups corn kernels, eggs, milk, basil, cornmeal, flour, baking powder, salt and pepper in a blender. Blend until the mixture is very smooth. Add 1/2 cup cheddar; blend just until combined.
 - Pour** the pudding mixture into the dish; stir in the remaining 2 cups corn kernels to evenly blend. Sprinkle the remaining 1/4 cup cheddar evenly on top.
 - Place** the baking dish in a larger pan. Slide both into the oven, then pour hot water into the larger pan about halfway up the side of the baking dish.
 - Bake** until a knife inserted into the center comes out barely clean and the top is golden brown, 50 to 55 minutes. Carefully remove the baking dish from the larger pan; allow to rest 5 minutes before serving.
- Nutrition information per serving (for 10 servings):** 172 calories, 7 g fat, 3 g saturated fat, 88 mg cholesterol, 20 g carbohydrates, 5 g sugar, 9 g protein, 533 mg sodium, 2 g fiber

DRINK

It's time for vermouth to be the star in cocktails

BY LISA FUTTERMAN

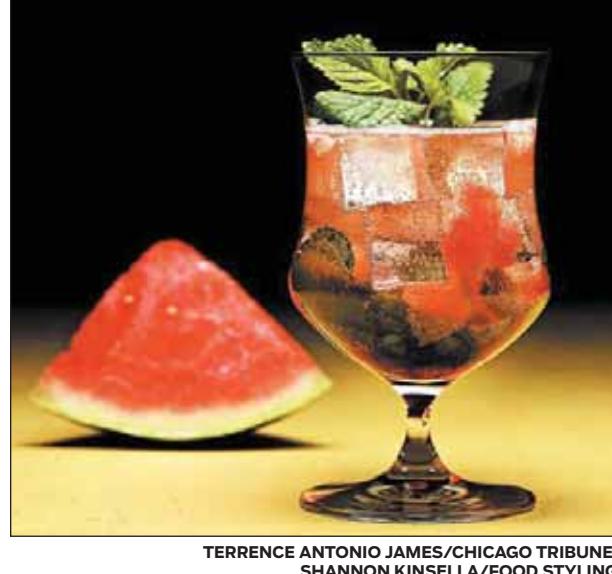
It's time vermouth came out of the back seat and leapt into the driver's seat. No longer just the briny backbone of a martini or the sweet round note in a Negroni, vermouth belongs in summery cocktails on its own authority.

Vermouth, simply put, is an aromatized, fortified wine — higher in alcohol than most wines, but lower than most spirits. The word "aromatized" indicates that botanicals have been introduced, so vermouth is gently pumped up in flavor and alcohol, making it just right for simple, refreshing, late-summer cocktails. These botanicals add bitterness, aromas and flavors that stimulate the appetite (instead of suppresses it, like your dad's predinner martini) and mix oh-so-pretty with fizzy things like tonic water and club soda. Colleen Malone, general manager and bar director at Chicago's newly opened Superkhana International, calls these mixers "lengtheners." They make a short drink tall, and "allow the individual botanicals in the vermouth to shine."

Sparkling wine counts as another favorite bubbly mixer — the cocktail menu at Superkhana is packed with unconventional spritzes and sippers that feature vermouths and other aperitifs paired with sodas and sparkling wines for a refreshing start to the meal.

To Malone, vermouth represents "the amazing complexity and breadth of flavor you get from bitters, in a package that you can use more liberally because of its lower ABV (alcohol by volume) and price point."

Inspired by the number of bottles of vermouth

TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE;
SHANNON KINSELLA/FOOD STYLING

The Alexis Rose pairs muddled watermelon and fresh mint with vermouth and rosé for a low-proof sipper.

Alexis Rose

Makes: 1 drink

1/4 cup watermelon chunks

1 handful fresh mint leaves

2 ounces vermouth

2 ounces dry rosé wine (still or sparkling)

2 ounces best quality ginger beer

Place watermelon and mint in a large goblet; crush with a muddler or a fork. Add ice, then

vermouth and wine. Top with ginger beer. Garnish with a giant fresh mint sprig.

the good old U.S.A. (Lo-fi, Uncouth, Vya, Oso de Oro). Chill it. Crack it. Taste it short, on ice, then lengthen it with some tonic or soda.

Is it piney and resinous, herbal and floral, spicy, citrusy or fruity? Layer in a new flavor or two. Citrus to start? Grapefruit juice plays especially well with white vermouth — the herbal notes of the vermouth really shine, but be careful not to let things get too bitter.

A soda that's on the sweet side can balance things out, or make a simple syrup infused with herbs, berries, honey or ginger to add gentle but interesting sweetness.

Some of our favorite punches are based on tea, whose mild tannins bring a nice bitter note to single-serve cocktails as well. Mix up one of these uncomplicated drinks — choosing dry or sweet vermouth, whatever you like — and relax and refresh before dinner on the deck.

Lisa Futterman is a freelance writer.

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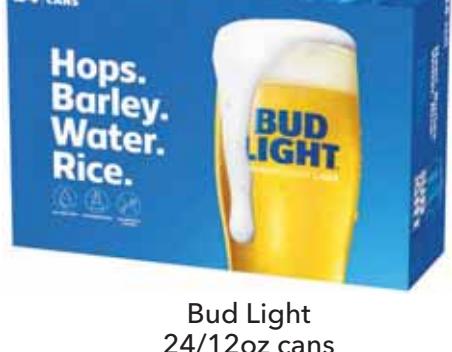
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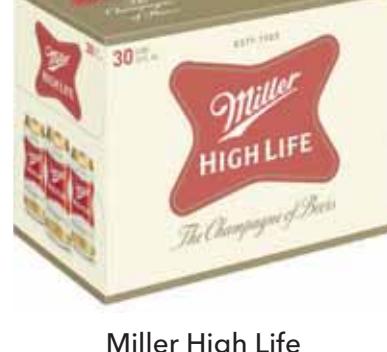
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