



NAFTA out, new trade pact moves in

From GOP to labor, all sides praise replacement deal

By Andrew Taylor
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — House Democrats and the White House announced a deal on a modified North American trade pact, handing President Donald Trump a major Capitol Hill win Tuesday on the same day that impeachment charges were announced against him.

Both sides hailed the deal as a win for American workers.

They said the revamped U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement was a significant improvement over the original North American Free Trade Agreement, with Democrats crowing about winning stronger provisions on enforcing the agreement while Republicans said it will help keep the economy humming along.

"There is no question of course that this trade agreement is much better than NAFTA," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., said in announcing the agreement, saying the pact is

Turn to **Treaty**, Page 14

Chicago salute to saint finds new stature

Local Our Lady of Guadalupe feast 2nd only to Mexico

By Laura Rodríguez

Braving the December cold in Chicago every year, thousands of people walk miles in a pilgrimage to pay homage to Our Lady of Guadalupe, a Mexican icon of Catholicism who is celebrated on Dec. 12 at a shrine in Des Plaines.

Some walk barefoot, and others carry heavy statues of *La Morenita*, as they call the beloved representation of Jesus' mother. There's also a race, a group of people who bike, hundreds of equestrians and a procession of semitrucks.

Some do it to thank the mother of God for her divine intervention, and attribute miracles to her. For many more, the procession signifies a sacrifice they must make — *una manda* — after a pledge to visit Our Lady of Guadalupe was made in exchange for an

Turn to **Feast**, Page 9



ANDREW HARNIK/AP

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi joins Reps. Jerry Nadler, left, and Adam Schiff on Tuesday in announcing impeachment steps against the president.

House Dems unveil impeachment articles

Abuse of power, obstruction of Congress charges aimed at Trump

By Lisa Mascaro and Mary Clare Jalonick
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — House Democrats announced two articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump on Tuesday, declaring his actions toward Ukraine "betrayed the nation" as they pushed toward historic proceedings that are certain to help define his

presidency and shape the 2020 election.

The charges aimed at removing the 45th president of the U.S.: abuse of power and obstruction of Congress.

Speaker Nancy Pelosi, flanked by the chairmen of impeachment inquiry committees at the U.S. Capitol, said they were upholding their solemn oath to defend the Constitution.

Trump responded angrily on Twitter: "WITCH HUNT!"

Voting is expected in a matter of days by the Judiciary Committee, and by Christmas in the full House. The charges, if approved, would then be sent to the Senate, where the Republican majority would be unlikely to convict Trump, but not without a potentially bitter trial just as voters in Iowa and

other early presidential primary states begin making their choices.

In the formal articles announced Tuesday, the Democrats said Trump enlisted a foreign power in "corrupting" the U.S. election process and endangered national security by asking Ukraine to investigate his political rivals, including Democrat Joe Biden, while withholding U.S. military aid as lever-

age. That benefited Russia over the U.S. as America's ally fought Russian aggression, the Democrats said.

Trump then obstructed Congress by ordering current and former officials to defy House subpoenas for testimony and by blocking access to documents, the charges say.

By his conduct, Trump "demonstrated he will re-

Turn to **Impeach**, Page 15

60 years of keeping Chicago-area kids from falling



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Jesse White Tumblers perform at halftime of a game between the Chicago Bulls and the Brooklyn Nets at the United Center in Chicago last month.

Major milestone for Jesse White Tumblers

By Darcel Rockett

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White has lived a life.

Stepping into his Thompson Center office in Chicago reveals just that, and he jokes that if you venture to Springfield, there are three sites to see (two feature Lincoln, the other is his office). During his 85 years, White served in the military, played for minor-league affiliates of the Chicago Cubs, was a member of the Illinois House of Representatives for 16 years, and was the

recorder of deeds of Cook County for six years. He has been secretary of state since 1999.

But it was his mentoring of young people for a gym show that led to his Chicago namesake — the Jesse White Tumblers. White recalls teaching children how to tumble, wrestle and use gymnastics equipment at the Rockwell Gardens Fieldhouse during the off-season from baseball. After two months, the participants showed off their skills to the community.

"I told the parents that was my first and last show. And they said, 'You know, our kids are staying away

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Gearing up on Southeast Side

Rail car factory could add more jobs thanks to change in proposed law. **Business**



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Chicago Mayor Lorie Lightfoot stands with Fraternal of Police President Kevin Graham at a police ceremony in August.

ANTONIO PEREZ/
CHICAGO TRIBUNE



JOHN KASS

Lightfoot, Beck: No more bites of merit promotions apple

Chicago has always been the who-you-know city, the I-gotta-guy town, the place where nobody wants nobody nobody sent.

Politics is built into the civic DNA, especially when it comes to city jobs and promotions that mean higher pay and the leverage to help your friends.

And on Saturday, Chicago learns this lesson all over again.

According to the Chicago Police Department, 4,345 patrol officers, the blue shirts, have been invited to take the sergeants promotional exam at McCormick Place.

News organizations may make a brief mention, with a photo or b-roll. But what is likely not to be mentioned is secret, shrouded in mystery, something not publicly explained or addressed by Chicago’s political class: Merit promotions.

What does a “merit” promotion mean exactly? Whatever City Hall and police bosses want it to mean.

A 2017 Department of Justice investigation of the Police Department — the one that led to a consent decree — outlined the merit promotions mess in its report.

“Despite attempts at reform,” said the DOJ report, “officers we interviewed continue to view the promotions system with skepticism, which has decreased officer morale and undermined effective supervision.”

You don’t have to score high on the written test, or even pass it, to get promoted. Just like you don’t have to pass the lieutenants exam to find your way into the top command department levels.

In many cases, all you have to do is be somebody’s somebody: a friend, a girlfriend of a boss, brother, wife, somebody who knows somebody who has the political and bureaucratic juice to promote you.

This is where cynicism grows.

The police union wants to significantly reduce the percentage of merit promotions, said Fraternal of Police President Kevin Graham.

Being a good test-taker doesn’t mean the applicant will be a good supervisor.

But “the way merit promotions have been handled for years is that even those who do poorly on tests are promoted, and our members ask themselves, ‘How in the world did this person get promoted?’ It’s vague, shrouded in mystery,” Graham said.

“Simply saying ‘just pass the first part of the test and then we’ll decide;”

well, that’s really not acceptable,” Graham said.

Years ago, when police promotion was largely a white, Irish thing, there was a key, multipart question on the oral portion of the sergeants test. I don’t remember the question. But I do remember the answer:

“Notify your watch commander” was the magic phrase, signifying you were part of the club. And when you said it, voila, you were promoted.

In the years of Mayor Richard M. Daley, and after years of discrimination against minorities in police promotions, City Hall knew it had to increase the number of black and brown officers in command.

But City Hall realized that written exams didn’t produce the politically acceptable affirmative action results it wanted.

This wasn’t confined to CPD. One year, the results of a Chicago Fire Department lieutenants exam irritated City Hall. Daley was in an election year, so City Hall just “lost” the test.

The finished lieutenants tests disappeared. Nobody knew what happened.

Aldermen screamed, among them Ald. Tom Murphy, 18th, a great softball player who later became a Cook County judge.

Eventually, after several lawsuits, a compromise was found. Now, general policy on the police sergeants exam is that 70% of those promoted must pass the written test, but 30% of the officers filling the higher slots are promoted by “merit.”

The FOP, which has filed for contract arbitration with the mayor, now wants that 30% number cut in half, Graham said.

Was it fair in the old days for the Irish to be promoted at the expense of racial and other minorities — Bohemians, Armenians, Lithuanians and Poles?

No.
But is it any more fair to promote people on some subjective concept like “merit”?

No.
The Lightfoot administration understands this, as do the blue shirts who increasingly have little confidence in their commanders. In its report, the Department of Justice expressed the inconvenient truth.

“For example, officers are unaware of the metrics used to evaluate individuals who are nominated for merit

promotions, or why the officers receiving those promotions were selected,” the report said. “By not sharing this information publicly, and not ensuring Department-wide understanding of the promotions system, CPD has perpetuated an atmosphere of doubt around the promotions process as a whole.”

This isn’t often mentioned, but I keep telling you that silence tells the story.

This isn’t simply about race. It’s about human nature. White cops aren’t the only ones who complain. Black and brown officers who aren’t in the ruling cliques complain as well.

Bosses who can promote their friends, do so. Those friends are expected to stay loyal, and they rise through the ranks together.

Some get more than one bite at the “merit” apple, first promoted to detective, then taking another bite to make sergeant, then yet another “merit” bite to lieutenant, before climbing even higher to top command, without ever passing a test.

With her firing of police Superintendent Eddie Johnson, Lightfoot is learning that years of multiple bites at the merit promotion apple have left the bench quite thin.

“Merit promotion has always been a veiled, secretive process, and it makes people cynical,” said Paul Bilotta, president of the Chicago Police Sergeants’ Association.

“It kills morale,” Bilotta said. “People don’t get involved. After a while you figure, what’s the point? I’m not going to even try. The system is rigged.”

Apparently Lightfoot and her interim superintendent, Charlie Beck, understand this too.

Late Tuesday, Beck announced that after consulting with Lightfoot and Graham, there would be no merit promotions during his tenure, and he recommends nobody after him use merit promotions either.

“I will also recommend my successor not utilize the merit promotion system and that the department hold promotional examinations every two years in the future,” he wrote.

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Party going 38 years for this caroling tradition



MARY SCHMICH

This coming Saturday, Richard Dreger and Dana LaSalle will fire up the 25-quart chili pot, remove Dana's homemade cookies from the freezer, set out 50 wine glasses, make sure Rich's red Bavarian hat is at hand and launch their 38th year of caroling.

Back in 1982 when they invited a few friends over to go caroling in the streets, they didn't imagine it would turn into such a big deal. They just had a yearning.

"We're not churchgoers, so we weren't singing in church," says Dana. "We missed the singing."

"You read about carolers in novels or see them in the movies, but you never experience it in real life," Rich says. "We thought it was a tradition that was dying."

In that first caroling year, they were living in suburban Warrenville, and their crew of 13 included their next-door neighbors, David and Pauline Harding, whose 2-week-old daughter came along, bundled up and clutched to Pauline's chest.

"Caroling was a fond tradition for me," says Pauline, "because our dozen-strong high school clique cruised about Omaha during the Nebraska winters in the late 1960s to carol at as many of our teachers' homes as possible."

Pauline, incidentally, describes herself as "certifiably tone-deaf." Her husband describes his singing voice as "absolutely awful." It didn't matter. Nearly four decades later, they remain among the guests at the party, which always occurs on the second Saturday in December and now attracts nearly 50 carolers.

"We never envisioned this, my gosh," says Rich who, like his wife, is a retired teacher. "Thirty-eight years, that's a long time. We just thought: That was fun, let's do it again next year. After a certain time, it becomes a ritual."

In the early years, the carolers included a lot of kids, and the kids were dispatched to ring the doorbells, allaying the wariness of neighbors who might have been startled by the crowd out front in the dark.



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Dana LaSalle and Richard Dreger in the music room at their home Tuesday in Batavia. The couple has been hosting a caroling party for 38 years.

"We never envisioned this, my gosh. Thirty-eight years, that's a long time. We just thought: That was fun, let's do it again next year. After a certain time, it becomes a ritual."

— Richard Dreger

Even then, not everyone opened the door, but most people welcomed them.

"We never had any bad reactions," Rich says, "but a lot of surprise. I mean, probably none of them had ever been caroled before."

Through the years, there have been many times when the adults who came to the door summoned their kids to come see this rare display of old-fashioned singing. Once, the singers interrupted

someone's holiday party — and the partygoers sang back to them. Another time a woman who lived with her two adult twin daughters burst into grateful tears.

The party schedule is the same every year: Mix and mingle inside for a while; warm up the vocal chords in the piano room, with Dana at the keyboard; and then head off into the neighborhood for as long as hunger and the weather allow. Two songs at each house.

"We don't want to wear out our welcome," Rich says.

Then it's back home to the chili, which they earn by singing "Green Grow the Rushes, O!" At that point, the Hardings sometimes call their grown daughters so they can join in from afar.

In these 38 years, there have been only two when the carolers never made it out of the house.

"One year when we moved to Batavia and the sidewalks were not completed and it was too muddy," Rich says. "And one time in Warrenville when it was too ridiculously cold."

Occasionally some of the grown kids come back. This year Elisabeth Ferrill, who attended the party as a child until she left for college, asked if she could bring some friends.

"I've always talked about this party with my friends," says Ferrill, who's 30, "and this year they said, 'Oh my God, can we come?'"

Rich and Dana are thrilled to have millennials in the choir.

Rich, who turned 78 on Thanksgiving Day, sometimes talks about ending the tradition. "I'm getting old and a little tired and it's a lot of work to put on a party like this," he says. "I just had my doctor's checkup and he said, 'You're pretty low maintenance.' But you start to feel your mortality."

Whenever he mentions ending the party, his wife, who's 70, tells him, "When it's time, you'll know." It's not time yet.

Time is the essence of ritual. It's some meaningful thing we do over and over, connecting the past to the future and generations to each other.

And that's one moral of this story: Start the ritual you yearn for before it's too late. It may last longer than you ever dreamed.

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10 THINGS YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT NEARLY EVERYTHING

A Collection of Fascinating Historical, Scientific and Cultural Trivia about PEOPLE, PLACES and THINGS

MARK JACOB & STEPHAN BENZKOFER
Chicago Tribune

FACT #341
The folks who brought us Reddi-wip whipped cream had another brainstorm in the 1960s: Reddi-Bacon.



10 Things You Might Not Know About Nearly Everything contains a plethora of tidbits and trivia that will appeal to everyone, from history buffs to sports fans to foodies. From lighthearted topics such as misspellings and extreme eating, to serious subjects such as WWII and prison, this book leaves readers brighter and wittier than ever before.

FACT #84: A cardigan worn by a man is sometimes called a mandigan.

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FACT #238: Actress Marilyn Monroe colored her hair using a shade of blond called dirty pillow slip.

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Chicago Tribune CHICAGOLAND

'Home Alone' house is a good neighbor

1990 film changed
Winnetka, but
locals don't mind

By **KAREN ANN
CULLOTTA**

Never mind that the irrepressible Kevin McCallister, aka Macaulay Culkin of "Home Alone" fame, is now nearing 40, and those bungling bandits Harry and Marv would be bona fide senior citizens.

For Winnetka residents living near the "Home Alone" house on Lincoln Avenue, the holiday classic remains timeless, with a steady stream of sightseers still stopping by their North Shore neighborhood nearly three decades after the release of the 1990 John Hughes holiday classic.

"That house brings us a lot of joy, and some inconveniences, but we all survive it," said Linda Martin, a longtime Lincoln Avenue resident who lives near the stately red brick Colonial selected by the late Hughes and director Chris Columbus as the fictional McCallister family home.

Martin recalls a handful of hitches that accompanied the arrival of the "Home Alone" cast and crew in her neighborhood during early 1990.

Her children's school bus was sidelined by blocked streets, the movie crew's high-voltage equipment and props prompted power outages, and the Martin family's black Labrador developed an allergic reaction to the fake snow blowing around the neighborhood.

But for Martin and many of her neighbors, witnessing the joy the "Home Alone" house and other filming locations in the village have brought to countless visitors during the past three decades has outweighed the occasional inconvenience of having their suburban street transformed into an iconic Hollywood landmark.

Martin holds fond memories of the time Macaulay Culkin visited with her children's pet rabbits, Frosty and Moose, and recalls Daniel Stern, the actor who played the bandit Marv, as "genial, kind and considerate," who despite a fully-stocked canteen, bought hot cocoa from the neighbor-



KARIE ANGELL LUC/PIONEER PRESS

The house featured in "Home Alone" is located on Lincoln Avenue in Winnetka. It's had several owners since the 1990 film.



HANDOUT

Macaulay Culkin and Joe Pesci are seen in a scene from "Home Alone." Few scenes were actually shot in the house.

hood kids.

Nonetheless, Martin said she never imagined that nearly three decades after the film's debut that her neighborhood would still be a popular attraction for visitors from across the world.

"When the marketing people from the studio visited our neighborhood before they started filming, they said it would take them about eight days, but it ended up taking them about 30 days," Martin said.

"The 'Home Alone' experience in our neighborhood really never ended, and it continues to this day," she added.

Longtime resident Terry Dason, executive director of the Winnetka-Northfield Chamber of Commerce, remembers stepping onto the fake snow outside the Community House with her 2-year-old and 8-month-old in tow.

"At first, I thought, 'what are they doing?' and then I realized, 'oh, my! They are filming a movie here in Winnetka!'" said Dason, who still enjoys watching "Home Alone" every holiday season with her family, which now includes grandchildren.

"My kids still watch 'Home Alone' with awe and

wonder, and they're 32 and 30 now," Dason said. "Anytime we have visitors, they want to go over to see the 'Home Alone' house. It's probably difficult for the family who lives there, but since they put a fence up a few years ago, at least people aren't walking up to their windows anymore and looking in."

Dason said the Lincoln Avenue property, which has had several different owners in the three decades following the release of the film, was recently renovated and remains "beautiful, well-maintained, and still has the same feel."

Longtime resident Ann Smith said despite the occasional over-eager sightseers who park illegally before snapping selfies and group photos, most folks in the neighborhood are proud to live on the so-called "Home Alone" block.

"Most people who live on the street love it, and think it's a lot of fun," Smith said. "It was a big deal having the movie filmed here, and it's still a big deal. Anytime I'm walking by that house, I see someone out in front, taking pictures."

Actor Kate Johnson appeared in the film as the

police dispatcher Rose, who takes a call from frantic matriarch Kate McCallister, played by Catherine O'Hara. She said the scene — which features the line, "Hyper on two" — was filmed in a classroom at New Trier's west campus.

"Larry (Hankin), the actor who played police officer Larry Balzak, was eating a doughnut, and a piece got stuck on the phone, and that is the take that Chris (Columbus) kept," said Johnson, an Evanston resident.

"We had a script, and we did the script, but then we kept going, because Chris allowed us to," Johnson said. "You can't recreate that kind of take ... you just can't make that stuff up."

Unbeknownst to the casting director, Johnson said she was more than four months pregnant with her son, Zeke Spector, who is now 29, when she shot the police station scene.

"I had on a polyester skirt, and it fit just like a pair of Spanx," she said.

She and her family attended the recent performance of "Home Alone in Concert," featuring the movie on the big screen, as accompanied by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra

performing composer John Williams' score.

"The scene that always gets to me is when Catherine O'Hara finally arrives back home, and says, 'Oh, Kevin, I'm so sorry,' which still makes me cry," Johnson added.

Back on Lincoln Avenue, Martin, a local real estate agent, said while very few scenes were actually filmed in the interior of her neighborhood's most famous house, the village of Winnetka was the backdrop for several other scenes in the film.

■ Kevin's visit to Santa's workshop was filmed at Chestnut Court, adjacent to the Winnetka Village Hall.

■ The Grand Food Center, 606 Green Bay Road, is where Kevin shops for groceries, and gets the third degree from a suspicious cashier.

■ Hubbard Woods Park, and the pharmacy, is where Kevin buys a toothbrush at 940 Green Bay Road, now a Graeter's Ice Cream.

In nearby Wilmette, officials at Trinity United Methodist Church even give a nod to the film on their website, stating: "To some, we are the 'Home Alone' church from the 1990 movie; to others, we are the imposing Gothic Revival on the corner of Lake and Wilmette. But we are more than movies or architecture, more than stone or mortar. We are your neighbors, even your friends."

Martin said she while was well aware that for legions of fans in the U.S., watching "Home Alone" each holiday season is a beloved family tradition, during a recent trip abroad she discovered the film's global appeal.

"We were hiking in Kenya, and when a man who was taking our photo asked where we were from, I made the movie sign with my hand, and said, 'Home Alone,' and he was so excited, he wanted to take a picture of me," Martin said.

"People all over the world love 'Home Alone.' After they made the movie in our neighborhood, the crowds came, and they've never really left."

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It's time to give a woman a chance at police superintendent



DAHLEEN GLANTON

The next Chicago police superintendent will have to be a proven leader who is not only tough and smart but has unquestionable integrity. Those are among the key attributes laid out in the job description posted recently by the Police Board.

It might seem simple enough to find such a person in the wide pool of applicants likely to apply from around the country, but police chiefs often come into their new jobs with a history. Their less-than-perfect record can tarnish them from the start.

Chicago has gone in several directions in the recent past to find the right fit for a city that struggles to balance fairness toward our hardworking police officers with accountability. It has hired superintendents from outside the state. It has promoted from within the ranks of the Chicago Police Department. It has had white men, black men and a Hispanic man at the helm. Most of them didn't work out.

Maybe it's time to give a woman a try.

The last four police superintendents over the past 16 years have been

embroiled in scandals or controversies that ended in their firing or resignation. These men simply haven't been able to figure out what it takes to build a department that is both efficient and trustworthy. To various degrees, all have been resistant to reform.

Superintendent Eddie Johnson's recent firing for lying about the circumstances of an incident in October in which he had been drinking before being found asleep in his SUV is the latest episode to erode trust between police and residents. An investigation is underway into whether Johnson and other police officials tried to cover up the incident.

It is time residents of Chicago had a police superintendent who understands the importance of balancing the needs of police officers with those of the communities they serve. It is time we had a leader who isn't afraid to buck the system and stand up for what is right. It is time we had a superintendent who understands that being tough on crime isn't synonymous with brutality.

It is time Chicago had a police chief who understands that change is desperately needed here and will dedicate every resource available to ensure that mandated reforms are carried out.

It is time we had a superintendent who has zero tolerance for police mis-

conduct and the "code of silence" that has protected bad cops and for decades allowed them to terrorize communities of color. It is time we had a superintendent who can simultaneously be tenacious and compassionate, understanding that exerting violence toward a suspect isn't always the best way to defuse a difficult encounter.

That sounds like a woman.

There is no data that suggests that women are better at policing, in general, than men. Nor should a woman be expected to perform the job flawlessly. Her challenges would be no different than those other superintendents have faced, and she should be held to the same standards when it comes to evaluating her performance.

But there is an obvious advantage. Diversity of ideas is always a good thing, and a woman would bring a perspective that we have not seen in Chicago.

Without a doubt, women do police differently than men. Studies show they are more likely to use communication skills rather than physical skills. They tend to be more inclusive in team building, making sure that an array of voices is brought to the table.

According to the National Center for Women and Policing, female police executives are more flexible, emotionally independent, self-assertive, self-



DAVID GOLDMAN/AP

Seattle, Atlanta, Dallas, Portland, Oregon, and Honolulu have female police chiefs. Erika Shields leads Atlanta's force, left, and U. Renee Hall leads Dallas' force.



LM OTERO/AP

confident, proactive and creative than their male counterparts. Male police executives, on the other hand, were more authoritarian and prejudiced than the women studied.

A 2017 survey by the Pew Research Center found a significant gender gap in attitudes on policing. Female officers are less likely than their male counterparts to agree that aggressive tactics are sometimes necessary.

In a survey of 8,000 officers, one-third of the women, compared with almost half of the men, agreed that some people could only be brought to reason the "hard, physical way."

Among female officers,

48% think it is more useful to be aggressive than to be courteous in certain parts of the city, compared with 58% of male officers.

But when it comes to the citizens they serve, both men and women share positive views. About 7 in 10 male and female officers reject the notion that officers have reason to be distrustful of most citizens. And 73% of female officers think at least some of the people in the community where they work share their values and beliefs, compared with 70% of male officers who think that way.

Chicago needs a police superintendent who is on the same page with these officers.

Mayor Lori Lightfoot doesn't think there are very many people out there — male or female — who could lead a big-city police department effectively. Chicago has the second largest police force in the country, behind New York City.

"Maybe there's 10 or less who can actually do the job," the Chicago Sun-Times quoted her saying recently.

When it comes to women, it is even more challenging. There are fewer than a dozen women holding top cop positions in major cities across the country. Some of the largest cities with a female police chief are Seattle, Atlanta, Dallas, Portland, Oregon, and Honolulu.

There are, however, other high-ranking officers within the Chicago department, as well as other departments across the country, who could be tapped for the job.

It doesn't matter whether the new female officer comes from Chicago or somewhere else. It won't make a difference whether she is African American, Hispanic or white.

The right woman in the job could be exactly what Chicago needs to clean up the mess these men have left behind and set our city on the path to a promising future.

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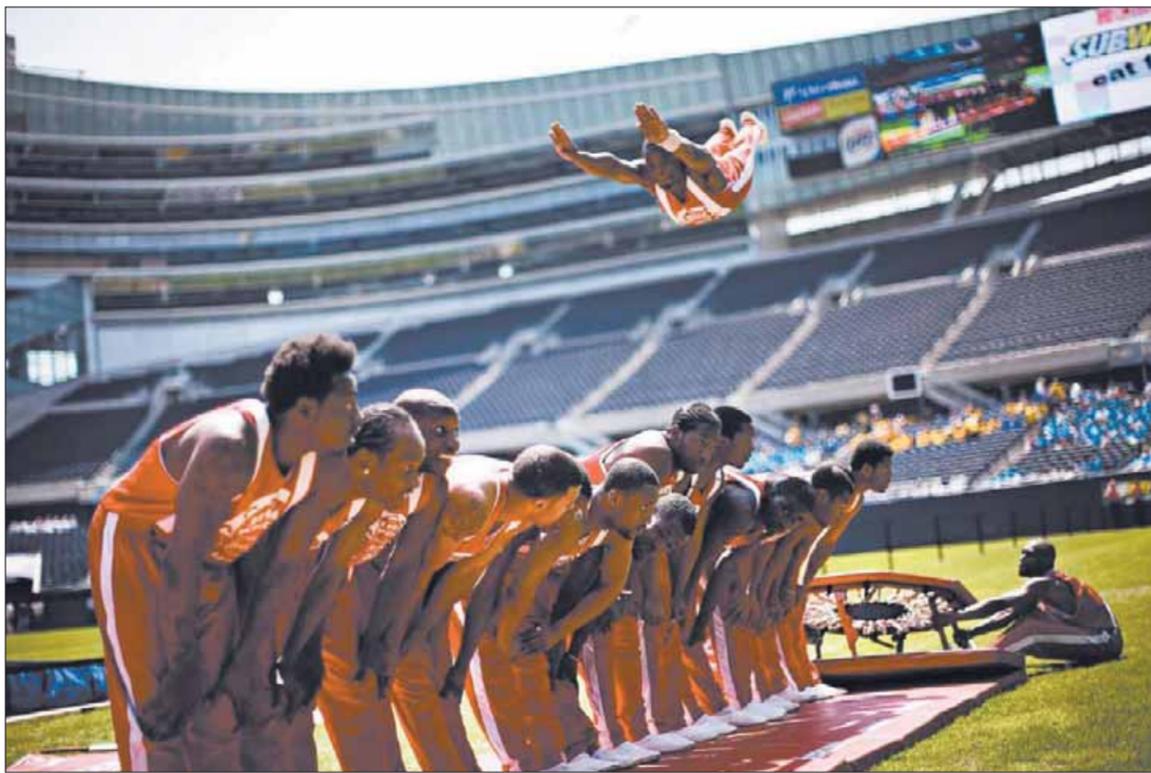
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ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Jesse White Tumblers perform during the Opening Ceremonies for the 2008 Special Olympics at Soldier Field on May 6, 2008.

Tumblers

Continued from Page 1

from gangs and negative aspects just to be with you," White said. "I said OK, I'll try one more year. It kept going on, and every year I would say this is it. Now, it's 59 years later."

The Jesse White Tumblers group turns 60 this month and will celebrate "60 years of doing right by kids and giving them a wholesome experience" at a gala Thursday evening at International Union of Operating Engineers Local 399, where White says guests will see how the tumblers "help our young people grow tall and straight."

White is still so integral to JWT's work that it's hard to separate the man from his namesake. According to White, there are approximately 250 performers in eight teams who perform about 1,500 shows a year. Children can become members as young as 6 and as late as their early 20s. Minors must maintain a minimum C average in school to perform with the team. Since its creation, the group has traveled the world, performed with professional sports teams, and spawned other tumbling groups.

When people talk about their first encounter with the tumblers, they speak in a tone of hero worship. Men in their 50s recall hardly being able to wait until they were old enough to follow in a brother's footsteps after he made the team. Others recall seeing a show and wanting to be that person soaring in the air above the heads of their peers.

Perry Browley, 56, said he was about 5 when White called him up from the audience to jump on the mini-trampoline for a demonstration. Browley has been hooked ever since; so many years later, he's a JWT coach helping kids learn difficult moves and combinations.

"He grabbed my hand and said: 'I need you to bounce on the mini-tramp three times and turn over. ... You're going to tuck your head, and I'm going to help you over.' And when I went over, I was hooked," Browley said. "A lot of people don't understand that it's just those little minor things that can actually structure an individual's life."

Browley was so enamored with tumbling, he created his own group, Tumbling For Success, a nonprofit that mirrors the lessons JWT and White taught him. On a late December evening on the South Side, Browley was passing that knowledge on to the next generation for free, teaching children ages 5-9 basics like somersaults, cartwheels and how to hold your hands before you do a backward flip.

Woodlawn resident Benita Taylor was in tow with her 7-year-old daughter Phoenix Smith and two young nieces. She'd sought a program like Browley's to help her daughter develop confidence, structure and discipline.

"A lot of gymnastics classes were expensive, or I'd have to drive across the city to put her in because they aren't offered on the South Side," Taylor said. "Unless we get up and start doing it ourselves, it won't get done."

Leandrew Collins, 27, joined the tumblers in 1996 after seeing a number of his uncles excited over their performances. He got hold of one of their taped shows, and soon was on the playground, trying to re-create the things he'd seen.

"I think it's the adrenaline rush you get," Collins said about the fascination with tumbling. "Some people like to jump out of airplanes. I think that's what it is — the rush you get and the people that you get to meet and the smiles that you get to put on people's faces. There's nothing like doing that."

Collins says he's a fifth- or sixth-generation Jesse White Tumbler. He already has his 2-year-old and 9-year-old children tumbling.

"Jesse White Tumblers is nothing but family," he said. "After one person leaves, their daughter or son is becoming a tumbler. It's like a revolving door — it closes for one person and opens for the next generation."

Emmanuel McGhee, 32, knows that feeling. The seed for tumbling was planted while watching Olympic gymnast Dominique Dawes, but he got hooked on tumbling at age 8 after watching a performance by the JWT team at Tuley Park.

"I tried out in 2000 for the Jesse White team and made it in 2000, and I've been a coach and driver ever since," McGhee said.



CHARLES OSGOOD/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A younger Jesse White helps tumblers on the playground of Schiller Elementary School where he was a physical education teacher on June 15, 1981.



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White rides on the side of a van with the tumblers in the 2019 Columbus Day Parade.

His older brother made the team in 2002, and his younger brother in 2003.

It was with younger brother Joseph, that McGhee, a South Loop resident, formed their own tumbling group in 2014 — the Chicago Bulls Flippers, a group that tumbles during game breaks with other Chicago Bulls entertainment groups at the United Center and Sears Centre Arena. And McGhee still tumbles and performs with the Jesse White Tumblers. His 13-year-old son made the team in 2018.

"The tumbling team has made a great impact on my life," McGhee said. "It's a different generation now. We have less boys doing gymnastics and tumbling and more girls doing it now. The kids are more laid-back, but our generation, we would tumble for fun and because we knew the girls were watching and because our family was watching. It's something we grew up doing, and I still have a love for it to this day."

"The majority of the teams are men, but there are probably four to five girls in each unit," said Star Johnson, a 24-year-old tumbler who joined the team at age 14. "You're seeing a lot of girl tumblers because they can do the same things as guys."

The Wrightwood resident saw the team during a holiday festival and thought she could join, having been in gymnastics since age 7. "Making the tumbling team motivated me to do more because I was like: 'I already have these skills. What can't I do?'" Now, Johnson tumbles with the team on weekends. "So many girls come up to me and say, 'You inspire me,' because they don't see a lot of women doing that,"

she said. "People don't know who I am until I put a uniform on — the uniform really speaks for itself."

When you walk into the Jesse White Park and Community Center on a weekday, you see toddlers with their parents coming in for gym time. The parents sit while the kids bounce around. White greets the children and takes time for selfies with parents.

The site is also a practice space for the tumblers. The space, built in 2014, is where White says he wants kids to be better human beings and use their time in a positive way. That includes trying out for a spot on the tumbling team. Tryouts are typically held in September, training starts in October and when the tumblers' skills are refined, graduation is in May, coach McGhee said.

To join the team, tumblers must be "leafless, pipeless and smokeless" (read: no drugs) and able to execute a forward roll, backward roll, round-off, flip and cartwheel during their tryout. Training is offered two days a week at the Jesse White Park and Community Center for kids from the North and West sides, and two days at Tuley Park for kids from the South Side and suburbs. There is no charge. If they make it through the training, the tumblers do shows and earn money for their performances.

"Some places, we perform free of charge; most places, we charge a fee, and the kids share and share alike in the fee, whether it's \$500 or \$3,000," White said. He makes the call on how much money the group charges, but White comes free of charge "primarily because all my life, someone has raised their hands to help me, and I never forgot. You get it, you give it back and you do something good with someone every day."

White says when he leaves office in 2022, he'll still work with his tumblers. He admits that he's busier now than when he was younger because "there are more young people out there that are looking for something to grab onto."

Since the team's inception, over 18,000 youths have benefited from the program, according to the Jesse White Foundation.

"Everything that I've done, I've enjoyed, and I want these kids to enjoy the fruits of my labor and the fruits of their labor," he said.

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Top mayoral aide to leave engagement officer post

Staffer helped connect her with community groups

BY GREGORY PRATT

Mayor Lori Lightfoot's top aide in charge of helping her administration connect with neighborhoods and community groups has announced he would be leaving the post later this month.

In an internal email, Juan Carlos Linares said he'd be resigning as the city's chief engagement officer on Dec. 20.

"It has been an honor and sincere privilege to serve the city with you as its first chief engagement officer, and many thanks to Mayor Lori Lightfoot who afforded me the opportunity to do so," Linares wrote.

Linares helped organize Lightfoot's budget town halls this year and laid the groundwork for the mayor to hand out "know your rights" literature to immigrants over the summer after President Donald Trump threatened widespread U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement raids. He is leaving the post, which pays \$165,000 per year, after about six months on the job.

"From my first weekend, gathering advocates and community groups across the city to march with the mayor against the threat of immigration raids, to our successful and inclusive rounds of budget town halls ... I am humbled to have accomplished so much with you across programs and departments," Linares wrote.

In the email, Linares declined to declare his next career steps but said he expects to spend time vacationing in Central America "and then hopefully another several weeks just living the husband/dad life."

Despite Lightfoot's efforts, her administration has struggled to connect with some community groups. The mayor's office has been in conflict with the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless, for instance, over how much money would go toward fighting homelessness if state lawmakers hiked the real estate transfer tax.

Opposition from the group helped sink Lightfoot's efforts in the legislature's fall veto session. A spokeswoman for the group said it did not work with Linares.

But Linares received praise for his work from other officials, including Police Board President Ghian Foreman, who has been working with Linares on setting up community meetings to solicit input on the search for a new police superintendent.

Foreman said Linares is a "great communicator" who was effective at bringing people of different races together.

"That kind of leadership, it'll be missed," Foreman said.

Linares is a past executive director of Lucha, an affordable housing development agency that offers counseling, foreclosure prevention and legal help, the mayor's office said. Linares was on Gov. J.B. Pritzker's healthy children and families committee in 2018 and co-chaired Lightfoot's housing committee during the mayoral transition.

The mayor's office thanked Linares for his service and wishing him "the best of luck on the next phase of his career."

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Lightfoot names new transportation commissioner

BY CHICAGO TRIBUNE STAFF

Mayor Lori Lightfoot announced on Tuesday she's turning to a veteran urban designer and planner who most recently worked at a Chicago-based architecture and design firm to head the Chicago Department of Transportation.

Lightfoot announced she's nominating Gia Biagi as CDOT commissioner. Before her appointment, Biagi was a principal at Studio Gang in Chicago. She's also been chief of staff at the Chicago Park District and has worked at the Department of Planning and Development, according to a news release.

Biagi will take over from acting Commissioner Thomas Carney, who had assumed the position temporarily after Rebekah Scheinfeld left in May.

The City Council could consider approving Biagi's nomination when it meets next week.

Among other things, Biagi was one of 12 people former Mayor Rahm Emanuel had appointed to a city task force that was charged with recommending the site for filmmaker George Lucas' proposed museum that ultimately did not come to fruition in Chicago.

"I look forward to drawing on my past experiences to lead CDOT in making continued investments that will enhance mobility for all of our communities, while increasing sustainability for the future," Biagi said in a release.

The city's Transportation Department has responsibility for more than 4,600 miles of streets, 200 bridges and viaducts, 275 miles of bikeways, 300,000 streetlights and 3,000 intersections with signals, according to the release.

Biagi has a bachelor's in English literature from the University of Michigan and a master's in urban planning from the University of Illinois at Chicago, the release said.



Biagi

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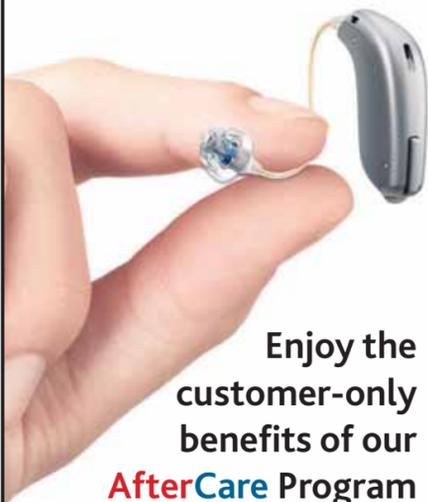
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ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Pallbearers bring the casket Tuesday before the start of the funeral Mass for Margaret "Rone" Leja, 61, at St. Michael Parish in Orland Park.

Orland Park educator killed in hit-and-run laid to rest

Retired priest who allegedly hit her is free on bond

BY MIKE NOLAN

A Catholic school teacher who died after being struck by a car allegedly driven by a retired priest was praised Tuesday as someone who put the needs of others before her own and "lived her life following in the footsteps of Jesus."

St. Michael pastor, the Rev. Frank Kurucz, remembered Margaret "Rone" Leja, a technology coach at adjacent St. Michael School in Orland Park, before hundreds of mourners at her funeral Tuesday.

"It's in the darkness of grief we have all gathered," Kurucz told them. "We are all saddened, we are all stunned."

Leja, 61, and fellow St. Michael teacher Elizabeth Kosteck were leaving a faculty Christmas party Dec. 4 and walking to their cars when retired St. Michael pastor Paul Burak, who also was at the party, hit them with his car and drove off, according to authorities.

Burak is charged with aggravated driving under the influence of alcohol and leaving the scene of a fatal accident, both felonies.

Kurucz said some mourners may be feeling "a sense of hopelessness" or "anger with the circumstances that led up to this tragic event."

"We all are hurting," the pastor said, and "asking those age-old questions of why, why did this happen? How could God allow this to happen?"

He said Leja's "passion was teaching," and that he had heard from some of her students since her death who described Leja as "approachable" as an educator as well as "friendly and fun."

"She had a thirst for knowledge and for sharing that knowledge with others," Kurucz said.

Leja was also very determined, and he recounted one instance where, after breaking a leg, she completed a 25-mile walk-a-thon using crutches.

"If she wanted to do something, she was going to do it," Kurucz said.

A letter of condolence written by Cardinal Blase Cupich to Leja's family was read at the Mass by retired auxiliary Bishop Francis Kane.

In their time of mourning, Cupich told the family, "I am with you at the Lord's altar."

For those trying to make sense of what happened, he wrote that "for now there are no simple or direct answers to your questions," but that in time "the fragments of our broken lives will be made whole."

Cupich wrote that Leja's was "a life well-lived, a life that was in God's hands."



Leja

Leja had taught for 1½ years at St. Michael and previously taught at Mount Assisi Academy in Lemont, Marian Catholic High School in Chicago Heights and Crete-Monee High School in Crete.

Before earning her teaching degree and making a career change in her 40s, Leja had a long career as a forensic analyst and worked for the Cook County medical examiner's office, according to a 2005 Chicago Tribune profile.

Burak was arrested Thursday, and police seized the vehicle he was allegedly driving when he struck Leja and Kosteck, who was treated for her injuries and later released.

He was released on bond following an initial court appearance Saturday. He is to appear again at the Cook County courthouse in Bridgeview on Jan. 2.

Burak told police that he takes medication for glaucoma and Parkinson's disease, and that he had a Manhattan and a glass of wine at the party, Cook County Assistant State's Attorney James Murphy said at the priest's bond hearing.

Burak served as pastor at St. Michael from 2009 to 2018 and before that assignment was pastor for 17 years at Our Lady of the Ridge Parish in Chicago Ridge.

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Cause of death of Juice Wrld remains under investigation

BY ANNIE SWEENEY

The circumstances surrounding the death of a young and gifted Chicago musician remained under investigation Tuesday by the Chicago Police Department, two days after he collapsed at Midway Airport.

The death of rapper Jarad A. Higgins, who performed as Juice Wrld, was still pending the completion of an examination by the Cook County medical examiner's office.

Higgins was from Calumet Park, a rising star who had landed a \$3 million deal with Interscope Records and earlier this year had been named one of two artists chosen by McDonald's to be part of a philanthropic campaign, representing their hometowns by partnering with a local charity and performing concerts.

In a video prepared as part of the Beat of My City campaign, Higgins talked about how he found his passion in music and how it allowed him to express his feelings — and why it was good for his young fans to do the same.

"That is part of being honest," Higgins said in the interview. "Telling people how you feel. Not beating around the bush. You could miss your opportunity, not expressing yourself. ... I never really had nothing to hide. There was never really no filter in my head like, would it be not cool to talk about your emotions?"

Meanwhile, Higgins' family was still absorbing the loss of a "good kid" who had found his creative outlet.

"He was just always very warm, very respectful, very

attentive," said his aunt Karen Wallace. Wallace posted the Beat of My City video last month.

"I loved it," she said. "It was a more mature Jarad, coming into himself."

McDonald's on Tuesday evening declined to comment on Higgins or the campaign.

Higgins had suffered convulsions and went into cardiac arrest as police and federal agents were searching his and his entourage's luggage for guns and drugs at a private hangar at Midway Airport over the weekend, according to law enforcement sources.

The search yielded 41 "vacuum-sealed" bags of marijuana, six bottles of prescription codeine cough syrup, two 9 mm pistols, a .40-caliber pistol, a high-capacity ammunition magazine and metal-piercing bullets, according to the sources. Two men identified by police as working security for Higgins were charged with misdemeanor offenses for illegally possessing the guns and ammunition.

The officers and agents had been waiting at the Atlantic Aviation hangar at Midway early Sunday because they suspected the private plane from Los Angeles carrying the musician was carrying contraband, the sources said.

A spokesman for the department said investigators were still working Tuesday to determine who the drugs belonged to. Meanwhile, the examination into Higgins' death included toxicology screens to determine what, if any, drugs, were in his system.

The rapper's girlfriend, asked by police at the scene if he had any medical issues

or had ingested any drugs, replied that he takes Percocet, a painkiller, and "has a drug problem," the sources said.

Higgins has also been open on social media, media interviews and in his music about his struggles with drug use.

Higgins' music career took off after he gained support from freestyling on his high school's radio show, according to a 2018 Tribune profile. He racked up millions of streams on SoundCloud for music that blended "elements of meandering, mumble-rap singing against drill-lite percussion and pop-punk melodies ... bridging the gap between urban and suburban youth experiences; an angst-riddled adolescence that feels just as romantically rejected and isolated as it wants to turn-up."

In the interview for the Beat of My City campaign, Higgins talked about understanding that he was not alone in his struggles and that there are more topics to tackle than the traditional ones, like heartbreak.

"Me talking about certain things can help somebody else through what they going through, as well as me trying to figure it out myself" he said. " ... There's other issues to talk about other than heartbreak. You got substance abuse. There's just a lot of issues in the world to talk about."

Near the end of the video, Higgins talked about how music ultimately allowed him to express himself best.

"Music is such a beautiful thing. Like, I love myself as far as the way I make music, the way God made me, the way God wired me to do the things I do."

Feast

Continued from Page 1

urgent request made in prayer. Often, circumstances make a trip to her shrine in the basilica in Mexico City impossible, so they make a pilgrimage to Des Plaines instead, said the Rev. Esequiel Sanchez, rector of the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

Ricardo Alanis and his wife, Guadalupe Alanis, said it was a miracle Our Lady of Guadalupe granted them that solidified their faith and in 2000 led them to organize a pilgrimage from Chicago to the shrine, 1170 N. River Road in Des Plaines, after they migrated from Michoacan, Mexico.

"She saved my wife's and my youngest daughter's lives," Ricardo Alanis said.

While living in Michoacan, Guadalupe Alanis said she was told to abort their younger daughter because it was a high-risk pregnancy. However, the couple refused and instead prayed.

Their daughter, Maria Guadalupe Alanis, named after the Virgin Mary, is now 33, and she has made the pilgrimage by foot with her father several times.

Pilgrimages like the one the Alanis family organizes show the devotion people have to Our Lady of Guadalupe, Sanchez said.

"That extreme expression of sacrifice reveals the extreme need that they feel and the strong devotion that our people have," said Sanchez, who has seen the number of pilgrims and processions for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe grow each year since he became rector in 2016.

Our Lady of Guadalupe, he said, represents power and access to God to Catholics all over the world.

"She is no longer just a Mexican icon," he said.

She is known as the Mother of the Americas and in 1999, Pope John Paul II reaffirmed her role as the patroness of the Americas and added her feast to the Catholic calendar throughout the Americas.

Those who have a devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe are known as *guadalupanos*.

"It's impossible to describe the level of faith and sentiment that the pilgrims feel as they walk to the shrine, and even harder to express the feeling of hope, happiness and gratitude that is felt when they arrive at the shrine amid music and thousands of flowers," Sanchez said.

In recent years, more than 200,000 devotees have attended the celebration throughout the night of Dec. 11 and into Dec. 12, according to the Des Plaines Police Department. There are at least 20 pilgrimages and processions to *Cerrito de Tepeyac* in Chicago registered this year. Each one departs from a different church in Chicago and includes some devotees who come from neighboring states to join with the local pilgrims, helping to make this the largest celebration for the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe after Mexico City's, Sanchez said.

Many more participate but don't register and don't follow set pilgrimage routes. Over the years, the feast has become ubiquitous in the Archdiocese of Chicago, and there are now hundreds of special Masses with "Las Mañanitas" — a song to commemorate her first apparition — at midnight or 5 a.m. in churches throughout the metro area, said Alejandro Castillo, a spokesman for the archdiocese.

This year, organizers expect the same, though it all depends on the weather, Sanchez said.

"There was a year where almost 400,000 people visited the shrine" for the Dec. 12 feast, he said.

The numbers demonstrate the significant population of Latinos and, specifically, the presence of those who can't travel to her shrine in Mexico because of their immigration status, health or economic problems, Sanchez said.

"The shrine here and the ability to make these pilgrimages (in the streets of Chicago) as they did in their hometowns in Mexico represents hope and makes them feel closer to her," Castillo said.

It is estimated that 50%



People in 2015 weave through a line to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe during the annual pilgrimage and celebration.



From left, Maria Alanis, her mother Guadalupe Alanis, father Ricardo Alanis, and sister Lucia Garcia hoist a banner outside Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church.

CHRIS SWEDA / CHICAGO TRIBUNE

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CHICAGO TRIBUNE

What to know before you go

BY KORI RUMORE

Those who show a deep faith in Our Lady of Guadalupe are known as *guadalupanos*. It's common for more than 200,000 people to gather Dec. 12 at the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe at 1170 N. River Road in Des Plaines to celebrate her.

There are at least 20 pilgrimages and processions registered this year, departing from different parts of Chicago and with devotees from neighboring states, making it the second-largest celebration for Our Lady of Guadalupe after Mexico City, according to the Rev. Esequiel Sanchez, rector of the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe. Here are some things to know before you go:

Getting there

Parking: Though a limited number of parking spaces are available in a field on site, organizers recommend pilgrims park in one of three nearby remote lots at Oakton Community College (1600 E. Golf Road, Des Plaines), St. Emily Catholic Church (1400 E. Central Road, Mount Prospect) and Plaza Palwaukee (664 Milwaukee Ave., Prospect Heights). Shuttle service from the parking lots starts at 5 p.m. Wednesday and ends at 5 a.m. Thursday.

Public transportation: Plan your trip using Regional Transportation Authority's Trip Planner tool. Metra's Union Pacific Northwest line stops in downtown Des Plaines. Connect to Pace's Route 208 bus and get off at Oakton Community College, where a shuttle to the shrine will be available.

Ride-share: Since public transportation might not be available late into the evening, Uber or Lyft might be good options for returning home.

Road closures: The Des Plaines Police Department will provide traffic direction from 4 p.m. Wednesday through 9 a.m. Thursday, and advises motorists to allow extra time when driving through the area.

There will be road closures around the shrine.

Schedule

A novena, or nine consecutive days of worship, is planned at the shrine, culminating in celebrations Wednesday and Thursday:

Wednesday

Masses: 6 p.m. With representations of the apparitions. **8 p.m.:** Anti-abortion Mass (*in English*). **10 p.m.:** Healing Mass for families, including blessing of candles.

Thursday

Masses: Midnight: Mass in the plaza (*outside*). **2 a.m.:** Mass for youth. **5 a.m.:** Mass with pilgrims arriving from Chicago. **9 a.m., noon and 3 p.m.:** Mass to Our Lady of Guadalupe. **5 p.m.:** Mass for new evangelization (*in English*). **7 p.m.:** Closing Mass (*in English and Spanish*). **3 a.m.:** Holy rosary.

Tips

■ **Be patient:** Traffic congestion will be an issue since thousands of people will be traveling to the shrine.

■ **Arrive early:** Want to attend midnight Mass on Thursday? Organizers recommend you arrive at the shrine by 8 p.m.

■ **Dress for the weather:** Since most of the event's activities take place outside, make sure you dress in layers.

■ **Leave alcohol at home:** Organizers say alcoholic beverages are not allowed on the grounds.

■ **Park offsite:** The shrine offers some on-site parking in a grassy field, which can get muddy. Des Plaines police recommend most vehicles be parked in one of the remote lots to avoid getting stuck.

Sources: Chicago Tribune and Hoy reporting; Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe; Des Plaines Police Department.

of the Catholics in the Chicago Archdiocese are Latinos, and more than a third of the parishes have "some (type of) Hispanic ministry," Castillo said.

The shrine in Des Plaines houses the first replica of the sacred *tilma* — cloak — with the image of Our Lady of Guadalupe and the icon's elaborate frame sent to an international destination and created by artisans working with the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in 1996.

The basilica houses the original cloak on which it is believed that the image of the Virgin Mary appeared before peasant Juan Diego in December 1531 on that same hill where her shrine now stands. Before it was brought to the Chicago area, the Des Plaines icon was touched to the original image and blessed at the basilica by the church's then-rector.

Aside from the homages paid on Dec. 12, there are hundreds of pilgrimages and processions and more than a million visitors from all over the United States throughout the year, Sanchez said. It is the most visited shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in the United States, although there are other churches that also house officially sanctioned images from the basilica.

"For many people, it may all seem like superstition and foreign, but we're talking about people who are comfortable with the promise of Christianity, and the biggest icon of that is Our Lady of Guadalupe," he said.

During the pilgrimage walks, some wear several layers of clothing to protect themselves from the cold, while others wear traditional Mexican clothing that represents their indigenous communities. There

are also Aztec dancers, mariachi and sometimes *banda*, Mexican folk bands.

Hundreds bring her roses — like the ones on Juan Diego's *tilma* — and many more give her bouquets of assorted flowers. Amid candles, there are also *milagros* — items that the devotees take her and leave in the shrine or nearby "as a reminder of that which they're praying for," Sanchez said.

A few years after putting down roots in Chicago, Ricardo Alanis felt the need to honor Our Lady of Guadalupe on her day "because I have countless blessings and miracles to thank her" for, he said.

There was no local procession in his area, so on a December night in 1999, he asked his brother and one of his cousins to walk with him from Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 4640 N. Ashland Ave., to Des

Possibility of pot sales near Wrigley still on base

BY JOHN BYRNE

In a preview of the likely fight to come over marijuana sales in Chicago, a medical cannabis operator's proposal to move into a storefront just south of Wrigley Field narrowly advanced Tuesday over the complaints of aldermen who said there isn't enough minority participation in the business.

MedMar Lakeview got the OK from the city's zoning committee to move to 3524 N. Clark St. Under state rules, the company will not be allowed to switch to more lucrative recreational marijuana sales on Jan. 1 because of the address change, though owners of the operation have said they would like to do so.

The zoning change to allow MedMar to sell marijuana at the property passed 7 to 5, with three African American aldermen and two Hispanic aldermen voting against it.

On Tuesday, council members continued to voice their frustration at the lack of minority representation in the industry, especially in light of the fact black and Latino Chicagoans have been disproportionately hurt by the war on drugs.

Ald. Pat Dowell, 3rd, pressed MedMar officials on the racial makeup of their workforce, saying she wanted to "get a sense of your commitment to social equity and diversity across your company, and if you're seeking to work with minority companies, African American companies."

MedMar officials said they are committed to hiring people from "impacted communities" and to helping minority-run startups get into the business.

The MedMar zoning change will head to the full City Council next week.

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Evanston's pot shop may park in old garage

BY GENEVIEVE BOOKWALTER

Evanston's lone marijuana dispensary could soon enter into the old Enterprise Rent-A-Car space in the Maple Avenue garage next year.

The move comes as the business looks to accommodate the expected demand for recreational marijuana, which becomes legal in 2020.

Aldermen unanimously approved an item on the consent agenda Monday that amends the dispensary's existing lease. The dispensary is located in the city-owned Maple Avenue garage. The change will bring it in line with new state regulations allowing the sale of marijuana for adult recreational use.

Aldermen also approved changing the tenant's name from PharmaCann LLC to MME Evanston Retail, LLC, according to a city staff report.

While PharmaCann and its affiliates own MME Evanston Retail, ownership could change in the future, according to the staff report. Switching the lease to the holding company means the city council won't need to authorize a new one for the same space after an ownership sale or transfer.

In addition, according to the report, "staff anticipates that it will request City Council approval of a resolution authorizing a new lease for the expansion/move into the old Enterprise Rent-A-Car space at Maple Avenue Garage," sometime next year.

The proceeds from a 3% tax on recreational marijuana in Evanston will pay for a local reparations fund, as approved by aldermen in November.

Plaines to estimate the amount of time it would take to get there.

The following year, he led the first-ever pilgrimage from Chicago to the shrine in Des Plaines. It was roughly 60 people, Alanis recalled. The procession now has more than 1,000 attendees, making it the largest and longest-running pilgrimage to Des Plaines on Dec. 12, said Ignacio Perez, spokesman for the shrine. Every year, on Dec. 11, devotees gather in front of Our Lady of Lourdes Church around 7:30 p.m. to begin the pilgrimage by foot at 10 p.m., arriving in Des Plaines at roughly 5 a.m.

Instilled with great faith by his mother's example, Alanis first took the pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe from his hometown in Michoacan to Mexico City in his early 20s. He then made the five-day pilgrimage every year for almost 20 years, he recalled.

"Many people have lost faith or don't know of faith until they experience a pilgrimage or the celebration on Dec. 12 in her shrine," said Guadalupe Alanis. "Our goal is to ensure that people don't stop believing in Our Lady of Guadalupe, in Jesus and God. Miracles happen."

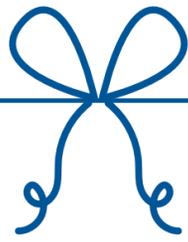
Their prayers, they believe, also cured Guadalupe Alanis of lymphoma in 2011 and allowed Ricardo to continue walking and organizing the pilgrimage despite having his knees replaced a few years ago. The couple have also witnessed hundreds of people fulfilling their pledges to the Virgin Mary through the pilgrimage they organize and have heard thousands of testimonies of faith, they said.

Despite the growth in attendees, Alanis said that he has never acquired any sort of permits from the city of Chicago. Instead, he has sought donations from pilgrims to rent portable bathrooms and the trailer to carry them, and to make sure there is enough money to pay a *banda* to sing a few songs for *La Morenita*, he said.

Most years, there are enough donations to cover the cost of it all, almost \$2,000. Other times, he pays the expenses himself.

Sanchez said that it is testimonies like the Alanises' that keep the faith and the tradition of the processions and pilgrimages alive and growing in the Chicago area.

"For non-*guadalupanos*, it's difficult to interpret these processions and why people make those sacrifices of walking for miles in the middle of winter, but it's better not to judge and listen to what they're doing: They're trying to negotiate their lives via that exercise," Sanchez said.



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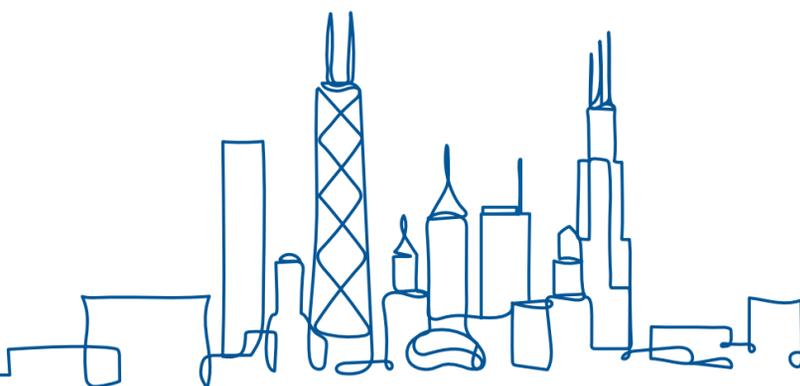
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Chicago Tribune
HOLIDAY GIVING

CPD to stop controversial merit promotions

Process said to have elevated connected cops

BY JEREMY GORNER

Chicago police interim Superintendent Charlie Beck said Tuesday he was suspending the department's practice of promoting officers to the ranks of detective, sergeant and lieutenant regardless of their exam scores, halting a pro-

motional process long criticized by many rank-and-file cops and decried in a U.S. Department of Justice report on the city's policing practices.

The move will discontinue the so-called merit promotion system. The practice has been slammed by many insiders who believe it too often elevates officers to top supervisory roles more because of their relationships with the department's command staff or

someone else with influence over department policy, as opposed to them being qualified for those positions.

In a letter to the 13,400-member department obtained by the Tribune, Beck said he's heard that many officers have been "dissatisfied and discouraged" by the process.

"In consultation with Mayor Lori Lightfoot and Fraternal Order of Police President Kevin Graham, I

decided that I will not make any merit promotions during my tenure as Interim Superintendent," Beck wrote.

Beck also said in the letter he would recommend that Lightfoot's permanent top cop — who will be chosen by the mayor in the coming months — discontinue the merit promotion system and in the future hold promotional exams every two years.

The announcement

sends a strong signal that Beck, although only leading the department temporarily, is already looking for ways he believes it can improve.

In 2017, the Justice Department criticized the Police Department's merit system, saying its officials had not been transparent in their decisions about promotions.

The merit promotion system was established in the 1990s as an effort to

diversify the supervisory ranks with more people of color. It was originally a plan by then-Mayor Richard M. Daley to also promote ambitious officers who do not test well.

At the time, the union that represents rank-and-file Chicago police officers feared the process would be used by politicians to promote their pals.

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'Someone who really understands ... Chicago'

South Siders offer solicited input on future top cop

BY WILLIAM LEE

They came from all over the South Side and they brought their honest opinions with them.

Longtime homeowners. Retired teachers and law enforcement veterans. Church leaders, activists and concerned residents. They all brought their wish lists for a new police superintendent to Trinity United Church of Christ for the first of three "listening sessions" by the Chicago Police Board, responsible for nominating three candidates to the mayor.

The general consensus was that the new superintendent must be committed to earning the respect of communities of color following years of rippling tension, but opinions varied on whether it should be a department outsider or a veteran officer.

Gladys Anderson, a retired sheriff's deputy, said criminals have taken advantage of the impasse between residents and police and that a respected officer from within the department could restore trust.

"To me, it would be a terrible disrespect to those

(officers) really out there on the ground every day and hoping for the opportunity to present themselves as superintendent," Anderson said in the church's lobby as residents addressed board members who sat at the church altar. "I believe the superintendent has to come from the rank and file. It has to be someone who really understands the makeup of the city of Chicago."

Others suggested the department could be improved by the fresh eyes and ideas of an outsider. Many of them also urged increased hiring of minority officers, saying it could make the difference in reaching skeptical residents.

Charles Daily, a retired Cook County sheriff's officer, suggested the department focus on hiring black officers, saying it would have a positive change in the communities they patrol.

"You need to hire and promote African American officers who live in these communities ... They understand these kids. We went to public schools," said Daily, a longtime Washington Park resident.

Eddie Johnson, Chicago's police superintendent since April 2016, officially retired last week following the growing fallout



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES / CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Davita Shaw addresses the Chicago Police Board during a public meeting at Trinity United Church of Christ on Monday.

from an incident in October when officers found him in the driver's seat of a running car stopped on a street near his Bridgeport home.

Johnson initially blamed his behavior on a change in medication, then later admitting to Mayor Lori Lightfoot that he had a few drinks that night. Sources have told the Tribune that Johnson had been drinking for a few hours with a woman who was not his wife. The woman was a Chicago police officer and a

member of Johnson's security detail, sources said.

Lightfoot withdrew her support for Johnson earlier this month after saying she saw inconsistencies in what Johnson told her personally versus what he told the public.

The mayor is not bound by the candidates who will be recommended by the police board. Former Mayor Rahm Emanuel deviated from the board and chose Johnson to replace Garry McCarthy. The public will

be able to offer feedback once the three finalists are selected.

The mostly older African American audience Monday evening came from communities across the South Side including South Shore, Englewood and Hyde Park offered polite, sometimes pointed advice.

Police Board members asked the audience for names of officers they thought have the skills to take the \$260,044-a-year job. One suggested Chief of

Patrol Fred Waller, another suggested his deputy, Ernest Cato, and a third suggested Cmdr. Migdalia Bulnes, who would be the first woman to lead the department.

Similar meetings are planned for Wednesday at the Muslim Community Center in Old Irving Park and Thursday at the JLM Community Center on the Near West Side.

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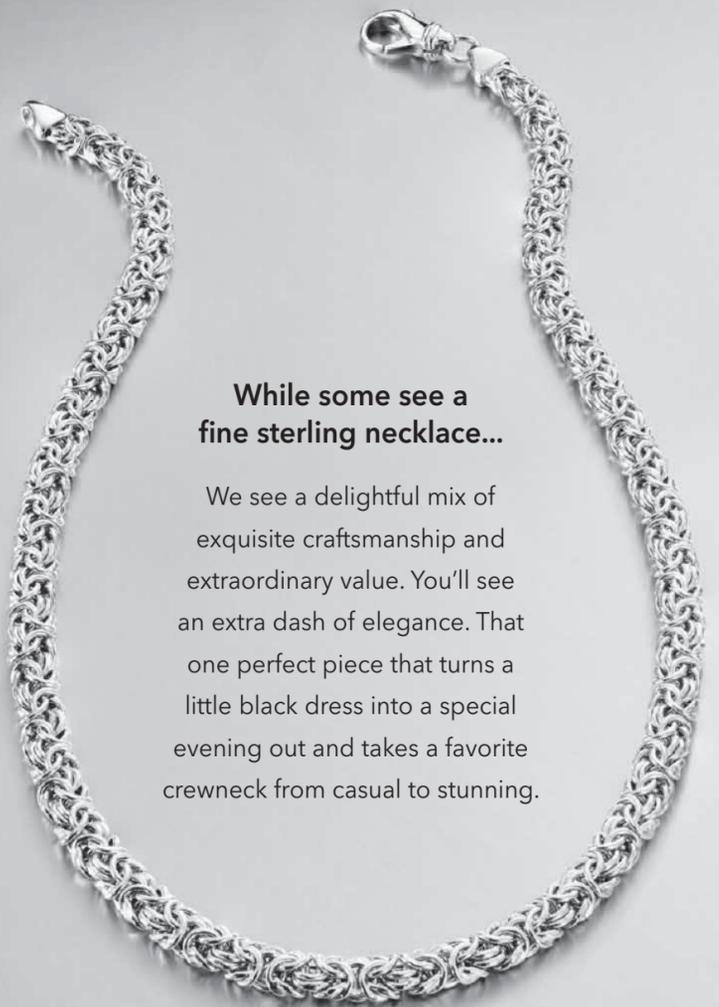
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Chicago Tribune

NATION & WORLD

Trump slams Wray over IG report

FBI chief defends findings despite attacks from Barr

By JOHN WAGNER AND MATT ZAPOTOSKY
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump lashed out Tuesday at FBI Director Christopher Wray, saying that “he will never be able to fix the FBI” based on his reaction to a Justice Department inspector general’s report examining the bureau’s investigation of Trump’s 2016 campaign.

“I don’t know what report current Director of the FBI Christopher Wray was reading, but it sure wasn’t the one given to me,” Trump tweeted. “With that kind of attitude, he will never be able to fix the FBI, which is badly broken despite having some of the greatest men & women working there!”

The 434-page report rebutted conservatives’ accusations that top FBI officials were driven by political bias to illegally spy on Trump advisers as part of the investigation of election interference by Russia, but it also found broad and “serious performance failures” requiring major changes.

Attorney General William Barr also sharpened his attacks on the FBI’s investigation into possible coordination between Russia and the Trump campaign to influence the 2016 election, alleging in media interviews Tuesday that the bureau had flimsy reason to initiate the probe, pursued the matter even after the case had “collapsed,” and might have acted in bad faith.

In an interview with



FBI chief Christopher Wray rejects characterizing the bureau’s work as that of the “deep state” — a term President Donald Trump has used. Trump lashed out at Wray on Tuesday.

NBC News, and, later, at The Wall Street Journal’s CEO Council, Barr disputed aspects of the Justice Department inspector general’s assessment of the Russia case — especially those that were exonerating for the FBI — while emphasizing the malfeasance the watchdog had uncovered.

“It was a travesty, and there were many abuses,” he said of the Russia case. “From day one, it generated exculpatory information and nothing that substanti-

ated any kind of collusion.”

In a statement Monday, Wray, a Trump appointee, said he had ordered more than 40 corrective steps to address the report’s recommendations, adding that he would not hesitate to take “appropriate disciplinary action if warranted.”

He noted to ABC News, though, that it was “important that the inspector general found that, in this particular instance, the investigation was opened with appropriate predic-

tion and authorization.”

The report, which was based on more than 1 million documents and more than 170 interviews, is the most exhaustive assessment of the investigation of Russian election interference that roiled Trump’s presidency, an inquiry that would ultimately be taken over by special counsel Robert Mueller.

Wray was sworn in as FBI director in August 2017, replacing Andrew McCabe, who had been leading the

bureau in an acting capacity after Trump fired James Comey.

Unlike Comey, Wray has sought to keep a low profile, and that has helped him somewhat to avoid conflict with the president.

But the FBI director has been at odds with Trump at times.

For example, Wray earlier this year said he would not use the term “spying” to describe the FBI’s surveillance activities toward the Trump campaign in 2016 — contradicting both the president and Attorney General William Barr.

Wray also told ABC News on Monday that Inspector General Michael Horowitz “did not find political bias or improper motivations impacting the opening of the investigation or the decision to use certain investigative tools during the investigations.”

He rejected characterizing the bureau’s work as that of the “deep state” — a term Trump has used. “I think that’s the kind of label that’s a disservice to the men and women who work at the FBI who I think tackle their jobs with professionalism, with rigor, with objectivity, with courage,” he said. “So that’s not a term I would ever use to describe our workforce, and I think it’s an affront to them.”

Wray separately said the FBI had “no information that indicates that Ukraine interfered with the 2016 presidential election.”

Rudy Giuliani, Trump’s personal lawyer, has suggested otherwise and recently traveled to Ukraine to meet with people there who he thinks might bolster his case.

“When you see politi-

cians pushing this notion, are you concerned about that in terms of its impact on the American public?” ABC News’s Pierre Thomas asked Wray.

“Well, look, there’s all kinds of people saying all kinds of things out there,” Wray responded. “I think it’s important for the American people to be thoughtful consumers of information, to think about the sources of it and to think about the support and predication for what they hear.”

Asked on Fox News after Trump’s tweet whether the president was disenchanted with Wray, White House spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham responded, “I don’t believe so. I think that one thing about this president, if he’s not happy with you, you will be the first to know. He’s got great respect for the FBI and all intelligence agencies and for the thousands and thousands of law enforcement officers who work there.”

Officials have said that Barr and Wray have a good working relationship, but that they expect the inspector general’s report will increase tensions at least in the short term between the FBI and the Justice Department, as well as with the White House.

In the interview with NBC News, Barr said he knew what the president was “getting at” with the tweet, specifically that the bureau “can’t ignore the abuses of the past” or “appear to be justifying or minimizing them.”

But Barr said he and Wray had “worked well together.”

Asked whether he had confidence in Wray, Barr responded simply, “yes.”

Shooter got around ban on foreigners buying guns

Gunman at Florida base used hunting license loophole

By LISA MARIE PANE
Associated Press

Generally, foreigners are not allowed to buy guns in the United States. But there are exceptions written into federal law, which may explain how the Saudi flight student who shot three servicemen to death at the Pensacola naval base was able to purchase a weapon.

For example, a foreigner who manages to obtain a state hunting license and can show proof of residency in that state can legally buy a gun.

“It seems every day we find a new loophole,” said Adam Winkler, a professor at the University of California, Los Angeles School of Law and an expert on gun laws and politics.

A spokeswoman for the FBI said the 9mm Glock pistol was legally purchased by the shooter, Mohammed Alshamrani.

The FBI said Alshamrani, 21, qualified for an exception to laws prohibiting foreign nationals from having a gun because he had a valid Florida hunting li-

cense. Authorities said he may have also qualified under other exceptions specified by federal law.

In the aftermath of the rampage, which the FBI is treating as a terrorist attack, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis questioned whether foreigners should be allowed to buy guns.

The Republican governor said he supports the Second Amendment but it “does not apply to Saudi Arabians.”

Law enforcement officials from nations friendly to the United States who are here on official business as well as foreigners who have entered the U.S. through the visa waiver program are among those exempted from the laws against foreigners buying weapons.

In Florida, like many other states, foreigners and nonresidents can buy a hunting license. Getting one requires no background check, and it can be done online.

With that license in hand, a foreigner can then purchase a firearm, provided the would-be buyer can show the dealer proof that he or she is living in the state.

It is at that point that the person would have to

undergo a background check.

There have been instances of foreigners seeking to exploit American gun laws.

In one case in 2017, more than half a dozen Chinese students at the University of Arizona obtained hunting licenses and then purchased firearms.

In that particular case, it did not appear to be for nefarious purposes but out of a desire to do something not allowed in their home country: possess a gun.

That same year, a Canadian man intent on carrying out an attack at the Flint, Michigan, airport twice tried to buy a weapon at a gun show, expecting it wouldn’t require a background check.

When that failed, he bought a knife and used it in an attack at the airport that injured two people.

The attacker, who was born in Tunisia and traveled to the U.S. with his Canadian passport, was sentenced to life in prison.

At his sentencing, he told the judge: “Do I regret what I did? Never. I regret I didn’t get that machine gun. I regret I didn’t kill that cop.”

UCLA’s Winkler said these cases, underscored by



Police cars escort an ambulance after a shooter opened fire last week at the Pensacola Naval Air Station in Florida. A Saudi air force officer shot and killed three people.

the Pensacola attack, expose failings in American gun laws.

“Terrorists see our lax gun laws as an opening for terrorist attacks, that they don’t need to use bombs, they don’t need to commit suicide and blow themselves up. All they need to do is come to America and have easy access to guns,” he said.

Gun-rights supporters said there are valid reasons for allowing foreigners to obtain guns for hunting. Just as Americans travel overseas to hunt big game, foreigners are keen to travel to the U.S. to bag animals that don’t exist in their

home countries.

“There is a vibrant hunting industry that happens here in the United States,” said Mark Oliva, spokesman for the National Shooting Sports Foundation.

“There are species that are iconic to North America.”

Obtaining the hunting license wouldn’t guarantee a foreigner a gun; buying one would still require demonstrating valid residency and passing a background check.

Still, gun-control advocates suggest there are limits to what a background check might flag when looking into the past of a for-

eigner.

In the U.S., people prohibited from purchasing a firearm include felons.

“Obviously our background check system is largely not going to pick up criminal histories from abroad,” said David Chipman, a retired agent with the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives who is now a senior policy adviser with Giffords, the gun-control group.

“There are obviously loopholes in our gun laws,” he said. “We live in a country where the priority is easy access to the sale of guns because of a powerful lobby that has set it up that way because they want to profit from it.”

Merriam-Webster dictionary chooses ‘they’ as its word of the year

By LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A common but increasingly mighty and busy little word, “they,” has an accolade all its own.

The language mavens at Merriam-Webster have declared the personal pronoun their word of the year based on a 313% increase in lookups on the company’s search site, Merriam-Webster.com, this year when compared with 2018.

“I have to say it’s surpris-

ing to me,” said Peter Sokolowski, a lexicographer and Merriam-Webster’s editor-at-large, ahead of Tuesday’s announcement. “It’s a word we all know and love. So many people were talking about this word.”

Sokolowski and his team monitor spikes in searches and “they” got an early start last January with the rise of model Oslo Grace on top fashion runways. The Northern Californian identifies as transgender nonbinary, walking in both men’s and women’s shows around

the world.

Another lookup spike occurred in April, when Rep. Pramila Jayapal, D-Wash., got emotional while talking of her gender-nonconforming child during a House committee hearing as she advocated for LGBTQ rights legislation.

Merriam-Webster recently added a new definition to its online dictionary to reflect use of “they” as relating to a person whose gender identity is nonbinary. In October, the American Psychological Associ-

ation endorsed “they” as a singular third-person pronoun in its latest style guide for scholarly writing.

The American Dialect Society, which is dedicated to the study of the English language in North America, named “they” its word of the year for 2015.

In September, Merriam-Webster experienced another big increase in lookups for “they” when pop star Sam Smith wrote on social media that their preferred pronouns were “they” and “them.”

And the Merriam-Webster runners-up to word of the year?

They include “quid pro quo,” “impeach” and “crawdad,” the latter a word in the title of Delia Evans best-selling novel, “Where the Crawdads Sing.” The list also included “egregious,” “clemency” and “the,” a shocker of a lookup spike when Ohio State University attempted to patent the word to protect its turf. It failed.

Also in the mix: “snitty,” which emerged on the lips

of Attorney General William Barr in reference to a letter by Robert Mueller about a summary Barr wrote of the Mueller report.

We have Washington Post columnist George Will to thank for “tergiversation.” The word, meaning an evasion or a desertion, was Merriam-Webster’s top lookup Jan. 24 after Will used it in a column in reference to Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C.

The words “camp” and “exculpate” rounded out the list.



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Treaty

Continued from Page 1

"infinitely better than what was initially proposed by the administration."

Trump said the revamped trade pact will "be great" for the United States.

"It will be the best and most important trade deal ever made by the USA. Good for everybody — Farmers, Manufacturers, Energy, Unions — tremendous support. Importantly, we will finally end our Country's worst Trade Deal, NAFTA!" the president said in a tweet.

The deal announcement came on the same morning that Democrats outlined impeachment charges against Trump. The trade pact is Trump's top Capitol Hill priority along with funding for his long-sought border fence.

In Mexico City, President Donald Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser, Jared Kushner, U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Canadian Deputy Prime Minister Chrystia Freeland joined Mexican officials to sign the updated version of the United States-Mexico-Canada trade agreement, or USMCA, at a ceremony in Mexico City's centuries-old National Palace.

Mexican Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard congratulated the negotiators for reaching a second set of agreements to answer U.S.



From left, Deputy Prime Minister of Canada Chrystia Freeland, Mexico's top negotiator Jesus Seade and U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer sign the updated United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement in Mexico City.

concerns about labor rights in Mexico, and regional content.

"Mission accomplished!" Ebrard told the gathered officials.

Lighthizer praised the joint work of the Trump administration, Democrats, business and labor leaders to reach an agreement, calling it "nothing short of a miracle that we have all come together."

"This is a win-win-win agreement which will provide stability for working people in all three countries for years to come," Freeland said. "That is no small thing."

A U.S. House vote is likely before Congress adjourns for the year and the Senate is likely to vote in January or February.

Pelosi was the key congressional force behind the deal, which updates the 25-year-old NAFTA accord

that many Democrats — especially from manufacturing areas hit hard by trade-related job losses — have long lambasted.

She and Ways and Means Committee Chairman Richard Neal, D-Mass., forged a positive working relationship with Lighthizer, whom they credited with working in good faith.

"Thanks to President Trump's leadership, we

have reached an historic agreement on the USMCA. After working with Republicans, Democrats and many other stakeholders for the past two years we have created a deal that will benefit American workers, farmers and ranchers for years to come," Lighthizer said. "This will be the model for American trade deals going forward."

NAFTA eliminated most tariffs and other trade barriers involving the United States, Mexico and Canada.

"There is no question of course that this trade agreement is much better than NAFTA."

— Rep. Nancy Pelosi, speaker of the House

Weeks of back-and-forth, closely monitored by Democratic labor allies such as the AFL-CIO, have brought the two sides together.

Pelosi is a longtime free trade advocate and supported the original NAFTA in 1994.

"There is no denying that the trade rules in America will now be fairer because of our hard work and perseverance. Working people have created a new standard for future trade negotiations," said AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka. "President Trump may have opened this deal. But working people closed it."



MICHAEL ROBINSON CHAVEZ/WASHINGTON POST

Permafrost, at the top of the cliff, melts into the Kolyma River outside Zyryanka, Russia.

Melting permafrost altering Arctic landscape, study says

BY ANDREW FREEDMAN
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Arctic is undergoing a profound, rapid and unmitigated shift into a new climate state, one that is greener, features far less ice, and is a net source of greenhouse gas emissions from melting permafrost, according to a major new federal assessment of the region released Tuesday.

The consequences of these climate shifts will be felt far outside the Arctic in the form of altered weather patterns, increased greenhouse gas emissions, and rising sea levels from the melting Greenland ice sheet and mountain glaciers.

The findings are contained in the 2019 "Arctic Report Card," a major federal assessment of climate change trends and impacts throughout the region. The study paints an ominous picture of a region lurching to an entirely new and unfamiliar climate state.

"A lot of people think of the Arctic as being a far-away place, but the loss of ice is affecting people now — it's changing peoples' lives," said Don Perovich, a Dartmouth College geophysicist who contributed to the report.

The Bering Sea, which lies between Alaska and Russia, is one of the world's two most productive fisheries. But the Arctic region is warming more than twice as fast as the rest of the planet, the report found.

The past two years saw record low levels of sea ice — frozen seawater — floating on the Bering Sea during winter, the report found. And the habitats of fish on which commercial fisheries and indigenous groups depend have shifted northward, according to the report released at the annual meeting of the American Geophysical Union.

"Fishing industries are built around the assumption that fish will be in a certain place at a certain time, but that's changing in response to a rapidly changing Arctic," said Waleed Abdalati, an environmental scientist at the University of Colorado-Boulder who was not part of the report.

For the first time, the "Arctic Report Card" includes observations from indigenous groups who hunt and fish in the region.

"We look for the return of the sea ice every fall season," wrote 10 representatives of the region's

more than 70 indigenous communities. "The ice provides access to seals, whales, walrus, fish, crabs and other marine life for our subsistence harvests."

Especially noteworthy is the report's conclusion that the Arctic may have already turned into a net emitter of planet-warming carbon emissions due to thawing permafrost, which would only accelerate global warming. Permafrost is the carbon-rich frozen soil that covers 24% of Northern Hemisphere land area, encompassing vast stretches of territory across Alaska, Canada, Siberia and Greenland.

There has been concern in the scientific community that the 1,460 to 1,600 billion metric tons of organic carbon stored in frozen Arctic soils, which amounts to nearly twice as much greenhouse gases than what is contained in the atmosphere, could be released as the permafrost melts.

Meanwhile, a new scientific paper in the journal *Nature* found that the melting of Greenland's ice sheet has accelerated. The melting is now seven times faster than in the 1990s.

Associated Press contributed.

Divided N. Dakota county keeps door open to refugees

BY ANTONIA NOORI FARZAN
Washington Post

On Monday night, as temperatures plummeted into the single digits, more than 500 people filed into a middle school cafeteria in Bismarck, North Dakota. Dressed in flannel work shirts, fleece-lined jackets and waterproof boots, they formed a snaking line that was as long as the room, women in colorful headscarves mingling alongside men in "Make America Great Again" caps.

It was the second time that the Burleigh County Commission attempted to hold a vote on whether the community would continue accepting refugees. In September, President Donald Trump signed an executive order that requires states and local governments to give their written consent before refugees can be resettled, and Burleigh County stood to be the first community to take advantage of those new rules.

For four hours, sixth-generation North Dakotans and recent arrivals from Cameroon and Congo took turns delivering impassioned testimony in what was often a contentious debate. Ultimately, the commission voted 3-2 to keep welcoming refugees.

The decision largely carried symbolic resonance. The Trump administration has slashed the number of refugee arrivals nationwide, and Burleigh County, which has roughly 95,000 residents, took in just 24 refugees during fiscal year 2019, according to the North Dakota governor's office. The community, home to Bismarck, the state's capital, is slated to receive a similar number of refugees in fiscal year 2020, and the measure that passed Monday caps the number at 25.

Still, residents who packed the cafeteria saw



JAMES MACPHERSON/AP

A North Dakota county will keep welcoming refugees, like Reuben Panchol, of Sudan, who arrived as a child.

the vote as a referendum on what their community values.

Speakers cited the state's history of welcoming immigrants from Scandinavia, its tradition of "North Dakota Nice," and the Christian faith shared by many in the room. Some raised concerns that their community would be perceived as hateful and bigoted if it took a hard-line stance against refugees.

Others spoke about the problems caused by the recent oil boom — overpopulated schools, rising crime rates, an uptick in homelessness — and questioned whether the state was overextending itself by welcoming so many newcomers.

"I've heard that most of the refugees coming in are women and children, and I understand that they need an education and to learn to speak English," said a heavily bearded man who introduced himself as a sixth-generation inhabitant of North Dakota. "But we need to think about our kids here, too, before we start worrying about somebody else's."

Bismarck's mayor had been among those backing a moratorium on refugees, although city officials had no say in the matter.

"We have burgeoning school enrollment, veterans' needs, homeless needs and Native American

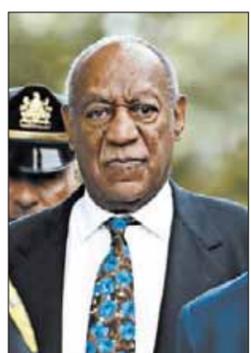
needs," Mayor Steve Bakken, who has a nonpartisan position, told *The Associated Press* in advance of Monday's vote. "This isn't about heartstrings, this is about purse-strings."

But Gov. Doug Burgum, a Republican, signaled in November that the state would continue to accept refugees by sending a letter of consent to Secretary of State Mike Pompeo. In a statement issued Monday, he said he had "serious concerns that denying resettlement to a handful of well-vetted and often family-connected refugees would send a negative signal beyond our borders at a time when North Dakota is facing a severe workforce shortage and trying to attract capital and talent to our state."

Yet Burleigh County Commission Chairman Brian Bitner told the AP in advance of Monday's vote that he believed most of his constituents were against admitting more refugees.

"The overwhelming public opinion is so clear to me, that I think if you vote for it, you're not going to be reelected if you choose to run again," he said.

Residents spent hours on Monday night making it clear that they disagreed with him. Some held handmade signs with slogans such as "We love our neighbors."



MATT SLOCUM/AP 2018

Bill Cosby recently said he is prepared to serve the full 10-year sentence of his sexual assault conviction.

Pa. court rejects Cosby's bid to overturn conviction

BY MARYCLAIRE DALE
Associated Press

Bill Cosby lost his bid to overturn his sexual assault conviction Tuesday, as a Pennsylvania appeals court upheld the verdict in the first celebrity trial of the #MeToo era.

In its ruling, the Superior Court affirmed the right of prosecutors to call other accusers to bolster their case.

"This decision is a reminder that no one is above the law," Andrea Constand,

the victim in Cosby's case, said in a text message Tuesday.

Cosby's lawyers had complained that the judge had let five women testify at last year's retrial in suburban Philadelphia, although he had let just one woman testify at the first trial in 2017.

But the Superior Court said their testimony was evidence of Cosby's "unique sexual assault playbook" and undermined any claim that he "was unaware of or mistaken about victim's fail-

ure to consent."

The prosecutor who took the case to trial praised Constand for inspiring other victims to come forward against powerful men. She went to police long before the #MeToo movement saw prominent men in entertainment, business, media and other fields brought down over their treatment of women.

"She came to law enforcement almost 15 years ago seeking justice for what was done to her," Montgomery County District At-

torney Kevin Steele said Tuesday.

Lawyers for Cosby had argued eight issues on appeal. They challenged the judge's decision to air Cosby's damaging deposition testimony from a related lawsuit; said he had a binding promise from a former prosecutor that he would never be charged; and said a juror had prejudged Cosby's guilt.

The appeals court rejected those arguments and also upheld his classification as a sexually violent

predator subject to lifetime supervision.

Cosby, 82, can now ask the state Supreme Court to consider his appeal. He recently said he is prepared to serve the full 10-year sentence.

Cosby, once beloved as "America's Dad" for his TV role as Dr. Cliff Huxtable on the sitcom "The Cosby Show," has acknowledged having sexual contact with younger women. Many of them went to him for career advice and then took alcohol or pills he offered.



Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, left, answers media questions — many about impeachment — Tuesday. With McConnell are Sens. John Thune and Joni Ernst.

Impeach

Continued from Page 1

main a threat to national security and the Constitution if allowed to remain in office," the nine-page impeachment resolution says.

"If we did not hold him accountable, he would continue to undermine our election," Pelosi said later at a forum sponsored by Politico. "Nothing less is at stake than the central point of our democracy — a free and fair election."

After decrying the Democrats' announcement, Trump headed to Pennsylvania for a reelection campaign rally.

First, he tweeted that to impeach a president "who has done NOTHING wrong, is sheer Political Madness."

The outcome, though, appears increasingly set as the House presses ahead toward impeachment as it has only three times in history against U.S. presidents, an ultimate test of the nation's system of checks and balances.

Democrats said they had no choice but to act in what is now a strictly partisan undertaking, as Republicans stand with the president, because Trump has shown a pattern of behavior that, if left unchecked, poses risks to the democratic process.

Rep. Jerry Nadler, D-N.Y., the Judiciary chairman, said the president "holds the ultimate public trust. When he betrays that

trust and puts himself before country, he endangers the Constitution; he endangers our democracy; he endangers our national security."

"No one, not even the president, is above the law," he said, announcing the charges before a portrait of George Washington.

Chairman Adam Schiff of the Intelligence Committee said, "We stand here today because the president's abuse of power leaves us with no choice."

Trump's allies immediately plunged into the fight that will extend into the new year.

White House Press Secretary Stephanie Grisham said Democrats are trying to "overthrow" the administration. Campaign manager Brad Parscale said Democrats "don't have a viable candidate for 2020 and they know it."

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., said he would be "surprised" if there were 67 votes in the chamber to convict Trump, and signaled options for a swift trial. He said no decision had been made whether to call witnesses.

In drafting the charges against Trump, Pelosi faced a legal and political challenge of balancing the views of her majority while hitting the Constitution's bar of "treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors."

Some liberal lawmakers wanted more expansive charges encompassing the findings from special coun-

sel Robert Mueller's probe of Russian interference in the 2016 election. Centrist Democrats preferred to keep the impeachment articles more focused on Trump's actions toward Ukraine.

The final resolution slim in length yet broad in concept attempted to find common ground by linking the Ukraine inquiry to the Mueller probe in two separate lines, without specifically mentioning the Russia investigation.

It said the abuse of power was consistent with "previous invitations of foreign interference in United States elections" while the obstruction charge was consistent with Trump's previous efforts to undermine "United States government investigations into foreign interference."

Democratic leaders say Trump put his political interests above those of the nation when he asked Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in a July 25 phone call to investigate his rivals, including Biden, and then withheld \$400 million in military aid as the U.S. ally faced an aggressive Russia. They say he then obstructed Congress by stonewalling the House investigation.

Trump insisted in a new tweet that when he asked Ukraine's president "to do us a favor" with the investigations, "us" is a reference to USA, not me!

Democrats, however, say Trump's meaning could not have been clearer in seeking political dirt on Biden.

US, Russian foreign officials clash over election meddling

By JOHN HUDSON
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Mike Pompeo clashed with Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov during a news conference Tuesday as the Kremlin's top diplomat denied any evidence of Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election and Pompeo declared that it happened and "it's unacceptable."

The exchange happened just before Lavrov's scheduled meeting with President Donald Trump at the White House and after House Democrats unveiled two articles of impeachment against Trump over his efforts to pressure Ukraine to investigate his political rivals and a debunked conspiracy theory about the 2016 election.

Pompeo and Lavrov both stated their support for an improvement in U.S.-Russia relations despite broad disagreement between the two powers on an array of issues from Venezuela to Syria to Ukraine.

Pompeo said the bilateral relationship is "complicated" but that the two countries discussed arms control issues and made progress on "economic" cooperation that would be announced "before too terribly long."

Pompeo said he conveyed plenty of facts to show what happened in the 2016 election with our Russian counterparts. We don't think there's any mistake about what really transpired there," he said.

Pompeo also said he raised the issue of Paul Whelan, a former U.S. Marine detained by Moscow on spying charges since 2018.

Lavrov said an investigation into Whelan finished in September and the matter was making its way through the courts. He suggested that concerns about Whelan's health were not credible.

He also expressed an interest in renewing the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, known as New START, but said Moscow has not received a proposal from the U.S.

Pompeo expressed his desire to include China in the arms talks with Russia even though Beijing has said that it will not participate given that Moscow and Washington have significantly larger nuclear arsenals. Lavrov noted Chi-



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov leaves the White House after he and President Donald Trump met Tuesday.

na's concerns but said Russia is open to a trilateral arrangement.

The White House said after the Trump-Lavrov meeting that Trump also warned against any Russian attempts to interfere in U.S. elections and urged Russia to resolve the conflict with Ukraine.

Lavrov's last visit to Washington in 2017 ended in controversy after the Russian Embassy in Washington released images of him and U.S. officials shaking hands in the Oval Office. The Russian delegation was allowed to bring a photographer in the room from the state news agency Tass, while U.S. photojournalists were barred entry to the meeting.

The meeting came a day after Trump fired FBI Director James Comey, who was leading the investigation into the Trump campaign's contacts with Russian officials. Trump reportedly told Lavrov that Comey was "crazy" and a "real nut job."

U.S. officials later revealed that Trump disclosed highly classified information to Lavrov in the meeting that related to a critical source of intelligence on the Islamic State.

Associated Press contributed.

Page sues FBI, DOJ for releasing anti-Trump texts

By DEREK HAWKINS
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Former FBI lawyer Lisa Page, a target of repeated attacks by President Donald Trump, sued the bureau and the Justice Department on Tuesday, saying officials unlawfully released a trove of politically charged text messages she exchanged with a senior FBI agent with whom she was having an affair.

Page accused the agencies of violating the Privacy Act by showing reporters a document containing nearly 400 texts between her and former senior FBI agent Peter Strzok, in which the pair discussed their dislike of Trump and fear that he might win the presidency.

The messages, which came to light in December 2017, fueled claims that the FBI was prejudiced against Trump and became ammunition for scores of angry tweets and public statements by the president and his supporters.

Page's lawsuit said the attention has "radically al-



MANUEL BALCE CENETA/AP 2018
Former FBI lawyer Lisa Page accuses the agencies of violating the Privacy Act in the lawsuit filed Tuesday.

tered her day-to-day life."

"The officials who authorized the disclosure and their allies sought to use, and ultimately did use, the messages to promote the false narrative that Plaintiff and others at the FBI were biased against President Trump, had conspired to undermine him, and otherwise had engaged in allegedly criminal acts, including treason," Page's com-

plaint read. A Justice Department representative declined to comment on the case.

The lawsuit comes as Page has for the first time publicly pushed back against the president's broadsides after remaining quiet about the political firestorm that engulfed her roughly two years ago. Last week, she gave a wide-ranging interview with The Daily Beast in which she slammed Trump for his "sickening" attacks against her and said she wanted to "take my power back."

Responding to the interview, Trump fired off a critical tweet referring to Page as "the lover of Peter Strzok."

Page's lawsuit was filed a day after the Justice Department's inspector general released a report rebutting accusations that top FBI officials were driven by bias in their investigation of possible coordination between the Trump campaign and Russia in the 2016 election.

The lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia.

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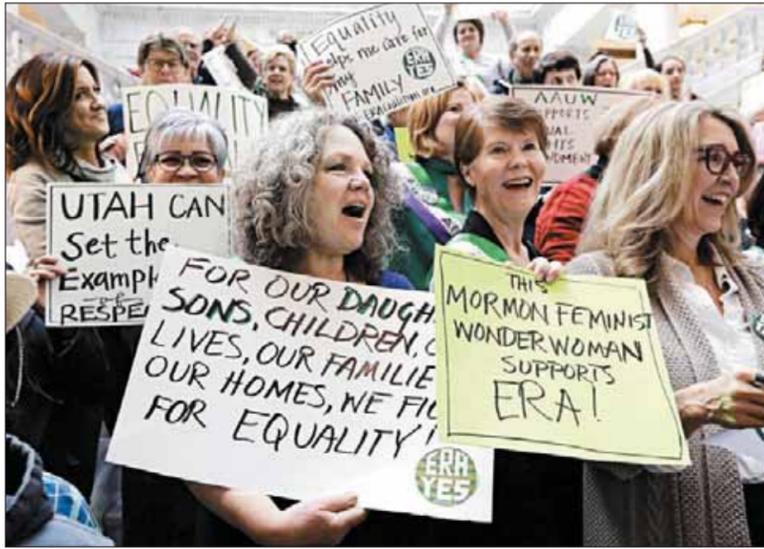
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RICK BOWMER/AP

Supporters of the Equal Rights Amendment rally recently at the Utah State Capitol.

Push to ratify ERA launched in Utah despite opposition

By LINDSAY WHITEHURST AND SARAH RANKIN
Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — A renewed national push to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment has come to conservative Utah, where supporters have launched a long-shot bid to become the tipping point state, despite opposition from the influential Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Utah is one of several conservative-leaning states where supporters hope to make inroads regarding the amendment that would explicitly enshrine equality for women in the U.S. Constitution.

ERA opponents in Utah turned out with signs and chants at a rally announcing the effort, and leaders of the state's predominant faith, often known as the Mormon church, reaffirmed its more-than three decades of opposition.

Democratic state Rep. Karen Kwan was undeterred in her support of the amendment. She's aiming to convince her GOP colleagues in the Legislature by pointing to an 1895 amendment to the state

constitution that guarantees equal "civil, political and religious rights."

Kwan is sponsoring a bill for the 2020 legislative session that she hopes will make Utah the 38th state to ratify the ERA. That's a key number that would meet the constitutional threshold for approval if other challenges can be overcome.

Virginia, however, could get there first after Democrats won control of the Legislature this year for the first time in a generation.

In addition, supporters are weighing new pitches in states such as Georgia, North Carolina, Arizona and Florida, said Carol Jenkins, co-president and CEO of the nationwide ERA Coalition.

However, even if more states join the effort, challenges would remain for the ERA, including a 1982 ratification deadline previously set by Congress and a move by five states to withdraw support.

In Utah, Kwan said that ratification would be worthwhile, even if the state isn't No. 38.

"It's about sending that message of love and respect (about) how much we val-

ue our women," Kwan said following a launch event that drew 200 supporters.

About 40 people came out to protest the launch, saying the ERA language is too broad and could erode protections for women and girls such as workplace accommodations during pregnancies.

Art student Amanda Fisher, 23, said she's worried it could result in fewer restrictions on abortions.

"It kind of seems to be a cover to really make it hard to protect unborn children," she said.

ERA supporters say it isn't about abortion, and laws that protect women aren't under threat. They point out that Utah's own equal rights clause didn't prevent the state from passing new abortion restrictions this year.

The opposition from The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, meanwhile, could prove formidable since the vast majority of Utah lawmakers are members. The faith said decades ago that the ERA could erode family values, and its members worked against the amendment in states such as Virginia, Florida and Missouri.

RENE AUBERJONIS 1940-2019

Character actor displayed versatility across the decades

By ANDREW DALTON
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Rene Auberjonois, a prolific actor best known for his roles on the television shows "Benson" and "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" and his part in the 1970 film "M.A.S.H." playing Father Mulcahy, has died. He was 79.

The actor died Sunday at his home in Los Angeles of metastatic lung cancer, his son Remy-Luc Auberjonois told The Associated Press.

Rene Auberjonois worked constantly as a character actor in several golden ages, from the dynamic theater of the 1960s to the cinema renaissance of the 1970s to the prime period of network television in the 1980s and '90s — and each generation knew him for something different.

For film fans of the 1970s, he was Father John Mulcahy, the military chaplain who played straight man to the doctors' antics in "M.A.S.H." It was his first significant film role and the first of several for director Robert Altman.

For sitcom watchers of the 1980s, he was Clayton Runnymede Endicott III, the hopelessly highbrow chief of staff at a governor's mansion on "Benson," the ABC series whose title character was a butler played by Robert Guillaume.

And for sci-fi fans of the 1990s and convention-goers ever since, he was Odo, the shape-shifting head of space-station security on "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine."

"I am all of those characters, and I love that," Auberjonois said in a 2011 interview with the "Star Trek" website. "I also run into people, and they think I'm their cousin or their dry cleaner. I love that, too."

Auberjonois was born in New York in 1940, the son of Fernand Auberjonois, a Swiss-born foreign correspondent for U.S. newspapers, and the grandson of



RICHARD SHOTWELL/INVISION 2013

Rene Auberjonois may be best known for his television roles on "Benson" and "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine."

a Swiss post-impressionist painter also named Rene Auberjonois.

The younger Rene Auberjonois was raised in New York, Paris and London, and for a time lived with his family in an artists' colony in Rockland County, New York, whose residents included the actors John Houseman, Helen Hayes and Burgess Meredith.

After graduating from college, at Pittsburgh's Carnegie Institute of Technology, now Carnegie Mellon, Auberjonois hopped around the country joining theater companies, eventually landing three roles on Broadway in 1968, including playing the Fool in a long-running version of King Lear.

The following year he would play Sebastian Baye opposite Katharine Hepburn in "Coco," a play on the life of designer Coco Chanel that would earn him a Tony for best actor in a leading role in a musical.

He would later see Tony nominations for 1973's "The Good Doctor," 1984's "Big River," and 1989's "City of Angels."

In his most famous exchange from "M.A.S.H.," Sally Kellerman's Margaret Houlihan wonders how such a degenerate doctor as Donald Sutherland's Hawkeye Pierce could reach a

position of responsibility in the U.S. Army.

A bible-reading Auberjonois responds, deadpan: "He was drafted."

"I actually made that line up when we were rehearsing the scene," Auberjonois said in a 2016 podcast. "And it became a kind of an iconic line for the whole film."

He spent much of the rest of the 1970s doing guest spots on TV shows before joining the cast of "Benson" in its second season in 1980, where he would remain for the rest of the show's seven seasons, playing the patrician political adviser and chronic hypochondriac Endicott.

He played Odo on "Deep Space Nine" from 1993 until 1999 and became a regular at "Star Trek" conventions, where he raised money for Doctors Without Borders and signed autographs with a drawing of Odo's bucket, where the character would store himself when he returned to his natural gelatinous state.

In addition to his son, he is survived by his wife of 56 years, writer Judith Auberjonois; sisters Marie-Laure Degener and Anne Auberjonois; daughter Tessa Auberjonois; son-in-law Adrian Latourelle, daughter-in-law Kate Nowlin and three grandchildren.

NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

Trump pays \$2M to 8 charities as fine for foundation abuse

NEW YORK — President Donald Trump is paying up after conceding that he used his charitable foundation at times as a personal piggy bank.

Trump has wired \$2 million to pay a court-ordered fine for misusing the Trump Foundation in part to further his business interests and 2016 presidential run, New York Attorney General Letitia James said Tuesday.

James' office had

sought to block Trump from writing off the fine payment as a charitable donation on his taxes, but Scarpulla hasn't ruled on that request.

Trump sent the money in the past few weeks, but that development didn't become public until the sides formally agreed Tuesday to close the case.

Trump's fine and the charity's funds will be split evenly among eight organizations. Each charity is getting about \$476,000.

Police confirm 6 dead in New Zealand volcano eruption

A sixth person is confirmed dead as rescue efforts have given way to a grim recovery operation two days after a volcano erupted at a popular tourism site in New Zealand.

Monday's blast left 30 injured and eight missing and presumed dead. Burn units at local hospitals have been pushed to capacity, and calls are emerging to investigate the safety of tourism at New Zealand's most ac-

tive volcano.

New Zealand Police confirmed Tuesday that an injured victim taken from White Island, also known as Whakaari, died at a hospital in suburban Auckland that night, bringing the death toll to six.

Officials warned Tuesday night that positively identifying the deceased could take time owing to the "severe" nature of the injuries suffered.

Fallen rights icon at UN court for Rohingya genocide case

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — Twenty-eight years to the day after Aung San Suu Kyi's husband and sons accepted her Nobel Peace Prize while she remained under house arrest in Myanmar, the former pro-democracy icon appeared in a United Nations court ready to defend her country's army from allegations of committing genocide against the Rohingya minority.

Acting on behalf of the

57-country Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Gambia is asking the world court to take "all measures within its power to prevent all acts that amount to or contribute to the crime of genocide."

Suu Kyi, who was awarded the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize for championing democracy and rights, is leading the Myanmar delegation in her capacity as foreign minister.



MARIA TAN/GETTY-AFP

Protesters burn an effigy of Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte in Manila during a rally Tuesday commemorating International Human Rights Day. Duterte has waged a campaign against illegal drugs that critics blame for thousands of killings by police.

New Jersey gunbattle leaves 6 dead, including police officer

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Six people, including a police officer and three bystanders, were killed in a furious gunbattle Tuesday that filled the streets of Jersey City with the sound of heavy fire for hours, authorities said.

The dead included the two gunmen, Jersey City Police Chief Michael Kelly said.

The slain officer, Detective Joseph Seals, 40, was credited by his superiors with having led the department in the number of illegal guns removed from the streets in recent years, and might have been trying

to stop an incident involving such weapons when he was cut down by gunfire that erupted near a cemetery, authorities said.

The bullets started flying early in the afternoon in the city of about 270,000 people, situated across the Hudson River from New York City. Seals, who worked for a unit called Cease Fire, was shot around 12:30 p.m. The gunmen then traveled to another part of the city in a stolen rental van and engaged police in a protracted shootout.

"Our officers were under fire for hours," the chief

said.

Inside a kosher grocery store, police found the bodies of what they believed were the two gunmen and three other people who apparently happened to be in the place when the assailants rushed in, authorities said. Police said they were confident that all those killed were shot by the gunmen and not by police.

The kosher grocery is a central fixture in a growing community of Orthodox Jews in Jersey City. Authorities were unable to say why the gunmen went there.

Sydney bush fires endanger residents, travelers

Bushfire smoke smothered Sydney on Tuesday, setting off fire alarms, suspending ferry services and triggering health warnings over choking air pollution.

The Sydney Opera House and harbor bridge were barely discernible through the thick haze enveloping the city, with

smoke stinging the eyes and making it difficult to breathe.

The Air Quality Index compiled by the state environment department reached as high as 2,552 in some eastern suburbs — soaring past the "hazardous" threshold of 200.

The ferocious and early

start to the fires this year has stoked a debate around whether Australia's government is doing enough to curb greenhouse gas emissions.

The wildfires have generated more hotspots in the past two days than any other country, according to NASA satellite data.

Gunman kills at least 6 at hospital then shoots himself

PRAGUE — A man with an illegal gun fatally shot six people and wounded three others at a hospital in the eastern Czech Republic on Tuesday, the prime minister and officials said. The gunman later killed himself as police approached his car.

Prime Minister Andrej Babis told Czech public television the shooting took place around 7 a.m. in a hospital waiting room. The attacker opened fire at people's heads from close range, Babis said.

The prime minister canceled an official visit to Estonia and headed to the scene of the shooting at the University hospital in the eastern city of Ostrava, 220 miles east of Prague.

Police identified the attacker as a 42-year-old man.

Regional police chief officer Tomas Kuzel said the suspect used an illegally held Czech-made 9 mm gun.

In Hong Kong: Hong Kong police said they defused two large homemade bombs packed with nails and designed "to kill and to maim people" in the latest reported seizure of weaponry during six months of anti-government protests that have shaken the city.

Police said the bombs found Monday evening inside a high school on Hong Kong Island were "complete, fully functional and ready to be used."

The origin of the bombs was not clear. The Wah Yan College said that there is no evidence linking them to staff or students.

Alick McWhirter, the police explosive squad's senior disposal officer, said that had the bombs exploded, they could "have killed and injured large numbers of people."

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EDITORIALS



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Mayor Lori Lightfoot listens to questions from reporters following a City Council meeting in September.

Lightfoot talks Chicago business, jobs growth and the dreaded 'E' word — Exodus

A successful Chicago mayor needs to be several leaders in one because this large city has complex problems to solve, along with strengths to maintain.

Mayor Lori Lightfoot won election as a reformer focused on stamping out City Hall's culture of corruption and holding Chicago police officers accountable for misconduct. Last week, the mayor fired Superintendent Eddie Johnson, saying: "Ethical leadership, integrity, accountability, legitimacy and yes, honesty must be the hallmarks of city government." That was the reformer mayor in action.

Chicago's future depends on jobs growth

We heard from another Mayor Lightfoot on Monday night. She tailored a speech for an Economic Club of Chicago audience on the future of jobs, business and investment, along with what she termed "inclusive economic development."

It's important to hear from this mayor too: Chicago's stability and prosperity are entwined and depend on luring private-sector employers willing to bet on this city and its workers. Without jobs growth and increased economic activity, there will never be enough taxpayers to keep Chicago livable and support functioning city government. Without jobs growth, eventually the lights will dim.

"When I speak about 'inclusive economic development,'" Lightfoot said in her remarks, "I'm not only talking about growth, I'm also talking

about our need to rebuild our communities. And a central outcome of this plan is growing our population and returning it to 3 million residents."

Lightfoot identified Chicago's core business sectors: industrial and manufacturing activities; food processing; and professional and corporate services. She cited four other areas with strong potential for accelerated growth — tourism and hospitality; technology; health care and life sciences; and transportation, distribution and logistics.

Overcoming Chicago's divides

Her pitch to a roomful of business leaders at a downtown hotel: Chicago needs to think strategically about jobs and growth that benefit not just the downtown, but also Chicagoans in struggling neighborhoods. She mentioned several partnerships and programs either underway or under development that would support workplace training, develop innovation centers to attract corporate expansions and make other contributions.

Her talk was light on details. For now, that's OK. The point is Lightfoot was speaking the right language to a business-minded audience in a business-minded city.

"Here in Chicago we have — to our credit — experienced levels of growth and economic activity in recent years that are remarkable," the mayor said. "Resulting in Chicago leading the nation in corporate relocations and foreign-direct investment. And our

city has become a regional hub for tech innovation. And yet, despite that, poverty persists at alarming rates, all while we continue to lose residents. While companies and industries have been investing in our city, our residents in key neighborhoods have been packing up and moving out. And it is happening largely on our South and West sides."

We think the key for Lightfoot is to keep a balanced perspective. To accomplish good for residents in Chicago's neighborhoods requires attracting and retaining employers and investment citywide. And that demands constant focus to ensure Chicago is competitive with other cities. That global stature is not guaranteed.

Lightfoot said the tech industry is the fastest-growing sector in Chicago's economy. But despite the growing presence of firms such as Facebook, Salesforce and Google, a new study by the Brookings Institution says just five cities — Boston, San Diego, San Francisco, Seattle and San Jose, California — accounted for more than 90% of all U.S. high-tech job growth from 2005-17. Chicago lost ground, Brookings said.

The 'exodus has a cascading effect'

Tuesday brought more bad news. Moody's Investors Services, running the numbers for large cities, finds that Chicago and Detroit are the only two big U.S. cities unprepared to handle a major recession. "Chicago's extraordinarily high fixed costs, coupled with

its escalating pension liabilities, make it one of the cities least prepared for a near-term recession," Moody's says.

Lightfoot knows the challenges. She knows the city is losing population, especially as African Americans leave. "People are disinvesting in us, and their exodus has a cascading effect," the mayor said. "For all our many strengths, we will continue punching below our weight when just a few miles from here, lots remain vacant, homes are left abandoned and thriving businesses very quickly become few and far between."

'A city of inclusive growth and prosperity'

The city's problems aren't fixable in days. It will take years, likely decades, for Chicago to repair its weak public finances and broken neighborhoods. Neither City Hall nor Springfield can do the job alone. Private-sector jobs growth and business investment are required to create prosperity, generate tax revenue and keep the city humming.

"We have diagnosed the problem," Lightfoot said. "What we need now is to focus on how we move forward, together, as a city of inclusive growth and prosperity."

Not many politicians admit it, but rescuing cities like Chicago isn't primarily a public-sector mission. It's a mission that depends on employers deciding that they'll stay here, or locate here. We're glad to hear that Mayor Lightfoot evidently appreciates that imperative.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

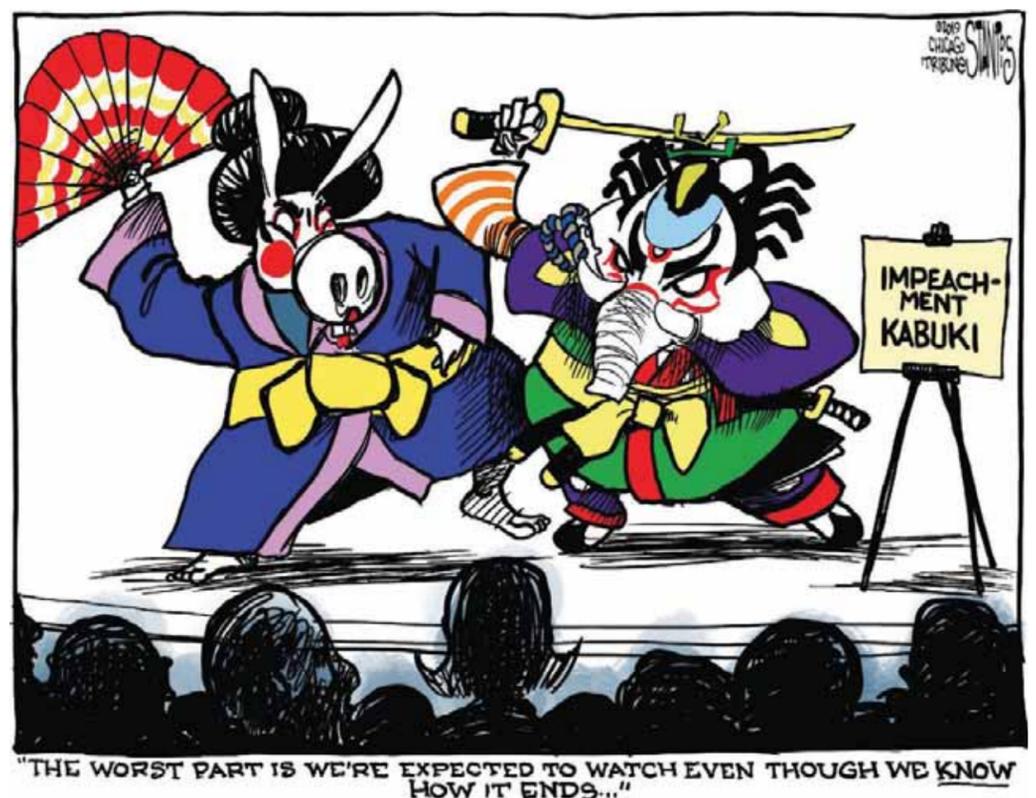
It is an astonishing statistic: Some 87% of British Jews believe that Jeremy Corbyn — one of two men who could be prime minister in a few days' time — is anti-Semitic. How did we get here? Corbyn's party, Labour, has strong connections with the Jewish community, dating back to its earliest days. Yet a deep distrust has developed between the two since he became Labour leader in 2015, and the issue has dogged Corbyn throughout this election campaign.

Disproportionate hatred of Israel is one strand of left-wing anti-Semitism. The other is the conspiracist turn, turbocharged by social media, which gains succor from attacks on "the elite," "the 1%," "the mainstream media," and "billionaires." Corbyn has made such attacks a key part of Labour's appeal. ... The crisis is now so deep that it has become hard for British Jews to state publicly that they support the Labour Party. ...

The breakdown of the relationship between Labour and the Jewish community is profound. It is a story that weaves in many themes of modern politics: anti-imperialism, internet conspiracy, Islamist extremism, polarization, social media abuse, the rise of the hard left and hard right. At its heart, though, it is a story about belonging. Britain's Jews are used to feeling that their safety is provisional, that they are not fully accepted, that they will always be treated as outsiders. The Labour Party now joins a long list of those who have let them down.

Helen Lewis, *The Atlantic*

SCOTT STANTIS



Chicago Tribune

PERSPECTIVE



ANDREW HARNIK/AP

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, center, appears at a news conference Tuesday where Democrats unveiled articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump.

Get real, Democrats, and fight for public support of impeachment



ERIC ZORN

On NBC's "Meet the Press" on Sunday, moderator Chuck Todd displayed a chart labeled "ads on impeachment aired, December 1-7"

"GOP affiliated, 4,265," said the chart, attributed to NBC News. "Dem affiliated, 1."

Todd turned to panelist Stephanie Cutter, a Democratic campaign strategist. "I know that Democrats didn't want to look like they were politicizing this," he said, "but we're at this public-opinion paralysis. ... Republicans have done a paid media campaign, and it's at least worked to get it to where we are."

"Where we are" is close to evenly split as a nation and hardened in our positions. Two respected poll-aggregation sites, FiveThirtyEight and RealClearPolitics, show support and opposition levels for the House impeachment inquiry into Republican President Donald Trump basically where they were in early October, well before the House Intelligence Committee hearings that featured witness after witness testifying to Trump's abuses of power.

As of Tuesday afternoon, the FiveThirtyEight average of polls showed 47.7% support for impeachment, and 45.0% opposition. The RealClearPolitics average of polls asking

about impeachment and removal has support at 47.7%, opposition at 47.0%. Such narrow margins aren't nearly enough to generate the sort of groundswell that would be necessary to prompt Republican lawmakers to renounce their support of the president.

"Democrats are running ads," said Cutter when she got around to addressing Todd's implicit question. "But they're running ads on things like getting prescription drugs done or reforming the health care system."

Impeachment, she said a moment later, is about "abuse of power and breaking the public trust. That's serious. That's not something you put on Facebook ads. ... And Democrats will get credit for that."

Charming! As if we lived in a nation where people disdained noise, spin and propaganda, and tuned out political ads in order to answer weighty questions for themselves. As if voters have shown any inclination whatsoever in recent years to reward issue-oriented high-mindedness.

What's really going on is that Democrats are bringing a spork to a gunfight.

The Washington Post reported over the weekend that, in the last month, "independent big-money groups boosting Republicans have launched roughly \$10 million in ads aimed at Democrats in districts that President Trump won in 2016," while the Democrats patty-caked back with a two-week, \$1.5 million campaign in support of their vulnerable candidates.

On Facebook, Republican ad spending has tripled Democratic spending, and "none of the 30 Democrats who

are being targeted by national GOP groups ran Facebook ads in the past month to counter the attacks."

Yes, impeachment in the House and a trial in the Senate ought to be dignified, truth-seeking, evidence-based procedures free from partisan cant and inflammatory histrionics. We all ought to weigh the facts against the demands of the Constitution and reach an independent judgment about whether the president has so grossly violated his oath of office that he should no longer serve.

But this is all taking place in the real world.

I have no doubt that the Democrats have made a solid case for impeachment. Yet I have no hope that, absent blockbuster new evidence, even a massive ad blitz would move the Republican-controlled Senate to muster the 67 votes in that chamber needed to convict and remove Trump.

That's not the point of the call for more advertising. The point is that 31 Democratic members of the House are on the list of those who occupy seats in districts won by Trump in 2016 and thought to be particularly vulnerable in the 2020 election less than 11 months from now. That list includes Rep. Lauren Underwood of Naperville and Rep. Cheri Bustos of Moline. And if Republicans win back a little more than half of those seats, they'll regain control of the House, which would be an epic disaster if the autocratically inclined Trump is reelected.

An effective campaign to counter the Republican campaign could help save the vulnerable members. Yes, the articles of impeachment presented

Tuesday are strong. But bills of particulars don't rile up the masses. A combination of images, music and thunderous narration in a barrage of TV commercials would be a far stronger way to persuade swing voters in these swing districts and elsewhere that the evidence against Trump is serious and persuasive enough for a person of principle to demand a trial in the Senate.

I'd suggest starting with spots attacking Trump for his cowardice — his fear of testifying under oath or allowing those in his inner circle to testify under oath about the White House's dealings with Ukraine.

Tagline: What are they hiding?

Follow that with 30- and 60-second explanations of the damning timeline of events — how Trump released congressionally approved military aid to Ukraine only after he learned that someone had blown the whistle on his attempt to use that aid to coerce the Ukrainian government to announce an investigation into his U.S. political rival. Then a spot debunking the notion that Trump had genuine concerns about corruption and nepotism, including dripping allusions to how unclean his own hands are in this area.

Tagline: Trump is just the sort of president the Founders were afraid of.

The battle for the Republican Senate to convict appears hopelessly lost. But the battle for the approval of the voters who will shape the next four years has just begun. Jump in, Democrats!

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As Reform Jews, we must consider reparations for American slavery

BY JONAH PESNER

Americans in general and faith groups in particular increasingly find ourselves reckoning with our nation's bigoted history and struggling with how to dismantle the racist systems and structures that persist to this day. As the largest Jewish denomination in the United States, it's time for the Reform movement to join this conversation. It's time for us to talk reparations.

When I first read Ta-Nehisi Coates' groundbreaking article "The Case for Reparations," I thought of a blessing that I, like many Jews, have said so many times throughout my life, including to my own children: the Birkat Kohanim, or the priestly blessing, which begins with the line, "May God bless you and keep you." Its simplicity is eloquent and profound, and while it is about protection, the reference to "bless you" in the biblical text particularly refers to abundance and prosperity.

African slaves and their descendants had their freedom, self-determination, bodies, communities, ability to inherit and pass down wealth to their loved ones, possessions and, most important, their humanity, systematically stolen from them; reparations are an attempt to offer a restoration of their rightful blessings. This week, thousands of Reform Jews will come together at the Union for Reform Judaism Biennial in Chicago to make decisions directing the social justice work of our movement and,

we hope, the nation. We will consider a resolution that would make it our policy to support the exploration of reparations for American slavery. To reach that goal, Reform Jews and our institutions must start participating in the dialogue around what a just reparations system looks like and calling on our elected officials to do the same.

With a few notable exceptions, the Jewish community, which is so often proudly on the front lines of social justice causes, has remained quiet on the subject of reparations. Our silence is an implicit claim that we have no role to play or no responsibility to act. But we must engage with the continued legacy of slavery.

We find ourselves in an era of reckoning, of cultural shifts, the rejection of a racist history and of ongoing racist systems and structures. Confederate statues are coming down, grandchildren are educating their elders about white privilege and universities are moving to atone for their roles in perpetuating our democracy's original sins of slavery and colonization. As the largest Jewish denomination in the United States, it's time for the Reform movement to accelerate our work for racial justice.

Some in our community may not think this is our responsibility. A tiny number of American Jews owned slaves, with most white American Jews immigrating long after slavery was abolished. We are proud that decades later, many Jews were allies to African American organizers during the

Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s.

Our Jewish community is tremendously diverse, including Jews of color who are descendants of enslaved African people, but many of us have white Jewish grandparents who arrived in the United States in the early 1900s with very little. They overcame anti-Semitism, poverty and displacement to achieve stability and, in many cases, success. And without diminishing their sacrifices or the challenges they faced, we can now understand that they and many of us also benefited from, and continue to benefit from, the same white privilege that allows for the continued discrimination against black Americans. From how we gained entry into this country to the places we were allowed to live and work, to access to education and financial capital, white Jews have reaped the rewards of racism.

In other words, this is complex. But our tradition teaches us that we can — and often must — hold in our hands two opposing truths in order to understand the complexity of the world.

It is not only atonement that we seek, but also justice. What do we as white Jews do when we realize that so many of us have benefited from whiteness — even as we still have faced discrimination of our own? How do we hold these two truths in our hands?

We are responsible because our texts are laced with stories and commandments of reparations, of the impossibility of justice

without reconciliation. True freedom from Egypt required the Israelites to be compensated for their unpaid labor and oppression — compensation they used to build our holy place for worship in the desert, the Mishkan. After the Holocaust, the German government sought to reclaim its place in the global community partly through payments that have been critical to the financial stability of families devastated by the Holocaust.

The resolution we will grapple with at the URJ Biennial does not define what form reparations ought to take. Instead, just like congressional legislation calling for a committee to study and develop proposals for reparations, which our resolution endorses, we consider it our moral duty to "seek an end to ignorance." Knowledge must then transform into action against the racism still lingering in our congregations and communities, and a clearer sense of what true reparations might look like.

The URJ's resolution is about confronting racism in our country, our synagogues and our hearts. We cannot expect to be a spiritually renewed community — or country — without the airing of truths and a coming to terms with our past sins and silence.

Rabbi Jonah Pesner is the director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism and senior vice president of the Union for Reform Judaism.

PERSPECTIVE



NATI HARNIK/AP

Democratic presidential candidate Sen. Cory Booker, D-N.J. peeks through a curtain at a campaign stop in Iowa on Thursday.

Black voters care less about race than about nominating a winner



CLARENCE PAGE

After Sen. Kamala Harris abruptly dropped out of the race for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination, the famously inclusive party wasn't looking very inclusive anymore.

Without being too cheeky, you might say that the party that highlights diversity and equality is suffering from an embarrassment of wealthy white men.

Or, as Sen. Cory Booker described the irony last week, when only six people, all white, had met the party's new threshold to qualify for next week's debate in Los Angeles, the stage on Dec. 19 is likely to have "more billionaires than black people."

"What message is that sending — that we heralded the most diverse field in our history," Booker told a morning crowd in Des Moines last week, "and now we're seeing people like her dropping out of this campaign?"

Yes, political correctness cuts both ways. As much as the party can boast of having more women and people of color than ever in the House after last year's midterm elections, and in their lineup of presidential candidates, it's another big challenge to hold onto that diversity.

Among top-tier candidates of color, businessman Andrew Yang qualified for the debate Tuesday, just days before this week's deadline.

Booker and former HUD Secretary Julian Castro have met the party's donor threshold, but neither has scored high

enough in a single qualifying poll to make the debate, according to The New York Times debate tracker.

Rep. Tulsi Gabbard of Hawaii scored enough in polling and fundraising to be listed as "on the cusp" as of Tuesday. Former Gov. Deval Patrick of Massachusetts also appears to have entered the race too late to make the stage.

But things can change. With Harris' departure, Booker's blunt blast about billionaires appears to have given a boost to his own fundraising. He raised more than \$1 million within three days of Harris dropping out on Dec. 3. The day after Harris dropped out was his best online fundraising day, his campaign announced, and more than half of the surge came from first-time donors.

Of course, I already can see moans and groans in social networks about "identity politics," as if that were a new thing in politics. In fact, women and people of color have seen identity politics played against them for so long that one can hardly blame them for using it to push back, especially in a campaign to unseat President Donald Trump, who often has fashioned a tribe based on conservative grievances.

That's legitimate, in my humble opinion, but it doesn't substitute for a clear theme and purpose to one's campaign. Harris lost momentum on both counts. After her strong performance in the first debate with her takedown of front-runner and former Vice President Joe Biden's early voting record, she seemed to peak quickly, unprepared for criticism of her own record as a prosecutor.

Her campaign struggled with reported fundraising and organizational problems. But mainly she lacked what the late George H.W. Bush once called, the "vision thing."

Those questions matter as Democrats try to restore the multiracial, multiethnic coalition that carried President Barack Obama to two victories. About 4.4 million voters who cast ballots for Obama in 2012 stayed home in 2016, according to exit polls by Edison Media Research. More than a third were black. So, as much as candidates should never make too much of race or gender politics, which can invite a backlash, they can't take women or people of color for granted either.

The politically awkward possibility of an all-white Democratic debate stage shows, among other new realities, that symbolism isn't as powerful as it used to be with potential voters.

It annoys some liberals when "electability" questions are raised about Sen. Elizabeth Warren, for example. But, for all the milestones that have been made by progressives such as Warren and Sen. Bernie Sanders, black Democrats in particular have been showing a persistent and resilient pull toward the familiar presence of Obama's former vice president, Biden.

That's important, even as South Bend Mayor Pete Buttigieg has gained top-tier status in Iowa polling and Warren is looking strong in New Hampshire, next door to her home state of Massachusetts.

Biden continues to lead in South Carolina, where most of the Democratic primary voters are black — and where Buttigieg recently scored a 0% of black voters. The mayor will do better, I'm sure, especially since he has nowhere to go in that poll but up.

Clarence Page, a member of the Tribune Editorial Board, blogs at www.chicagotribune.com/pagespage.

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Samoa is a wretched reminder of a pre-vaccine past

BY MICHAEL GERSON

Volunteers in the New Zealand city of Rotorua are in the process of sending two dozen handcrafted, infant-sized coffins to the Pacific island of Samoa, which is currently in the midst of a deadly measles outbreak. The coffins are gifts to Samoan families who can't afford them but suddenly need them. The smallest are decorated with felt flowers and butterflies.

That is one form of Samoa's contact with the world. Another is anti-vaccination propaganda, much of it generated in America, that arrives through social media and discourages Samoan parents from vaccinating their children. This type of import has helped turn Samoa into a case study of "anti-vax" success, and increased the demand for tiny coffins, decorated with flowers and butterflies.

Samoa is a reminder of a pre-vaccine past, and the dystopian vision of a post-vaccine future. Its government has declared a state of emergency. Schools have been closed. Children under 17 have been banned from public gatherings. Unvaccinated families have been asked to hang red flags outside their homes so mobile vaccination teams can find them.

Like measles outbreaks generally do, the problem appeared rapidly. A few cases in October has mushroomed into more than 4,000 today. At least 70 (mainly children) are dead.

All of this was completely predictable. "In the absence of vaccination," Anthony Fauci of the National Institutes of Health told me, "measles spreads rapidly among children and kills some of them. This happened consistently throughout the world, including the USA, prior to the availability of the measles vaccines in the mid-1960s. This is exactly what is happen-

ing in Samoa today — widespread infection and death of children. ... If you give history a chance, it will always repeat itself."

When it comes to public health, science alone does not save lives. This requires science plus healthy social norms. Cigarette use, for example, was reduced (in part) though the application of stigma. But vaccinations have a unique challenge. Public health is always just a few years away from catastrophe, because vaccination rates against infectious diseases need to be so high each year (generally 90% to 95%) to maintain herd protection.

Across the world, social norms on vaccination have run headlong into social media. Given the unrivaled power of Facebook and other platforms to cultivate conspiratorial paranoia, it is not easy to get 90% of any human population to think or do anything, particularly when it involves the infinitesimal risk of a bad reaction. When it comes to public health, a destructive fanatic doesn't need to win an election to hurt people, just gain the support of a fringe.

The situation in Samoa has been complicated by a high-profile case of medical malpractice, in which two children died from adulterated vaccines. But the problem is always complex when it comes to putting drugs into currently healthy children. The social consensus for vaccination needs to be so strong that it overcomes the natural hesitance for nearly all parents. And maintaining that consensus isn't easy when anti-vaxxers are a strong internet presence. In Samoa, where Facebook is a main source of information, the vaccine coverage of children fell from 58% in 2017 to 31% in 2018. Local authorities have no doubt that social media played a role. "We've had children who

have passed away," said Samoa's Communications Minister Afamasaga Rico Tupai, "after coming to the hospital as a last resort and then we find out the anti-vaccine message has got to their families."

In any sane society, the prevention of deadly, highly infectious diseases is a non-negotiable public commitment. Coercion must be set at whatever level is necessary to ensure herd immunity. In Samoa, vaccination is now mandatory. One anti-vax campaigner (who recommends the treatment of measles with a papaya leaf extract) has been arrested. This is admittedly harsh. But amid a public health crisis, this type of speech is like crying "remain seated" in a burning theater.

Conviction, however, is much better than coercion. And America would be a better carrier of a pro-science, pro-health, pro-vaccine message if some prominent Americans did not feed anti-vax conspiracy theories on social media. The crisis in Samoa would be an excellent opportunity for President Donald Trump to repudiate such views, which he regularly peddled before entering office. The sudden arrival of Middle East peace, however, is more likely than the president admitting an error — even an error with potentially deadly consequences.

Dr. Sheldon Yett, the UNICEF representative to the Pacific, has put the case bluntly: "People who are spreading lies and misinformation about vaccinations are killing children." Such lies are among America's worst exports to the world.

Washington Post Writers Group

Michael Gerson is a Washington Post columnist.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

The day that will live in infamy

As I recall on that day, frost covered my window like a filigreed doily. I had to scratch a peephole in it so I could see the source of shrill words that were shattering the quietude of South Prairie Street in Bloomington, Illinois. Then I saw the little boy struggling with a large bag of newspapers.

He stumbled along for a few steps, stopped, adjusted the bag on his shoulder and eased onward. Any minute I thought he would slip and flop into a pile of snow and newspapers. But he tipped along.

Evidently, his piercing words annoyed Big Thelma. I watched as she strode from her house next door. Her fists clutched at her sides, she rushed forward like one of those coal delivery trucks that invaded the neighborhood almost every day. So I knew the paperboy was in big trouble. After all, in the past she had given me several head thumpings for being "a mannish little boy."

Instead, Thelma handed the boy a coin, snatched a newspaper from his hand and snapped it open. Her eyes widened as she glared at the headlines.

I looked around. Several people hurried into the street to purchase papers. Then they gathered in groups, evidently discussing what they had read.

I walked out onto the porch. I could hear the paperboy's piercing words more clearly. He shouted and he shouted: "Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor! I have newspapers! Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor!"

— Richard C. Dixon, Bloomington

Trump's actions demand oversight

Regarding the impeachment inquiry, letter writer Gary VanderBent implies the Democrats' motivation is fear that President Donald Trump will be reelected and criticizes them for supposedly not doing "the people's business" ("Let the voters decide Trump's fate," Dec. 10). Wrong on both counts. First, most members of Congress understand that, given the intense tribalism of our times, the Senate will likely not oust the president from office. But history needs to record that his actions and behavior do not correlate with the oath of office he took and that many voters take strong issue with his obsessive self-interest. Inviting foreign powers to influence our elections is, and should be, illegal. It compromises our national security and the clarity of our democratic processes.

Second, Congress has most definitely been doing the people's business. The House of Representatives has passed over 300 bills. Once sent to Mitch McConnell's Republican Senate, they languish without ever even coming to the floor for debate. Mr. VanderBent is correct that the 2020 election most likely will decide if this crude and cruel man should return to the White House. But that doesn't mean his actions — or any president's — don't warrant the perfectly proper oversight of Congress and the scrutiny of a free press.

— Jane Artabasy, Glencoe

Nixon was far worse than Trump

To letter writer Jill Wine-Banks of Evanston ("Trump's actions are far worse than Nixon's," Nov. 27), who stated, "President Trump's actions are far worse than those of President Richard Nixon," I can only say this: Vietnam. I am far from a Donald Trump fan, but I am horrified by how conveniently anti-Trumpers forget the daily horrors of the Nixon presidency and its treachery in Southeast Asia. Their glib attacks on the current inept president completely devalue what Nixon and his gang got away with.

— Dennis Allen, Wilmette

Senators, honor your oath of office

The experts say that the Senate will fail to find President Donald Trump guilty. We hope that enough of them will honor their oath of office and put an end to this nightmare administration.

— Roy Ahlgren, Chicago

Look into Hunter Biden's appointment

While the Democrats are trying to impeach President Donald Trump, why are they not looking into the appointment of Hunter Biden to the board of directors of Ukraine gas company Burisma? Apparently no one saw or heard anything regarding the appointment, which seems to be the standard of evidence that was needed to carry on the impeachment hearings, but the silence is deafening. Given the fact his father was vice president of the United States at the time, this appears to be more than a coincidence? You don't need three guesses for this one.

— Herb Hupfer, Kildeer

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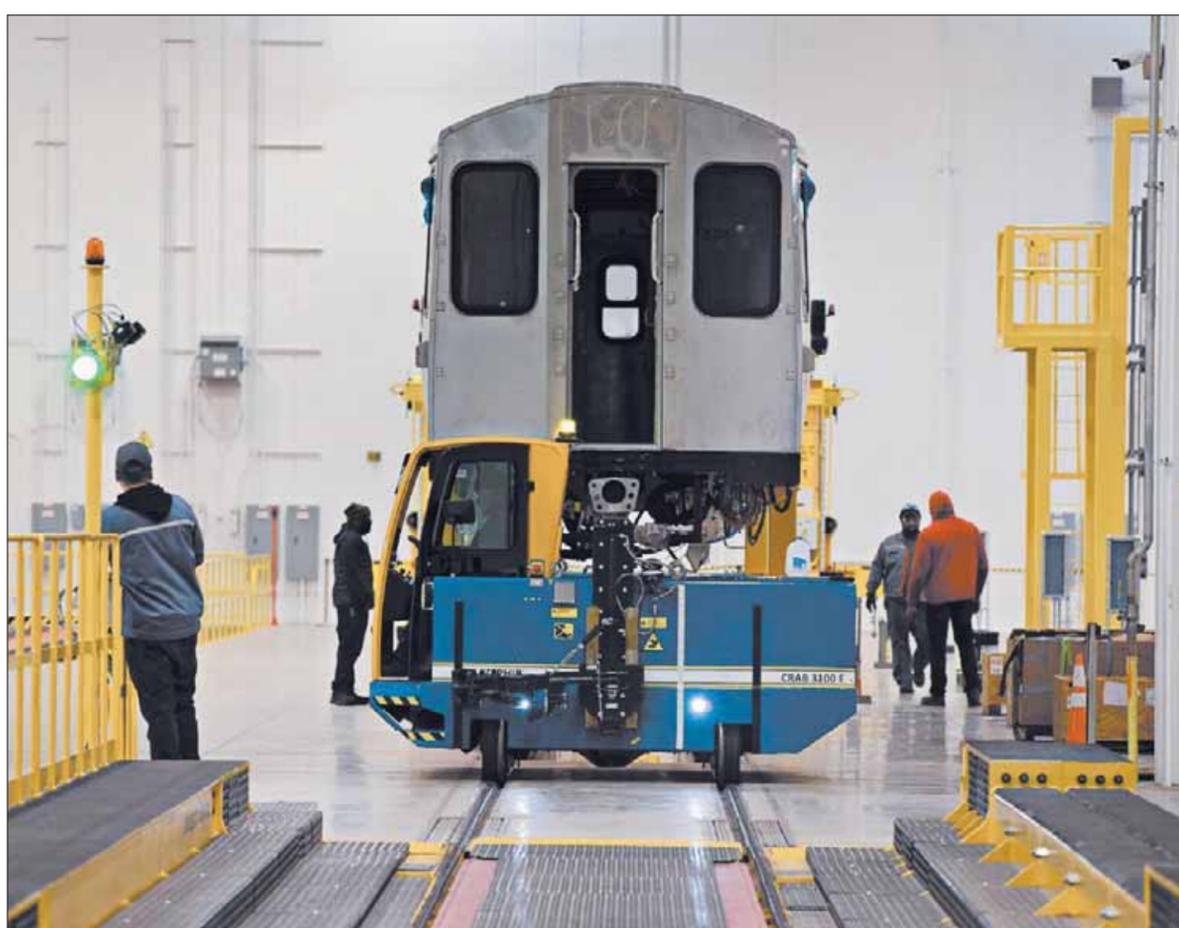
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Chicago Tribune BUSINESS



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

A Chicago Transit Authority "L" car is moved during assembly Tuesday at CRRC Corporation.

University of Phoenix settles FTC case

For-profit college accused of deceptive advertising campaign starting in 2012

BY COLLIN BINKLEY
Associated Press

The University of Phoenix and its parent company have agreed to pay \$50 million in cash and cancel \$141 million in student debt to settle allegations of deceptive advertisement brought by the Federal Trade Commission.

The deal, announced Tuesday, settles a dispute over an ad campaign the for-profit college rolled out in 2012 touting partnerships with companies including Microsoft, Twitter and Adobe. It suggested the school worked with those companies to create job opportunities for students, even though there was no such agreement, investigators found.

The Federal Trade Commission said the settlement is the largest the agency has ever obtained against a for-profit college.

"Students making important decisions about their education need the facts, not fantasy job opportunities that do not exist," said Andrew Smith, director of the Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Consumer Protection.

The University of Phoenix said in a statement that much of the dispute focused on a single ad campaign that ran from 2012 to 2014. It said it agreed to the deal "to avoid any further distraction from serving students."

"The campaign occurred under prior ownership and concluded before the FTC's inquiry began. We continue to believe the University acted appropriately," the company said.

Apollo Education Group owns the University of Phoenix. The Arizona-based for-profit college chain has 55 campuses across the nation and teaches thousands of students through its online programs. It's the nation's largest recipient of GI Bill tuition benefits for military veterans.

Under the settlement, the University of Phoenix and Apollo will cancel all remaining debt for students who first enrolled between Oct. 1, 2012, and the end of 2016. Letters will be sent to borrowers saying they no longer owe payments to the school. The school is also barred from making false claims about its relationships with companies or employers.

The FTC says the \$50 million payment will be used to help consumers who were misled by the ads.

According to the FTC's complaint, the University of Phoenix created the

Turn to **Phoenix, Page 2**

Gearing up for more

Southeast Side rail car factory could add jobs, contracts, thanks to a change in proposed law

BY MARY WISNIEWSKI

Proposed legislation that would bar transit agencies from using federal money to buy Chinese buses and rail cars has been revised, which could buy a new factory on Chicago's Far Southeast Side time to land additional contracts and add dozens of jobs.

CRRC Sifang, a subsidiary of a Chinese rail car manufacturer, employs 100 workers at a Hegewisch facility it built to make rail cars for the CTA. It will employ about 70 more once production has ramped up to handle the full \$1.3 billion contract. The proposed bipartisan legislation would not affect the current 10-year CTA contract.

CRRC had hoped the plant could also do future work for other transit agencies, including Metra. But the original draft of the proposed legislation, part of the National Defense Authorization Act, would have limited CRRC's ability to line up additional contracts. The revised proposal delays the start of the ban until two years after Congress passes the legislation, which allows CRRC time to get more contracts, many of which

involve years of ongoing production.

"The current version of the NDAA ensures public transit agencies will continue to benefit from competition in the passenger rail car industry for at least two years after the NDAA is enacted," said Marina Popovic, human resources director and chief legal counsel for CRRC Sifang, in a statement.

Popovic said the company is confident that, during the inter-



Electrical foreman Erik Weathersby attaches lugs to the underside of a CTA "L" car being assembled Tuesday at CRRC Corporation.

CRRC "will demonstrate to all transportation stakeholders that CRRC's railcars are safe, secure and reliable."

CRRC spokesman Dave Smolensky said in an interview that if the company was able to

get another rail car contract, it would add an additional 100 jobs to its 380,000-square-foot Chicago facility.

The company has already put

Turn to **Factory, Page 2**



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2018

The exterior of Carson's Ribs at 612 N. Wells St. in River North. Greenhouse Group is seeking approval to open a dispensary on the site.

Two cannabis companies take first steps toward opening new stores

Greenhouse Group, Cresco Labs eye River North neighborhood

BY ALLY MAROTTI
AND RYAN ORI

Two marijuana companies have submitted applications to the city to open recreational weed stores in the River North neighborhood.

Cresco Labs is seeking approval to open a new cannabis store in a four-story, 1800s-era building at 436 N. Clark St. About two blocks away, Greenhouse Group is seeking approval to open at 612 N. Wells St., within a condo development that is replacing the for-

mer Carson's Ribs building.

The companies are the first to seek approval for new weed stores, and others are expected to follow. The full City Council would need to approve the applications, and the dispensaries still would need licenses from the state.

Neither company would comment on their application.

Mayor Lori Lightfoot's cannabis zoning ordinance created seven zones in the city for marijuana sales. Each zone will have an initial cap of seven dispensaries. Existing marijuana stores won spots to open new stores in each

Turn to **Stores, Page 2**

Uber, Lyft promise more safety features to prevent sexual assault

Chicago will have to wait on 'verify your ride' innovation

BY MARY WISNIEWSKI

Uber and Lyft are promising more safety initiatives, but Chicago is going to have to wait for Uber's "verify your ride" feature that started in seven cities Tuesday.

The feature, which involves riders receiving a unique four-digit PIN to provide to drivers, is starting in Atlanta, Nashville, Sacramento, Phoenix, Dallas, Denver, and Philadelphia, but not yet in bigger markets like Chicago and New York City. The driver will only be able to start a trip once the correct PIN has been entered.

Uber spokeswoman Kayla Whaling did not know when the additional safety measure would be available in Chicago, except to say that it's "in the future."

"This added layer of verification can help ensure riders get in the right car and drivers are picking up the correct rider," Whaling said.

Last week, Uber said more than 3,000 sexual assaults were reported during its U.S. ride-sharing trips in 2018. The company, the largest ride-share provider, said incidents of sexual assault are rare, as the company



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

An Uber rideshare on Walton Street and Michigan Avenue on Oct. 18.

averages more than 3 million trips each day. Uber also found that drivers were the victims in nearly half of sexual assault cases.

Whaling said she was unable to provide numbers in the company's safety report for Chicago or Illinois.

Data from the city's Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection show that a total of 327 Uber, Lyft or Via ride-share drivers were fired between Jan. 1, 2016 and Aug. 20, 2019 because of complaints of sexual misconduct.

Those firings accounted for 29% of the 1,120 drivers fired during that time period, according to the city.

Other issues that got drivers kicked off of ride-share plat-

forms in Chicago were complaints about illegal drug use and possession and traffic incidents that resulted in police reports or insurance claims.

The city requires ride-share companies to report incidents involving drivers who have been fired after being accused of certain behaviors ranging from battery to a traffic crash to rape.

Sexual misconduct firings in Chicago have increased both because of a rise in the number of trips and an expansion of Uber's definition of sexual misconduct, which now includes a driver asking a passenger for a date, Whaling said.

Both Uber and Lyft say they are trying to prevent sexual

Turn to **Safety, Page 2**

Holidays bring phishing scam surge

Small businesses often targeted by questionable emails

BY JOYCE M. ROSENBERG
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The email looked legitimate, so Danielle Radin clicked on the link it contained, expecting to have her products included in a holiday gift guide.

"I instantly regretted it," says Radin, owner of Mantra Magnets, a website that sells wellness products. "It took me to some random website that looked like those pop-ups telling you that you've won the lottery."

Within days of that click three weeks ago, Radin began getting notifications that people in Ecuador, China and elsewhere were trying to access her email account. She wasn't surprised; she knew her San Diego-based small business

had been the target of a phishing scam.

While cybercriminals strike at any time of the year, they're particularly active during the holiday and income tax filing seasons when computer users expect to see more emails — and scammers are increasingly targeting individual small businesses with phishing scams, sending messages that look legitimate but do harm instead.

An unsuspecting owner or employee clicks on a link or attachment and like Radin finds that malicious software has invaded their PCs.

Cybersecurity experts find that criminals who used to blanket thousands of computer users in hopes of fooling a handful have refined their methods. Scammers find small businesses through websites, social media sites and by combing email address books.

They also mine personal data from breaches at retail-

ers and other large companies. Then, using a process called social engineering, they construct emails that look realistic, as if they truly come from a boss, colleague, friend, potential client or vendor, a bank and even the IRS.

"In the last year or two they've been running more professional campaigns," says Perry Toone, owner of Thexyz, an email service provider based in Toronto. "It can take a couple of minutes for me to determine that they're phishing scams. That tells me they're doing a very good job."

Radin believes the scammers found her through her website or a blog. Like many small businesses, she has an email address on her site, and the scammers figured out that she might be interested in selling via a holiday gift guide.

But finding a target is one thing; the scam won't work unless it tricks an email recipient into clicking. Even

those who are tech savvy can sometimes let their guard down. Radin was duped even though she's the author of "Everyone's Been Hacked," a book sold online.

Often a scam succeeds because there's just a shred of doubt in a computer user — the email is realistic enough that an owner or employee feels they need to read it. Sometimes a staffer clicks out of fear or a sense of responsibility, says Rahul Telang, a professor of information systems at Carnegie Mellon University's Heinz College.

"It might not sound very personal, but you have an idea that you should go ahead — you feel like the email is coming from the boss," he says.

Computer users may not be looking as closely as they should at an email — there can be subtle signs that a message is trouble. Terry Cole, owner of Cole Informatics, a company whose work includes cybersecu-

city, recalls getting an email that truly seemed to be from a colleague. He was one of several people in the industry to receive it.

"It said that this colleague had sent me a secure private message that was ready for me to read and included a link to click. This was absolutely consistent with my normal experiences communicating with him," says Cole, whose company is in Parsons, Tennessee.

Cole didn't do in that instance what he usually does and advises everyone to do: check the email address to be sure it's completely correct. When he clicked on the link, it took him to a bogus website claiming to be connected with Microsoft and asking him for his ID and password. He went no further and suffered no damage to his PC.

The holidays provide scammers with extra opportunities: emailed greeting cards, package shipment no-

ties, offers of discounts — all of them false. Cybercriminals also seek personal information from owners and employees under the guise of needing them to create a W-2 or 1099 tax form; at this time of year, business owners' thoughts are turning to taxes.

"Something that claims to know you, your name, where you work and wants you to take some action is harder to spot," says Sherrod DeGripio, senior director of threat research and detection at Proofpoint, a cybersecurity company based in Sunnyvale, California.

A common scam at holiday time is an email purportedly from the boss telling a staffer to go buy gift cards and email the numbers back, DeGripio says.

"When it appears to come from a boss or CEO, I think there is that tendency among employees to follow those directions. They're playing on their emotions," she says.

Saudi prince's ambitions tied to triumphant Aramco sale

BY AYA BATRAWY
Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia — Saudi Arabia is expected to set a record for the largest stock flotation in history Wednesday with the sale of part of Aramco, the state-owned oil company valued at \$1.7 trillion.

The offering's success is crucial to the ambitious plan by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman to overhaul Saudi Arabia's economy and wean it off its reliance on oil revenue for survival.

The company is looking to raise \$294 billion from selling a 1.7% stake on the local Saudi exchange, making it the world's biggest ever initial public offering. Prince Mohammed had envisioned an even bigger stock market debut for the kingdom's crown jewel. The aim is to attract foreign investment to rapidly create jobs for millions of young Saudis entering the workforce as he prepares to inherit the throne.

The government has tra-



SIMON DAWSON/BLOOMBERG NEWS 2018

Saudi Aramco will cut output by 200,000 barrels a day under a new OPEC agreement.

ditionally been the primary employer of Saudis, but lower oil prices, a budget deficit and a large young population mean the private sector must expand to absorb new entrants into the workforce to keep unemployment from rising beyond 12%.

The flotation is "a step in the right direction that will enable the crown prince to build confidence around Ar-

amco," said Ayham Kamel, head of Eurasia Group's Middle East division.

That could lead to confidence in the Saudi economy and generate billions of dollars in capital to invest in job-creating projects, analysts say.

What the crown prince had initially sought was a \$2 trillion valuation for Aramco and the sale of up to 5% of the

company — on an international stock exchange as well as the Saudi market — that could raise \$100 billion.

Instead, potential buyers thought his \$2 trillion valuation was too high. And the company ditched plans to list outside Saudi Arabia, amid headwinds including lower oil prices, heightened geopolitical tensions and climate change concerns.

Factory

Continued from Page 1

in bids to build rail cars for other transit systems, including the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Agency in Washington, D.C., known as WMATA. That agency is kept out of the two-year extension, so CRRC could not get that contract.

CRRC said it has also submitted a bid to Metra, the Chicago region's commuter railroad, which has been accepting proposals from companies interested in building at least 200 new railcars. Metra had issued an earlier bid for 75 rail cars in April 2017, but only CRRC responded. So Metra decided to try again.

Metra spokeswoman Meg Thomas-Reile said the agency does not comment on active procurements, so as not to compromise the

"confidentiality and integrity of the evaluation process."

The National Defense Authorization Act establishes funding levels and sets policies for national security programs. The final draft must still be passed by both the House and Senate before it can be signed by President Donald Trump.

Advocates for the proposal said that prohibiting federal dollars from being spent on Chinese-made buses and rail cars is necessary to protect the American rail industry from state-subsidized competitors and to guard against spying and sabotage.

U.S. Congresswoman Robin Kelly, a Chicago Democrat whose district includes the Hegewisch factory, had voted for an earlier version of the Authorization Act, which included the original Chinese rail car ban proposal and had bipartisan support.

Kelly is currently review-

ing the "massive" bill in its entirety, said her spokesman, James Lewis.

Erik Olson, vice president of the Rail Security Alliance, said the group of American freight rail car companies is "grateful" to all members who have worked on the legislation and is hopeful that it will become law.

"We're thankful they have recognized the serious national security threat posed by Chinese state-owned enterprises," said Olson in an emailed statement.

CRRC also faces the possibility that tariffs proposed by the Trump administration on Chinese products could drive up the price of the CTA "L" project, which involves replacing about half of the CTA's fleet. The CTA has said that CRRC must pay for any new costs caused by the tariffs, but Smolensky said there is still no definitive answer on that question.

CRRC is currently work-

ing on the first 10 prototype 7000-series "L" cars. The prototypes won't go into service on the system for testing until next year, and full production won't start until those cars are tested.

Smolensky said the company is "optimistic" that the tariff issue will be worked out before the factory goes into full production. The contract is for up to 846 cars.

Last week, the CTA asked CRRC for more details about its supply chain after an NBC news report that children are being used to mine materials in Africa that might be used in "L" car production. CRRC had responded in a statement that the company prohibits the use of child labor in the making of any of the components used in the assembly of its cars, and said that most of the components are sourced from U.S. suppliers.

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Safety

Continued from Page 1

assault during ride-sharing trips by better educating drivers.

In 2020, Uber plans to expand sexual misconduct and assault education for all U.S. drivers and is working with the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network or RAINN, the nation's largest sexual violence organization, to design the program, Whaling said. Lyft also is working with RAINN on a safety education program, which drivers are required to complete by Sunday, according to Lyft's web site.

Both companies offer in-app access to 911.

In October, Lyft teamed up with security company ADT to develop new safety

features in nine markets, including Chicago, in early 2020.

Uber wants to share the names of drivers who have been banned from the platform with other ride-sharing companies. Doing so would mean an Uber driver reported for sexual assault in Chicago couldn't then drive for Lyft in Milwaukee, Whaling said.

There are currently more than 67,000 active ride-share drivers in Chicago, a category that includes drivers who make four or more trips a month, according to the city. The city did not break down which ride-share provider had fired the most drivers.

Ride-share providers are required to notify the city within 48 hours of firing a driver for safety reasons. It is the only rule of its kind in

the nation and allows the city's Business Affairs and Consumer Protection to then notify other ride-share providers of the incident, spokesman Isaac Reichman said.

The city can fine ride-share companies for failing to report the firing of a driver. This past summer, the city of Chicago fined Lyft \$10,000 for failing to report that it fired a driver for allegedly attacking a customer in July 2018. Two months after the attack, the same driver allegedly killed a cab driver.

Last year, Chicago took "strong enforcement actions" against ride-share companies for not fully adhering to background check requirements, leading to a \$10 million settlement plus an agreement that ride-share companies must audit

their safety verification processes and report the audits to the city on a regular basis, Reichman said.

While the number of firings involving complaints about sexual misconduct have risen in recent years, the number of complaints about traffic crashes or other incidents has gone down, from 137 in 2016 to 67 in 2018, according to city data.

Whaling said there may be cases in which a driver can be "reactivated," if a complaint is proven unfounded. For example, if a driver is accused of driving under the influence, and a police investigation finds that it is not true, a driver could be reinstated.

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Group: Four Dec. holiday travel days will be packed

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Airlines are looking forward to another big Christmas and New Year's season, with 3% more people flying in the U.S. than during last year's holiday stretch.

The trade group Airlines for America said Tuesday that 47.5 million people are expected to fly over an 18-day period from Dec. 19 through Jan. 5.

The busiest days are forecast to be Dec. 20 and 21 — the Friday and Saturday before Christmas — and Dec. 26 and 27 — the Thursday and Friday after Christmas, which falls on a Wednesday this year.

The trade group expects the lightest days to be Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Eve.

If the forecast is right, that means another 72,000 passengers a day on average. The trade group said airlines have scheduled 884 more flights with 88,000 more seats on the average day, compared with the same period last year.

The group's chief economist, John Heimlich, said



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2016

Holiday travelers negotiate long lines at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago.

the projected increase was due to a healthy economy and affordable flights. Government data shows that average fares this year are up slightly over 2018, but are lower than previous years this decade, after adjusting for inflation.

Airlines are enjoying a boom in travel demand. The Transportation Security Administration said it screened more than 2.8 million people on Dec. 1, the Sunday after Thanksgiving, a record for the agency.

Phoenix

Continued from Page 1

2012 ad campaign to distinguish itself from competitors as the chain's enrollment was falling.

After conducting market research, investigators found, the chain adopted an ad strategy tying the school to successful career outcomes. The campaign was called "Let's Get To Work!"

In one TV ad that aired in 2012, a frustrated driver weaves through a crowded parking lot looking for a space. As a narrator notes that the University of Phoenix works with companies "to create options for you," cars are suddenly lifted out of parking spaces and replaced with logos for companies including Microsoft and the American Red Cross.

Other TV, radio and internet ads boasted of similar ties with corporate partners including AT&T, Hitachi and Avis. In one 2013 radio ad, the Uni-

versity of Phoenix said companies including AT&T and Adobe were "helping us shape our curriculum to make sure today's classes help prepare you to pursue tomorrow's jobs." Investigators said that wasn't true.

Some companies that were asked to participate in the ads raised objections about the way they were being portrayed, investigators found. When approached to be part of the parking lot ad, for example, Staples officials said it falsely made it sound like they were helping guide the school's curriculum. The company ultimately did not participate.

Even some senior officials at the University of Phoenix took issue with the ads. In 2012, a senior vice president complained to the chief marketing officer that using Adobe in the parking lot ad was "smoke & mirrors," investigators found. "They are not a partner," the vice president wrote. "We may do business with them, but nothing academically."

Stores

Continued from Page 1

zone through a lottery last month.

Illinois does not award licenses to stores that weren't already selling medicinal marijuana.

Separately Tuesday, Cresco received approval from the city's Zoning Board of Appeals to sell recreational marijuana from its MedMar Lakeview medical dispensary's

new location.

The company received approval last summer to move the store to a larger spot less than half a mile down the road in the John Barleycorn building near Wrigley Field. It still needs approval from the state and the full City Council to also sell recreational cannabis from the new spot.

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Tech lets the blind do Target runs

Free service to be available during the holiday season

BY KAVITA KUMAR
Star Tribune

MINNEAPOLIS — Like many blind or visually impaired people, Steve Decker does a lot of online shopping with the help of tools that read text out loud to him.

But like many shoppers, regardless of ability, he still likes to come to stores in person to gauge the freshness of produce or to feel the texture of a sweater. To do so, he often has to rely on store employees to walk him around the store and direct him to the correct shelf or rack.

Now he's helped add another option for consumers like him when they shop at some Target stores this holiday. The Minneapolis-based retailer, where Decker works on an 18-person accessibility team, has expanded a pilot program to 600 stores to offer for free a service called Aira for those who are blind or have low vision.

Users sign on to the Aira app or use smart glasses to connect to customer service agents working remotely who are able to see through the phone's camera. The agents then can help guide customers through the store and describe products to them in detail.

"We're the first store to provide Aira for free that has such a wide assortment of products," Decker said of Target.

More than 40 airports, as well as some major public transit systems and college campuses are also partnered with Aira, a California-based tech company, in the last few years. A couple of other retail chains — Walgreens and Wegmans, a grocery chain headquartered in New York — also offer it for free.

Recently, Decker gave a



PHILIP PACHECO/GETTY

Target is working with Aira, a service that uses live agents to navigate stores for those who are visually impaired.



DAVID JOLAS/STAR TRIBUNE

Steve Decker, blind since birth, uses the Aira app on his phone to navigate the downtown Minneapolis Target store.

demo of how Aira works at Target's store next to its headquarters on Nicollet Mall. He called up an Aira agent through the app, who, using GPS, was able to determine his location.

"Hello Steve," the agent said. "I see that you're at the Target in Minneapolis Nicollet Mall."

He confirmed that he was and asked her to pull up

a map of the store from Target's website to help him find holiday ornaments, which they discovered are on the first floor of the two-level store.

"There are elevators to your left," she said.

He preferred to take the escalator, so she guided him there, trying to help him avoid bumping into other people and displays in the

middle of aisles along the way as held out the phone in front of him so she could see what was ahead of him.

Downstairs, in the holiday décor section, she described items as he passed them, pointing out candy and wreaths.

When they got to the ornaments aisle, she listed off the different varieties in front of him.

"I can't quite make out if those are horses or unicorns — oh, a unicorn," she said. "It is white with a silver horn."

He held it in his hands, feeling the contours of the product and asked her if she could see the price. She asked him to move the camera a bit to get it into view.

"Oh, yes, it's \$3," she said.

From there, it was off to the checkout line where a cashier helped him through the rest of the transaction.

"There some things, especially because I can't see pictures, I want to put my hands on and know what they feel like," he said after-

ward. "The ornament I purchased, I wanted to see how big it was. Was it soft and so forth? Sometimes there's no substitute for actually touching things."

A Target spokeswoman declined to say how much the company is paying to offer the service for free in the 600 stores. Aira lets users make 5-minute calls for free from anywhere and offers plans for an additional 30 to 300 minutes ranging in price from \$29 to \$199 a month.

Decker said Target will evaluate the program after the holidays to decide if it will be rolled out to more stores.

"It's still pretty early on," he added. "We're hoping to learn a lot from the expansion. We've definitely gotten some really positive feedback."

Since launching an initial pilot program at 200 Target stores a year ago, many Aira users have been asking when it will be coming to their local stores because they like being able to do all

of their shopping in one place, said Paul Schroeder, a vice president at Aira.

"Target is highly sought after in the blind community," he said. "It's not easy for blind people to go to multiple locations to get the things they need."

He added that Aira helps its thousands of users get useful information that's otherwise hard for them to access in stores such as reading the ingredients on boxes, understanding color options and having the pictures on boxes described to them. And it helps liberate them from having to wait for stores to find workers to accompany them around the store — and gives blind people more freedom to shop more leisurely, he said.

"We know we're taking somebody's time to walk around the store with us," said Schroeder, who is also blind. "We're sensitive to that. We don't want to spend a lot of time browsing or examining items with that person because we're tying them up from their other duties."

Aira is one of the latest ways that Target has worked to make its products and experiences more accessible to people with disabilities. The retailer has been recognized for its efforts that include offering adaptive Halloween costumes for children in wheelchairs and sensory-friendly clothing for children.

Its accessibility team works closely with engineers, web developers and designers to make sure Target's website, mobile app and workers' devices are accessible for customers and employees with various disabilities. For example, it makes sure Target includes captions with its online videos for people who are deaf. The transcripts also often describe what is going on for blind people using screen readers. Labels are included with pictures on its website for the same reason.

MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow High: 27,949.02 Low: 27,804.00 Previous: 27,909.60



Nasdaq
-5.64 (-0.07%)

Close: 8,616.18
High: 8,650.76
Low: 8,600.82
Previous: 8,621.82

S&P 500
-3.44 (-.11%)

Close: 3,132.52
High: 3,142.12
Low: 3,126.09
Previous: 3,135.96

Russell 2000
+2.09 (+.13%)

Close: 1,631.71
High: 1,633.74
Low: 1,626.37
Previous: 1,629.62

10-yr T-note
... to 1.83%

Gold futures
+3.30 to \$1,462.60

Yen
+.11 to 108.73/\$1

Euro
-.0026 to .9012/\$1

Crude Oil
+.22 to \$59.24

Major market growth and decline

5-day % change			30-day % change			1-year % change		
DOW	NASD	S&P	DOW	NASD	S&P	DOW	NASD	S&P
+1.38	+1.12	+1.27	+1.38	+1.12	+1.27	+14.41	+22.53	+18.80

FUTURES							
COMMODITY	AMOUNT-PRICE	MO.	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHG.
WHEAT (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Dec 19	532.25	537.50	529.75	534.75	+2.75
		Mar 20	522.75	528	519.25	523.75	+1
CORN (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Dec 19	365.75	367	362.50	363.25	-2.50
		Mar 20	376	378	375	377	+1.25
SOYBEANS (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Jan 20	897.50	902.25	896.25	901.25	+4
		Mar 20	912	916.75	911	915.50	+3.75
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)	60,000 lbs- cents per lb	Dec 19	31.17	31.54	31.17	31.47	+1.1
		Jan 20	31.60	31.80	31.36	31.68	+0.9
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT)	100 tons- dollars per ton	Dec 19	296.40	297.50	295.60	296.90	+2.0
		Jan 20	298.50	300.20	297.30	298.70	+2.0
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NYMX)	1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.	Jan 20	58.92	59.52	58.52	59.24	+2.2
		Feb 20	58.80	59.40	58.46	59.14	+2.2
NATURAL GAS (NYMX)	10,000 mm btu's, \$ per mm btu	Jan 20	2.253	2.289	2.216	2.264	+0.32
		Feb 20	2.258	2.279	2.219	2.263	+0.29
NY HARBOR GAS BLEND (NYMX)	42,000 gallons- dollars per gallon	Jan 20	1.6529	1.6668	1.6408	1.6525	-0.023
		Feb 20	1.6552	1.6690	1.6438	1.6560	-0.009

Source: The Associated Press

LOCAL STOCKS

Stocks listed may change due to daily fluctuations in market capitalization.

Exchange key: N=NYSE, O=NASDAQ

STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.
Abbott Labs	N	84.56	+69	Envestnet Inc	N	71.76	+36	McDonalds Corp	N	194.95	+27
AbbVie Inc	N	86.56	+12	Equity Commonwlth	N	32.43	-27	Middleby Corp	O	109.68	-94
Allstate Corp	N	110.74	-58	Equity Lifesty Prop	N	71.78	-77	Mondelez Intl	O	54.06	-11
Aptargroup Inc	N	111.94	-69	Equity Residential	N	84.14	-41	Morningstar Inc	O	151.92	-151
Arch Dan Mid	N	44.00	-07	Exelon Corp	O	44.72	-21	Motorola Solutions	N	160.92	-58
Baxter Intl	N	82.29	+74	First Indl RT	N	41.93	-18	NiSource Inc	N	27.00	+28
Boeing Co	N	347.90	-331	Fortune Brds Hm&Sec	N	64.00	-10	Nthn Trust Cp	O	108.76	-38
Brunswick Corp	N	59.42	+20	Gallagher AJ	N	93.88	-27	Old Republic	N	22.77	+02
CBOE Global Markets	N	115.66	-400	Grainger WW	N	323.57	-74	Packaging Corp Am	N	111.36	-218
CDK Global Inc	O	53.46	-55	GrubHub Inc	N	39.04	-53	Paylocity Hldg	O	120.43	-62
CDW Corp	O	135.75	+141	Hill-Rom Hldgs	N	107.34	+77	RLI Corp	N	92.33	+13
CF Industries	N	44.02	-138	IAA Inc	N	44.61	-134	Stericycle Inc	O	66.05	+18
CME Group	O	205.10	-11	IDEX Corp	N	163.13	+31	TransUnion	N	84.57	-77
CNA Financial	N	43.83	-23	ITW	N	174.45	+02	US Foods Holding	N	40.08	-08
Cabot Microelect	O	128.62	-11	Ingredion Inc	N	86.82	+44	Ultra Salon Cosmetics	O	250.37	-227
Caterpillar Inc	N	142.87	+04	Jones Lang LaSalle	N	168.74	-24	United Airlines Hldg	O	86.51	-110
ConAgra Brands Inc	N	29.22	-08	Kemper Corp	N	73.58	-54	Ventas Inc	N	56.67	-83
Deere Co	N	169.90	+200	Kraft Heinz Co	O	31.88	-05	Walgreen Boots Alli	O	58.41	-30
Discover Fin Svcs	N	84.86	+65	LKQ Corporation	O	35.48	-14	Wintrust Financial	O	67.79	-37
Dover Corp	N	112.86	+36	Littelfuse Inc	O	184.33	+138	Zebra Tech	O	256.81	+302

MOST ACTIVE STOCKS

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Chesapeake Energy	78	-01
PG&E Corp	12.32	+1.14
Bank of America	33.53	+02
Danaher Corp	148.84	+1.31
Ford Motor	9.07	+06
Gen Electric	11.01	+02
Uber Technologies	27.89	+21
AT&T Inc	38.06	+02
Energy Transfer LP	12.04	+25
Snap Inc A	14.09	-14
Bristl Myr Sqb	62.09	+81
Pfizer Inc	38.48	+16
Macy's Inc	15.74	+26
Aurora Cannabis Inc	2.52	-10
Nokia Corp	3.42	+18
Freepor McMoran	12.28	+18
Designer Brands Inc	14.23	-27
Wells Fargo & Co	53.69	-23
Yamana Gold Inc	3.54	-01
Ambev S.A.	4.40	-03
EnCana Corp	4.03	-06
EnLink Midstream LLC	5.62	+71
Sthwstn Energy	2.03	+01
Teva Pharm	9.49	-33

LARGEST COMPANIES

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
AT&T Inc	38.06	+02
Alibaba Group Hldg	200.45	+171
Alphabet Inc C	134.66	+10
Alphabet Inc A	134.89	+10
Amazon.com Inc	1739.21	+10.30
Apple Inc	268.48	-15.36
Bank of America	33.53	+02
Berkshire Hath B	221.26	-12
Exxon Mobil Corp	69.06	-60
Facebook Inc	200.87	-47
HSBC Holdings prA	26.08	-07
JPMorgan Chase	134.50	+09
Johnson & Johnson	139.99	-51
MasterCard Inc	288.61	-45
Microsoft Corp	151.13	-23
Procter & Gamble	124.27	-60
Taiwan Semicon	54.52	+06
Visa Inc	182.26	-66
WalMart Strs	119.14	-22

LARGEST MUTUAL FUNDS

FUND	NAV	CHG	1-YR %RTN
American Funds AMCPA m	33.78	-02	+17.0
American Funds AMRCNBaIA m	28.62	-03	+13.8
American Funds CptWldGrncA m	62.96	-04	+12.9
American Funds FdmtInvSA m	62.23	-06	+18.6
American Funds GrfAmrcA m	52.83	-10	+18.6
American Funds IncAmrcA m	23.49	-01	+14.1
American Funds InvCmrcA m	40.12	-04	+15.5
American Funds NwPrsptvA m	47.18	-04	+22.3
American Funds WAMtInvSA m	48.51	-04	+17.2
Dodge & Cox Inc	14.17	+01	+10.1
Dodge & Cox IntlStk	43.46	+03	+15.8
Dodge & Cox Stk	198.69	+01	+14.5
DoubleLine TlRtBd m	10.67	-01	+6.6
Fidelity 500IntlBd	109.26	-12	+21.2
Fidelity Contrafund	13.68	-02	+20.4
Fidelity InvMGrdBd	11.58	+01	+10.4
Fidelity THMTldXlnsPrm	89.20	-09	+20.6
Fidelity USBDldXlnsPrm	11.93	-01	+9.6
Franklin Templeton IncA1 m	2.29	+01	+9.0
Metropolitan West TlRtBd x	10.94	-10	+10.7
PIMCO IncI2	11.99	+01	+7.3
PIMCO IncInstl	11.99	+01	+7.4
PIMCO TlRtRetns	10.43	+01	+9.0
Schwab SP500ldx	48.78	-05	+21.1
T. Rowe Price BCGR	120.35	-29	+19.7
T. Rowe Price GrStk	71.96	-21	+19.9
Vanguard 500ldAdmrl	290.21	-31	+21.2
Vanguard BalldAdmrl	38.80	-02	+16.5
Vanguard DivGrnv	30.97	-03	+21.5
Vanguard EqIncAdmrl	79.32	-08	+16.2
Vanguard GrldAdmrl	90.68	-15	+25.8
Vanguard HCAdmrl	92.54	+35	+14.7
Vanguard IntRTEAdmrl	14.47	+01	+7.4
Vanguard InslXlns	284.58	-30	+21.2
Vanguard InslXlnsPlus	284.60	-30	+21.2
Vanguard InslTSMlInPls	67.51	-07	+20.5
Vanguard IntlGrAdmrl	99.30	+12	+21.5
Vanguard MdCpldxAdmrl	215.72	-27	+20.3
Vanguard PrmCpAdmrl	149.08	-02	+17.6
Vanguard STInvmGrdAdmrl	10.72	+01	+6.2
Vanguard SmCpldxAdmrl	77.84	-08	+16.7
Vanguard TrgtRtr2020Inv	33.11	-01	+14.0
Vanguard TrgtRtr2			

OBITUARIES

FRANZ SCHULZE 1927-2019

Art critic, educator and biographer of two consequential architects

BY BLAIR KAMIN

Franz Schulze, a prolific Chicago art critic and educator who chronicled the lives and work of two of the 20th century's most consequential architects, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Philip Johnson, died Monday at the Radford Green assisted living facility in north suburban Lincolnshire.

Schulze, who previously lived in Lake Forest, was 92. The cause of death was complications due to infections, according to his sons Matthew and Luke.

In addition to his work on Mies and Johnson, Schulze was highly regarded for his book on the Imagist artists who dominated Chicago's art scene after World War II.

As a freelance art critic for the Chicago Daily News and Chicago Sun-Times from the 1960s to the 1980s — and as a contributor to the nationally circulated magazines ARTNews and Art in America — Schulze reached a broad audience.

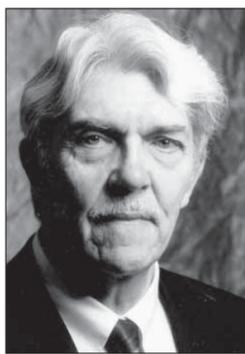
He also shaped the views of hundreds of students as a professor of art at Lake Forest College, where he began teaching in 1952. Officially retired in 1991, he continued to teach as an emeritus professor. In recent years, alumni of the school endowed a scholarship in his honor.

"His writing and thinking was, at its best, sparkling," said Edward Windhorst, who co-authored a revised edition of Schulze's Mies biography that was published in 2012. "He really dazzled you with his skill at observation and his love of language and the use of it to convey what he thought."

Tall, mustachioed and dapper, with a penetrating voice that added weight to his observations, Schulze cut a distinctive figure. "He told me many times he loved strutting on the stage of the lecture hall," Windhorst said.

Schulze was born in 1927 in Uniontown, Pennsylvania, about 45 miles southeast of Pittsburgh. His family moved to downstate Pekin, then in 1942 to Chicago's North Side, near Wrigley Field. A year later, Schulze entered the University of Chicago at age 16.

The degrees that followed — a bachelor of philosophy from the U. of C. (1945), and a bachelor and master of fine arts from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (1949 and 1950)



LAKE FOREST COLLEGE

Franz Schulze

— laid the foundation for Schulze's career as an artist, art historian and art critic.

His 1972 book "Fantastic Images: Chicago Art since 1945," examined the work of Chicago artists like Leon Golub, whose paintings conveyed emotional intensity through grotesque representations of the human figure. In a nod to this tendency, the artists, who departed from the abstract expressionism that then prevailed in New York, were dubbed the "Monster Roster."

Schulze wrote that their work should be recognized as "an activity of some essential and serious existential import" even though it was "anti-rational to the point of perversity" — and, thus, a sharp departure from Chicago's tradition of logic, clarity and reason in modern art and architecture.

In 1985, Schulze grappled with the legacy of the architect who personified that tradition — the German-born emigre Mies van der Rohe, whose credits included such masterworks as New York's Seagram Building and Chicago's 860-880 Lake Shore Drive high-rises.

Appearing 16 years after Mies' death and at a time when postmodern architects were assailing Mies' approach to architecture, Schulze's "Mies van der Rohe: A Critical Biography" etched a sharply defined portrait of Mies, the man, and Mies, the architect.

Tribune architecture critic Paul Gapp called it "the most comprehensive book ever written about the master designer and, by any measure, the best ... Mies is drawn as the immensely talented giant he was, but also as a man of excesses, selfishness and the kind of single-mindedness that seems always to be freighted with arrogance."

Remembering Schulze on Tuesday, Mies' grand-

son, Chicago architect Dirk Lohan, credited the author with meticulous research and the ability to put Mies into the context of early 20th century Europe and its other leading modernists, like the Swiss-born Le Corbusier.

"He knew some things that I didn't even know," Lohan said.

Schulze's 1994 biography, "Philip Johnson: Life and Work," charted the ever-shifting aesthetic preferences of its subject, who did much to popularize modernist architecture with the landmark "International Style" show of 1932, then championed a revolt against it in the 1970s.

Schulze also was the first biographer to recount in detail Johnson's nearly decade-long foray into right-wing politics, including his fascination with Nazi spectacle.

"It is much to Franz Schulze's credit that he does not duck this great unpleasantness — the persistently ugly yin to the celebrated yang of Johnson's reputation," author Ross Miller wrote in a Tribune review of the book.

Johnson, who died in 2005, reportedly disliked the book, leading to a rift between author and subject. "Philip Johnson does not remember me in his prayers," Schulze once told the Tribune.

Schulze wrote or edited more than 10 books, including a guide to Mies' Farnsworth House, a history of Lake Forest College titled "Thirty Miles North" and "Chicago's Famous Buildings," a guide to landmark structures that he co-authored with Illinois Institute of Technology professor Kevin Harrington.

Schulze will be buried in Chicago's Graceland Cemetery, where such renowned architects as Mies and Daniel Burnham have their graves. His marker, Windhorst said, will read: "Franz Schulze: Artist, Critic, Biographer."

Besides his two sons, he is survived by two grandchildren. Marriages to Marianne Gaw Schulze and Stephanie Mora ended in divorce. His companion of 25 years, Manya Schaff, died in 2015.

A memorial is being arranged.

Blair Kamin is a Tribune critic. bkamin@chicagotribune.com [Twitter @BlairKamin](https://twitter.com/BlairKamin)

Chicago Tribune Death Notices
Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.
chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Death Notices

Antezana, M.D., Carlos

Carlos W. Antezana, M.D., passed away on November 28, 2019. Beloved husband of Lucy. Loving father of Emilia Grove. Dear grandfather of Jacob, David, and William. Memorial visitation at **Smith-Corcoran Funeral Home**, 6150 N Cicero Ave, Chicago, IL, 60646, December 15, 2019 from 3-7 pm. A memorial service will be held 10 AM, Monday, December 16, 2019 at Queen of All Saints Basilica, 6280 N Sauganash Ave, Chicago, IL, 60646. Interment Maryhill Cemetery in Niles. Funeral Info 773-738-3833

Smith-Corcoran Funeral Homes

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Axelrod, Katherine E.

Katherine E. Axelrod, age 87, passed away Friday, December 6th, 2019. She was born on March 3rd, 1932 in Chicago, Illinois. Beloved wife for 58 years to Ralph H. Axelrod. Cherished mother of Diane Gayer and Barbara Axelrod, stepmother to Barry Axelrod and Lewis Axelrod. Proud grandmother of Stephen, Greg, Brian, Allison Axelrod, Ashley Bailey and Amy Weatherford. Loving great grandmother of nine. Dear sister of the late Carl Street. Memorial graveside service Friday, December 13th, 2019 12:00 PM at Rosehill Cemetery, 5800 N. Ravenswood Avenue, Chicago, IL 60660. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Shriner's Hospital, www.shrinershospitalforchildren.org. Arrangements Chicago Jewish Funerals - Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjfnfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Bellinder, George

George Bellinder, age 91, of Des Plaines and Prospect Heights passed away Dec. 9, 2019. Loving husband of Mary Ann, nee Kellner; dear father of Steven, James (Anne), Phillip, and Sharon (Brian) Lehr; proud grandfather of Katie, Nichole, Greg, Megan, Nolan, Brandon and Haley; great-grandfather of 2; fond brother of Edward (Helen) and the late Alex (Mary). Visitation will be Thursday, Dec 12, 2019 from 9:30 am until time of Funeral Mass 11 am at St. Alphonsus Church, 411 N. Wheeling Rd., Prospect Heights. Interment Private. In lieu of flowers memorials to St. Jude's Children's Hospitals appreciated. For info: (847) 394-2336 or www.matzfuneralhome.com

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Broeren, Susan

Susan "Sue" Wagner Broeren was born in Oshkosh, Wisconsin on February 28, 1928 to Dr. William A. and Lillian Wagner. Sue was a proud graduate of Saint Mary's College Notre Dame, Indiana. On the morning of December 8, 2019, Sue passed away peacefully. Sue, "Granny," is preceded in death by her husband of sixty six years, Richard Broeren, her son Robert J. Broeren, her grandchild Matthew B. Schiff and her sister Katherine "Kak" Tansill; is survived by her children Molly Broeren (Bill Mosher), Bill Broeren, Rick Broeren (Patrice), Maggie Broeren (Michael Coffey), Katie Broeren, and Jane Lambesis (Peter). Grandchildren include M.J. Schiff, Andy Schiff, Christi Walsh (Matt), Lizzy Mosher, Margaret Broeren (Bob Knutson), Jack Broeren, Will Broeren, Bob Broeren DeVito (Cassie), Sarah Sommarino (Tom), Molly Kranovich (Matt), Colleen White (Barrett), Maura Ambroch (Benjamin), Katie Coffey, Annie Lambesis, Susie Lambesis, and Peter James Lambesis; and her nineteen great-grandchildren. Sue is preceded in death by two nephews and is survived by five nieces. Sue is fondly remembered for her faith, sense of humor, athleticism (a proud member of the Hole in One Club and an avid ice boat and sailboat racer in her youth), her grace and the love of her family. She loved Notre Dame football, the Green Bay Packers, the Chicago Cubs and enjoyed her many winters in Jupiter, Florida through the decades. Sue was a founding member of Saint Raymond Parish, active in CFM, Rainbow Hospice, CHRP, Grandmother's Club, multiple golf leagues and bible study. Affectionately referred to as the "Beautiful Queen", Sue shared her love and faith with her family from the very beginning, and never wavered in her desire to seek heaven and guide others to that ultimate joy, "God Bless!"

Visitation Friday, 3:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M. at **Friedrichs Funeral Home**, 320 W. Central Rd. at Northwest Highway, Mount Prospect. Visitation Saturday, 9:00 A.M. until Funeral Mass 10:00 A.M. at St. Raymond de Penafort Church, Elmhurst Rd. (Rt. 83) at Lincoln St., Mt. Prospect. Interment private. Information call 847-255-7800 or www.friedrichsfh.com

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Raymond for tuition assistance at www.st-Raymond.org

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Budreck Jr., Charles J. "Chuck"

Charles J. "Chuck" Budreck Jr., age 95, of McHenry, at rest Dec. 8, 2019. U.S. Army veteran, WWII, 26th Infantry Division (326th Regiment) General Patton's 3rd Army, badly wounded in the Battle of the Bulge. Recipient of Purple Heart. Beloved husband of the late Mary Alice Budreck nee Galvin (10/6/2013). Loving father of Cynthia (Joel) Brumlik, Michael (Rosie) Budreck, Joseph (Jeannine) Budreck, Linda (Tim) Harthan, Tom (Elizabeth) Budreck and the late Charles G. Budreck (2002). Fond brother of Julie (late Richard) Luehrsen and Bernard (late Mary Jane) Budreck; cherished grandfather of 17 and great-grandfather of 11. Resting at **Justen Funeral Home & Crematory**, 3700 Charles J. Miller Road, McHenry, IL 60050. Visitation Monday, Dec. 16th, 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. and visitation resumes Tuesday, Dec. 17th, 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Funeral Mass, Tuesday, Dec. 17th 11 a.m. St. Patrick Catholic Church, 3500 W. Washington St., McHenry with military honors to follow at St. Patrick CountrySide Cemetery, McHenry. In lieu of flowers, memorials to McHenry VFW Post 4600 for local service vets in need, or to JourneyCare Hospice Foundation. INFO: 815-385-2400, or visit www.justenfhn.com.

In 2005, Paramount Pictures announced it was buying independent film studio DreamWorks SKG Inc.

In 2012, Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder signed into law right-to-work legislation that limits the power of unions.

In 1999, President Bill Clinton told CBS Radio his 1993 "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays in the military wasn't working, and he pledged to work with the Pentagon to find a way to fix it.

In 2001, federal prosecutors charged Zacarias Moussaoui, a French citizen of Moroccan descent, with conspiring to murder thousands in the Sept. 11 suicide hijackings.

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Bures, Robert E.

Robert E. Bures, of LaGrange, IL; passed away at the age of 91 after a brief illness. Robert worked in data processing and computers starting in the early years of their usage in the business world. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Ann and his son, Gary. Visitation Saturday, Dec. 14 from 9am until time of chapel service, 11am at **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, 1025 W. 55th St., Countryside. Interment to follow at St. Joseph Cemetery, River Grove. Add'l Info: 708-352-6500 or hjfunerals.com

Hallowell & James Funeral Home
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Cloud, Patricia L.

Patricia L. (nee Otis) Cloud, age 83, of Oak Forest; beloved wife of the late James C. Cloud for 56 years; loving mother of Susan (Dr. Bhagavatlula) Ramakrishna, James (Brigitte) Cloud, David (Alicia) Cloud, Robert (Julia) Cloud, & Lynette (Kelly) Krause; proud grandmother of Kelly, Denise, Alexandra, Danielle, Olivia, Grant, Kevin, Nathan, & Matthew; dear great-grandmother of Charlotte & Lexi. Visitation 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Saturday, December 14th at **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, 1025 W. 55th St., Countryside. Interment to follow at Mt. Carmel Cemetery, Hillside. For further funeral service information: (708) 352-6500 or hjfunerals.com

Hallowell & James Funeral Home
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Feldheim, Julie

Julie Feldheim age 47, passed away on December 9, 2019 of cardiac arrest after many years of suffering from schizoprenia. Loving daughter of Eileen and the late Andrew Feldheim. Cherished sister of Kevin (Kathy) Feldheim. Adored aunt of Nathan and Tyler. Loving niece, cousin, and friend to many. Visitation Sunday December 15th from 11 am to 1 pm at **Kolssak Funeral Home**, 189 S Milwaukee Ave (2 Blocks South of Dundee Road). Inurnment private. In lieu of flowers, donations to Abbott House at 405 Central Ave Highland Park, IL 60035 or The National Alliance for Mental Illness are greatly appreciated. For more information call 847.537.6600 or visit funerals.pro.

Kolssak Funeral Home
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Fisher, Gerald "Jerry"

Gerald "Jerry" Fisher, 89, of Glenview, Illinois, passed away on December 10, 2019. Most beloved husband of Toby Fisher, nee Greenberg, married 67 years. Loving father of Aaron (Katherine), Steven, and Larry (Ana) Fisher. Adored grandfather of Adrienne, Arielle and Joel Fisher.

Former Captain, United States Marine Corps, graduate of Illinois Institute of Technology (Mechanical Engineering), and Loyola University (MBA). Former President of Marin Engineering.

Chapel service Thursday, December 12th at 12:15 PM at **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. Interment Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to B'nai Jehoshua Beth Elohim (BJBE). For information regarding Shiva and condolences, contact (847) 255-3520 or www.shalom2.com

Shalom Memorial Funeral Home
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Funk, Thomas B.

It is with heavy hearts we announce the unexpected passing of Thomas Britton Funk on Saturday, November 23, 2019. Loving father of Kristin (Joseph) Fedoruk and Amy (Michael) Jorgenson, dear brother of Sydney Ellen Muller, cherished grandfather of Hailey Jorgenson, Ryan Jorgenson and Mellina Fedoruk. He was preceded in death by his Father, Donald S. Funk and Mother, Margaret L. Keefer. Fondly remembered and loved by families: Guthrie (CA), Churchwell (TX), Hickman-Boyd (WA), Lyons and Reardon (OR), and Schreiber (OH, IL, CO, NE). A Celebration of Life will be at Santiago's, in La Grange, Sunday, December 15th, 2019 from 12:30 - 3:30 pm. Please bring a story to share as we know there are many great ones out there, memory cards will be available. He will be terribly missed. Gone too soon, God Bless, and may he rest in peace. Online Condolences may be offered to the family and a full obituary is available at www.JohnsonNosek.com

JOHNSON-NOSEK Funeral Home
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Gember, Robert Scott

Robert Scott Gember of Lockport, Illinois passed away at the age of 63 on December 5, 2019 surrounded by the love of family.

Bob was born on May 4, 1956 to Alan and Doris Gember in Chicago, Illinois. Bob was dedicated to helping people with HIV and AIDS. He was a wonderful partner, son, brother and uncle who always looked out for others and was willing to help.

Bob was preceded in death by his father Alan Gember. Bob is survived by his partner Mike Haines, mother Doris, five siblings, Larry, Nancy (Ken) Silwa, Steve (Barb), Pam (Bob) Wesolek and Paul, 13 nephews and nieces and 11 great-nephews and nieces. Visitation, Saturday, December 14, 2019, 1:00PM to 3:00PM at **Damar-Kaminski Funeral Home & Crematorium**, 7861 S. 88th Avenue, Justice, Illinois with a Service and Time of Remembrance to be held at 2:00PM. Cremation rites to be accorded. For more information, 708-496-0200 or www.kaminskifamilyfuneralhomes.com

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Gersch, Norbert J.

Norbert J. Gersch, age 87 of La Grange Park. Korean War Army Veteran. Retired Service Manager of 38 years, Van Goethem & Prast Lincoln Mercury Dealership, Countryside. Beloved husband of Antoinette Gersch, nee Walach; fond father of Laura Gersch, Tom (Susan) Gersch and Cheryl (Mike) Duffy; dear grandfather of Grace, Ben and Sam Gersch; brother of the late George (the late Kathy) Gersch, Jr. and the late Eleanor (the late Raymond) Rads; uncle of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Thursday, December 12, 2019, 3 P.M. to 8 P.M. and Friday, December 13, 2019, 9:00 A.M. to 9:30 A.M. at **Hitzeman Funeral Home & Cremation Services**, 9445 W. 31st Street, Brookfield, IL 60513. Funeral Friday 9:30 A.M. to St. Louise de Marillac Church, La Grange Park. Mass 10:00 A.M. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Hillside. Information 708-485-2000 or www.HitzemanFuneral.com

HITZEMAN FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES
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Chicago Daily Tribune

ON DECEMBER 11 ...

In 1816, Indiana became the 19th state.

In 1872, America's first black governor took office as Pinckney Benton Stewart Pinchback became acting governor of Louisiana.

In 1928, police in Buenos Aires thwarted an attempt on the life of President-elect Herbert Hoover.

In 1941, Germany and Italy declared war on the United States; the U.S. responded in kind.

In 1946, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNI-

CEF) was established.

In 1961, a U.S. aircraft carrier carrying Army helicopters arrived in Saigon — the first direct American military support for South Vietnam's battle against Communist guerrillas.

In 1980, President Jimmy Carter signed into law a \$1.6 billion environmental "superfund" to pay for cleaning up chemical spills and toxic waste dumps.

In 1981, the U.N. Security Council chose Javier Perez de Cuellar of Peru to be the fifth secretary-general of the world body.

In 1994, thousands of Rus-

sian troops backed by armored columns and jets rolled into breakaway republic of Chechnya in a bid to restore Moscow's control over the region.

In 1997, more than 150 countries agreed at a global warming conference in Kyoto, Japan, to control Earth's greenhouse gases.

In 1998, the Mars Climate Orbiter blasted off on a nine-month journey to the Red Planet. (The probe disappeared in September 1999, apparently destroyed).

In 1999, President Bill Clinton told CBS Radio his 1993 "don't ask, don't tell" policy on gays in the military wasn't working, and he pledged to work with the Pentagon to find a way to fix it.

In 2001, federal prosecutors charged Zacarias Moussaoui, a French citizen of Moroccan descent, with conspiring to murder thousands in the Sept. 11 suicide hijackings.

In 2005, Paramount Pictures announced it was buying independent film studio DreamWorks SKG Inc.

In 2012, Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder signed into law right-to-work legislation that limits the power of unions.

WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

ILLINOIS
Dec. 10
Mega Millions
18 31 46 54 61 / 25
Mega Millions jackpot: \$314M
Pick 3 midday 618 / 2
Pick 4 midday 0052 / 7
Lucky Day Lotto midday
06 08 18 37 39

Pick 3 evening 078 / 1
Pick 4 evening 0488 / 5
Lucky Day Lotto evening
01 12 15 27 29

Dec. 11 Powerball: \$140M
Dec. 12 Lotto: \$14M

WISCONSIN
Dec. 10
Pick 3 451
Pick 4 7415
Badger 5 04 16 25 30 31
SuperCash 05 16 26 31 34 36

INDIANA
Dec. 10
Daily 3 midday 868 / 4
Daily 4 midday 5641 / 4
Daily 3 evening 463 / 6
Daily 4 evening 5449 / 6
Cash 5 03 12 14 19 32

MICHIGAN
Dec. 10
Daily 3 midday 971
Daily 4 midday 2997
Daily 3 evening 314
Daily 4 evening 4163
Fantasy 5 02 07 14 22 34
Keno 08 16 20 21 24 26
28 37 40 42 45 52 57 61
62 66 68 70 71 73 75 79

More winning numbers at chicagotribune.com/lottery

Chicago Tribune Death Notices

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

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Goodman, Sara "Sally" K.

Sara ("Sally") K. Goodman, age 92, and former Wilmette, Illinois resident, passed away at her Northbrook, Illinois residence on December 9, 2019.

Sally graduated from Bucknell University in 1950 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English and subsequent Masters Degree in Education from Harvard University in 1952. She then worked as a research assistant at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

While there she met and married her first husband, Thomas Paton Goodman, a Rhodes Scholar and later Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Northwestern University. The couple relocated to Wilmette shortly thereafter.

Following Mr. Goodman's 1964 death, Sally worked as an editorial assistant at Northwestern until 1979. She then relocated to Green Valley, Arizona until returning to the North Shore in 2014. While in Green Valley she met and married her second husband, Sharswood Swope of Chatham, Massachusetts dividing her time between both locations. Mr. Swope passed away in 2006.

She is survived by her daughter Ann P. Goodman of Wilmette, a Chicago attorney; her son-in-law Donald Smith and grandson Eliot Smith.

Her family and friends will remember her as an inveterate letter writer and itinerant world traveler who left behind voluminous notes and stories from her varied ports of call.

A memorial service is anticipated at a later date. In lieu of flowers her family suggests donations be made to Bucknell University (301 Market Street, Suite 2, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania 17837) or The Nature Conservancy (attn: Treasury, 4245 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 100, Arlington, Virginia 22203).

Info: 847-675-1990 or www.donnellanfuneral.com.



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Groth, Carl C.

Carl C. Groth, Age 69, passed away on December 8, 2019. Beloved husband of Donna (nee Dugan) Groth. Loving dad of Meghan (Mike) Groth-Prepara, David (Candace) Groth and the late Colleen (Ben) Hill. Dear TicTac Papa of Jacob Carl, Julie Ann, Calliope, Collette and Samantha. Also survived by relatives and friends.

Visitation, Thursday, December 12, 2019, 3:00PM to 9:00PM at **Damar-Kaminski Funeral Home & Crematorium**, 7861 S. 88th Avenue, Justice, Illinois. Funeral, Friday, December 13, 2019, 10:30AM. Family and friends are asked to gather at Saint Michael Church, 14325 Highland Avenue, Orland Park, Illinois for 10:45AM Mass. Cremation rites to be accorded. For more information, 708-496-0200 or www.kaminskifamilyfuneralhomes.com

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Hajik, Sharon A.

Sharon A. Hajik (nee Metzen) age 71, of Orland Park. Beloved wife of the late Michael. Loving mother of Brian (Lori Fimoff) and Mark (Lisa). Dearest grandmother of Ethan and Alec. Fond sister of Kathy (John) Geisen and John Metzen. Devoted aunt of Jim, Gina and D.J. (Heather) Geisen. Great aunt of Jacy. Funeral Saturday 9:15am from **RICHARD J. MODELL FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES**, 12641 W. 143rd St., Homer Glen to St. Francis of Assisi Church, Mass 10am. Interment Good Shepherd Cemetery. Visitation Friday 3pm to 8pm. In lieu of flowers donations to the American Liver Foundation appreciated. 708-301-3595 or rjmodellfh.com.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Hanzlik, Alvin

Alvin Sidney Hanzlik, 93, of Plano, IL passed away on December 5, 2019. Alvin was born on April 25, 1926 in Chicago, IL to Joseph and Marie (Falout) Hanzlik. He married Camille on January 23, 1965 and they enjoyed 54 years together. He served in World War II from 1943-1945 and retired as a staff sergeant but remained as a reserve until 1985. Alvin was very artistic, and he did photography work. He had played the accordion since he was a child and would play it at social gatherings and was apart of an accordion club in Oakbrook. He also had a green thumb and loved working in his garden at home.

Alvin is survived by his wife, Camille; 1 sister, Lillian Munzenmay; 1 niece, Cynthia Hanzlik; And 1 nephew, Joseph Munzenmay. He is preceded in death by his parents; 1 daughter, Annemarie Hanzlik; 1 brother, Richard Hanzlik; And 1 niece, Kathryn Johnston. In lieu of memorials, donations may be made to St. Paul's Catholic Church in Sandwich, IL or Shriners Hospital For Children. Visitation will be held on Friday, December 13, 2019 from 5:00 - 8:00 P.M. at Beverage Family Funeral Home, 104 Terry St. Sandwich, IL 60548. Funeral service will be held next day Saturday, December 14, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. with a visitation 1 hour prior at Beverage Family Funeral Homes. Burial to follow out to St. Paul's Cemetery in Sandwich, IL. Funeral arrangements entrusted to Beverage Family Funeral Homes. www.beveragefamilyfh.com

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Hohnke, Jr., Fred C.

Fred C. Hohnke Jr., age 79; beloved husband of the late Carol J. Hohnke, nee Dakter; loving father of Kathryn (fiancé Al Granum), Fred C. III (Daisy), James (Meredith Dehmer) Hohnke; cherished grandfather of Grace Dehmer, Frederick IV and Lucas Hohnke; dear brother of Roy Sears and brother-in-law of Ron and Joyce Ruckert and Ron and Kathleen Dakter. Memorial Visitation, Saturday, December 14th 11:00 AM until Celebration of Life at 4:00 PM at **Adams-Winterfield & Sullivan** Funeral Home, 4343 Main St. (1 blk. So. of Ogden Ave.) Downers Grove. Interment Private. 630/968-1000 or www.adamswinterfield-sullivan.com



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Jonas, Dennis Wayne 'Jake'

Dennis "Jake" Jonas, 82, passed peacefully in Boca Raton FL on Friday 12/6/19. Jake was born 4/6/37 in Chicago IL to Paul and Bessie Jonas. Survived by his loving wife Karen (Poltorak) Jonas, daughter Malinda (Jonas) Belbutowski (Tim), grandchildren Grant and Claire, and sister in law Shirley Jonas. Preceded in death by former wife Marsha Jonas, brother Ronald Jonas, and sister Jackie Karvanek (George). Jake resided in Inverness IL for over 20 years, and was a proud US Veteran, paratrooper, and entrepreneur. He enjoyed a career in Visual Merchandising Sales. Jake was an orchid grower, prankster, and Harley enthusiast. He loved life and nature, and adored being a "Papa" to Grant and Claire.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Kim, Oksoon "Herman"

Oksoon "Herman" Kim, age 94, of Honolulu, Hawaii, formerly of Skokie. Beloved husband of Ruth and the late Annie, nee Park; loving father of the late Sharon Kim and Victoria Maloney and stepfather of Jean, Ann, and Chuck; dear grandfather of Richard (Lori) Kramer, Leilani Kramer, and Kimberly Mock-Hunt; cherished great-grandfather of 13 and great-great-grandfather of 3; fond brother of Robert and the late Peter, Charles, Kenneth, David, and Beatrice. Memorial Gathering, Sunday, December 15, 2019, from 1 to 4 p.m., at **HABEN Funeral Home & Crematory**, 8057 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. Funeral info: 847.673.6111 or www.habenfuneral.com to sign guestbook.



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Lee, Jr, Byron O.

Age 90, of Ft. Myers, FL and formerly of Joliet, IL and the Northside of Chicago, passed away Monday December 2, 2019. He was employed by Commonwealth Edison for many years until becoming the CEO of Nuclear Management and Resource Counsel (NUMARC) in Washington D.C. in 1985, officially retiring in 1992. Beloved husband of 66

years to Marilyn (nee Lawrence); loving father of Dr. Michael (Susan) Lee, Gary (Elizabeth) Lee and Pamela Lee; devoted grandfather of four and great grandfather of three; dear brother of Marilyn "Sis" Governile and uncle of several. A Memorial Visitation will be held Saturday December 14, 2019 from 1 - 4 p.m. at the Fred C. Dames Funeral Home 3200 Black Rd. (at Essington Rd.) Joliet. In lieu of flowers memorials in his name to the Alzheimers Association would be appreciated. For more information please call (815) 741-5500 or to view a complete obituary visit www.fredcdames.com



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LESS SR., WILLIAM R. 'BILL'

William Robert Less Sr. "Bill", age 78 of Downers Grove, IL formerly of Wheaton, IL. Beloved husband for 30 years of Barbara J Gaydos-Less nee Drabant; loving father of the late William Jr. and Sheryl (Gerald) Gammell; step-father of Pam J. (Cindy Komar) Gaydos; caring grandfather of Michael and Shaina; devoted "Papa Bill" to Andrew, Scott, Craig, Madison and Bryce; dear brother-in-law of George (Joanne) Drabant; Carol (late John) and Judy (Tim) O'Connell; fond uncle of nieces and nephews. Bill was employed with Commonwealth Edison for 30 years and then in Real Estate for 25 years. Visitation will be Thursday Dec. 12, 2019 from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. at Toon Funeral Home 4920 Main Street Downers Grove, IL 60515. Funeral Services will be 1:30 p.m. at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 4501 Main Street Downers Grove, IL 60515. Memorials to the Church or American Kidney Fund www.kidneyfund.org would be appreciated. For additional information www.toonfuneralhome.com OR 630-968-0408

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Love, Mary E. 'Betty'

Mary "Betty" E. Love, 77, of Mundelein, passed away peacefully December 8, 2019 with her family by her side. Betty was born in Chicago and attended Sacred Heart and St. Scholastica High School. Her career in auto leasing lasted over 40 years. She is remembered for her creative crafts and the handmade Christmas gifts she loved to share with her family. Betty was always active and loved the many friendships she built while working out at Curves. Most of all Betty cared deeply about her family and she will be greatly missed.

Betty is survived by her siblings Michael (Nancy), Carol, Joseph (Cathy) and numerous nieces and nephews. She is preceded in death by her parents John and Mary Love; her brother John Thomas (Chris) Love; sister Maureen Olivia (John) Keating and her aunt Mary Ann Love.

Funeral Mass will be 10:00 am Friday December 13th at St. Ita Catholic Church, 5500 N Broadway, Chicago, IL 60640 where the visitation will be held 30 minutes prior to Mass. Interment All Saints Catholic Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, please make memorial donations to American Cancer Society cancer.org. Funeral arrangements by **McMurrough Funeral Chapel**, Libertyville (847) 362-2626. Please sign the guestbook at libertyvillefuneralhome.com

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Luchetta, Louise M.

Beloved wife of the late William. Loving aunt of Linda and the late John, Frank and J.C. Cherished sister, cousin, and friend of many. Funeral Thursday December 12, 2019 at Matz Funeral Home 3440 N. Central Ave. Visitation 8:30 am until prayers at 11:00 am with a procession to St. Pascal Church for 11:30 am mass. Interment Irving Park Cemetery. Info 773 545 5420 or www.matzfuneralhome.com

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McDonald, Lauren N.

Lauren N. O'Connor McDonald, age 28, of Forest Park; loving mother of Jeramiah, Tremaine and Xavior; beloved daughter of John O'Connor and Kathie (Darren) Malina; dear sister of Crystal Unger and the late Gregory Olson; fond niece and cousin of many. Visitation Friday Dec. 14 3 to 8 p.m. at **Drechsler, Brown & Williams Funeral Home**, 203 S. Marion St., Oak Park where services will be held on Saturday Dec. 15 at 11 a.m. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to the American Cancer Society or a charity of your choice are appreciated. Funeral info: 708-383-3191 or drechslerbrownwilliams.com

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McMillan, Leon

Leon McMillan was born March 28, 1937 in Detroit, Michigan and passed away December 10, 2019 in Northbrook, Illinois. He was the beloved husband for 58 years of Phyllis Arlene McMillan nee Nevitt.

Leon was raised in the suburbs of Detroit and received his bachelor's degree from Wayne University and his master's from New York University. He then began his career working on Wall Street. He took great joy in the stock market both professionally and personally. Leon and his wife, Phyllis, owned Chipchase Kennels where they bred, raised and showed Old English Sheep Dogs. Leon showed a number of the dogs to their championship. Leon and Phyllis enjoyed doing things together such as antiquing and collecting. A graveside service will be held Friday, December 13, 2019 at 1 pm at Sacred Heart Cemetery, Lee Road (just North of Dundee Road), in Northbrook. The family would like to extend special gratitude to his caregivers, Jessica Sheridan, Camilo Vega, and the entire staff of Guardian Hospice. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Guardian Hospice, 181 Waukegan Road, Northfield, IL 60093. Funeral information 847-998-1020.



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Muller, Vivian H.

Vivian H. Muller, nee Gniady, age 91; beloved wife of the late Ralph P. Muller; loving mother of Liane Muller, Thomas (Deborah) Muller, Lisa Brosnan, Peter (Stacey) Muller, Alicia (Dan) Philipp, Linda (Abraham) Stone, and the late Steven Muller; dear grandmother of Elizabeth, Steven (Desirae Patterson), Christopher (Samantha) Cady, Elliott, Mitchell, Norah, Margaret and Elana; great-grandmother of Emma; fond sister of the late Walter, Edward and Chester Gniady. Visitation Sunday 3:00 PM to 8:00 PM. Funeral Monday 9:15AM from **Adams-Winterfield & Sullivan Funeral Home**, 4343 Main St. (1 blk. So. of Ogden) Downers Grove to St. Mary of Gblyk Church, Mass 10:00AM Interment St. Adalbert Cemetery. www.adamswinterfieldsullivan.com or 630-968-1000.



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O'Connor

See Catherine Ann Sugrue notice.

O'Connor, Paul Anthony

Paul Anthony O'Connor, 85, of Genoa, Illinois, previously of Calumet City, died Sunday, December 8, 2019, at OSF Saint Anthony, Rockford. Born January 18, 1934, in Chicago, the son of Joseph and Florence (Donohoe) O'Connor. Paul married Evelyn Jezior on September 10, 1963, in Chicago; Evelyn predeceased him in July 2006. A veteran of the US Army Signal Corps, Paul had attended Maryville Academy in Des Plaines, graduating in the Class of 1953. He was a huge sports fan, especially the Cubs and Bears, and loved college football, especially Notre Dame. Paul was a devoted grandfather. He had worked as an international export analyst for International Harvester/Navistar International for 29 years. Paul is survived by his daughter, Barb (Dave) Bensingor of Genoa; grandchildren, Sean Bensingor and Kira (David Rodabaugh) Bensingor; siblings, Mary DePaul, Theresa Cuccinotto, Mike (Helen) O'Connor and Helen O'Connor; and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by siblings, Joe, Jim, Tom, Margaret, Florence and Catherine O'Connor.

The Memorial Mass will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, December 14, 2019, at St. Catherine of Genoa Church, 340 South Stott St., Genoa, following visitation beginning at 10 a.m. A visitation will be held from 3-6 p.m. Friday, December 13, 2019, at Cooper-Quiram Chapel, 202 E. Main St., Genoa. A memorial mass also will be held at a later date at Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe, 1170 N. River Rd, Des Plaines, IL 60016. The family extends special thanks to the neuro-trauma team at OSF St. Anthony. Memorials can be made to Catholic charities. Arrangements are by Olson Funeral & Cremation Services, Quiram Chapels; 815-784-2518. Visit www.olsonfh.com to share a memory or leave a condolence.

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Pribyl, Elmer B.

Elmer B. Pribyl, World War II Army Air Corp. Veteran. Born and raised in the Little Village Neighborhood and attended Epiphany School. Former owner for over 25 years of Ace Hardware in the Little Village Neighborhood. After retirement Elmer moved to the Marengo Huntley areas. Beloved husband of the late Dolores, nee Kubik; loving father of Susanne (Robert) Zielski, Alyce (Theodore) Walther; grandfather of Amy Zielski, David (Kristine) Zielski; great-grandfather of Mason; fond brother of Evelyn (the late Joseph) Felbab and the late George, August, Edward, Adeline; uncle of many nieces and nephews. Funeral 9:15 a.m. Friday from **Modell Funeral Home**, 7710 S. Cass Avenue, Darien to Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, Mass 10:00 a.m. Interment Arlington Cemetery. Visitation Thursday 3-8 p.m. For funeral info: (630) 852-3595 or www.modelldarien.com.



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Retzky, Carol

Carol Retzky, nee Horwitz, age 90, beloved wife of the late Herbert M.; loving mother of Charles and Sandra Retzky; cherished aunt of many nieces and nephews. Services Friday, 11:30 a.m. West Suburban Temple Har Zion, 1040 N. Harlem Ave., River Forest 60305. Interment Jewish Waldheim. Remembrances may be made to West Suburban Temple Har Zion. Info: **Chesed V'Emet Funeral Home**, Rudy Lerner, Funeral Director, 847-577-0856, www.chesedvetem.com.

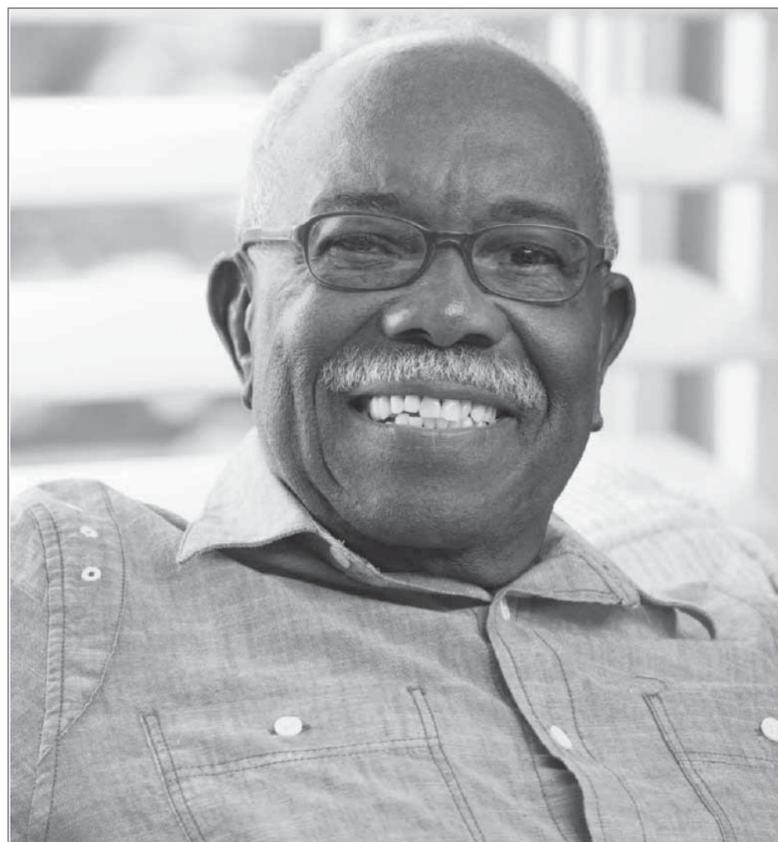
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Sideris, Chrisanthy

Chrisanthy Sideris, 81, (nee Spiros); Born in Kosmas, Greece; Beloved wife of the late Gus Sideris; Devoted mother of Pamela (Dennis) Makris and Nicholas; Cherished grandmother of Patricia and Chrissy; Loving sister of Zaharoula (the late Eleftheri), the late Harry (Christine), the late Dino (Maria), the late John (Effie), and the late Irene (the late James); Dearest sister-in-law, aunt, cousin and friend of many here and Greece. Visitation, Thursday December 12, 2019 from 4 -9 p.m. at Salerno's Galewood Chapels 1857 N. Harlem Ave. Chicago. Family and friends will meet Friday morning, 10:30 a.m. at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church 6041 W. Diversey Chicago for 11:00 a.m. Funeral service. Interment will follow to Elmwood cemetery. Arrangements entrusted to NICHOLAS M. PISHOS FUNERAL DIRECTOR, LTD., Info: 773-889-1700 or www.salernofuneralhomes.com



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Chicago Tribune

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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

Stefanczyk, Tadeusz
Tadeusz Stefanczyk, age 84, beloved husband of the late Maria, nee Wolinski; loving father of Christopher (Debra), Lucy (Bill) Brown, and the late Barb (Tim) Serviss; dear grandfather of Samantha, Kristen, Nicole, and Kevin; fond uncle of many. Visitation at the **Skaja Terrace Funeral Home** 7812 N. Milwaukee Ave. Niles on Thursday from 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Funeral Friday 9:15 am to St. Juliana Church Mass 10:00 am. Interment St. Adalbert Cemetery. Funeral info: 847-966-7302 or www.skajafuneralhomes.com

SKAJA Terrace
Funeral Home & Cremation Services

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Sugrue, Catherine Ann
Catherine Ann Sugrue (nee O'Connor), age 59, passed away peacefully at home on December 8, 2019 after a year-long battle with brain cancer. Beloved wife of 35 years to John P. Sugrue. Passionate mother of Kerry (Dave) Penny, Johnny (Marina), Connor (Bridget), Wyatt, and Catie. Grandmother to Laila and many future children. Dear sister to Michael, Patrick, Robert, and Daniel O'Connor. Loving aunt and cousin to many and dedicated educator of countless children. Avid photographer and world traveler. Visitation will be held on Thursday, December 12th from 3-8 PM at **Smith-Corcoran Funeral Home** 6150 N. Cicero Ave. Chicago, IL 60646. Funeral Friday December 13th, 11:30 AM from **Smith-Corcoran** for 12 PM mass at St. Hilary Church 5601 N. California Ave. Chicago. Interment following at Rosehill Cemetery. Info 773-736-3833 or www.smithcorcoran.com

Smith-Corcoran
Funeral Homes

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Taormina, Sr., Michael A. 'Mick'
Michael A. Taormina Sr. ('Mick'), 81, died peacefully on Saturday, December 7, 2019.

He was born to parents John and Josephina Taormina in Johnstown, PA. He graduated from Johnstown High School and received his BS in Accounting from Benedictine University. He spent many years as Senior Executive serving as a CFO and Executive Vice President of Finance in Manufacturing and Wholesale Distribution Industries.

On August 27, 1960, he married Lucille ("Cookie"). He served in the Air Force until 1962. Survived by his spouse, Lucille; Children Michael (Danielle) of St. Charles, IL, and Gregory (Melissa) of Geneva, IL and Sibling Charles of Johnstown, PA. Proud grandfather of Brittany, Justin, Paityn, Anthony & Olivia. Preceded in death by siblings John, Lucille & Julius.

Mick was an avid golfer and enjoyed sports. He didn't miss a chance to see children or grandchildren participate in sports. He was member St. Patrick Church and 4th degree member of the Knights of Columbus Council 12497.

Visitation Services will be held from 4:00-8:00 P.M. Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at Yurs Funeral Home, 405 E. Main St. Saint Charles, IL 60174. Funeral Mass will be held on Thursday December 12, 2019 at 10:30A.M. at St. Patrick Church, 400 Cedar St. Saint Charles, IL 60174. Entombment will follow at Queen of Heaven Cemetery in Hillside, IL.

To leave an online condolence or remembrance to the family, visit the funeral homes obituary page at www.yursfuneralhomes.com. For more information, please call Yurs Funeral Home of St. Charles, 630-584-0060.



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Thermen, Paul
Paul H. Thermen, 78, of Ooltewah, TN and formerly of Rolling Meadows, IL, beloved husband and best friend of the late Sandra for 31 years; loving father of David (Lisa) Thermen, EdaBeth (Scott) Brown, Jason (Trista) Thermen, and Lesa (Chris) Wronski; cherished Grandpa and Papa of Quentin Thermen, Ryan (Ricki) Thermen, Kalee (James) Woloszyk, Matthew Brown, Jonathan, Katherine White, Dustyn, Ashlenn, Joshua, and Scott Thermen, Griffin and Gage Wronski; loving brother of Helen (Russ) Novak; treasured friend and father figure of many; preceded in death by his parents Robert C. Thermen and Pearl, nee Wasserkrug. Paul moved his family from Chicago to Hoffman Estates, where he became an active member in the community. He was a Mason, active in the men's club at his synagogue, and participated in his children's extracurricular activities as coach, mentor, and referee. His love for history led him to become a Civil War reenactor for the Tennessee 154th infantry. Paul retired after 50 plus years as the senior partner at Evans, Marshall, and Pease, PC. Chapel service 10 AM Friday at **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights, IL. Interment Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at www.stjude.org. For information and condolences, (847) 255-3520 or www.shalom2.com



Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Thoenes, Virginia A.
Virginia A. Thoenes, SLW was born January 12, 1930 in Chicago to Theodore and Augusta (Schoenberger) Schmidt and was raised by Augusta and Lawrence Thoenes and passed away December 8, 2019. Sister Virginia was a middle school and junior high teacher from 1950-1974. She also ministered in New Orleans, Iowa and Minnesota. She taught in the Chicago area and was Principal of St. Gregory High School from 1976-1981. She served in Leadership for her Community, and later as Pastoral Associate at various parishes in the northern suburbs. She was very involved in Church Women United and other justice works at St. Edna Church in Arlington Heights. She lived the last 8 years at Resurrection Life Center in Chicago. She was the loving sister of Martha (Jules) Kastens, Richard Thoenes and the late Lorraine Thoenes, late Charles (late Carol) Thoenes and the late Mary (Fred) Welk; cherished aunt of 26 nieces and nephews and many grand-nieces and nephews. Visitation will be Thursday, December 12, 2019 from 5-8 PM at Lauterburg & Oehler Funeral Home, 2000 E. Northwest Highway, Arlington Heights. Prayers will be said on Friday, December 13 at 9:45 AM at the funeral home and proceed to St. Edna Church, 2525 N. Arlington Heights Road, Arlington Heights for a Funeral Mass at 10:30 AM. Interment will be at All Saints Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, contributions to Sisters of the Living Word, 800 N. Fernandez Avenue, Arlington Heights, IL 60004 appreciated. Funeral info 847-253-5423 or lauterburgoehler.com

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Vacala, Barbara
Barbara Vacala (nee Spurney), of Brookfield, Illinois beloved wife of George Vacala (deceased 1996), loving mother of David Vacala (wife Victoria) and Shirley Gialamas (husband Jim Gialamas), cherished grandmother of Summer Thurman (husband Chase Thurman) and Kylie Vacala, dear half-sister of Diane Golema (nee Smith; husband Tim Golema), Walter Smith (wife Glory Smith), and Robert Smith, died of multiple myeloma cancer on December 7th, 2019. She was 82. A graduate of Proviso High School, Barbara is remembered as an engaging and friendly waitress at Brookfield Restaurant where she worked for over 25 years. She enjoyed traveling, particularly trips to Disney World, and playing cards and bingo with her friends. Visitation will be from 3:00 - 8:00 PM on December 12th, at Woodlawn Funeral Home, 7750 West Cermak Rd. Forest Park, IL. Funeral Service will be at 11:00 AM on December 13th, also at Woodlawn Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions in her name to St. Jude's Children Research Hospital; www.stjude.org.
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries



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BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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Wanted: Oriental Rugs Any Size/ Any condition - for cash. *** CALL 773-575-8088 ***

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STUFF FOR SALE

Christmas Trees 9ft \$150 & 12ft \$200, each with base, adjustable heights, pre lit. 815-523-7495

Cars/Wheels

Lincoln Mark V 1978 67,000 miles, invested \$10,000 in it, selling for \$6,000. 630-881-1632

Toyota Avalon 2015 XLE. All options! 24,000 miles, black leather interior. Asking \$14,500. 630-699-1454

LEGAL NOTICES

DOGS

AKC Doberman Puppies 815-742-6876 Machesney Park 1500 Male and Female Available Champion Bloodlined European

AMERICAN BULLY 815-370-4915 Bradley, IL \$1,000 Male 2 yrs old, 80lbs, house and crate trained

Bernedoodle 574-971-1365 Shipshewana, IN \$1500 & Up M/F Mini Bernedoodle Puppies; Tri & Bi Color; Adorable, Loving, Outstanding personalities. www.michianaBernedoodles.com

Bulldog 563-880-0479 Guttenberg, IA \$3,000 Female 5 AKC Registered puppies with Champion Bloodlines. They will be ready on 12/24/19.

Collies 608-379-0026 Wauzeka \$975 M & F AKC puppies, Lassie type. Zaneville Manor Farm. Ready 12/13 975. Call or text.

Goldendoodle Puppies 630-803-4405 Elburn Illinois \$1200 Part Goldendoodle puppies Health Guaranteed, 8 weeks



Great Dane 219-405-4007 Westville, IN \$1500 M & F Pups. Fawn, Brindle, AKC, Champion Bloodline, Shots

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL TO METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO

Sealed proposals, endorsed as below, will be deposited in the sealed bid depository safe located in the lobby of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Administration Building, 100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611, from the date of the Notice for Request for Proposal, up to 11:00 A.M. on the proposal due date, for:

CONTRACT 19-RFP-41 COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS STUDY

Estimated Cost: \$125,000.00
Bid Opening: January 17, 2020

The above is an abbreviated version of the Notice - Invitation to Bid. A full version which includes a brief description of the project and/or service can be found on the District's website, www.mwrd.org; the path is as follows: Doing Business → Procurement and Materials Management → Contract Announcements.

Specifications, proposal forms and/or plans may be obtained from the Department of Procurement & Materials Management, Room 508, 100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611, Monday - Friday, between 8:45 A.M. and 4:15 P.M. Documents, unless stated above to the contrary, will be mailed in response to a fax request (312/751-3042). The vendor may also download specifications, proposal forms and/or plans online from the District's website, www.mwrd.org. The path is as follows: Doing Business → Procurement and Materials Management → Contract Announcements. No fee is required for the contract documents unless stated above.

All Contracts for the Construction of Public Works are subject to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/1-et seq.), where it is stated in the Notice for Request for Proposal.

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals if deemed in the public's best interest.

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

By Darlene A. LoCascio
Director of Procurement & Materials Management

Chicago, Illinois
December 11, 2019

NOTICE INVITATION TO BID TO METROPOLITAN WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT OF GREATER CHICAGO

Sealed proposals, endorsed as below, will be deposited in the sealed bid depository located in the lobby of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District Administration Building, 100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611, from the date of the Invitation to Bid, up to 11:00 A.M. on the bid opening date, and will be opened publicly by the Director of Procurement and Materials Management or her designee at 11:00 A.M. on the stated bid opening date below for:

CONTRACT 13-248-5F STREAMBANK STABILIZATION ON MELVINA DITCH

Document Fee: \$50.00 (Non refundable, in the form of cashier's check, certified check or money order payable to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District)
Estimated Cost: Between \$10,877,685.25 and \$13,167,724.25 Bid Deposit: \$659,000.00

Mandatory Pre-Bid Site Walk-Through: Thursday, December 19, 2019, at 9 A.M. Chicago time, at the Project Site

Mandatory Technical Pre-Bid Conference: Thursday, December 19, 2019, at 11:30 A.M. Chicago time, Lawndale Avenue Solids Management Visitor's Center, 7601 So. LaGrange Rd., Willow Springs

Bid Opening: January 14, 2020
Compliance with the District's Affirmative Action Ordinance Revised Appendix D, Appendix C, Appendix K, Appendix V and the Multi-Project Labor Agreement is required on this Contract.

CONTRACT 14-372-3SR DROP SHAFT 5 INSPECTION AND REHABILITATION, NSA

Document Fee: \$50.00 (Non-refundable, in the form of cashier's check, certified check or money order payable to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District)
Estimated Cost: Between \$3,610,000.00 and \$4,370,000.00 Bid Deposit: \$190,000.00

Mandatory Technical Pre-Bid Conference: Tuesday, January 14, 2020, 2 P.M. Chicago time, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, Board Room, Rm. 100, 100 E. Erie St., Chicago, Illinois

Bid Opening: January 28, 2020
Compliance with the District's Affirmative Action Ordinance Revised Appendix D, Appendix C, Appendix K, Appendix V and the Multi-Project Labor Agreement is required on this Contract.

CONTRACT 19-667-13 NATIVE PRAIRIE LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE AT VARIOUS SERVICE AREAS (RE-BID)

Estimated Cost: Group A:	\$200,000.00	Bid Deposit: Group A:	None
Estimated Cost: Group B:	\$160,000.00	Bid Deposit: Group B:	None
Estimated Cost: Group C:	\$160,000.00	Bid Deposit: Group C:	None
	\$520,000.00		

Mandatory Technical Pre-Bid Conference: Tuesday, January 7, 2020, 10:00 A.M. Chicago time, Stickney Water Reclamation Plant, 6001 W. Pershing Rd., Bldg. 185, rm. S311, Stickney, Illinois

Bid Opening: January 21, 2020
Compliance with the District's Affirmative Action Ordinance Revised Appendix D, Appendix C, Appendix V and the Multi-Project Labor Agreement is required on this Contract.

The above is an abbreviated version of the Notice - Invitation to Bid. A full version which includes a brief description of the project and/or service can be found on the District's website, www.mwrd.org; the path is as follows: Doing Business → Procurement and Materials Management → Contract Announcements.

Specifications, proposal forms and/or plans may be obtained from the Department of Procurement & Materials Management, Room 508, 100 East Erie Street, Chicago, Illinois 60611, Monday - Friday, between 8:45 a.m. and 4:15 p.m. Documents, unless stated above to the contrary, will be mailed in response to a fax request (312/751-3042). The vendor may also download specifications, proposal forms and/or plans online from the District's website, www.mwrd.org. The path is as follows: Doing Business → Procurement and Materials Management → Contract Announcements. No fee is required for the contract documents unless stated above.

All Contracts for the Construction of Public Works are subject to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/1-et seq.), where it is stated in the Invitation to Bid Page.

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals if deemed in the public's best interest.

Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

By Darlene A. LoCascio
Director of Procurement and Materials Management

Chicago, Illinois
December 11, 2019

DOGS

Irish Wolfhound	815-923-4010
Union, IL 1200	M/F
Red Wheaton m, Brindle m, Black F AKC	
current on shots. 9 weeks. Parents here too.	
Labradoodle	352-636-1545
FL 32648 \$1500-\$1800	M/F
Minis No shed 8 wks+ for Xmas! All colors!	
Shichon Shitzu x bichon	574526244
warsaw, in 650	m/f
current shots/deworming health guar.	

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AVIATION TECH TRAINING, JOB PLACEMENT ASSISTANCE - DELTA, SOUTHWEST, BOEING AND MANY OTHERS HIRE AIR GRADS. CALL AIM 800-481-8312

ASSUMED NAMES

Notice is hereby given, Pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State" as amended, that a Certification was filed by the Undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County File No.

Y19002698 on the Date: **November 27, 2019**
Under the Assumed Name of: **Majlicch with the business located at: 1256 Clover Lane Hoffman Estates, IL, 60192**
The true name and residence Address of the owner is: **Kiaorng Cygan 1256 Clover Lane Hoffman Estates, IL 60192**
12/4, 12/11, 12/18/19 6530575

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

NOTICE OF THE BOARD OF REVIEW OF COOK COUNTY OF THE TIME AND PLACE FOR FILING VALUATION COMPLAINTS (ASSESSMENT APPEALS) RELATING TO 2019 REAL ESTATE ASSESSMENTS

Notice is hereby given that during the period **DECEMBER 10, 2019 THROUGH JANUARY 8, 2020**, the Board of Review of Cook County will accept the filing of valuation complaints (assessment appeals) for LAKE, THORNTON, NILES, RICH, NORTH CHICAGO, SOUTH CHICAGO, BLOOM, HANOVER for the revisions and corrections of the 2019 Real Estate Assessments. All complaints will be considered by the Board in Room 601 of the County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois, in accordance with the laws of Illinois, under the provisions of the Illinois Property Tax Code (formerly the Revenue Act of 1939), as amended. Call (312) 603-5542 for a complaint form and further information.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF **Armani Wrice**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Keisha Gonzalez (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: **19JA00946**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Deann Wrice (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **August 26, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Patrick Murphy** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **12/23/2019** at **10:30 AM** in CALENDAR **1 COURTROOM A**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
November 25, 2019 6538178

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT HOUSING AUTHORITY OF COOK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES

Bids will be received by the Housing Authority of Cook County (HACC) on the date and time (Central Standard Time) stated for the specific Bid listed below at 175 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 350, Chicago, Illinois, 60604:

Project Name: Quotation for Small Purchase (QSP) Call Center Support Services

Solicitation Number: 2019-100-046

Bid Due Date: Tuesday, January 7, 2020 Time: 2:00 p.m. CST

Contact Person: Laverne Parr, Contract Administrator

Telephone Number: (312) 542-4653 e-mail address: lparr@thehacc.org

The QSP Package may be downloaded by registering on our website which lists a complete list of all current bid opportunities with the HACC:

https://ha.economicengine.com/requests.html?company_id=25898&ocache=8586242

Bids that are not properly submitted will not be considered responsive and be disqualified from consideration. Bids submitted late will not be accepted. The Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids if deemed in the best interest of the Housing Authority of Cook County.

Richard J. Monocchio, Executive Director 12/11/2019 6538455

COUNTY OF COOK OFFICE OF THE CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF METRICS MANAGEMENT INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) FOR ACORN & METCRFT PLUMBING PARTS & SUPPLIES IFB NO.: 1945-18038

IFB Document: The IFB document is available for download at: <https://legacy.cookcountyl.gov/purchasing/bids/list/allbids.php>

Contact Person: if you have not downloaded the IFB or if you have other questions, please contact Angélique Randle, Contract Negotiator, at (312) 603-4478 or angeliq.randle@cookcountyl.gov

Questions: Questions can be submitted in writing to the contact person above until 12:00 PM (EST) on December 20, 2019. Bid Due Date, Time, and Location: Friday, January 24, 2020 at 10:00 AM (CST) Office of the Chief Procurement Officer Cook County Building 118 N. Clark Street, Room 1018 Chicago, Illinois 60602

Toni Preckwinkle, President, Cook County Board of Commissioners

Raffi Sarrafian, Chief Procurement Officer

Late Bids Will Not Be Accepted 12/11/19 6536127

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 **Jamarius Murray**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Bria Herring (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: **19JA00625**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Bria Herring (Mother)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **June 13, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Bernard Sarley** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **12/19/2019** at **1:30 PM** in CALENDAR **9 COURTROOM I**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
November 25, 2019 6538641

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF **Rhlyana Welch AKA Rhlyana Welch**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Ashley Welch (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: **19JA01318**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Derrick Humphries (Father), Unknown (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **November 08, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Bernard Sarley** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **12/20/2019** at **9:30 AM** in CALENDAR **COURTROOM I**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
November 27, 2019 6538154

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF **Sheila Green Jermaine Green, Jr Kwamaine Green Stormaine Green Zarmaine Green**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Leliamae Mitchell (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: **19JA01381 19JA01382 19JA01383 19JA01384 19JA01385**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Jermaine Green (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **November 22, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Maxwell Griffin** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **12/31/2019** at **9:30 AM** in CALENDAR **10 COURTROOM J**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
November 26, 2019 6538205

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF **Zarmaine Green AKA Zarmaine Green**

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF **Leliamae Mitchell (Mother)**

JUVENILE NO.: **19JA01385**

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, **Earnest Gibbs (Father)**, respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **November 22, 2019**, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by **KIM FOX** in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge **Maxwell Griffin** in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON **12/31/2019** at **9:30 AM** in CALENDAR **10 COURTROOM J**, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
November 26, 2019 6538188

LEGAL NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF NAPERVILLE
Bid and Requests for Proposals
Available Online

All City of Naperville solicitations will be advertised on our web site: <http://www.naperville.il.us/bidrfps.aspx>

You are invited to review all bid or proposal requests for any upcoming projects. All projects are available for download or pick-up. Please contact the Procurement Services Team office at 630.420.6064 if you have any questions.



NOTICE TO DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES

Williams Brothers Construction Inc., P.O. Box 1366, Peoria, IL 61654, (309) 688-0416 is disadvantaged business enterprise capable of performing work for the JOLIET MULTIMODAL REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER, BID PACKAGE NO. 18; BUS STATION & TURNAROUND, 50 S. CHICAGO STREET, JOLIET, ILLINOIS, CITY CONTRACT NO. 2449-0120 in the following areas: Excavation, Demolition, Utilities, Asphalt, Site Concrete, Fencing, Rebar Fabrication/Erection, Masonry, Steel Fabrication/Erection, Carpentry Work, Cabinets, Water Proofing, Roofing, Doors/Hardware, Overhead Doors, Glazing, Drywall, Flooring, Painting, Specialties, Mechanical, Electrical, Etc.

All interested Disadvantaged Business Enterprises should contact, IN WRITING, the undersigned at the address above. David M. Williams, to discuss the subcontracting opportunities. All negotiations must be completed prior to the bid opening date of January 7, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. CST. A true and correct copy of your current certification as a disadvantaged business enterprise must accompany any written proposal or quotation that you furnish. Award of a subcontract will be based on consideration of the following criteria: (a) responsiveness of the proposal or quotation (b) work history demonstrating capability to perform the work; (c) price; (d) responsibility of bidder in terms of integrity, reliability and capacity to perform such as would assure good faith, timely and safe performance and completion of the work and adherence to applicable state and federal laws and regulations. Consideration will also be given to a bidder's prequalification status, if any, with Illinois governmental bodies.

12/11/2019 6536928

FORECLOSURES

F19090145 PNC IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION Deutsche Bank Trust Company Americas, as Trustee of Deutsche Bank National Business Inc., Mortgage Asset-Banked Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2007-Q1 Plaintiff, vs. Jose Manuel Ochoa aka Jose Ochoa; Maria Jesus Puente aka Maria Puente; Jose Manuel Ochoa, as Trustees of the JODK0074 Declaration of Trust dated December 5, 2018, under file number 2018DK0074; Unknown beneficiaries of the JODK0074 Declaration of Trust dated December 5, 2018, under file number 2018DK0074; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants Defendants. CASE NO. 19 CH 12758 2619 North Springfield Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60647 Simko Calendar 58 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, Unknown beneficiaries of the JODK0074 Declaration of Trust dated December 5, 2018, under file number 2018DK0074 and UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, defendants in the above entitled cause, that suit has been commenced against you and other defendants to determine the effect of the Judicial Circuit by said plaintiff praying for the foreclosure of a certain mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to wit: LOT 29 IN BLOCK 17 IN PENNOCK IN THE SOUTH WEST 1/4 OF SECTION 26, TOWNSHIP 40 NORTH, RANGE 13 EAST, THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN ACCORDING TO THE PLAT RECORDED NOVEMBER 7, 1883 IN BOOK 18 OF PLATS, PAGE 62 IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, PLAT: 13-26-309-015-000 Said property is commonly known as 2619 North Springfield Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60647, and which said mortgage(s) was/were made by Jose Manuel Ochoa and Maria Jesus Puente and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds as Document Number 0632205435 and for other relief, that Summons was filed for the foreclosure above court against you as provided by law and that said suit is now pending. NOW THEREFORE, unless you, the said above named defendants, file your answer to the complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance in the said cause in the Office of the Clerk of the Court at Cook County on or before December 27, 2019, a default may be taken against you at any time after that date and a Judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov>/service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Steven C. Lindberg ANSELM LINDBERG & ASSOCIATES, L.L.C., 1771 W. Diehl Rd., Ste 120 Naperville, IL 60563-4947 630-453-6960 | 866-402-8661 | 630-428-4620 (fax) Attorney No. Cook 58852, DuPage 293191, Kane 031-26104, Peoria 1794, Winnebago 3802, IL 03126232 Ilegalities@anselmilindberg.com or 1-800-333-3333. A FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR.

11/27, 12/4, 11/2019 6525881

MANLEY DEAS, KOCHALSKI LLC One East Wacker - Suite 1230 Chicago, IL 60601 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, AS TRUSTEE FOR HOME EQUITY ASSET TRUST 2004-6 HOME EQUITY PASS-THROUGH CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2004-6, Plaintiff, v. LATRISE WALLACE, EUGENE TECH, INC., ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; THE ENGLISH VALLEY CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION, Defendants, Case No. 2019CH12732 The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, that the said suit has been commenced in the Circuit Court of the Cook County Judicial Circuit, Cook County, Illinois by the said plaintiff against you and other defendants to select a service provider for a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to-wit: Unit No. 10-203 in the English Valley Condominium as delineated on a survey of the following details, to-wit: real estate, certain debts, and the declaration of Condominium, both being subdivisions of part of the West 1/2 of the North West 1/4 of Section 25, Township 36 North, Range 13, East of the Third Principal Meridian, in Cook County, Illinois, which survey is attached as Exhibit "A" to the declaration of Condominium recorded as Document 25187929, as amended from time to time, together with its undivided percentage interest in the common elements, in Cook County, Illinois. 17007 Albany, Unit 1253, Hazel Crest, IL 60429 28-119-029-1088. Now, therefore, unless you, Latrise Wallace, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, and the said above named defendants, file your answer to the complaint in said suit or otherwise make your appearance in the office of the Clerk of the Cook County Judicial Circuit, Cook County, Illinois, on or before January 10, 2020, default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/faq/gethelp.asp> or contact the Clerk of the Court, Shanna L. Bacher (6302793) MANLEY DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC Attorneys for Plaintiff On 12/11/19, 12/18/19, 12/15/19 6537572

TAKE NOTICES

TO: OCCUPANT; RICHARD LAVERGNE; KIMBALL ARMS PARKING CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION; WESTWARD360 INC.; DITECH FINANCIAL LLC; AND ALL UNKNOWN OWNERS AND PARTIES INTERESTED. Old Second National Bank Successor Interest to Austin Bank of Chicago, and Old Second National Bank Successor in Interest to Austin Bank of Chicago; County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois; spouses, heirs at law, devisees, if any, of the above mentioned persons, described as Unknown Owners; Occupants or persons in actual possession of real estate herein described; claimants, decree creditors, judgment creditors, if any, of the above, described as Unknown Owners; Unknown Owners and Parties interested in said real estate. TAX DEED NO. 2019COTD004582 FILED November 20, 2019 TAKE NOTICE County of Cook Date Premises Sold: April 3, 2017 Certificate No. 15-0001465 Sold for General Taxes of 2015 Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality)Not Applicable and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at: 1374 OAKTON ST, Des Plaines, IL 60018 Legal Description or Property Index No. 09-20-416-009-000 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Room 1704, (Calendar 8) Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington Street, Courtroom Chicago, Illinois 60602, on April 15, 2020, at 9:30 AM you may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before April 2, 2020, by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois, at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602 TELEPHONE: 312-603-5645 By: Purchaser or Assignee Corona Investments, LLC (312) 251-1811 Dated: November 20, 2019, 12/9, 10, 11/2019 6527818

TO: Avalon Retail Niles, LLC nka Avalon Associates, LLC c/o John H. Mays, KVC Investment Corporation c/o Tae Hyong Kim, Investment Corporation, Occupant, and NewBank; County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois; spouses, heirs at law, devisees, if any, of the above mentioned persons, described as Unknown Owners; Occupants or persons in actual possession of real estate herein described; claimants, decree creditors, judgment creditors, if any, of the above, described as Unknown Owners; Unknown Owners and Parties interested in said real estate. TAX DEED NO. 2019COTD004590 FILED November 20, 2019 TAKE NOTICE County of Cook Date Premises Sold: April 3, 2017 Certificate No. 15-0001632 Sold for General Taxes of 2015 Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality and special assessment no.) None Warrant No. [Not Applicable] Installment No. [Not Applicable] THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at: 7939 N WAUKEGAN RD, Niles, IL 60714 Legal Description or Property Index No. 10-30-103-013-000 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Room 1704, (Calendar 8) Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602, on April 15, 2020, at 9:30 AM you may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before April 2, 2020, by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602 TELEPHONE: 312-603-5645 By: Purchaser or Assignee Corona Investments, LLC (312) 251-1811 Dated: November 20, 2019, 12/9, 10, 11/2019 6527969

TO: OCCUPANT; PARKWAY BANK AND TRUST COMPANY AS TRUSTEE U/T/A DATED 01/25/1977 A/K/A TRUST NO. 3755; OFFICE OF THE COOK COUNTY PUBLIC GUARDIAN; SCOTT ANDERSON; UNKNOWN HEIRS, DEVISEES AND/OR LEGATEES OF NANCY ANDERSON; AND ALL UNKNOWN OWNERS AND PARTIES INTERESTED. TAX DEED NO.: 2019COTD003284 FILED: 09/25/2019 TAKE NOTICE County of Cook Date Premises Sold: 04/05/2017 Certificate No. 15-0006287 Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015 Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality)Not Applicable and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property located at 3545 N ODELL AVE., CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60634 Legal Description or Property Index No. 12-24-405-009-000 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 03/24/2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in Chicago, Illinois on June 5, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 1704, Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois 60602 you may be present at this hearing but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before May 15, 2020 by applying to

Boylen's Bulls just trying to hang on
Takeaways from loss to Raptors, **Back Page**

Hawks' Lehner 'still working on it'
Some shootout advice for the Blackhawks goalie, **Back Page**

Chicago Tribune
CHICAGO SPORTS

Chicago's best sports section, as judged by the Associated Press Sports Editors



No deal

Trading **Kris Bryant** would seem to be a huge mistake for the Cubs



DAVID HAUGH
In the Wake of the News

Just saying “former Cubs third baseman Kris Bryant” sounds all wrong. ■ Seems all wrong. ■ Is all wrong. ■ Yet the Cubs apparently continue to consider whether trading Bryant would be right for the organization. That possibility has dominated conversations at the winter meetings in San Diego, home to one of several teams said to be interested in Bryant. ■ Besides the Padres, the Phillies, Braves and Nationals also reportedly inquired about the asking price for the Cubs franchise player, who turns 28 next month. ■ Angels manager Joe Maddon called the speculation surrounding Bryant “weird.” Sad is another word that applies. ■ Bryant belongs in Chicago, represents the Cubs in exemplary fashion and forms the sturdy foundation every organization seeks. More than any other Cub, Bryant embodies everything Theo Epstein promised when he took over in 2011: He’s a player the Cubs drafted, developed and doused with champagne after he helped lead them to a championship.

MORE WINTER MEETINGS
Differences between Chicago’s managers stop at a shared goal for 2020: winning. Paul Sullivan, **Page 3**
■ White Sox catcher Yasmani Grandal “just here trying to figure out how I can make these guys better.” **Page 3**

Turn to **Haugh, Page 4**

CHICAGO TRIBUNE ILLUSTRATION USING A BRIAN CASSELLA PHOTO

ABOVE
One of the iconic photos from the Cubs’ 2016 World Series run wouldn’t feel quite as good if Kris Bryant isn’t part of the team picture anymore.

BEARS

Offensive uptick goes well beyond Trubisky

BY RICH CAMPBELL

The Bears offense has experienced an uptick that could improve the lasting impression of this season if it continues for the final three games.

It’s no coincidence that quarterback Mitch Trubisky has played better during a stretch of

four wins in five games. But just as the Bears said their pronounced offensive struggles went beyond Trubisky, so do the catalysts for this recent improvement. Every position group has taken a step forward, particularly during the last two wins over the Lions and Cowboys.

“Just as an offense right now,

we’re starting to feel a little better with where we’re at,” coach Matt Nagy said Monday.

Inside: Breakdown of what each offensive position group has done better as of late, including insight from position coaches, who met with media Tuesday.

Turn to **Offense, Page 5**



3 DOWN, 3 (AND SOME HELP) TO GO

Bears' likeliest path to the playoffs

- Win their final three games (@Packers, Chiefs, @Vikings).
- Vikings lose one of their next two (@Chargers, Packers).
- Rams lose two of their final three (@Cowboys, @49ers, Cardinals).

TOP OF THE SECOND



PHIL ROSENTHAL

Nike sullies MLB uniforms

Swoosh, there it is. The Nike logo is getting slapped on the front of all Major League Baseball jerseys next season, whether fans like it or not. It's a fashion statement, to be sure, and the loudest response to that statement is an exasperated "Ugh."

Majestic, which previously had the MLB uniform deal, was content to announce itself on the sleeves.

That's subtle as a whisper compared to the "Look at meeeeee!" shout from the right shoulder beginning with the 2020 season.

Garish and unavoidable, tradition be damned, Nike's logo will be spat across the pinstripes of the Cubs, White Sox and Yankees. It will desecrate the pristine Dodgers, Red Sox and Cardinals jerseys. It will tag the ... well, you get the idea.

There are 30 MLB teams. Some uniforms look better than others. None will look better with a swoosh out front, and many will look much worse.

Any and all ballplayers who choose to wipe excess pine tar from their bats onto their right shoulder should be applauded.

From afar, the thing already looks like a stain.

Up close, the Nike logo gives off a knock-off vibe, reminiscent of an iron-on job one might find at a flea market, a second-rate T-shirt shop or wherever counterfeit goods are sold on the cheap.

It had been anticipated since January that Nike's logo would assume more noticeable placement on the jerseys, but seeing the prototypes this week struck a nerve.

This is when someone will accuse those who complain about this sort of thing of overreacting to a small, superficial, cosmetic change.

These people inevitably will point to the NBA, and they will note the world did not end with Nike occupying shoulder real estate.

They will say that even the hyperventilating critics (often expressing themselves in advertiser-supported media) will get used to the Nike logo being displayed so prominently in baseball — and they will be right.

Everyone will get used to the logos on the right shoulder, but that is what makes this whole business truly insidious.

Once everyone gets used to a Nike logo



PATRICK T. FALLON/BLOOMBERG

A logo is displayed in the window of the Nike by Melrose live concept store in California.

on the right shoulder, it becomes far easier for MLB to sell the left shoulder to sponsors. You know, like the NBA.

Because nothing makes a jersey more attractive than adding a logo of, say, Bumble, ROKiT or Rakuten.

(Give the NFL credit for this: The Nike logo on its jerseys have stayed on the sleeves — at least for now — even though the swoosh sometimes looks backward because the pointed end always flows back.)

Just because auto racing and professional soccer embrace the competitor-as-billboard ethos doesn't mean all sports have to, although they probably will in time.

One need look no farther than the MLB games played outside the United States and Canada to see what lies ahead.

Yeah, as if the Mitel stickers plastered on the helmets when the Yankees and Red Sox played in London last season were ultra-classy and not at all obnoxious.

Fan response to the new MLB look, as reflected by social media, was mixed. While some shrugged at the Nike logo, the more impassioned were upset.

"Yuck," @SpencerDan tweeted. "Why not have the @Nike logo on the sleeve? Looks really bad on uni's like #STLCards.

Looks like swoosh is beating the bird over the head."

Under the official White Sox account's tweet of the new jersey, @WhiteSoxFR tweeted a pic of the same jersey without the swoosh, saying it was an improvement.

"New MLB jerseys with Nike logo on the chest look tacky, like something you would get at a discount store, not an authentic jersey to be worn on the field by the players," @wballas tweeted.

MLB and Nike are businesses and, naturally, free to do as they wish.

Logo placement is a small thing in the big picture, and consumers probably won't mind enough to change their spending habits. Not over that specifically, anyway.

Baseball fans won't stay away from games because they think the jerseys look gaudier, although they may hesitate to buy one for themselves.

But seeing Nike on a jersey also is unlikely to make baseball fans who like the brand think better of it.

For those who aren't fans of the company, however, the swoosh will be a regular cue to recall everything they dislike.

In other words, a subtle whisper from the sleeve might have been just as effective as a "Look at meeeeee!" shout from the right shoulder, if not more so.

LET'S PLAY 2

	Sunday @Packers Noon FOX-32	Dec. 22 Chiefs 7:20 p.m. NBC-5
	Thursday @Coyotes 8 p.m. NBCSCH	Saturday @Blues 7 p.m. NBCSCH+
	Wednesday Hawks 7 p.m. NBCSCH	Friday Hornets 7 p.m. NBCSCH

WEDNESDAY ON TV/RADIO

NBA		
6 p.m. Clippers at Raptors		ESPN
7 p.m. Hawks at Bulls		NBCSCH
		WSCR-AM 670
8:30 p.m. Pelicans at Bucks		ESPN
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL		
6 p.m. Wisconsin at Rutgers		BTN
8 p.m. Michigan at Illinois		BTN
		WLS-AM 890

WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL	
7 p.m. Iowa at Iowa State	FSI

GOLF	
4:30 p.m. Presidents Cup	Golf

NHL	
6 p.m. Bruins at Capitals	NBCSN
8:30 p.m. Flyers at Avalanche	NBCSN

SOCCER	
Noon Dinamo Zagreb vs. Man. City	TNT
2 p.m. Bayer vs. Juventus	TNT

HOT-STOVE LEAGUE THEO HANDLING THE HEAT

On July 31, 2004, Theo Epstein traded Red Sox All-Star Nomar Garciaparra to the Cubs. On July 31, 2008, he traded Red Sox great Manny Ramirez to the Dodgers. And this year he fired World Series manager Joe Maddon. So the Cubs president spoke in a philosophical tone when asked about trading one of the core players from the 2016 World Series title team. "No matter what we do, we're not going to be universally lauded for these moves," Epstein said Monday night, adding: "We knew this day was coming where we'd be reaching a period where we had control just a couple years left of a lot of really good players."

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BASEBALL

Ross ready for debut; Renteria ready to win



PAUL SULLIVAN
On baseball

SAN DIEGO — We all know by now the Cubs will have a different look next year.

But what will they look like on the plane?

Sport jackets or casual? Inquiring players want to know.

"I haven't reached out to everybody yet,

but the guys I would normally talk to have reached out, asking me about dress code and stuff," new manager David Ross said. "It's crazy the questions they ask. It's funny. What is the dress code going to be? I haven't even thought about that. We'll get to that."

Ross is entering the brave new world of managing on the North Side, where expectations have been muted somewhat by all the talk of a roster reboot. Nothing had happened as of late Tuesday at the winter meetings, though the Kris Bryant trade rumors continued to fly as the Cubs brass played prevent defense against the Twittersphere.

On the other side of town, returning White Sox manager Rick Renteria is suddenly dealing with great expectations, based on the early signing of catcher Yasmani Grandal and the bidding over the second tier of free-agent starting pitchers. Even Tuesday's rumor of a trade for Rangers outfielder Nomar Mazara was an upgrade over the status quo.

After spending the first four seasons of his managerial career with Cubs and Sox teams in rebuilding mode, Renteria will need to place winning before teaching.

"Everybody should expect to win," he said. "We're not taking it any differently now than we did in the past. You're always going to be teaching. That's a part of what we do, especially when you have young players."

No matter the spin, it figures to be an interesting year on both sides of town, and Ross and Renteria will be under the gun. Both managers exuded confidence Tuesday about their team's chances in 2020, even as both remain in wait-and-see mode while their front offices piece together their rosters.

Speaking to the media Tuesday for the first time since his introductory news conference, Ross revealed he caught up with old teammates and current players Saturday at Kyle Schwarber's wedding. But he said he wants to wait until the new year to start reaching out to most players.

"Let me get a plan, continue to get all the stuff we're working toward," he said. "I didn't want to call and small-talk them. I wanted to hit them with a little bit of information and what I expect and get a little bit of feedback on how the offseason is going."

Ross said there was no talk about playing time, and he wants to "keep it casual until spring training," when he can "give them my true voice."

"I've got a lot of things that I'm jotting down and want to speak real truths to some of the guys that I know and respect and have friendships with," he said. "We're going to have some real conversations. Just hit them with where I'm coming from and what to expect and what I know about them to be true already before this thing started."

How will Ross evolve from being their friend to their boss?

"There will be a change," he conceded. "There obviously will be some boundaries and a line. But I also don't want to change who I am as a person. That's why I got this job. That's why those guys respected me at the time. There's going to be a true balance for that, and that's going to come from me."

So no more partying with the boys?

"I never was a big partier," he said. "When you're the manager, you can still go out to the party. You've just got to be the first one to leave. I can't be the guy that stays late."

The "Grandpa" moniker that Anthony Rizzo and Bryant bestowed upon Ross helped make him one of the more popular Cubs, which led to a "Dancing with the Stars" appearance and commercial endorsements.

Is it time to bury the lovable Grandpa image?

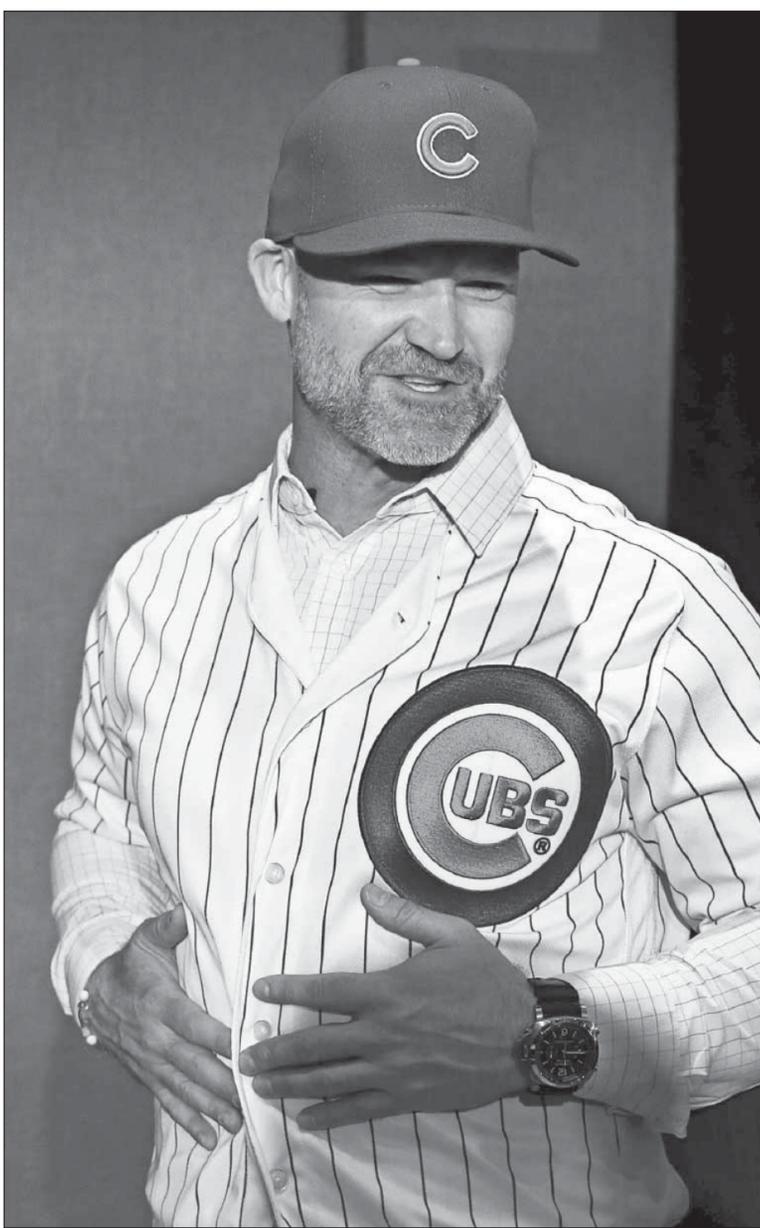
"I haven't thought about the Grandpa Rossy thing since he was a player," general manager Jed Hoyer said. "To me, that was a quirky 2016 thing that happened with the young kids and Rossy. ... I don't think there's any way of getting rid of it completely. That was part of those years."

"But it's been well-chronicled he's not everyone's best friend. Part of what makes him special is the ability to hold everyone accountable and the ability to get on guys. They respected him a ton and he's a fun guy to be around. But everyone knows he's a pretty serious dude as well, so I don't worry about that."

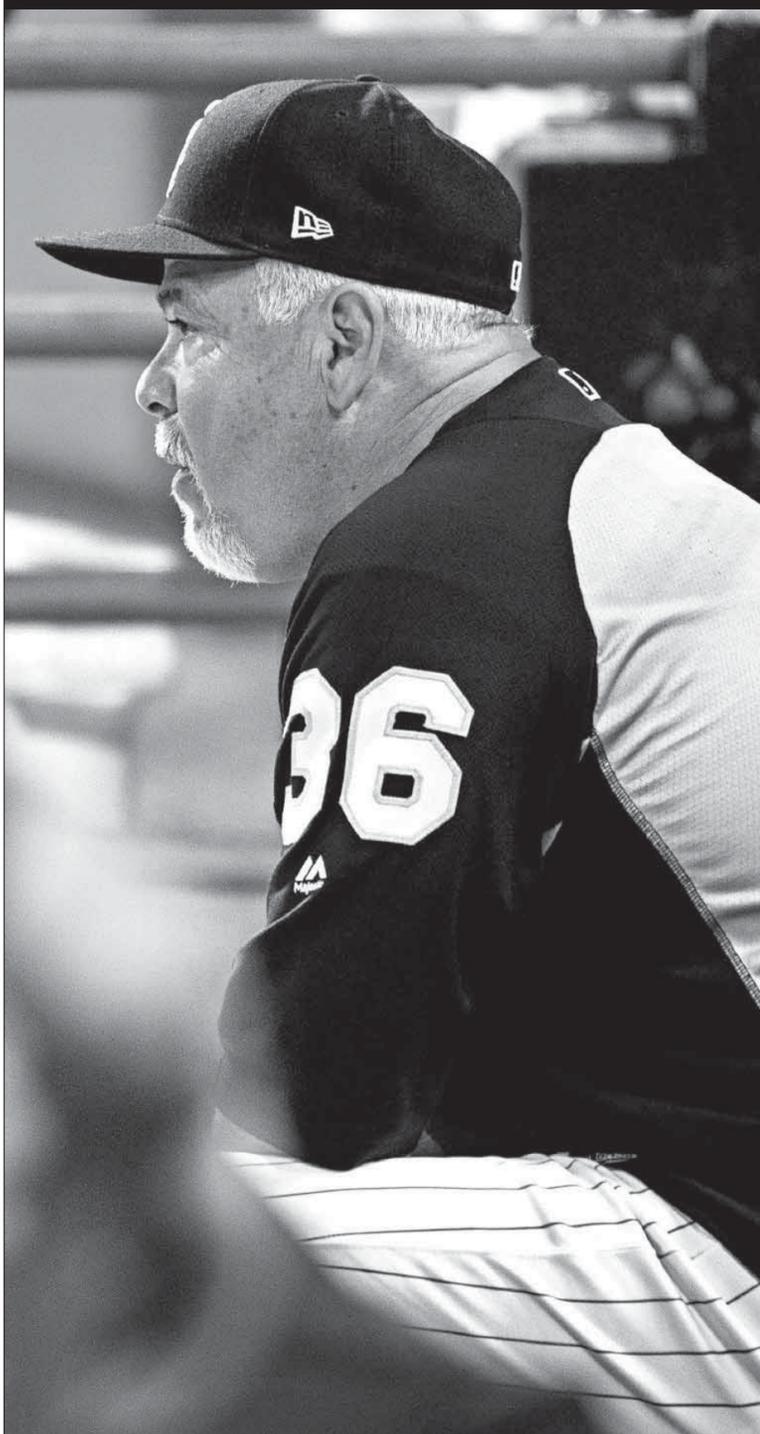
Renteria, meanwhile, should get a chance to prove himself in the dugout after being saddled with subpar rosters with little experience. Grandal, who played for the Padres when Renteria was bench coach, said it's going to be fine.

"How can you not love Ricky?" Grandal said. "He's fiery and a lot of times you don't expect him to do the things he does, and that's why you love him. He's a guy that manages the way I do when I'm playing, more by feel. ... I look forward to learning from that."

"A lot of times my gut is telling me something and I go by the numbers and I



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE (ROSS), ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE (RENERIA)
David Ross, above, and Rick Renteria must deal with new environments this season.



get burned. Those are the calls and the plays that keep me up at night. I think it's going to be great."

If the Sox are expected to win, should we expect Renteria to manage any differently?

"That's going to be a case-by-case thing," general manager Rick Hahn said. "When there's games to be won, he's going to look to try to take home that 'W' on a given night. Certainly as you get closer and

closer to being a postseason-eligible team, short-term 'W's' are going to be more important to long-term development."

"We have to wait to see what the roster is going to look like and where guys are before we decide if the time for that is April or if it's going to be midseason or when."

The waiting game continues, but at least an end is in sight.



AARON GASH/AP

Yasmani Grandal smiles after homering for the Brewers against the Cubs on Sept. 7.

WHITE SOX

Grandal will help anywhere

New Sox catcher valuable on defense, at bat, with pitchers

BY LAMOND POPE

SAN DIEGO — Yasmani Grandal is feeling a little greedy.

A reporter asked the recently acquired catcher about possibly of the White Sox adding a free-agent pitcher such as Madison Bumgarner, Dallas Keuchel or Hyun-Jin Ryu.

"I really don't want to face any one of them," Grandal said with a smile on Tuesday. "Give us all three."

Grandal attended the winter meetings Tuesday to receive an award for being named to the 2019 All-MLB second team. In the first year of the honors, Grandal finished behind first-team catcher J.T. Realmuto of the Phillies. Grandal had a .246/.380/.468 slash line in 153 games with the Brewers with 28 home runs, 77 RBIs, 79 runs, 109 walks and 139 strikeouts.

"We love this game because we get to compete," Grandal said of the honor, "so now it just gives us another reason to do it."

He's looking for more success with the Sox.

Grandal signed a four-year, \$73 million deal on Nov. 21. It's the largest contract in franchise history.

"He does his job," Sox manager Rick Renteria said. "He's a great preparer. He asks for a lot of different information. He likes the metrics. And he's been around."

"We're happy to have him."

Regardless of the direction the Sox go in terms of adding a new arm to the rotation, Grandal already is thrilled about working with the current staff, which includes young hurlers Lucas Giolito, Reynaldo Lopez, Dylan Cease, Michael Kopech and Carlos Rodon.

"You look at the numbers, you see the guys that we have, you see the young arms, it's something to be excited about," Grandal said. "Kopech is on his way back. Rodon is on his way back. Cease has a big arm, obviously Giolito made huge strides last year, (Lopez) has a huge arm as well. Plus the guys we have in the minor leagues. Plus the guys we have in the pen."

"All around, when you look at the pitching staff, there's not much we need. I'm just here trying to figure out how I can make these guys better."

The opportunity to mentor the young staff played a role in Grandal's decision to join the Sox.

"It's one of the things that attracted me to go to Milwaukee (in 2019) and definitely one of the things that attracted me to come here," Grandal said.

He's already had conversations with Giolito and Lopez.

"(Giolito) expressed how excited he was, he expressed the things he was working on," Grandal said. "That's all you want to see. You want to see a guy who did good last year who is still trying to get better. It's going to be exciting for him and it's going to be exciting for me."

The Sox recently avoided arbitration with 2019 starting catcher James McCann, signing him to a one-year, \$5.4 million contract. Grandal and McCann were All-Stars in 2019.

"The catching group, the way that I look at it, it's a unit," Grandal said. "If he does good, I'm doing good, pitching staff is doing good. Pitching staff does good, we're both doing good. It's going to be who Ricky thinks is going to get us the win and get the job done that day. At the end of the day, that's all that matters. At the end of the day, if we win a World Series, we're all going to have rings, whether he started or whether I started. It's going to come down to Ricky, what he thinks, what he feels is right that day."

"Obviously two guys who were All Stars last year, two guys who can learn from each other, two guys that can help each other out and at the same time help the pitching staff out, which at the end of the day, that's the No. 1 thing that we want to do. We want to help each and every one of those guys out."

Grandal knows there will be times he's called upon to be the designated hitter.

"I played 152 games last year, I'm looking to play 162 games this year," Grandal said. "I'm always looking to improve on certain areas. Catching, hopefully I can do that behind the plate on a daily basis."

"I do understand that we've got to put the guys out on the field to help us win that day. So if I'm going to be of help while DH-ing, then I'm going to DH. If they want me to play shortstop, I'll play shortstop that day if that's what we need."

CUBS



GREGORY BULL/AP

Scott Boras, right, with Nationals GM Mike Rizzo at the winter meetings on Monday.

Boras: 'Ears are open'

Agent says Bryant would consider Cubs extension

BY MARK GONZALES

Agent Scott Boras said he's unsure whether Kris Bryant will be on the Cubs' opening-day roster.

So Boras is preparing his client for an array of scenarios — including a possible trade as speculation spreads like brush fire at the winter meetings.

"We talk to Kris all the time," Boras told reporters Tuesday during a 52-minute briefing. "Kris is working out, and we fully anticipate, like any great player we represent, that when you get to this level of your career and you have this service time, you're going to be talked about in trades."

Bryant, 27, is nearing free agency. An arbitrator is expected to rule soon whether the Cubs manipulated the start of his service time in 2015, which would allow him to become a free agent after 2020.

Cubs President Theo Epstein expressed confidence Monday that the team acted properly and that Bryant won't be eligible for free agency for two more seasons.

That decision would affect what the Cubs could get in return for Bryant, and the free-agent destinations of Anthony Rendon (also a Boras client) and Josh Donaldson could have an impact on Bryant as well.

The Cubs could be inclined to wait until Rendon and Donaldson sign in hopes of getting a larger compensation package in return for Bryant from a team that lost out on the two premier free-agent third basemen.

The Braves, Rangers, Nationals and Dodgers are among the teams looking for a veteran third baseman.

Boras declined to forecast Bryant's future, instead highlighting the credentials of his client, which include the 2015 National League Rookie of the Year and 2016 NL Most Valuable Player awards as well as three All-Star selections.

"Core premium All-Star, MVP-type players are so valuable to a team, it's hard to ever think how you replace them," Boras said. "And so when you get into those levels historically, it's normally not something that's done."

Bryant is projected to earn at least \$18 million in 2020 as an arbitration-eligible player, and Boras said "we've always made it known to the Cubs that our ears are open to anything they'd like to follow."

Including an extension that would keep him at Wrigley Field?

"We communicate with the Cubs constantly," Boras said. "Our doors are open, and obviously we're in negotiation on an annual contract with KB and more than willing to discuss anything they'd like on a multiyear basis."

But very few of Boras' clients sign extensions before free agency.

Boras seemed unfazed by reports that the Cubs can't spend money until they move salaries.

"I haven't gotten that email," Boras said. "I only know what I hear from Theo, and all I know (is) he feels he's trying to build a competitive team."

Boras also was adamant that shortstop Addison Russell, whom the Cubs did not tender a contract last week, would remain in the majors despite a gradual decline in production.

"Addison Russell is an excellent major-league player," Boras said. "He's very young (25). We fully anticipate he'll be playing in the major leagues starting for somebody."

Haugh

Continued from Page 1

He never complained when Maddon moved him around the lineup like an interior designer moving furniture in search of feng shui. He never whined about where he batted in the order, not even when the Kyle Schwarber leadoff experiment cut into his RBI totals. All Bryant ever did since the Cubs selected him with the No. 2 pick in 2013 was show up and shut up, doing a little bit of everything while demanding nothing.

Bryant's success has been sustained, to borrow Epstein's term, if interrupted occasionally by the nagging injury. Having completed only his fifth season in the majors, it's not outrageous to think the best is yet to come. And every Cubs fan should shudder at the thought of that coming somewhere else.

Greg Maddux was 27, by the way, when the Cubs let him walk in free agency and sign with the Braves in 1993. Allowing Maddux to leave town was a decision that haunted the Cubs for years. Trading Bryant would invite similar regret.

This wouldn't be the White Sox announcing an organizational rebuild three years ago by trading Chris Sale to the Red Sox. This would be the Cubs conceding they have no chance to sign Bryant to a long-term contract extension and dealing him to ensure they get something in return. This would be the Cubs telling their new Marquee Sports Network to start thinking of programming ideas for next October because there will be no playoffs to cover.

Everybody in baseball understands the motivation for such conversation. The thought of Bryant bolting after his contract expires has scared the Cubs since 2015, when they toyed with his service time to delay his promotion from Triple-A Iowa.

The lack of resolution on the grievance Bryant filed has clouded every trade proposal. Industry experts expect the Cubs to prevail, but if an arbitrator rules in favor of Bryant, his contract will expire in October instead of 2021. As MLB Network analyst Jon Heyman said Tuesday on WSCR-AM 670: "Two years left on his contract doubles the value for Bryant" in any trade scenario. Reports say to expect a ruling in the next two weeks.

Meanwhile, Chicagoans can debate whether losing Bryant for nothing in free agency poses a greater risk for the Cubs than the team falling out of contention for the foreseeable future without one of the game's brightest stars. It's far from clear-cut.

It's not conceivable for the Cubs to trade Bryant this winter and contend for the National League pennant next season — or perhaps even a wild-card spot. May-

be the Cubs aren't good enough to return to the playoffs even if Bryant stays, but keeping him would show a serious commitment to winning before their championship window closes after the 2021 season.

Those who insist clients of super-agent Scott Boras never re-sign with their original teams after hitting free agency overlooked baseball's biggest headline this week. Stephen Strasburg tested the open market but re-signed with the defending World Series champion Nationals — a historic seven-year, \$245 million deal Boras negotiated. Imagine if Nationals general manager Mike Rizzo had overreacted last offseason to the possibility Strasburg would opt out of his contract to become a free agent.

Remember also what Bryant has reminded us on more than one occasion: Boras works for him. Only Bryant knows whether any hard feelings linger from the service-time issue almost five years ago or how much he enjoys playing in a city where every game matters.

Another myth to dispel about Bryant involves the silly perception that he can't hit in the clutch. According to FanGraphs, Bryant had a higher OPS in high-leverage situations than low-leverage situations last season: .965 compared with .845. And it's not hard to find more statistics to support that notion.

Conventional wisdom said the Cubs would approach Bryant and Javier Baez this offseason and offer both contract extensions. That strategy suggested the first player to sign would stay while the other would be dangled as trade bait. Only Epstein and Chairman Tom Ricketts can project how feasible it is financially to keep both stars long-term — the surest way to keep the Cubs competitive.

Ricketts told the Sports Business Journal that the Cubs "missed our budget by 100%" on Wrigley Field renovations. It's easy to connect the dots between that revelation and indications that the Cubs plan to spend frugally this winter. Nobody can call a team with baseball's second-highest payroll in 2019 cheap. Everyone can respect the Cubs' desire to avoid the luxury-tax threshold in 2020.

But is it unrealistic to wonder why one of baseball's smartest front offices in a franchise worth almost \$3 billion can't find a way to hold on to its most valuable player asset?

Sure, trading Bryant would help replenish a barren farm system. The Cubs likely would receive a haul of highly ranked prospects who they would hope might ascend one day to an elite level.

Where Bryant already is.

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.

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BEARS



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Running back David Montgomery has shown that he is acclimating to the NFL.

Offense

Continued from Page 1

Quarterback

What has gone right: Mitch Trubisky has played winning football. It's as simple as that. The Bears quarterback has played with greater confidence and command recently. He is trusting what he is seeing, being decisive and giving his playmakers a chance to make plays. Most importantly, he has helped propel the Bears to a three-game winning streak. On Thanksgiving, Trubisky led a game-winning 90-yard touchdown drive in the fourth quarter to beat the Lions. Last week, he used both his legs and his right arm to spark a 31-point outburst against the Cowboys.

Key stat: Since being pulled with a hip pointer late in a Week 11 road loss to the Rams, Trubisky has gathered himself and posted a 99.1 rating over the past three wins. His full numbers over that span: 77-for-110 passing, 860 yards, seven TD passes and four interceptions.

Dave Ragone's take: "He has continued to gain confidence and trust with himself and then with his teammates. Hopefully that continues the rest of the season. But you've seen the progress. Things have been clearer. Sharper. He has a great feel right now for what he's seeing out there. And his communication coming off the sideline has been the best that it's been with me. You're hopeful that continues as we move forward. That's what we're striving for."

Running backs

What has gone right: Nagy's commitment to run the ball has been steadier since bottoming out Oct. 20 when the Bears set a single-game franchise record low with seven rushing attempts in a 36-25 loss to the Saints. Nagy has called more runs with the quarterback under center, and the Bears have prioritized some formations and personnel groupings that help the run game. Meanwhile, rookie David Montgomery's acclimation to the NFL has continued, and his recent production shows meaningful growth.

Key stat: Montgomery rushed for 75 yards against the Lions on Thanksgiving and 86 against the Cowboys, his third- and second-highest single-game totals of the season. That shows how balanced play selection helps the offense and also reflects that the Bears played with the lead in those wins.

Charles London's take: Montgomery "has just been getting used to the speed of the game. ... Just with him seeing the holes — I think he did a good job, especially the last two, three weeks of just seeing how the line is blocking and getting a feel for how the game is going, getting a feel for how the runs are being blocked."

Wide receivers

What has gone right: Anthony Miller has emerged as a playmaking complement to Allen Robinson, whose quality and consistency have made him the best component of the offense all season. As a result, the Bears are hurting defenses that devote an extra defender to Robinson and leave Miller in single coverage. That was the case on Miller's two third-down conversions of more than 30 yards on the game-winning drive against the Lions. Miller's contributions have helped offset the two-game absence of Taylor Gabriel (concussion).

Key stat: Over the last four games, Miller has 27 catches for 313 yards and a touchdown on 37 targets. Compare that to his production over the first nine games: 17 catches for 218 yards and no touchdowns on only 30 targets.

Mike Furrey's take: "The attention to detail in what (Miller) has done over the last six weeks, he has gained a lot of trust out of everybody on our staff and, obviously, with our quarterback. He has really been on it. The good thing is he is seeing his work pay off with production. That has just allowed him to keep building."



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Wide receiver Anthony Miller (17) is a fine complement to Allen Robinson.

Offensive line

What has gone right: The Bears have won four of five games since they reversed the offseason position swap involving James Daniels and Cody Whitehair. They moved Whitehair back to center and Daniels to left guard, citing a hope for better communication than they were getting with their two least experienced linemen, Daniels and right guard Rashaad Coward, playing next to each other. The line has been far from flawless, and starting right tackle Bobby Massie (ankle) has missed the last two games. But everything depends on blocking up front, so the offense's overall improvement reflects theirs.

Key stat: The Bears didn't gain 300 yards of offense in a game until their seventh. But they've gone over 335 in each of their last three. The offense scored a season-high 31 points against the Cowboys, and the offensive line was not penalized in the game.

Harry Hiestand's take: "When times get tough, it's human nature to press and try to do too much and put yourself in some positions where you're not playing like you are capable of playing because things aren't going good and the expectations are high. We just kind of worked our way through it. It's the same guys, really, without Bobby. I think they are playing with a little more confidence, and they are a little less concerned about, 'Jeez, we should be doing this, we should be doing that.' They've gotten over that and that whole (mental) block and all that stuff of the expectations that were hard for anybody to handle."

Tight ends

What has gone right: After months of underwhelming contributions from Trey Burton and Adam Shaheen in the passing game, newcomers J.P. Holtz and Jesper Horsted have provided at least something. After Burton (groin, calf) and Shaheen (foot) were put on injured reserve, Holtz, Horsted and Ben Braunecker have flashed. Their contributions haven't been transformational, but they've been more effective than what the Bears were getting.

Key stat: Holtz, Horsted and Braunecker have combined for 17 catches for 136 yards and two touchdowns. Burton and Shaheen combined for 23 catches for 158 and no touchdowns.

Kevin Gilbride's take: "They've really done a nice job as far as staying the course, not trying to do too much, doing what's asked of them, preparing the way they should prepare, which at least gives you a chance to have a chance to be successful."

Dan Wiederer and Brad Biggs of the Chicago Tribune contributed.

NFL POWER RANKINGS

Ravens continue roll

BY BRAD BIGGS | Chicago Tribune



1. Ravens 11-2 (last week: 1): They've allowed more than 17 points only once in their last eight games, complementing a Lamar Jackson-led offense that is rolling.



2. 49ers 11-2 (3): They made it through a grueling three-game stretch with wins against the Packers and Saints and a narrow loss in Baltimore.



3. Saints 10-3 (4): The Saints put up 46 points against the vaunted 49ers defense, but their defense that has played so well all season absolutely collapsed in a 48-46 loss.



4. Chiefs 9-4 (9): The Chiefs will be a scary playoff opponent if they can play defense like they have in wins against the Patriots (23-16) and Raiders (40-9).



5. Packers 10-3 (7): While they hold the No. 2 seed in the NFC, they will be tested the next two weeks with a visit by the Bears and then a trip to Minnesota.



6. Seahawks 10-3 (2): They went without an offensive touchdown for the first time since the 2017 opener in a 28-12 loss to the Rams on Sunday night.



7. Patriots 10-3 (6): The Patriots always are going to be considered shady after Spygate and Deflategate. Now they're under investigation again.



8. Vikings 9-4 (8): What looked like a blowout when they led the Lions 17-0 at halftime turned into a nondescript 20-7 victory.



9. Titans 8-5 (11): The rise of Ryan Tannehill has highlighted the explosive playmaking ability of rookie receiver A.J. Brown, a second-rounder from Mississippi.



10. Rams 8-5 (12): The Rams are chasing a wild-card berth, and while the schedule isn't easy — they travel to face the 49ers in Week 16 — the Rams could be a tough out.



11. Bills 9-4 (10): Was a 24-17 loss to the Ravens a sign that the Bills are not ready to compete on the big stage or a sign that they are close?



12. Texans 8-5 (5): Just when you start taking the Texans seriously they do something inexplicable like get blown out at home by the Broncos.



13. Steelers 8-5 (13): Mike Tomlin probably isn't going to win coach of the year, but he deserves real consideration for the job he has done turning this around.



14. Bears 7-6 (15): The playoffs remain a real long shot, but the tone of the offseason will be significantly different if the offense can finish on an upswing.



15. Cowboys 6-7 (14): They remain in a spiral, one that might not end until the playoffs, but things are falling apart for a team that has lost seven of 10 games.



16. Buccaneers 6-7 (18): The guess here is the Bucs look to move forward with Jameis Winston, who will be a free agent, and he can strengthen his case down the stretch.



17. Eagles 6-7 (19): The Eagles snapped a three-game losing streak, but barely edging the lowly Giants isn't going to inspire a ton of confidence.



18. Browns 6-7 (20): Leave it to Baker Mayfield to stir the pot. After a win, he criticized the way the team's medical staff handled an injury for Odell Beckham Jr.



19. Broncos 5-8 (22): Rookie Drew Lock was masterful in a 38-24 upset win in Houston. Lock completed 22 of 27 for 309 yards and three touchdowns with one pick.



20. Colts 6-7 (16): Jacoby Brissett isn't Andrew Luck, and it's going to force the Colts to upgrade the offense around him during the offseason.



21. Chargers 5-8 (25): As disappointing as their season has been, the Chargers have been solid on defense, where they rank fourth in the league.



22. Raiders 6-7 (17): All of those extra draft picks the Raiders own in April will give Jon Gruden and Mike Mayock multiple chances to improve the defense.



23. Jets 5-8 (23): The Jets won for the fourth time in five games and did so without running back Le'Veon Bell and safety Jamal Adams.



24. Falcons 4-9 (28): First-round pick Chris Lindstrom went down with a foot injury in the opener, and the guard didn't return until a big win over the Panthers.



25. Panthers 5-8 (21): Cam Newton underwent surgery to repair his Lisfranc injury. Instinct tells you the Panthers will explore the possibility of trading him.



26. Dolphins 3-10 (26): Jason Sanders set a franchise record with seven field goals in a 22-21 loss to the Jets. He was good from 37, 22, 25, 28, 31, 53 and 47 but missed from 34.



27. Jaguars 4-9 (24): Nothing says quit like the 2019 Jaguars. Their 45-10 road loss to the Chargers on Sunday was their fifth consecutive loss by 17 points or more.



28. Cardinals 3-9-1 (27): Kyler Murray is learning on the job. He was intercepted three times and sacked five times in a loss to the Steelers.



29. Redskins 3-10 (29): The Redskins were able to hang around in Green Bay before losing, but running back Derricus Guice left with another knee injury.



30. Lions 3-9-1 (30): The hole for coach Matt Patricia and general manager Bob Quinn keeps getting deeper. The Lions lost their sixth straight game.



31. Giants 2-11 (32): The defense allowed 418 yards to the Eagles, and coach Pat Shurmur remains under fire as the Giants have lost nine consecutive games.



32. Bengals 1-12 (31): That winning feeling was around for only a week in Cincinnati as the Bengals returned to their losing ways with a loss in Cleveland.



JEFF HAYNES/AP

Le'Veon Bell sat out against the Dolphins because of the flu Sunday.

NFL NOTES

Bell spared discipline by Jets

Associated Press

Le'Veon Bell will be spared from team discipline after his weekend bowling outing.

The Jets running back missed the team's 22-21 win Sunday against the Dolphins while continuing to recover from the flu, which kept him out of practice for two days last week. Coach Adam Gase said Tuesday that team doctors determined Bell was still ill Saturday, so the team ruled him out for the game.

"He wanted to play," Gase said. "But they told him he was still contagious. They didn't want him around all the other guys because they thought it could spread through the team."

Bell was sent home and told to stay away from the team while he recovers — but didn't violate any team rules.

"What am I going to discipline him for?" Gase said. "I can't tell him you have to stay in your house."

The New York Post reported Monday night that Bell went to a New Jersey-area bowling alley Saturday night and stayed there with several friends until it closed around 1 a.m.

"I mean, that's not his fault that we said he was still contagious," Gase said. "That's what the doctors told him. I'd rather he not be (out). I'd rather he be home just getting better."

Belichick unaware of filming

Patriots coach Bill Belichick says neither he nor his coaching staff has watched any video footage shot by an in-house production team now at the center of an NFL investigation for inappropriately filming the Bengals' sideline at a recent game.

Belichick said during a conference call he was not involved and had no knowledge of what took place during Sunday's Bengals-Browns game in Cleveland. Belichick said he wasn't informed of it until Monday afternoon.

"I personally have never viewed any video footage at all, anything that those production people have done, other than what's shown on public television or something like that," Belichick said.

Extra points: Giants coach Pat Shurmur said Daniel Jones will return as the starting QB once his sprained right ankle heals. Shurmur added he has not considered giving Eli Manning, 38, a final start at home either this weekend against the Dolphins in the regular-season finale on Dec. 29 against the Eagles. ... The salary cap for 2020 is projected to be in the range of \$196.8 million to \$201.2 million, making it likely for the cap to have an increase of at least \$10 million for the seventh consecutive year. The 2019 salary cap is at \$188.2 million. ... The Lions placed WR wide receiver Marvin Jones on injured reserve with an ankle injury. ... The Falcons put WR Calvin Ridley (abdomen) and CB Desmond Trufant (forearm) on injured reserve. ... Redskins CB Simeon Thomas was suspended four games for violating the NFL's substance abuse policy.

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SPORTS

FIRE

Depleted Fire sign teen to homegrown contract

Defender added, but team needs coach, sporting director

By JEREMY MIKULA

The Fire are a month away from the start of preseason camp and still need to fill key positions on the roster and coaching staff.

But the club made one addition Tuesday with the signing of defender Nicholas Slonina from the team's academy. Slonina, 18, is signed through the 2020 season with club options for 2021, 2022 and 2023.

An Addison native, Slonina is the older brother of goalkeeper Gabriel Slonina, who signed with the Fire in March to become the second-youngest signee in Major League Soccer history and the team's youngest homegrown player at 14. The brothers hold both U.S. and Polish citizenship, according to the Fire.

"Nicholas is a solid central defender who is able to play under pressure with both feet," Fire Academy technical director Cedric Cattenoy said in a statement. "He's extremely vocal along the back line and is a very good teammate. Nick has been a leader for our academy teams and we're pleased to see him take this next step in his career."

Still, several vacancies remain, the biggest being the head coaching position.

Veljko Paunovic and his entire staff were fired in November, a month after team owner Joe Mansueto and president and general manager Nelson Rodriguez indicated Paunovic would return in 2020.

The Athletic reported last week the Fire are in the process of hiring a sporting director, a move that would shift Rodriguez to the business side. A source confirmed to the Tribune the Fire are interviewing several candidates this week for the role.

In October, Rodriguez told reporters the Fire were seeking to create a front-office position that dealt primarily with making improvements to the squad and coaching staff.

Meanwhile, the roster sits at just 17 players — including the Slonina brothers and fellow academy product Andre Reynolds II, who made his only Fire appearance in July in a Leagues Cup match against Liga MX side Cruz Azul.

The Fire's three designated player spots — vacated by the departures of Bastian Schweinsteiger, Nemanja Nikolic and Aleksandar Katai — remain unfilled. Team captain Dax McCarty was traded to expansion side Nashville SC, and Nicolas Gaitain's option was declined last month.

PRESIDENTS CUP

Reed still hot topic in Australia

Buzz still going after controversy last weekend

By DOUG FERGUSON

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — As if being the first playing captain in 25 years at the Presidents Cup weren't enough, Tiger Woods filled yet another role Tuesday at Royal Melbourne.

This wasn't necessarily by design.

Woods had Patrick Reed in his group for the first full practice round for a U.S. team still trying to shake off the jet lag from a 23-hour flight from the Bahamas.

"It's always great playing with Tiger because he kind of frees you up," Reed said. "Everyone's focused on what Tiger's doing."

Woods got plenty of love from the fans, many fearing they might never get a chance to see him Down Under after his career was in jeopardy from four back surgeries.

Woods won the Australian Masters at nearby Kingston Heath in 2009 and made the clinching putt in 2011 the last time the Presidents Cup was at Royal Melbourne.

Not that Reed was ignored.

He was the biggest topic on the first day of interviews because of his rules violation last week at the Hero World Challenge when he twice scooped away sand behind his ball while playing from a waste area. Reed was penalized two shots after seeing the video.

He says it wasn't intentional and he wasn't helped; he didn't feel or see his club scrape back the sand; and the camera angle didn't show his club far enough behind the ball.

Fans didn't wait until the start of the matches Thursday to needle him.

Reed played in a foursome with Woods, Justin Thomas and Patrick Cantlay. As he prepared to tee off, a fan in the bleachers said, "Now on the tee, The Excavator."

Reed turned toward the fan and tipped his cap, then drilled his iron down the fairway.

Eleven of the 15 players and captains who were available for interviews Tuesday were asked about Reed. That included Reed, and one of the questions directed to him was, "You didn't cheat?"

"No, of course not," Reed replied.

He stood patiently before the largest



CLIFF HAWKINS/GETTY-AFP

U.S. captain Tiger Woods and Patrick Reed talk ahead of the Presidents Cup.

group of media, answering every question about what happened, whether it bothers him to hear the word "cheat" bandied about or if he even cares what people think of him.

Reed just wants to get on with the Presidents Cup, and his teammates felt the same way.

"That's something that's great about Patrick is he's been a great team player and he's always wanted to win points for the team," Justin Thomas said. "So I think the only way it could become a distraction is what the headlines are and how much we read into it. We're not here to read articles and get into this or that. We are here to try to win points for the U.S. team in the Presidents Cup. It's in the past. And I understand it's going to be something that continues to get brought up, but none of us worry about it."

That didn't stop Thomas.

He was in the bunker on one hole, stood up to the shot and purposely took two practice swings that swiped away sand, then stood there laughing before dropping the ball elsewhere.

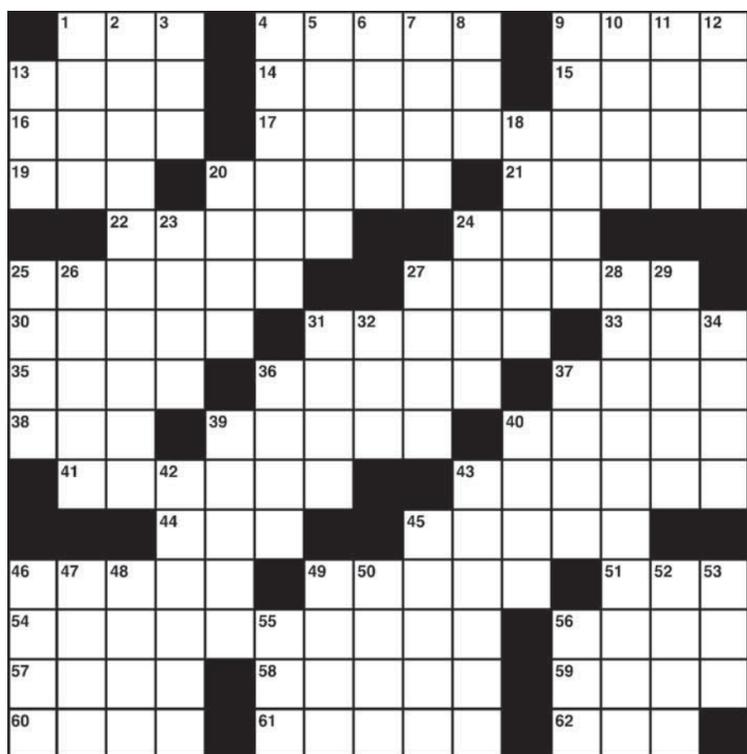
"It's all in good fun," Thomas said. "We needle each other all the time but it's never anything personal."

This is a big year for the International team, led by Ernie Els. It has only one victory in the 25 years since the Presidents Cup was created to give players from outside Europe matches styled after the Ryder Cup. That was in 1998 at Royal Melbourne, the only other time the matches were held in December.

The underdog label, even for a home game, has never fit so well. The International team has seven rookies, with Adam Scott the highest-ranked player at No. 18. The average world ranking of the American team is 12.3.

"This week, this is probably the best chance we will have with this golf course, this crowd, and I think the way our guys are playing," Louis Oosthuizen said. "It's no fun going out and everyone is saying, 'They're just going to run over them again.'"

Crossword



By Jacqueline E. Mathews. © 2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

12/11/19

ACROSS

- 1 Tic ___; breath mint
- 4 Think the world of
- 9 Matterhorn's range
- 13 Lung disease
- 14 Ride a Schwinn
- 15 Cowboy's shoe
- 16 Faith, ___ and charity
- 17 Cutlass maker
- 19 "___ Be Seeing You"; Billie Holiday song
- 20 Lock horns
- 21 Refresh
- 22 Palermo's nation
- 24 Oxygen or argon
- 25 Actor Al
- 27 WWI president
- 30 John Quincy ___
- 31 Treble ___; musical symbols
- 33 Solemn promise
- 35 Saloons
- 36 Group of ships
- 37 Phi ___ Kappa
- 38 "___ rise"; bailiff's command
- 39 Like a school uniform skirt
- 40 Exposed
- 41 Monotony
- 43 Totie or Kim
- 44 Candle material
- 45 Passover bread

DOWN

- 1 Hammer or saw
- 2 To the point
- 3 B-F connection
- 4 Famed Harlem theater
- 5 Stall
- 6 Horse race
- 7 Bettor's concern
- 7 Shingles symptom
- 8 Tree that can grow to 100 feet
- 9 Convent superior
- 10 Roasted pork ___; entrée choice
- 11 Mast
- 12 Worry; fret
- 13 Part of the
- 14 Greek alphabet
- 18 Some grad tests
- 20 Pantry stackables

Solutions



- 23 Allen & Curry
- 24 Present
- 25 Traditional breadwinner
- 26 Man or woman
- 27 Garden intruder
- 28 Didn't notice
- 29 Renowned
- 31 ___ up; say no more
- 32 Maui accessory
- 34 Fistfuls of cash
- 36 State of constant change
- 37 Folk singer Joan
- 39 Elton John's instrument
- 40 Fisherman's hope
- 42 ___ in; inhabits
- 43 Phoniness
- 45 Trivial
- 46 Repeat a sound
- 47 Jeff Bridges' brother
- 48 Thin cut
- 49 Prison knife
- 50 Summon with a beeper
- 52 Forest trees
- 53 Flower delivery co.
- 55 Prefix for occupied or med
- 56 Feminine pronoun

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

Texas Tech KOs No. 1 Louisville

News services

Davide Moretti scored 18 points and hit successive 3-pointers that helped Texas Tech knock off undefeated No. 1 Louisville 70-57 on Tuesday night at Madison Square Garden.

Louisville became the fourth top-ranked team to lose this season, joining Michigan State, Kentucky and Duke.

The Cardinals (9-1) easily played their worst game of the season, shooting an abysmal 34 % from the floor and leading scorer Jordan Nwora had only 14 points. Coach Chris Mack let loose his frustration in the Jimmy V Classic game in the final 90 seconds and was whistled for a technical.

Moretti hit a pair of free throws to seal the win and Texas Tech fans sitting behind the basket told security to "move the rope, we're running on the floor!"

There was no court storming at the Garden — but another AP No. 1 bit the dust in an upset. It's the third time an unranked team has beat an AP No. 1 this season.

Texas Tech (6-3) played without leading

scorer Jahmi'us Ramsey (17.3 points) for the third straight game because of a hamstring injury. The Red Raiders lost four of their top five scorers off the team that took Virginia to overtime before losing in the NCAA championship game last season.

Moretti buried two straight 3s midway through the second half for an 11-point lead that gave the Red Raiders some space.

Big Ten stunner: Penn State became the fifth unranked team to beat a top-5 program in this upset-filled college basketball season, getting 15 points and 11 rebounds from Mike Watkins in a 76-69 win over No. 4 Maryland on Tuesday night in State College, Pa.

Lamar Stevens added 15 points and 10 rebounds, Myreon Jones and Izaiah Brockington each scored 14 points, and Myles Dread had 12 points for the Nittany Lions (8-2, 1-1 Big Ten), who led for all but 1:54.

Jalen Smith had 12 points and 11 rebounds for the Terrapins (10-1, 1-1), who were trying for their first 11-0 start since 1996.

SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Boston	17	5	.773	—
Philadelphia	18	7	.720	1½
Toronto	16	7	.696	1½
Brooklyn	13	10	.565	4½
New York	4	20	.167	14

SOUTHEAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Miami	18	6	.750	—
Orlando	11	12	.478	6½
Charlotte	10	16	.385	9
Washington	7	16	.304	10½
Atlanta	6	18	.250	12

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB
Milwaukee	21	3	.875	—
Indiana	15	9	.625	6
Detroit	10	14	.417	11
Chicago	8	17	.320	13½
Cleveland	5	18	.217	15½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Dallas	16	7	.696	—
Houston	15	8	.652	1
San Antonio	9	14	.391	7
Memphis	7	16	.304	9
New Orleans	6	18	.250	10½

NORTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Denver	14	8	.636	—
Utah	13	11	.542	2
Oklahoma City	11	12	.478	3½
Minnesota	10	13	.435	4½
Portland	10	15	.400	5½

PACIFIC	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Lakers	21	3	.875	—
L.A. Clippers	18	7	.720	3½
Phoenix	11	12	.478	9½
Sacramento	10	13	.435	10½
Golden State	5	20	.200	16½

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

Charlotte 114, Washington 107
Miami 135, Atlanta 121 (OT)
Philadelphia 97, Denver 92
Portland 115, New York 87
WEDNESDAY'S GAMES
Boston at Indiana, 6 p.m.
Houston at Cleveland, 6 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Toronto, 6 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Charlotte at Brooklyn, 6:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Chicago, 7 p.m.
Utah at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Memphis at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
New Orleans at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Sacramento, 9 p.m.
New York at Golden State, 9:30 p.m.

HEAT 135, HAWKS 121 (OT)

ATLANTA: Hunter 11-17 1-4 28, Parker 6-12 3-5 16, Jones 0-1-2 1, Young 7-19 4-5 21, Huerter 3-8 0-0-9, Reddish 6-13 0-0-14, Fernando 0-1 0-0 0, Len 4-6 0-0-9, Carter 4-10 0-0 12, Crabbe 2-3 2-7, Bembyr 2-5 0-0 4. Totals 45-95 11-18 121.
MIAMI: Butler 8-19 3-7 20, Adebayo 13-18 4-5 30, Leonard 2-4 0-0 4, Nunn 14-26 5-5 36, Robinson 12-16 0-0 34, Jones Jr. 4-9 1-3 9, Okpala 0-0 0-0 0, Olynyk 0-5 2-2 2, Silva 0-10 0-0 0, Macon 0-0 0-0 0, Herro 0-6 0-0 0. Totals 53-104 15-22 135.

Atlanta	30	34	129	24	4	—121
Miami	36	30	27	24	18	—135

3-Point Goals—Atlanta 20-54 (Hunter 5-10, Carter 4-10, Huerter 3-8, Young 3-11, Reddish 2-4, Len 1-2, Crabbe 1-2, Parker 1-4, Fernando 0-1, Bembyr 0-2), Miami 14-41 (Robinson 10-14, Nunn 3-10, Butler 1-3, Adebayo 0-1, Leonard 0-2, Olynyk 0-3, Jones Jr. 0-4, Herro 0-4). **Fouled Out**—None. **Rebounds**—Atlanta 37 (Parker, Reddish 7), Miami 53 (Butler 18). **Assists**—Atlanta 30 (Young 9), Miami 35 (Adebayo 11). **Total Fouls**—Atlanta 23, Miami 17. **A**—19,600 (19,600).

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	20	5	6	46	107	78
Buffalo	15	11	6	36	101	97
Florida	15	10	5	35	106	101
Montreal	14	11	6	34	101	103
Toronto	15	13	4	34	104	104
Tampa Bay	15	11	3	33	105	93
Ottawa	13	17	27	84	97	129
Detroit	7	22	3	17	67	129

METRO.	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	22	5	49	117	93	93
N.Y. Islanders	20	7	2	42	86	69
Philadelphia	17	8	5	39	96	85
Carolina	19	11	1	39	103	85
Pittsburgh	17	10	4	38	104	85
N.Y. Rangers	15	12	3	33	94	94
Columbus	12	14	4	28	76	93
New Jersey	9	16	5	23	74	111

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	18	8	6	42	94	88
Colorado	19	8	3	41	111	84
Winnipeg	19	10	2	40	92	83
Dallas	18	11	3	39	84	76
Nashville	14	10	5	33	98	93
Minnesota	14	12	5	33	92	101
Chicago	12	13	6	30	84	98

PACIFIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Edmonton	18	11	4	40	100	99
Arizona	18	11	4	40	91	80
Calgary	17	12	4	38	91	98
Vegas	16	12	5	37	98	94
Vancouver	15	12	4	34	104	95
San Jose	15	16	2	32	89	114
Anaheim	13	14	3	30	82	92
Los Angeles	12	18	2	26	80	103

2 pts for win, 1 pt for shootout/OT loss
TUESDAY'S RESULTS
Tampa Bay 2, Florida 1
Montreal 4, Pittsburgh 1
Buffalo 5, St. Louis 2
Nashville 3, San Jose 1
Winnipeg 5, Detroit 1
Dallas 2, New Jersey 0
Anaheim 3, Minnesota 2 (SO)
Carolina 6, Edmonton 3
Calgary 5, Arizona 2
Toronto 4, Vancouver 1
Vegas 5, Chicago 1
Los Angeles 3, N.Y. Rangers 1
WEDNESDAY'S GAMES
Boston at Washington, 6 p.m.
Ottawa at Montreal, 6:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Colorado, 8:30 p.m.

GOLDEN KNIGHTS 5 BLACKHAWKS 1

Chicago	0	0	1	—
Vegas	0	3	2	—5

FIRST PERIOD: None. **Penalties:** Stone, VGK, (interference), 17:46.
SECOND PERIOD: 1, Vegas, R.Smith 13 (Hague, Schmidt), 7:27 (pp). 2, Vegas, Engelland 1 (Tuch), 11:24. 3, Vegas, Karlsson 9 (R.Smith), 19:16 (sh). **Penalties:** Gilbert, CHI, (hooking), 5:30; Tuch, VGK, (slashing), 18:28.
THIRD PERIOD: 4, Vegas, Pacioretty 11 (Stone), 3:17. 5, Vegas, Reaves 3 (Carrier, Stastny), 12:59. 6, Chicago, Kubalik 8 (Nylander, Boqvist), 19:33 (pp). **Penalties:** Saad, CHI, (cross checking), 5:48; Zykov, VGK, (interference), 6:07; Stephenson, VGK, (interference), 18:10.
SHOTS ON GOAL: Chicago 12-8-9=29. Vegas 12-16-9=37.
POWER PLAYS: Chicago 1 of 4; Vegas 1 of 2.

GOALIES: Chicago, Crawford 6-8-2 (37 shots-32 saves). Vegas, Fleury 12-6-7 (29-28).
A: 18,319 (17,367). T: 2:30.
Referees: Ghislain Hebert, Chris Rooney. Linesmen: Bevan Mills, Kiel Murchison.

GOLF

PRESIDENTS CUP

Thursday-Sunday in Melbourne, Australia; Royal Melbourne GC. Yardage: 7,055. Par: 71. Series: United States leads, 10-1-1 U.S. TEAM
CAPTAIN: Tiger Woods, 9th appearance
ASSISTANTS: Fred Couples, Zack Johnson, Steve Stricker
Patrick Cantlay, 1st appearance
Bryson DeChambeau, 1st appearance
Tony Finau, 1st appearance
Rickie Fowler, 3rd appearance
Dustin Johnson, 4th appearance
Justin Thomas, 2nd appearance
Matt Kuchar, 5th appearance
Patrick Reed, 3rd appearance
Xander Schauffele, 1st appearance
Webb Simpson, 3rd appearance
Gary Woodland, 1st appearance

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

HOW MEN'S APTOP 25 FARED

1. Louisville (9-1) lost to Texas Tech 70-57. Next: vs. E. Kentucky, Saturday.
2. Kansas (8-1) beat Milwaukee 95-68. Next: vs. UMKC, Saturday.
3. Ohio State (9-0) did not play. Next: at Minnesota, Sunday.
4. Maryland (10-1) lost to Penn State 76-69. Next: at No. 22 Seton Hall, Dec. 19.
5. Michigan (8-1) did not play. Next: at Illinois, Wednesday.
6. Gonzaga (10-1) did not play. Next: at No. 15 Arizona, Saturday.
7. Duke (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Wofford, Thursday, Dec. 19.
8. Kentucky (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia Tech, Saturday.
9. Virginia (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. Stony Brook, Wednesday, Dec. 18.
10. Oregon (7-2) did not play. Next: at No. 5 Michigan, Saturday.
11. Baylor (8-1) beat No. 18 Butler 53-52. Next: vs. UT Martin, Wednesday, Dec. 18.
12. Auburn (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. Saint Louis, Saturday.
13. Memphis (8-1) did not play. Next: at No. 19 Tennessee, Saturday.
14. Dayton (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. Drake, Saturday.
15. Arizona (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Omaha, Wednesday.
16. Michigan State (6-3) did not play. Next: vs. Oakland, Saturday.
17. North Carolina (6-3) did not play. Next: vs. Wofford, Saturday.
18. Butler (9-1) lost to No. 11 Baylor 53-52. Next: vs. Southern, Saturday.
19. Tennessee (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 13 Memphis, Saturday.
20. Villanova (7-2) did not play. Next: vs. Delaware, Saturday.
21. Florida State (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. North Florida, Tuesday.
22. Seton Hall (6-3) did not play. Next: at Rutgers, Saturday.
23. Xavier (9-1) did not play. Next: at Wake Forest, Saturday.
24. Colorado (7-2) lost to Northern Iowa 79-76. Next: at Colorado State, Friday.
25. San Diego State (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. San Diego Christian, Dec. 18.

TUESDAY'S SCORES

EAST
Boston College 72, Albany (NY) 51
Bryant 69, Fordham 61
Hofstra 71, Stony Brook 63
Mass.-Boston 69, Holy Cross 66, OT
Monmouth (NJ) 67, Princeton 66
St. Francis (NY) 64, Presbyterian 63
St. John's 82, Brown 71
Temple 108, Saint Joseph's 61
Towson 77, UMBC 71
SOUTH
Davidson 88, Coppin St. 52
Grambling St. 66, Louisiana-Monroe 61
McNeese St. 82, UMKC 73
Texas Tech 70, Louisville 57
The Citadel 129, Piedmont 83
UCF 79, Green Bay 66
MIDWEST
Bradley 91, Maryville (MO) 58
Fort Wayne 69, Judson 33
IU/PUI 80, Indiana Univ. S. Bend 60
Kansas 95, Milwaukee 68
Notre Dame III, Detroit 71
SOUTHWEST
UALR 86, Tennessee St. 62
BYU 75, Nevada 42
Colorado St. 72, S. Dakota St. 68
New Mexico St. 72, Denver 67
Utah St. 94, Saint Joseph's 49

WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 SCHEDULE

1. Stanford (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. Ohio State, Sunday.
2. UConn (8-0) did not play. Next: at No. 16 DePaul, Dec. 16.
3. Oregon (7-1) did not play. Next: at Long Beach State, Saturday.
4. Oregon State (8-0) did not play. Next: vs. Utah State, Saturday.
5. South Carolina (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Purdue, Sunday.
6. Baylor (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. Arkansas State, Dec. 18.
7. Louisville (9-1) did not play. Next: at No. 14 Kentucky, Sunday.
8. Florida State (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. St. John's, Sunday.
9. N.C. State (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. Elon, Sunday.
10. UCLA (7-0) did not play. Next: vs. Pacific, Sunday.
11. Texas A&M (6-1) did not play. Next: vs. TCU, Wednesday.
12. Indiana (7-1) did not play. Next: at Butler, Wednesday.
13. Maryland (8-2) did not play. Next: at Georgia State, Dec. 18.
14. Kentucky (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. Winthrop, Wednesday.
15. Mississippi State (8-2) did not play. Next: at La-Lafayette, Dec. 16.
16. DePaul (7-1) did not play. Next: at Notre Dame, Wednesday.
17. Gonzaga (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. Texas Southern, Saturday.
18. Arizona (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. Tennessee State, Thursday.
19. Michigan State (6-2) did not play. Next: vs. Morehead State, Sunday.
20. Missouri State (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. Missouri, Sunday.
21. Arkansas (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. Tulsa, Wednesday.
22. West Virginia (6-1) did not play. Next: vs. Norfolk State, Sunday.
23. Tennessee (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. Colorado State, Wednesday.
24. Michigan (8-1) did not play. Next: vs. Appalachian State, Saturday.
25. Miami (5-3) did not play. Next: vs. Binghamton, Tuesday, Dec. 17.

MLB

INAUGURAL ALL-MLB TEAM

FIRST TEAM
C: J.T. Realmuto, Philadelphia
B: Pete Alonso, N.Y. Mets
2B: DJ LeMahieu, N.Y. Yankees
3B: Anthony Rendon, Washington
SS: Xander Bogaerts, Boston
OF: Mike Trout, L.A. Angels
OF: Cody Bellinger, L.A. Dodgers
OF: Christian Yelich, Milwaukee
DH: Nelson Cruz, Minnesota
SP: Gerrit Cole, Houston
SP: Justin Verlander, Houston
SP: Jacob deGrom, N.Y. Mets
SP: Max Scherzer, Washington
SP: Stephen Strasburg, Washington
RP: Kirby Yates, San Diego
RP: Josh Hader, Milwaukee
SECOND TEAM
C: Yasmani Grandal, Milwaukee
B: Freddie Freeman, Atlanta
2B: Jose Altuve, Houston
3B: Alex Bregman, Houston
SS: Marcus Semien, Oakland
OF: Ronald Acuna Jr., Atlanta
OF: Juan Soto, Washington
OF: Mookie Betts, Boston
DH: Yordan Alvarez, Houston
SP: Zack Greinke, Ari/Hou
SP: Hyun-Jin Ryu, L.A. Dodgers
SP: Jack Flaherty, St. Louis
SP: Charlie Morton, Tampa Bay
SP: Mike Coker, Atlanta
RP: Aroldis Chapman, N.Y. Yankees
RP: Liam Hendriks, Oakland

INTERNATIONAL TEAM

CAPTAIN: Eric Els
ASSISTANTS: K.J. Choi, Geoff Ogilvy, Trevor Immelman, Mike Weir
Abraham Ancer, 1st appearance
Adam Hadwin, 2nd appearance
Byeong Hun An, 1st appearance
Sungha Im, 1st appearance
Marc Leishman, 4th appearance
Haotong Li, 1st appearance
Hideki Matsuyama, 4th appearance
Jojooni Niemann, 1st appearance
Louis Oosthuizen, 4th appearance
C.T. Pan, 1st appearance
Adam Scott, 9th appearance
Cameron Smith, 1st appearance
2017 result: U.S. 19-11 (Jersey City, N.J.)
2015: U.S. 15-14 (Incheon, S. Korea)
2013: U.S. 18-15 (Dublin, Ohio)
2011: U.S. 19-15 (Melbourne, Australia)

NFL

AFC

EAST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	H	A	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV
New England	10	3	0	.769	338	168	5-1-0	5-2-0	6-3-0	4-0-0	4-0-0	4-0-0
Buffalo	9	4	0	.692	274	212	4-3-0	5-1-0	6-3-0	3-1-0	3-1-0	3-1-0
N.Y. Jets	5	8	0	.385	226	301	4-3-0	1-5-0	2-7-0	3-1-0	1-4-0	1-4-0
Miami	3	10	0	.231	221	399	2-5-0	1-5-0	2-8-0	1-2-0	1-4-0	1-4-0

SOUTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	H	A	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV
Houston	8	5	0	.615	317	309	5-2-0	3-3-0	7-3-0	1-2-0	3-1-0	3-1-0
Tennessee	8	5	0	.615	318	255	4-2-0	4-3-0	6-4-0	2-1-0	2-2-0	2-2-0
Indianapolis	6	7	0	.462	296	295	4-3-0	2-4-0	5-6-0	1-1-0	3-2-0	3-2-0
Jacksonville	4	9	0	.308	230	337	2-5-0	2-4-0	4-6-0	0-3-0	1-4-0	1-4-0

NORTH	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	H	A	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV
x-Baltimore	11	2	0	.846	430	236	5-1-0	6-1-0	7-2-0	4-0-0	3-1-0	3-1-0
Pittsburgh	8	5	0	.615	259	242	5-2-0	4-3-0	6-3-0	2-2-0	3-2-0	3-2-0
Cleveland	6	7	0	.462	273	291	4-3-0	2-4-0	6-4-0	0-3-0	3-1-0	3-1-0
Cincinnati	1	12	0									

BULLS



BULLS TAKEAWAYS

Blowing lead hurts — but few actually see it

BY PHIL THOMPSON

Among the positives the Bulls could draw from a 93-92 loss to the Raptors on Monday night at the United Center were that they had a season-high 30 assists, and Denzel Valentine gave them a spark in the fourth quarter.

But the bottom line: They lost by a point after holding an eight-point lead with eight minutes left.

It stings even more considering the Bulls left Miami on Sunday after an overtime loss to the Heat.

"It's tough when you come out of (the first leg of) a back-to-back and you got in at 4 a.m.," said Valentine, who came off the bench Monday to score 10 of his 13 points in the fourth quarter. "It's a little tough out there. No excuses, nobody cares. Just got to come in, play hard and learn from our mistakes."

Coach Jim Boylen said rebounding made a big difference in the game. The Raptors had a 54-45 edge on the boards, and the Bulls had 36 on the defensive end.

"It hurts when we don't get rebounds, we don't get stops," he said. "That leads to free throws, leads to extra possessions."

The Raptors went to the line 26 times and made 18 free throws, eight more than the Bulls.

"We're going to keep pounding the rock, keep playing hard and working at it," Boylen said, "and I'm confident we'll break through."

"But this one stinks. It stinks just like (Sunday) night."

Here are three observations from Monday's game.

1. The Bulls keep losing close games.

They lost by two to the Warriors, lost in overtime to the Heat and lost by a point to the Raptors. That's just in the last week.

What gives?

"I mean, if I knew ... I wouldn't be in this position talking to you," Zach LaVine said. "I don't know, it feels a little bit like a broken record, but it's our job. We've got to go out there and compete."

Daniel Gafford gave the Bulls their last lead at 92-91 with a putback with 1 minute, 6 seconds left, but Kyle Lowry took it back, running off a high screen by Marc Gasol for a layup. Gasol blocked Lauri Markkanen's hook shot and defended LaVine's baseline drive on the last play.

"Obviously we're not going to go 82-0 but we're trying our best," LaVine said. "We've got to break through to the point where we make the play at the end or we get out to a seven-point lead or eight-point lead and we coast from there."

Tomas Satoransky liked how the Bulls played defensively, normally holding a team to 37.8% from the field and 24.1% from 3-point range results in a win.

"We missed a lot of open shots," Satoransky said. The Bulls shot 39.3%. "Offensively we moved the ball well, found the open guys. (It was) just that execution down the stretch and making those shots."



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Zach LaVine has his shot blocked by Marc Gasol, top, then walks off after Monday's loss.

2. The Raptors' zone defense rattled the Bulls.

The Bulls looked like they might pull away after Gafford threw down a dunk off Valentine's assist to make it 85-77.

But then the Bulls missed their next six shots and committed six turnovers before Valentine ended the drought with a layup.

"Their zone kind of threw us off. ... It was kind of confusing out there," Valentine said. "Our coaches will figure it out. We'll figure it out as a team."

He said the team has practiced against zone defenses "here and there," but "that different look, I thought that had something to do with (the loss) tonight."

The Bulls were rolling with a mix of reserves and starters, opening the fourth quarter with a 7-0 run and prompting a Raptors timeout, but momentum shifted as Boylen started bringing back starters.

"My subs were tired," he said. "We were on a back-to-back."

3. As fans tune out, the Bulls focus on what they can 'control.'

A season-low 14,775 attended Monday's game, surpassing the previous low of 15,017 at the Grizzlies game on Dec. 4.

"It didn't sound like it," Valentine said about the small crowd, referring to the fans' energy during key moments in the fourth quarter. "But, hey, it's a Monday in Chicago in December. I understand. It's cold outside."

Asked about dwindling fan support, Boylen shifted the narrative.

"I can't speak for everybody, the fans," the coach said. "I get a lot of positive feedback about our group, I think people understand what we're trying to build. It's disappointing when we don't win home games — nobody's running from that."

He said observers can see how hard the team competes and plays defense.

"I love the way our defense has grown since the opening five games," Boylen said.

BLACKHAWKS

HAWKS AT GOLDEN KNIGHTS

Advice to Lehner: Shootout 'fresh start'

Despite horrendous record, Hawks goalie earns support from one of the best ever

BY JIMMY GREENFIELD

LAS VEGAS — It's not possible to sugarcoat Robin Lehner's difficulties in shootouts.

The Blackhawks goaltender has been terrible in them. He knows it, the fans know it, opponents know it. Even the Zamboni driver probably covers his eyes when Lehner takes his spot in the crease before a shootout.

How bad has he been? Statistically, the worst ever. No goalie in NHL history has a worse shootout save percentage after facing at least 40 attempts.

He has faced his struggles with honesty and humility, accepting that the onus is on him to do better.



Denis

"We're still working on it," Lehner said after Sunday's shootout loss to the Coyotes in which he failed to stop both attempts he faced. "We'll see what happens. I'm positive about it, just not very good at it. So I've got to keep getting better, keep working at it and maybe keep finding another way."

Maybe the answer is to learn from one of the best shootout goalies in NHL history.

Marc Denis played in 349 games during an 11-year career with the Avalanche, Blue Jackets, Lightning and Canadiens that ended in 2009. His .902 career save percentage is 127th among goalies who appeared in 100 games. Lehner's .919 save percentage is the 11th-best of all time.

Denis nearly missed the shootout era but played in enough to be listed among the NHL leaders. Only Andrei Vasilevskiy (.860) has a better shootout save percentage than Denis, who stopped 35 of 41 attempts (.854).

Vasilevskiy is active with the Lightning and isn't about to give Lehner advice. So we turned to the greatest shootout goalie who is retired.

In a phone interview with Denis, who works as a TV analyst for the Canadiens, he couldn't quite explain what made him so good at them.

"That's a good question because I don't think I was particularly good at stopping breakaways," he said. "So it's funny. Like most goalies, I took a lot of pride in the shootout. I thought they were a necessary evil and you might as well be up on top rather than say it's a flip of the coin and lose an important point."

Denis didn't want to give Lehner any advice. He knows Lehner is trying his hardest and is one of the NHL's top goalies. He can only share what worked for him.

During regulation, Denis was not a demonstrative goalie. He tried to stay calm both for himself and for the benefit of his teammates with the hope that behavior would be contagious.

"But when the shootout started, I tried to become something else," he said. "I became really talky. I really embraced the one-on-one challenge."

"I faced (Alex) Ovechkin a couple of times and would keep my glove hand up in the top corner and basically tell him to try to shoot there. I'd shoot pucks at guys after I made a save. That's how I faced it."

And how would the shooter respond? "I'm not even sure they heard me," Denis said.

"It was more about me and how — I wasn't trying to intimidate them or anything — it just turned a switch on in my head and I embraced that one-on-one challenge. And I probably got lucky on a lot of nights. (Shootouts are) a different animal."

Denis would quiz teammates such as Martin St. Louis for tips and study the tendencies of opponents. Nothing out of the ordinary. And although he would practice facing shootouts, it wasn't his main focus.

"It's one of those areas where there's only so much you can do," Denis said. "You might as well spend time on technical aspects of the 60-minute game than the (shootout) that will decide the game where your team already has a standing point."

Denis doesn't have a miracle cure for Lehner's shootout problems. But he does have one suggestion.

"The only advice I'll give him is the next time he's in the shootout, that counts as a zero," Denis said. "All the past history and stats is a fresh start every single time."

"It doesn't matter."

Porter to miss another month

BY PHIL THOMPSON

The Bulls will be without Otto Porter Jr. for at least one more month after the small forward had his bruised left foot evaluated Monday by a specialist, the team announced.

Dr. Bob Anderson, a foot and ankle specialist, confirmed the injury's healing response is "consistent with a small fracture that has become more clearly defined with repeated imaging over the last five weeks," according to a team statement Tuesday.

Porter has been wearing a walking boot and will continue to keep the foot immobilized until he's reassessed in four weeks.

Porter averaged 11.2 points and 3.4 rebounds in 25.1 minutes over the first nine games of the season. He has missed the last 16 since suffering the injury Nov. 6 against the Hawks.

Porter has the best 3-point-shooting percentage among the Bulls' regular starters at 40%. He's also the only other starter, along with Wendell Carter Jr., to have a positive rating, leading the first unit at 0.8.

During Porter's absence, the Bulls turned to Chandler Hutchison, but he has missed the last six games with a sprained right shoulder. Shaquille Harrison then helped out at forward. In the six most recent games, Kris Dunn has settled into the starting lineup.

With Dunn's promotion, coaches tapped rookie Coby White to run point with the second unit.

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— eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE —



TONY DING/AP

Michigan guard Xavier Simpson (3) tries to drive around Purdue guard Spike Albrecht in a game in 2017 in Ann Arbor, Mich. Though very experienced, Simpson is seeking ways to grow.

Simpson's secret weapon

Michigan senior still learning all he can from assistant Easley

BY ORION SANG
Detroit Free Press

Xavier Simpson has played 125 career games. He has played in the national title game, bookended by two appearances in the Sweet Sixteen. Michigan basketball's senior point guard is one of the most experienced and productive players in college basketball.

Simpson's experience might imply there's little room to grow. He is one of the nation's top distributors, with an ability to pick defenses apart. He is also a top defender. And leadership has come naturally as a two-time team captain.

Still, Simpson continues to develop on and off the court. And there has been one primary influence — assistant coach Howard Easley.

"I just want to keep learning," Simpson said. "Coach Howard Easley has helped out a lot. He's helped out tremendously. Just want to keep learning from him. Every single day, I just want to take the piece of knowledge that I can and I just want to be able to

grow as a person and basketball player."

Simpson regularly spends time with Easley, a former point guard who grew up in Detroit and attended Boston College. Easley, who played 12 seasons in the NBA with eight teams, coaches Michigan's back-court players, such as Simpson, Eli Brooks and David DeJulius, as part of the coaching staff's specialization (Jwan Howard works with the big men and Saddi Washington works with the wings).

"Coach Easley, he's played ball for a long time," said center Jon Teske. "And so that's one thing that X (Simpson) wants to do. So just picking his brain on how to be a better point guard. How to read the floor. X is only going to get better."

Simpson said Easley has a "laid-back" personality, and while it took time for them to form a bond, they have a sturdy relationship now. Easley's influence is one of the reasons Simpson, carrying a heavier burden on offense than he ever has, is enjoying a career-best season.

"His teaching style is real laid-back," Simpson said. "I don't want to say he'll let you do whatever you want to do, he just kind of throws a couple hints in there every now and then. But those hints are



PAUL SANCYA/AP

Michigan assistant Howard Easley has bonded with Xavier Simpson.

actually things that can help improve your game dramatically.

"That's why I appreciate him. I'm always talking to him about things I see. After the games, he's watching film with things that I learn, so I feel like it's good."

Simpson is the conductor of Michigan's offense. According to KenPom.com, he uses 25.5% of the team's possessions when he's on the floor — the highest mark on the team. Still, with all that usage, Simpson has actually increased his efficiency. Despite an early season spate of turnovers, his offensive rating of 115.4 is on pace to be the highest of his career. Simpson's assist rate of 47.8 is third best in the nation. He's

averaging a career-high 12.3 points and 8.7 assists for one of the nation's top teams.

"I've grown in pretty much all aspects of my game," Simpson said. "The IQ, being able to see different actions, see things I could've did, watching a lot of film, my jump shot, confidence, pick-and-roll on offensive end and the defensive end, just all types of things."

It's to the point where every team game-plans how to stop — or simply slow down — Simpson. Last week, Chris Mack detailed how No. 1 Louisville's goal was to keep Simpson out of the paint, likening him to a quarterback who could find open receivers for open

shots and easy layups or dunks. After Michigan lost its top three scorers from last season, the target on Simpson's back has never been bigger. And yet he's had almost no trouble handling it, save for the turnovers.

Of course, there are numerous reasons for Simpson's improvement. He's an experienced player who has a preternatural bond with Teske, his primary pick-and-roll partner, and is empowered in Howard's offensive scheme.

But it was still telling that, upon being asked why his game has grown, Simpson almost immediately spoke of Easley. The relationship has been fruitful — and it's one of the reasons he and the Wolverines are off to such a hot start this season.

"Sometimes they're laughing and joking, and there are times when they're having their teaching moments," Howard said. "Both are headstrong kind of guys, but they both are very smart at their craft, and super competitive."

"Howard was that tough-nosed competitor that people sometimes didn't ever recognize, but he always found a way to make an impact on the game."

"There are a lot of similarities in both, so it's good to see they both have hit it off well with one another."

— eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE —



WILLIAM WEST/AFP VIA GETTY

International captain Ernie Els, just left of the cup, with his team members before the Presidents Cup begins play, which it will do this week in Australia.

GOLF NOTES

Els makes International team feel like one with a new logo

BY DOUG FERGUSON
Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Captains for the Presidents Cup usually get the most attention for the wild-card picks that fill out their teams and the pairings they create. Ernie Els might have done his best work long before that point.

The Presidents Cup is a PGA Tour creation, and so it was the PGA Tour that created a flag for an International team representing countries from everywhere but Europe. It had wavy blue and gold lines. What it lacked was history, and a sense of identity.

Els changed all that.

The International team now has its own logo, which is more of a shield. The identity comes from each player having the flag from his own country in the middle of the shield — nine flags for this team, the most ever in 25 years.

“We’ve always played under the flag, but we’ve never really had our own identity, so to speak,” Els said. “Guys like that. I explained to them exactly what it entails, what’s behind the whole thinking of how we brought the whole thing together.”

Els said he first unveiled the new look to players at the 2018 U.S. Open at Shinnecock and received favorable reviews.

The flag is a nice touch. The Solheim Cup on the LPGA Tour once put the flag of players’ home state on the golf bags. What makes this logo more meaningful is the shield in the background.

Abraham Ancer of Mexico said it was inspired by three patterns. The first one is the Celtic knot, which stands for unity (or friendship), loyalty and faith. The second is a coat of arms to represent strength. The last one is a pair of flag sticks in opposite directions to bring golf into the equation.

“It’s brilliant,” said Louis Oosthuizen, who played three Presidents Cup matches under the old flag. “Ernie has been on this for a while. We need to get that identity of what we are and what we’re playing for and who we are as a team. To do something like that, and have that emblem, it’s really made a big difference in our team.”

Whether it helps them make putts and win points is to be determined this week at Royal Melbourne.

Beefy Bryson: Bryson DeChambeau promised a new physique during his two months off, and that’s what he brought to the Bahamas and Australia.

The objective was to get bigger and stronger, pushing himself in the gym. DeChambeau didn’t say how much weight he gained or muscle he added, but he was noticeably bigger, and set himself up for some expected ribbing from the U.S. team.

“I call him, ‘Skinny.’ He’ll get a chuckle out of it, but he’s a big dude,” Xander Schauffele said. “I don’t even know what size he is. I think LaCoste had to customize a shirt for him. It might be a double-XL, triple-XL, I have no clue. He’s quite a specimen right now.”

DeChambeau struggled in his return at the Hero World Challenge, finishing 15th in an 18-man field, 15 shots behind.

“I’m getting comfortable with it really quickly,” he said Tuesday. “Today was the first day where I felt like, ‘Wow, I’m OK. I’m back to where I was a year-and-a-half ago in regards to ball-striking. I stopped doing it because of injury, so let’s try and get back to that — stronger, bigger — so I could tolerate more.”

“I did it today for the first time and in this wind, I had incredible control of my golf ball off the tee.”

DeChambeau has not won since Las Vegas a year ago.

When in Australia: The PGA Tour’s digital team decided to bring a taste of Australia to the American players who had interview sessions Tuesday. They carried a tray of vegemite on small pieces of toast.

Most tried it. Not everyone liked it,



DANIEL POCKETT/GETTY IMAGES

Internationals captain Ernie Els on his squad’s new logo: “We’ve always played under the flag, but we’ve never really had our own identity.”

including Hideki Matsuyama. Webb Simpson was more diplomatic when he tried it and said, “There’s nothing I can compare that to.”

Patrick Cantlay didn’t get the opportunity. He was talking about the nuances of Royal Melbourne when he saw the plate out of the corner of his eye. Cantlay kept talking. And talking.

Before long, the person holding the tray moved on.

Eye on design: Royal Melbourne will play at 7,047 yards for a par-71, which is relatively short by PGA Tour standards, and it will play even shorter given the firm, fast conditions of the historic course Alister McKenzie designed.

Does that make it easier? Patrick Cantlay didn’t find it that way. He made two birdies during a practice round Tuesday.

“I don’t think it’s too short and it really does a great job because there’s no rough and it’s so firm, that you can’t take some of the lines, even if the wind were to switch, because your ball would go too far and go into the bush,” he said. “It does a really good job of protecting itself from the bomber.”

“Length becomes less of an issue with these firm golf courses, and then combine

that with it’s very difficult to get the ball close, he said. “So a shot that’s feeding the right way into the green and has the right weight will get closer than somebody that has driven it down there and just trying to land it on the flag stick.”

Patrick Reed can attest to that. One of the prettiest shots he hit all day was a 9-iron hit with 85% power that landed next to the hole and bounced over the green.

“There’s no one way to play any of the golf shots out here,” he said.

USGA moves: Stu Francis had been nominated as the next president of the USGA, with the vote coming in February at the USGA annual meeting in Pinehurst, North Carolina.

The USGA also said it would do away with the women’s committee in 2020. It said in a release that with so many duties being taken over by the executive management team and the executive committee, there was no longer a need. Positions of secretary, treasurer and general counsel will expire in 2020, with duties being assumed by the staff.

As for the executive committee, terms for members is expanding from one year to three, with a two-term limit. The presi-

dents’ term will increase to three years. Previously, it was two one-year terms.

Divots: By winning the season-ending event, Ryo Ishikawa became the 14th player to surpass 1 billion yen for career earnings on the Japan Golf Tour. That converts to \$9.32 million, about \$300,000 short of what Brooks Koepka earned this year. ... Golf gets another mixed team for the second straight week. Annika Sorenstam played with her father in the PNC Father-Son Challenge last week. Lexi Thompson is playing with Sean O’Hair in the QBE Shootout this week. ... The average world ranking of the U.S. team at the Presidents Cup is 12.3, the best ever for these matches that date to 1994. Adam Scott is the highest-ranked player from the International team at No. 18.

Stat of the week: All but one of the 24 players at the Presidents Cup — Tiger Woods — had not turned pro when the International team won in 1998 at Royal Melbourne.

Final word: “I think we’re almost at that point.” — Louis Oosthuizen, when asked if the Internationals has to win the Presidents Cup to keep fans from losing interest.



JOHN KONSTANTARAS/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Andrew Bird performs at Fourth Presbyterian Church on Monday in Chicago. The intimate concert has been held on a near-annual basis in December for the past decade.

IN PERFORMANCE

Bird's deep dive into the holidays

While it's no 'Nutcracker'-like chestnut, it's just as traditional

BY BOB GENDRON

The closest Andrew Bird came to mentioning Christmas Monday at the opening of a sold-out five-night stand at Fourth Presbyterian Church happened in passing during two unrelated cover songs that used the day as a reference point. Indeed, the vocalist/multi-instrumentalist stated that he abides by the unspoken rule of refraining from

playing holiday material despite the seasonal nature of his Gezelligheid shows, named after a Dutch word that roughly translates to "extra extra cozy." No matter.

Lacking the namesake recognition or historical allure of staged classics such as "The Nutcracker," the former Chicagoan's intimate concerts — held at the same majestic setting on a near-annual basis in December for the past decade — have nonetheless become one of the city's most delightful, and meaningful, holiday traditions. Absent the empty commercialism of advertisements, and offering a more nuanced take on the emotions that accompany the

period than many Yuletide standards aired on the radio, Bird's residencies dive deep into the complexities of the season while managing to function as the equivalent of a snuggly coat on a subzero-wind chill evening.

Recently nominated for a Grammy Award for his "My Finest Work Yet" album, and in town filming the TV show " Fargo," the 46-year-old surrounded himself with now-familiar sights: eye-catching speakers from local manufacturer Specimen Products, strategically placed microphones, soft illumina-

Turn to *Bird*, Page 4



MIRANDA PENN TURIN

Cary Elwes is joining the third season of "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel."

MY WORST MOMENT

ATV accident snaps toe, creates greater anxiety

Elwes feared injury would cost him role in 'The Princess Bride'

BY NINA METZ

Among the new characters joining Amazon's "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" in its third season are Cary Elwes as a "British-trained theater actor who is very full of himself, so it's a real stretch for me," Elwes deadpanned. "He's sort of from

the era of Peter O'Toole and Richard Burton."

Elwes can also be seen in the new Blumhouse remake of the 1974 horror movie "Black Christmas" as a professor at a college where members of a sorority are hunted by a stalker in a black cloak over winter break. As it turns out, Elwes has a unique connection to Christmas stories: He's related to John Elwes, the man often credited as the

Turn to *Moment*, Page 3

'Richard Jewell' shows female reporter in worst possible light

Depiction takes away from Eastwood film's telling of gripping story



MICHAEL PHILLIPS
 Talking Pictures

Movies make stuff up all the time. You have a problem with that? I don't.

But I have a problem with movies handing us the same lazy, loaded, misogynist line over and over, in stories depicting craven female journalists who aren't quite human, let alone ethical.

Audiences shouldn't expect a documentary out of "Richard Jewell," opening Thursday night. It's not a documentary; it's a dramatization, a docudrama, based on a true story but full of inventions. The "Richard Jewell" poster tells me: "The world will know his name and the truth."

Immediately I assume that to be false. The film, like every biopic ever made, blends fact and fiction, some real characters mixing it up with invented "composites," for the sake of making the story work the way the direc-



CLAIRE FOLGER/WARNER BROS. PICTURES

Clint Eastwood directs Olivia Wilde on the set of "Richard Jewell," opening this week.

tor, in this case Clint Eastwood, wants it to work.

According to Eastwood and screenwriter Billy Ray, and to the historical record, the story went like this: The Atlanta security guard portrayed by Paul Walter Hauser was wrongly suspected by the FBI and smeared by the media as a prime suspect in the 1996 Summer Olympics bombing. He fit the profile: a loner, disgruntled, living with his mother (Kathy Bates). After a brief explosion of media love, followed by three grueling months in the mud pit of wrongful suspicion, Jewell was exoner-

ated. The real terrorist turned out to be another American citizen, Eric Rudolph, whose lethal crimes were motivated by anti-gay and anti-abortion beliefs. ("Richard Jewell" doesn't go into any of that.)

With a vicious look in her eyes, Olivia Wilde tears into the role of real-life Atlanta Journal-Constitution reporter Kathy Scruggs, depicted here as a relentless, voracious "lady reporter" nightmare. She's eager to sleep with a fictional FBI agent (Jon Hamm) in a textbook

Turn to *Phillips*, Page 4

CELEBRITIES

Tribune news services



SUVAD MRKONJIC/TT VIA AP 2015

Marie Fredriksson, of the Swedish pop duo Roxette, died Monday after a long illness.

Marie Fredriksson of Roxette dies at 61

STOCKHOLM — Marie Fredriksson, the female half of the Swedish pop duo Roxette, has died at age 61, her management agency said Tuesday.

Fredriksson formed Roxette with Per Gessle in 1986. The two released their first album the same year and went on to achieve international success in the late 1980s and 1990s with hits including “The Look” and “It Must Have Been Love.”

The Dimberg Jernberg agency said Fredriksson died Monday “of the consequences of a long illness.”

It “is with great sorrow that we must inform you that one of greatest and most-loved artists is gone,” the firm said.

On his Facebook profile, Gessle wrote: “You were an outstanding musician, a master of the voice, an amazing performer.”

“I’m proud, honored and happy to have been able to share so much of your time, talent, warmth, generosity and your sense of humor,” he wrote in English, adding “Things will never be the same.”

Fredriksson was diagnosed with a brain tumor in 2002. She underwent aggressive treatment that took its toll but ultimately was successful, her management agency said. However, she was left blind in one eye, with limited hearing and mobility and was unable to read or write. She was also unable to speak for a considerable period of time after her treatment. Over the years she was able to make a gradual return to the world stage.

Roxette achieved international success with their albums “Look Sharp!” in 1988 and “Joyride” in 1991, and had six top two hits on the Billboard Hot 100. The duo sold 80 million records worldwide.

— Associated Press



SANFORD MYERS/AP

Deer killed on Bryan’s property: An exotic red stag owned by country music singer Luke Bryan was shot and killed on his private property outside of Nashville last week, Tennessee wildlife officials confirmed. Investigators think the deer was shot from the road, state Wildlife Resources Agency spokesman Barry Cross told The Tennessean on Monday. The wildlife official said Bryan’s farm manager reported the shooting. The Maury County Sheriff’s Office is offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person responsible. Red stags are not native to the U.S. — they’re a species of deer similar to elk, and are typically found in mountainous regions of Europe and Asia.

Hemmer to take over Smith’s time slot: Veteran anchor Bill Hemmer will replace Shepard Smith on Fox News Channel’s afternoon newscast, the network announced Monday. Hemmer has been with Fox News since 2005. He has most recently been a co-host of Fox’s 10 a.m. news program, which now has an opening to fill. Smith abruptly quit the network in October. Hemmer will lead all breaking news coverage for the network as part of his new role. He will debut on the program Jan. 20.

Dec. 11 birthdays: Actress Rita Moreno is 88. Singer Brenda Lee is 75. Actress Teri Garr is 72. Singer Jermaine Jackson is 65. Bassist Nikki Sixx is 61. Actor Gary Dourdan is 53. Actress Mo’Nique is 52. Rapper-actor Mos Def is 46. Actress Xosha Roquemore is 35.



ASK AMY

By AMY DICKINSON

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

Drunken assault severs long friendship

Dear Amy: Recently, after dinner and a fair amount of drinking, my close friend’s husband came up behind me and grabbed my crotch. I was shocked, but decided to blow it off.

We were staying at their vacation condo at the time. I thought that he would apologize, so we could get past it, but the next morning, nothing was said.

We were close friends. We were all golfing partners and enjoyed hiking and dinners out. Now I’m so sad because he hurt me (and my husband, and his wife), and our relationship has ended because of the deceit.

He is a retired surgeon and should not be able to get away with this. Should I tell my friend, his wife?

I miss her and she knows something is wrong, but has no idea what it is. — *Upset Friend*

Dear Upset: Grabbing someone in this way is not a failed and flailing drunken quasi-romantic “pass.” It is a sexual assault.

For many reasons (not the least of which was that you were staying at their home), you decided not to confront the man who assaulted you, either in the moment — or the next day.

Perhaps you are intimidated by this man. I assume that your primary relationship is with the wife, and that you are embarrassed, possibly ashamed, and conflicted — as many assault victims are, especially when the perpetrator is a trusted individual. You still seem averse to confronting him but would like to confront (or inform) his wife, instead.

Your primary objective seems to be to explain why his actions have resulted in a severing of your relationship with the couple.

I agree that he should not be able to get away with this. You don’t seem inclined to try to bring any sort of legal action against this man, but you should consider this as an option.

At the very least, you should contact him, in writing, to say, “On the night of [state the date], you came up behind me and grabbed me by the crotch. I was too shocked to say anything to you about this at the time, but I’m saying something now. You assaulted and offended me. Your actions have severed a treasured friendship between our families. I am currently considering my options, but for now I know that — at the very least — you owe me an acknowledgment and an apology.”

You should consider copying his wife on this message. One or both of them might deny this, or attempt to retaliate. But you should not assist them in brushing it aside.

Dear Amy: “Santa Claused” was going to be alone on Christmas Day and was wondering how to spend the day, away from family.

I suggest using Face-time/Skype as an alternative! I live a good 10 hours from my parents. Other siblings are closer and are able to make the drive to our folks’ place.

Every other year I make the journey, and on “off” years, we set up our laptops to share in each other’s company, virtually and from a distance.

We all plan to “sit down together” and have our meal at the same time.

I’ll ask my Mom to pass the salt and she’ll hand it to the camera, while I reach for my saltshaker off camera and say “Thanks! Got it!” It’s a great way to share a fun, interactive time together.

We also send gifts to each other, and then open them in “real time,” via webcam.

— *Santa Solved*

Dear Solved: This sounds like a lot of fun. It is a great way to use technology to spend time together.

Dear Amy: I was deeply confused about the advice you gave to “Wanting More.” Some of the advice you’ve given in the past led me to believe that you were supportive of women’s rights regarding reproductive freedom.

Please help me understand this double standard. Why is it OK for a woman to have an abortion without her partner’s agreement, but it is also OK for a partner to decide that a woman should not have children?

Why is it “my body” if I don’t want children, but not “my body” if I do?

— *Confused*

Dear Confused: If “Wanting More” wants to have more children — she is within her rights to do so. If she wants to stay married to her husband, she has to take his wishes into account.

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COMMENTARY

Is it bananas? Sure. Worth \$120k? Why not?

By SEBASTIAN SMEE
Washington Post

To buy a banana taped to a wall for \$120,000 is, believe it or not, a perfectly rational decision. If it’s presented as an art work by a famous artist with a strong track record, and especially if it becomes notorious — which is what happened at warp speed last week to Maurizio Cattelan’s “Comedian,” a banana taped to a wall in a gallery during the annual Art Basel in Miami — it will go up in value. It will be a good investment.

That’s just how it works. Am I saying it’s not crazy? Of course I’m not. It’s

bankers. But what’s not crazy? Have you been to an art fair? They are revolting spectacles — imagination and talent brutally transformed into naked commerce. Are you aware of what’s going on in the wider world? Did you know a reality TV host is president of the United States?

The key to it all, as always, was the media attention. “Comedian” quickly went viral. It was the subject of wry and withering comments on MSNBC by Chuck Todd, who argued — quite reasonably — that a world where people can pay \$120,000 for a banana taped



CINDY ORD/GETTY

People post in front of Maurizio Cattelan’s “Comedian” on Dec. 6 in Miami Beach, Florida. The display is presented by Perrotin Gallery and on view at Art Basel Miami 2019 at the Miami Beach Convention Center.

to a wall is a world where income inequality is out of hand. And yes, it is now the subject of a critic’s commentary in The Washington

Post. How many artists get this kind of exposure? \$120,000 — for a piece produced in an edition of three (all have sold) — will probably turn out to be a bargain.

What happened to “Comedian” after it became a media sensation sums up our collective disorder — a kind of media-based bulimia — exquisitely. First, at lunchtime on Saturday, David Datuna, a little-known and well-fed-looking performance artist wanting to become better known, showed up at the gallery, took the banana off the wall and, claiming to be a “hungry artist,” ate it.

The banana was promptly replaced; no problem. “Comedian,” like Damien Hirst’s dead shark, Sol LeWitt’s wall drawings, and thousands of other works of conceptual art, is about the idea — which in this case, ironically, is that the art market is insane — not the fruit per se. It comes with an authentication certificate and instructions to the owner to replace the banana every 10 days.

But the crowds at the exhibit had gotten out of hand and posed “a serious health and safety risk, as well as an access issue,” according to the gallery. So by Sunday, the final day of

Art Basel, “Comedian” had been taken down.

Then, perhaps craziest of all (but who’s measuring?): Hours before the fair closed, Roderick Webber, a 46-year-old, beret-wearing artist and aspiring politician from Massachusetts, scrawled “Epstien [sic] didn’t kill himself” in red lipstick on the gallery wall where the banana had been. This was, of course, a reference to convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, who died in prison in August. (Webber recently attempted to register his candidacy in the New Hampshire presidential primary under the name “Epstein Didn’t Kill Himself.”)

If you’re angry with Maurizio Cattelan for causing all this, you may have good reason. But I’m inclined to think you have the wrong man. Cattelan pokes fun at the art market and at himself and contemporary society in general. He’s smart, and he can be very funny.

That said, as a provocation and as a work of art, the banana is relatively weak. Much more intense and provocative was the time Cattelan taped his own dealer, the Italian Massimo de Carlo, to the wall of his gallery.

“Comedian” is clearly

intended as a reprise of this earlier piece, which — needless to say — required a lot more duct tape. For an art dealer, a more pointed humiliation is hard to imagine. And yet it was gleefully agreed to because in the economy of the art market, it made sense. Everyone profited from it.

What is to blame? Art? The fact that people — yes, even rich people — have senses of humor? Income equality, as Chuck Todd seems to think?

Sure, if you say so. And yet this kind of groping for scapegoats is facile. If you’re Todd — if you’re me — why not be honest about what’s going on? Why not apportion “blame” to the whole media (and social media) economy, which revolves around an intense fight for people’s attention, and runs on advertising — advertising which manufactures desire, which stimulates acquisitiveness and produces more wealth, but also more waste, more hype, more desire, more anxiety, more psychic and social dissonance.

Saul Bellow called it “the moronic inferno.” It didn’t start with Maurizio Cattelan, or with contemporary art. And it won’t end with people scrawling conspiracy theories in lipstick on gallery walls.

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CHICAGOLAND THEATRE DIRECTORY

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIST

The 10 most overlooked holiday movies

BY GARY THOMPSON
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Holiday movie traditions vary — in my family, for whatever reason, we often watched “The Road Warrior” after opening gifts — but traditions change, and from time to time we all need to update and expand our roster of Christmas movie selections.

But how to pick a movie that isn't the same old chestnut roasting on an open fire? And what is a Christmas movie, anyway? The definition has become more elastic in recent years.

And of course there are the full-on classics.

But if you've seen Jimmy Stewart grapple with that newel post one too many times, and you're looking for a worthy holiday movie that perhaps you haven't seen — something older or offbeat — here's a handy list of 10 Christmas titles to consider this year.

'Remember the Night' (1940)

Derived from a Preston Sturges script, this rom-com stars Fred MacMurray as a district attorney who takes pity on a shoplifter (Barbara Stanwyck) and springs her from jail on Christmas Eve, leading to a road trip that takes them (through Pennsylvania) to Indiana and back. The movie was a hit in 1940, but because Sturges' script was cut so severely, he decided to direct his own material in the future, which turned out to be a gift for movie lovers. Alas, “Remember the Night” is not available for streaming, but it is on DVD and Blu-ray.

'The Bishop's Wife' (1947)

What do you get when you beseech heaven for help? In 1947, you got Cary Grant, who answers the prayer of a bishop (David Niven) who needs funds for a new cathedral. Complications arise when Grant's handsome angel catches the eye of the man's neglected wife (Loretta Young). Penny Marshall remade the movie in 1996 as “The Preacher's Wife” (YouTube, Amazon, iTunes) with Denzel Washington and Whitney Houston. For the film, Houston sang two Top 20 hits



JAIMIE TRUEBLOOD/MCT

Oscar Isaac stars as “Joseph” and Keisha Castle-Hughes stars as “Mary” in “The Nativity Story,” a 2006 movie directed by Catherine Hardwicke.



GILES KEYTE/FOX SEARCHLIGHT/TNS

Alex Etel finds a stash of cash in the 2004 film “Millions.”

(“I Believe in You and Me” and “Step by Step”), and the accompanying gospel album sold 6 million copies. (“The Bishop's Wife” is available on iTunes.)

'The Holly and the Ivy' (1952)

In this 1952 British film, a country parson (Ralph Richardson) with a reputation of caring more for his parishioners than his own family hosts his son (Denholm Elliott) and daughter (Margaret Leighton) for

Christmas. The war has turned the clergyman's son against religion, and his daughter harbors secrets she is sure will bring her father great shame. Understated and reserved, it comes by its holiday sentiment honestly. (Streaming on Kanopy.)

'We're No Angels' (1955)

More than a decade after “Casablanca,” director Michael Curtiz and Humphrey Bogart teamed

up again for this 1955 comedy, starring Bogie as an escaped convict who — along with fellow fugitives Peter Ustinov and Aldo Ray — decides to help a befuddled shopkeeper (Leo G. Carroll) during the holidays, after they deem him to be even worse off than they are. (Streaming on Amazon, iTunes and Vudu.)

'All That Heaven Allows' (1955)

In this Douglas Sirk film, a widow's (Jane Wyman) holiday love affair with a gardener (Rock Hudson) disrupts her class-conscious friends and family. It was loosely remade by Todd Haynes as a vehicle for Julianne Moore and Dennis Haysbert in 2002 as “Far From Heaven.” (Not streaming.)

'Prancer' (1989)

A young girl (Rebecca Harrell Tickell), coping with the loss of her mother and the escalating depression and alcoholism of her father (Sam Elliott), finds herself desperate to believe in something, and so she becomes convinced that a lost animal is really one of

Santa's reindeer. The film has a nice role for Cloris Leachman as a sympathetic neighbor who wants to help. (iTunes, Hulu and Vudu.)

'Metropolitan' (1990)

Whit Stillman's low-budget but tartly scripted debut provides a snapshot of Manhattan's dying (and by now dead) debutante culture by looking in on college students from the Upper East Side (Carolyn Farina, Taylor Nichols and Chris Eigeman) who are home for the holidays. (iTunes.)

'Millions' (2004)

Danny Boyle's underrated Christmas movie is about a young boy (Alex Etel) who finds a suitcase full of stolen money, and consults (via his vivid imagination) with saints and other religious figures about the best use for the windfall, even as the hoodlums who stole the money draw close on the night of the Christmas pageant. (YouTube, Amazon Prime, Disney +, iTunes, Google Play, Vudu.)

'The Nativity Story' (2006)

A few years after “Thirteen” and a few years before “Twilight,” director Catherine Hardwicke made another movie about a complicated young woman in an interesting situation — pregnant Mary (Keisha Castle-Hughes), who is joined by Joseph (Oscar Isaac) on the road to Bethlehem. Simple, earnest retelling of what today we might call an origin story. (YouTube, Google Play, Vudu, iTunes.)

'Tangerine' (2015)

Older viewers should be advised that this Sean Baker (“The Florida Project”) movie has absolutely nothing to do with the Johnny Mercer song of the same name. Rather, it's the story of two transgender sex workers on Christmas Eve, and the misadventures they endure at the hands of customers and faithless boyfriends. Some movies end with Christmas miracles, some more forlornly in an all-night laundromat. (YouTube, Amazon Prime, Disney +, iTunes, Google Play, Hulu.)

Moment

Continued from Page 1

inspiration for Ebenezer Scrooge.

“I found out when I got hired to be in (2009's) ‘A Christmas Carol,’” Elwes said, “so it was one of those things where the research led me to find out that I was actually related to Scrooge himself. He was an interesting figure. You can look him up — he was a famous miser.”

Elwes first gained wide notice playing a far more endearing character, Westley, the besotted stable boy-turned-pirate in 1987's “The Princess Bride” opposite Robin Wright, Mandy Patinkin, Wallace Shawn and André the Giant. His career has since hit many high points, but when asked about a worst moment, Elwes referred back to that now-iconic movie.

“This story is actually in my book and it's the most cringe-worthy moment of my life,” he said. The book is “As You Wish: Inconceivable Tales from the Making of ‘The Princess Bride’” and the story concerns the time “I broke my left big toe while playing around on Andre the Giant's all-terrain vehicle.”

My worst moment ...

“We were shooting outside Sheffield in an area called the Peak District in England. And André the

Giant had been nagging me all day to play with his all-terrain vehicle and telling me it was a great toy and taunting me at one point (*laughs*) that I wasn't worthy of it.

“So we were waiting to do another setup — for the scene where I confront Buttercup about Humperdinck and then she pushes me down the hill — and André's zooming around. The only way they could get him to the set was (by) buying the only all-terrain vehicle (available in the area) because that's how he got around on his farm in North Carolina. He couldn't easily fit into cars.

“He couldn't fit into anything — he was 7-foot-4 and 450 pounds, you know? And he would tear across the countryside on this thing, ruining takes and everything. Just being a giant and having fun.

“And so I got on this thing — I'd never been on one before and I had no business being on it — and I was going uphill and I went over a rock. And as I was going to shift gears, my big toe got caught between the gear peddle and the rock and bent the toe all the way backwards and snapped it.

“Snapped it immediately. Broke it clean. Bent it all the way backwards so that it was pointed in the other direction. Every pore in my body opened; it was incredible. Just flop sweat coming out of every pore.

“And the medic comes and there's consternation — what to do? — and I



20TH CENTURY FOX

Westley and Buttercup: Actor Cary Elwes (right) with Robin Wright in a scene from “The Princess Bride.”

realize that I'm going to be fired because we were about a week into shooting (*laughs*) and I'm supposed to be the world's greatest fencer.

“It's kind of an action role besides the fencing. You can't have a hopping Dread Pirate Roberts, do you know what I mean? It's not going to work. So I panic and I thought I could just deal with the pain and hope to get it cured — I don't know what I was thinking actually. I really (*laughs*), to be frank, I was really scared of being fired.

“When Rob (Reiner, the director) found out, he was

upset that I hadn't told him. I said, ‘I was afraid you'd fire me,’ and he said something very sweet to me: ‘Don't be silly, Cary. I could, (but) I wouldn't fire you — you're the only person who could play Westley.’ And that really boosted my spirit. He said, ‘Can you walk?’ And I said, ‘Yes.’ And he said, ‘Can you run?’ And I said, ‘It'll be an interesting interpretive dance.’ (*Laughs*)”

Elwes was able to walk without a limp?

“Well, you can see it literally as we're running into the fire swamp. She's

running, I'm hopping. And that was the first day because I literally went from the accident to shooting that scene.

“You can see it's my left big toe, and I'm keeping it off the ground as much as possible. If you now focus on it, you can probably spot it — look for the left foot being off the ground more than it should be.

“I went to the hospital, but only after we shot that scene because you've got to make the day. The show must go on. Don't forget, we were an independent film, not a studio movie.

“Anyway, we moved the

fight sequence to the end of the shoot. But that's how my arm work got better than my footwork. If you look at the fight scene, my footwork is not great — it's OK — but my handiwork, which was really all I could focus on when I was healing, became really focused.”

What was André the Giant's reaction to all of this?

“So he felt guilty, but honestly it was my fault. I took full responsibility. I was the idiot who got on a thing I should never have been on — I had no business being on that. I had never ridden one before. I had no idea how it worked.

“And his bodyguard — he had a bodyguard, which is hilarious, who was about 5 feet tall; that's who guarded him on set — and this guy was telling me it was easy to ride.”

The takeaway ...

“Oh my gosh, how much fun filmmaking could be. I don't think I'll ever have that experience again; Rob set the tone and it was such a playful movie anyway.

“But I learned first of all: Don't ever get on a contraption you have no business being on. And second: It's always better to tell the truth. I was very nervous of being fired and I think Rob was more upset that I wasn't straight-up with him (*laughs*). I learned a valuable lesson that day.”

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Acting's now prominent in Morrone's life

Former model says being on a set is 'my happiest time'

BY AMY KAUFMAN
Los Angeles Times

As a girl, Camila Morrone didn't think much of actors.

From her family's two-bedroom apartment on the last legal block of the 90210 ZIP Code, she watched her parents run lines, cramming for auditions that were rarely successful. Her father, Maximo, had been a famous supermodel in the '90s, posing alongside Naomi Campbell and Kate Moss in Versace and Valentino campaigns. The money he'd made modeling kept the family afloat when he and his wife, Argentine actress Lucila Sola, couldn't find work acting.

"I saw them struggle their whole lives to be financially independent actors, and seeing them go through that I was kind of turned off to it," Morrone recalled. "There was so much angst around acting, and it was such a topic of conversation — never knowing where your next paycheck is going to come from. I thought, 'I'm going to go to college. I'm going to have a normal 9-to-5 job.'"

"And of course, I ended up exactly like them." Well, not exactly. It was only two years ago, after a brief modeling stint in New York City, that Morrone decided to follow in her parents' footsteps. Now, at 22, she's anchoring a movie that's earning her comparisons to Jennifer Lawrence in "Winter's Bone."

It's easy to understand why the fledgling actress' performance is being likened to the Oscar winner's.

In "Mickey and the Bear" — a tiny independent film that has slowly been opening in theaters over the past few weeks — Morrone plays a self-sufficient high school senior tasked with taking care of her single father, a veteran struggling with PTSD. The movie, the directorial debut of Annabelle Attanasio, is set in an impoverished Montana town. Mickey makes money as a taxidermist, doesn't wear makeup and shares a trailer home with her dad (played by James Badge Dale).

"I think people are seeing comparisons between the two films because of the



JEREMY FRASER LA EXPOSURES/GETTY

Camila Morrone plays a self-sufficient high school senior tasked with taking care of her single father, a veteran struggling with PTSD, in the independent film "Mickey and the Bear."

setting and the cold and all that stuff — and I guess the outfits are grungy and similar," said Morrone, who said she rewatched Lawrence's breakout film before shooting began in Montana.

"I mean, it's crazy. Jennifer Lawrence is a mastermind. She has no training and she's just so naturally good. I definitely don't let any of it go to my head. I think the biggest thing is not believing any of your press."

But unlike Lawrence in her early days, Morrone has already had a taste of fame.

Last month, for instance, she said she wanted to meet for an interview at a brand-new luxury hotel in West Hollywood, the Edition. When a hotel representative learned of this, Morrone was immediately offered a free private penthouse suite for the day. That's likely not because she's starring in a critically acclaimed indie film. It's probably because she has 1.9 million followers on Instagram, and her boyfriend is Leonardo DiCaprio.

DiCaprio is a sensitive subject for Morrone. Not only do people assume he must help get her work in the movie industry, but at 45 he's more than two decades her senior.

In July, she posted a vintage photo of Lauren Bacall and Humphrey

Bogart on her Instagram, captioning the black-and-white shot "a love like this." Because the stars had a 25-year-age gap, her followers assumed she was clapping back at those who have criticized the generational difference between her and DiCaprio. She was insistent that wasn't her intention with the photo — she just loves classic Hollywood — but acknowledged that judgment about her relationship does bother her.

"There's so many relationships in Hollywood — and in the history of the world — where people have large age gaps," she said. "I just think anyone should be able to date who they want to date."

Still, she said she gets why the public is fascinated by her relationship — "I probably would be curious about it too" — but is hopeful that as her career grows, she won't always be mentioned alongside her boyfriend.

"I think more and more now that people are seeing the film, I'm slowly getting an identity outside of that," she said. "Which is frustrating because I feel like there should always be an identity besides who you're dating. ... I understand the association, but I'm confident that will continue to slip away and be less of a conversation."

Morrone also is trying to

shed her reputation as a model. As a teenager at Beverly Hills High — where everyone she met "seemed to own a jewelry company or something" — she began fielding requests to pose for local brands. She only earned a day rate, but it was better than the other high school jobs she could find offering minimum wage.

As her modeling career took off, she was able to move to New York — renting and furnishing her own place in the city by 18 — and travel internationally. But she didn't love the work.

Morrone was pressured to lose weight, she said, and forced to "network with these people and sell a part of my soul to them."

And then she landed a supporting role in the 2018 Bruce Willis action flick "Death Wish." She felt so at home on set that immediately after the project wrapped, she called her modeling agency and said she was quitting the profession. She packed her bags, got rid of her apartment, moved in with her mom in West Hollywood and found an acting coach.

Before she got "Mickey and the Bear," Morrone hadn't worked for a year. The parts she was being offered weren't the ones she wanted to take: the mean girl, the hot cheerleader, the lead's girlfriend. Usually, those offers came

after a casting director had only seen her image online — a girl who'd had "two-plus hours of hair and makeup wearing perfectly fitted clothes."

"I felt so ashamed of my modeling history when I first got into acting, so I tried to hide that part of my life because I didn't want to be looked at as too sexy for a role," she said. "I've heard, 'Oh, she's not homey-looking' or 'too voluptuous' or — I don't want to say sexy because then I sound like I think of myself that way, which I don't — but that's oftentimes it."

So when she was up for "Mickey and the Bear," Morrone decided to fly herself out to Montana to camera test for Attanasio.

"I wanted to see her in the environment, and I told her to dress as the character," the filmmaker said. "And when she walked through the door, she really was Mickey. There was nothing glamorous about her. She reminded me of one of my younger sister's friends."

As Morrone's costar Dale put it: "Montana Cami is very different from Los Angeles Cami."

"When we're all hanging out in LA, everyone is getting dressed up, and in Montana, she'd be rolling around in a sweatshirt and Carhartts," said the actor. "When I heard she'd flown herself out to Montana to

read, I thought, 'How brave.' It's brave to do that because in this world we live in, most of the time the answer is 'no.'"

Once she landed the role, Morrone moved to Anaconda, Montana, for six weeks. She lived in a motel, filmed in a trailer with no heat or running water and apprenticed with a local taxidermist. She worked on mounting the skin of a deer onto a clay head, which she said she did without complaint even though she was "grossed out" by the texture of the animal's skin and eyeballs.

"I was like, 'I'm in it for real,'" Morrone said of the filming experience. "But I literally have never been happier. Being on set for me is my happiest time."

"This is exactly what I've wanted my whole life. I don't know why I spent all this time avoiding it and being afraid of taking this on."

Despite the effusively positive accolades she's received for the role, Morrone said she has yet to see any practical changes in her career.

"It's obviously very flattering — and I wish it was true — but it's not like since this came out I'm getting scripts and offers," she said. "I'm reading scripts, going in and auditioning for them, getting 'no's,' sometimes getting callbacks, then getting a 'no.' Nothing is guaranteed."

Since uttering those words, however, Morrone did land one big gig: starring alongside Riley Keough in the upcoming Amazon series "Daisy Jones & the Six." She said she'd like to have a career like Saoirse Ronan, Margot Robbie or Emily Blunt — actresses who, when they're 80, can say, "I've done a period piece and a drama and played a drug addict and a mother."

"I'm not expecting to be an overnight success or a star from this film," Morrone said. "The only thing I would really love from this movie is to put me in a better position when I'm fighting for a role or a big job — to give a director who is thinking about maybe hiring me the confidence to take a risk on me. Or maybe for me to not feel like a risk."

"Because until now everyone who has chosen me for their film has taken a risk on me. And I'm really grateful for it."

Bird

Continued from Page 1

tion, a scarf and a sportcoat. Wreaths and strands of white lights strung along the altar and balcony contributed to the festive atmosphere.

Bird performed the first few tunes solo, looping vocals or triggering horn speakers to spin with a magical reverie that matched the spirit of the songs at hand. True to the

event's free-flowing nature, he soon changed course and spent the rest of the 90-minute show collaborating with opener Madison Cunningham. The pair relied not on the effects or technology at their disposal but largely stripped the music down to its acoustic foundations. Cunningham served as a capable duet partner, harmony vocalist and accompanying guitarist, supplying color and counterpoint.

Without making any direct allusion to the holi-

days, Bird's lyrics and arrangements captured a range of feelings — apprehensions and ambitions, hopes and joys, surprises and disappointments — associated with the hectic time. He translated old-world Italian melodies for violin, whistled with child-like wonder, strummed guitars with equal parts hesitancy and boldness, and sang with a mix of humor, pensiveness and romance that conveyed cautious innocence and why-not whimsy. Songs waltzed,

swayed, frolicked and strolled. Even the darkest moments (the disaster-themed "Manifest," the suffering-prone "Sisyphus") found some light and comfort.

Other excursions, notably "Anonanimal" and "Olympians," revealed in loosely planned unpredictability, at times leaning too far to one side or threatening to altogether stop before Bird renewed the common thread and shepherded them to a finish line, their sense of mystery

intact. He proved equally compelling on simpler fare, whether trading verses with Cunningham on the country-styled "Left Handed Kisses" and "Give It Away" or underlining the tonal beauty of John Cale's "Paris 1919."

In line with Gezelligheid's meaning, and akin to a since-moved son that can't stay away from family during the holidays, Bird brought it all back home to Chicago. The swirling "Pulaski at Night" doubled as a love letter to the city. The

Lake Bluff native relayed stories of his youth to book-end "Oh No" and turned Vince Guaraldi's "Skating" into an invitation to embrace our fabled winters.

"Take courage that you're not alone," Bird sang on "Night's Falling." Next to such reassurances, even the worst holiday anxieties didn't stand a chance.

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Phillips

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definition of quid pro quo: sex for pillow talk, and a hot tip regarding the agency's No. 1 suspect. One sketchy, weakly sourced A-1 story later, Jewell's image goes from hero to villain in a flash.

Scruggs and other Atlanta reporters, along with the national media piling on, blew it to varying degrees. The stories they wrote and aired leaned dangerously on speculation. The stories were premature, thin and essentially wrong.

With a director less intent on exploiting Scruggs (who died in 2001) as an enemy of the people, symbolizing a profession depicted in "Richard Jewell" as bloodlessly contemptible, the facts would've been enough for effective and truthful drama. Yet my problems with the movie version of Scruggs begin long before the sex-for-information prelude and post-coital scene, clear enough in its

implications.

Speaking to Variety, Wilde downplayed the film's depiction, saying "by no means was I intending to suggest that as a female reporter she needed to use her sexuality" to get the story. The movie itself disagrees flagrantly with that interpretation.

On Monday, the Journal-Constitution made public its legal correspondence to Warner Brothers, the studio releasing "Richard Jewell," demanding a clearer disclaimer regarding dramatic license and the film's spurious portrayal of Scruggs. The studio doubled down, arguing that "the film is based on a wide range of highly credible source material" and further arguing: "It is unfortunate and the ultimate irony that the Atlanta Journal-Constitution, having been a part of the rush to judgment of Richard Jewell, is now trying to malign our filmmakers and cast."

All this, of course, could've been avoided by calling the malignant journalist something other than Kathy Scruggs. Whatever her name, the effect

would've been the same.

If future audiences are anything like the audience at the recent Chicago preview screening, there will be nationwide groans of outrage, responding to everything the Wilde character says and does.

Does "Richard Jewell" paint the unscrupulous FBI characters any more sympathetically? Yes, a little; though the historical record bears out many of the sleazier interrogation tactics depicted in the movie, the Hamm character is allowed his mea culpa moment of self-disgust and disgust toward the reporter-harlot preying on his vulnerabilities.

For a second or two, the movie appears to toy with the idea of the agent physically assaulting the reporter, the way media victim Paul Newman struck back, literally and righteously, at reporter Sally Field, whom he's sleeping with, of course, in "Absence of Malice."

You'd have to go back to the 1951 Billy Wilder film "Ace in the Hole," starring Kirk Douglas, to find a more heartless depiction of

a reporter than the one in "Richard Jewell."

The Douglas character, covering a New Mexico mine shaft collapse, engineers the story so that it makes his reputation. It's implied he sleeps with the victim's equally cynical wife, played by Jan Sterling. Ordering her to play the role of distraught potential widow, the reporter tells Sterling's character to attend mass.

"I don't go to church," she replies, dryly. "Kneeling bags my nylons."

In "Ace in the Hole," the untrustworthy reporter is male, and the dialogue makes every loser a winner. More recently, we've been overrun by variations on the same exhausted trope.

In "House of Cards," reporter Kate Mara sleeps with political devil Kevin Spacey and gets shoved in front of a subway train for her transgressions.

it: with her body.

In "Crazy Heart," down-but-not-out musician Jeff Bridges agrees to an interview with far younger journalist Maggie Gyllenhaal, which means the interview is just the overture.

"Richard Jewell" is far from worthless; the more it spends time with the characters played so well by Hauser, Bates and Sam Rockwell (as Jewell's attorney), the more effective its polemical focus. Nonetheless, each line spoken by the movie version of Scruggs conspires to make her a Trumpian run-on sentence fragment: fake news witch hunt quid pro quo enemy of the people.

After Scruggs rushes to judgment with her front-page story destroying Jewell's reputation, there's a newsroom scene. Scruggs' fellow staffers stand and applaud. Eastwood's camera presses in, close, and stays on Wilde's vicious grin for several seconds. The shot lingers long enough to unify an outraged audience in a single impulse: *This woman does not deserve to live.*

It makes you wonder: If Eastwood had directed "Spotlight," would the investigative reporter played by Rachel McAdams handled her job a different way?

The media deserve no special treatment or exemption. Like the government, the military and every other flawed institution, public or private, the media know their share of disgrace and shoddy methods. "Richard Jewell" has so much to work with, in terms of what really went wrong with Richard Jewell and how he suffered at the hands of those rushing to suspicion and judgment.

I don't mind that the movie isn't telling the whole truth. I mind that Eastwood put cheap, sexed-up, demonizing "conflict" ahead of a gripping true story.

"Richard Jewell" opens
Thursday evening.

Michael Phillips is a Tribune critic.

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WATCH THIS: WEDNESDAY



Amy Poehler

"Making It" (9 p.m., NBC): Boy, a season really flies by when you're airing a new episode nearly every night, which is how we're at the Season 2 finale of this delightful reality competition show barely a week after it premiered on Dec. 2. Even so, this little TV gem always speeds along on its own pixie dust, thanks to hosts Amy Poehler and Nick Offerman, plus the pure joy of watching handmade crafting in this high-tech world.

"The Goldbergs" (7 p.m., ABC): After receiving a stunning holiday card from the Kremp family, Beverly (Wendi McLendon-Covey) feels her competitive side kicking into gear to devise something even more impressive in the new episode "It's a Wonderful Life." Geoff (Sam Lerner) is taken aback, however, when he's not invited to be a part of the picture. Meanwhile, Barry (Troy Gentile) and the JTP launch a pranking war that quickly spirals completely out of control.

"The Real Housewives of New Jersey" (7 p.m., 11 p.m., Bravo): A determined Frank vows to find out once and for all what David's intentions are towards Dolores in a new episode called "Bay Breezes and Bad News." Teresa spills a surprising secret concerning Marty and Danielle, while Joe Giudice finally gets a decision on his immigration appeal. Meanwhile, a delighted Jennifer roasts her friends as part of her birthday celebration.

"Modern Family" (8 p.m., ABC): Cameron (Eric Stonestreet) seems to be suspiciously invested in making sure everyone is happy with their extended family's annual Christmas dinner, leading Mitchell (Jesse Tyler Ferguson) to suspect his spouse has some kind of hidden agenda in the new holiday episode "The Last Christmas."

"Guy's Grocery Games" (8 p.m., 11 p.m., Food): In a new seasonal episode called "GGG Holiday Cook-Off," host Guy Fieri welcomes four charitable chefs to Flavor-town and hands them special ingredients they must feature in a holiday pork dish. Next, he uses a dreidel to determine the budget the chefs will have for preparing one of their festive family favorites.

"Single Parents" (8:31 p.m., ABC): After Graham (Tyler Wladis) sends a letter to Santa requesting either to have a white Christmas or meet his dad, Angie (Leighton Meester) recruits Will and Sophie (Taran Killam, Marlow Barkley) to help her find a snowy locale in Southern California in the new episode "Good Holidays to You."

TALK SHOWS

"Conan" (10 p.m. 11:30 p.m., TBS): Actor Giancarlo Esposito.*

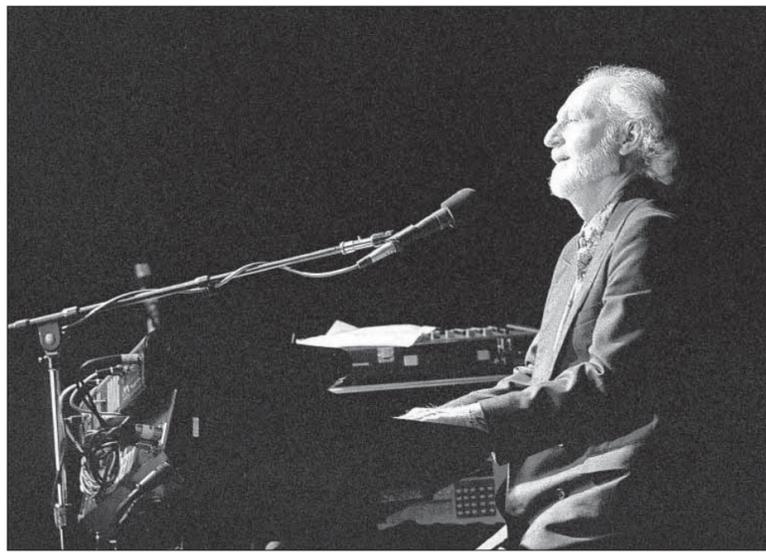
"The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" (10:34 p.m., NBC): Actor Jon Hamm; actress Keri Russell; Gary Clark Jr. performs.*

"The Late Show With Stephen Colbert" (10:35 p.m., CBS): Actor Ed Harris; Samantha Power, former ambassador to the UN; Thomas Rhett performs.*

"Jimmy Kimmel Live!" (10:35 p.m., ABC): Actor Kevin Hart; actress Julia Fox; Finneas performs.*

* Subject to change

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EBET ROBERTS/REDFERNS

Jazz-blues pianist and singer Mose Allison, shown in 1989, died in 2016 at age 89.

RECORDINGS

Top musicians honor Allison on wide-ranging collection

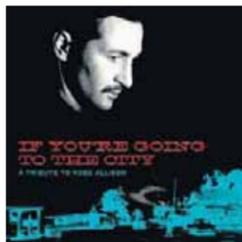
BY PABLO GORONDI
Associated Press

It may be a tired cliché to say someone was one of a kind, but Mose Allison most definitely was.

A jazz and blues pianist whose songwriting career meshed lyrics with Mad magazine wit, keen philosophical observations and pure melodies that he sang in a cool conversational voice, Allison, who died three years ago at age 89, was an inspiration to everyone from Pete Townshend to Van Morrison.

In an album benefiting the Sweet Relief Musicians Fund, a true collection of greats — from Fiona Apple and Bonnie Raitt to Taj Mahal and Iggy Pop — put their own artistry at the service of 15 outstanding Allison songs from across his extensive career.

It's their diversity and personalized takes on the music that makes this album so enjoyable. There's been many versions of Allison's songs



'If You're Going to the City: A Tribute to Mose Allison'

Various artists
★★★ (out of four)

over the years and several here are absolutely marvelous.

They include Loudon Wainwright's guitar-and-voice take on "Ever Since the World Ended," with its upbeat descriptions of post-apocalyptic life, Dave and Phil Alvin's fierce version of "Wild Man on the Loose," Ben Harper and Charlie Musselwhite's

fiery "Nightclub" and Iggy Pop's late-period Miles Davis-like adaption of the title track.

With Apple backed by, among others, Benmont Tench and Fred Tackett, the all-too-brief "Your Molecular Structure" applies scientific terms to explain the whys and hows of physical attraction but ends in most primal fashion — "Your molecular structure baby, ooh wee!"

Other highlights are live versions by Raitt of "Everybody's Crying Mercy" and Richard Thompson of "Parchman Farm." Robbie Fulks puts a folksy spin with banjo and fiddle on "My Brain," and daughter Amy Allison and Elvis Costello close the album in fine fashion on the sophisticated "Monsters of the Id."

The album comes with a bonus DVD of a 2005 documentary about Allison by Paul Bernay, "Ever Since I Stole the Blues," that shows in what high regard far more famous musicians held him.

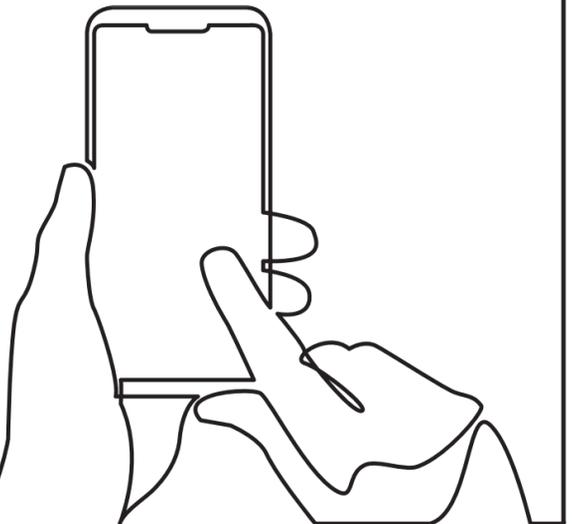
WEDNESDAY EVENING, DEC. 11

	PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS 2	Survivor (N) © 卐		(8:01) SEAL Team: "Unbecoming an Officer." (N)		S.W.A.T.: "Monster." (N) © 卐		News (N) 卐
	NBC 5	Ellen's Greatest Night of Giveaways (N) © 卐		(8:01) Making It: "A Shed Hack Staycation." (N) ©		Making It: "You Made It!" (Season Finale) (N) © 卐		NBC 5 News (N) 卐
	ABC 7	The Goldbergs (N)	Schooled (N) ©	Modern Family (N)	Single Parents (N)	Stumptown: "Dex Education." (N) © 卐		News at 10pm (N) 卐
	WGN 9	black-ish ©	black-ish © 卐	Last Man Standing ©	Last Man Standing ©	WGN News at Nine (N)		WGN News at Ten (N)
	Antenna 9.2	Alice ©	Alice ©	B. Miller	B. Miller	Johnny Carson ©		3's Comp.
	Court 9.3	♣ Closing Arguments (N)		Closing Arguments with Vinnie Politan © 卐				
	PBS 11	Chicago Tonight (N)	Carol Burnett: A Celebration ©			Rick Steves' European Christmas ©		
	CW 26.1	Riverdale (N) © 卐		Nancy Drew (N) ©		Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©
	The U 26.2	Dr. Phil © 卐		Tamron Hall © 卐		The Steve Wilkos Show		Cops ©
	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 卐	
Bounce 26.5	The Game	The Game	Family Time	Last Call	Lethal Weapon (R,'87) ★★★ © 卐			
FOX 32	The Masked Singer (N)		(8:01) Almost Family: "Fertile AF." (N) ©		Fox 32 News at Nine (N)		Modern Family	
Ion 38	Blue Bloods ©		Blue Bloods ©		Blue Bloods ©		Blue Blood 卐	
TeleM 44	El sultán (N) ©		Decisiones: unos (N)		El señor de los cielos (N)		Chicago (N)	
MNT 50	Chicago P.D. ©		Dateline © 卐		Dateline © 卐		Chicago 卐	
UniMas 60	Enamorándonos				Noticiero (N)	Apocalipsis		
WJYS 62	Salem Baptist Church		Joyce Meyer	Robison	Coach's Cor.	Paid Prog.	Monument	
Univ 66	Ringo (N)		La Rosa de Guadalupe		El dragón (N)		Noticias (N)	
CABLE	AE	The First 48 ©		The First 48 ©		(9:01) The First 48 ©		First 48 卐
	AMC	National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation ('89) ★★★				(9:15) Four Christmases ('08) ★★★ © 卐		
	ANIM	Extinct or Alive		Extinct or Alive (N)		Extinct or Alive-Evidence (N) 卐		
	BBCA	Braveheart (R,'95) ★★★	Mel Gibson. A Scottish rebel rallies his countrymen against England. © 卐					
	BET	♣ (5:33) Meet the Browns		Tyler Perry's The Oval (Season Finale) (N)		Tyler Perry's Sistas (N)		Copwatch
	BIGTEN	♣ College Basketball (N)		College Basketball: Michigan at Illinois. (N) (Live) ©				Postgame
	BRAVO	Housewives/NJ (N)		Real House. (N)		Watch (N)	Housewives/NJ (N)	
	CLTV	Larry Potash News (N)		News at 8	News (N)	SportsFeed ©		Politics
	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)		Cuomo Prime Time (N)		CNN Tonight (N)		Tonight (N) 卐
	COM	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Pk	Yankers (N)	Daily (N) 卐
	DISC	Alaskan Bush People (N)		(8:01) Man vs. Bear (N)		(9:03) Man vs. Bear ©		Alaskan 卐
	DISN	Raven	Roll With It	Gabby	Jessie ©	Coop	Sydney-Max	Raven
	E!	♣ (6) Coyote Ugly ('00) 卐		The Devil Wears Prada (PG-13,'06) ★★★	Meryl Streep. ©			
	ESPN	♣ NBA Basketball: Clippers at Raptors (N)		NBA Basketball: Pelicans at Bucks (N) 卐				
	ESPN2	♣ (6) NFL Live/American Game		CFB 150		TrueSouth	Unlocking	SportCtr (N)
	FNC	Tucker Carlson (N)		Hannity (N) ©		The Ingraham Angle (N)		Fox News
	FOOD	Guy's Grocery Games		Guy's Grocery Games (N)		Food Truck Race (N)		Grocery 卐
	FREE	Same Time, Next Christmas (NR,'19)	Lea Michele.			Decorating Disney		700 Club 卐
	FX	Jurassic World (PG-13,'15) 卐	Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard. ©			Jurassic World ('15) 卐		
	HALL	Christmas Under the Stars (NR,'19)	Clarke Peters.			(9:03) Christmas Town (NR,'19) © 卐		
	HGTV	Property Brothers		Property Brothers (N)		Hunt Intl (N)	Hunters (N)	Property 卐
	HIST	Forged in Fire (N)		Forged in Fire (N)		Vikings (N) ©		Forged 卐
	HLN	Real Life Nightmare ©		Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic
	IFC	♣ (5:30) I Love You, Man		Knocked Up (R,'07) ★★★	Seth Rogen, Katherine Heigl. © 卐			
	LIFE	Grounded for Christmas (NR,'19)	Julianne Guill. ©			(9:03) Mistletoe & Menorahs ('19) 卐		
	MSNBC	All In With (N)		Rachel Maddow Show (N)		The Last Word (N)		11th Hour (N)
	MTV	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	The Challenge (N) ©		Catfish: The TV Show ©		Catfish 卐
	NBCSCH	NBA Basketball: Atlanta Hawks at Chicago Bulls. (N) (Live) ©				Postgame		Bulls (N)
	NICK	♣ Santa	SpongeBob	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ©	Friends ©
	OVATION	♣ (6) Christmas Caper ('07)		The Fugitive (PG-13,'93) 卐		Harrison Ford, Tommy Lee Jones. 卐		
OWN	To be announced		To be announced		To be announced		TBA 卐	
OXY	Snapped ©		Snapped		Snapped: "Nancy Gelber." 卐		Snapped 卐	
PARMT	Jumanji (PG,'95) 卐	Robin Williams, Bonnie Hunt. ©			Jumanji (PG,'95) 卐			
SYFY	♣ (6:30) The Chronicles of Riddick (PG-13,'04) 卐				G.I. Joe: Retaliation (PG-13,'13) 卐			
TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Full Frontal	Conan (N)	
TCM	Bell, Book and Candle (NR,'58) 卐	James Stewart.			Harry and Tonto (R,'74) 卐			
TLC	My 600-Lb. Life: "Cillas' Story."				My 600-Lb. Life: "Angela's Story." 卐			
TLN	Baptist	King	Diane	The Three	Life Today	Exalted	Humanit 卐	
TNT	All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite (N) (Live) ©				300: Rise of an Empire (R,'14) 卐			
TOON	We Bare	We Bare	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	
TRAV	UFOS: The Lost Evidence (N) ©				Paranormal Ca. (N)		Bigfoot 卐	
TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Two Men	Two Men	King	
USA	WWE NXT (N) (Live) ©				Law & Order: SVU		Law-SVU 卐	
VH1	Black Ink: Chicago (N)		Potluck (N)	Black Ink Crew: Chicago	Love & Hip Hop			
WE	Fred Claus (PG,'07) 卐	Vince Vaughn, Paul Giamatti. ©			Fred Claus (PG,'07) 卐			
WGN America	Cops ©	Cops ©	Cops ©	Cops ©	Cops ©	Cops ©	Cops ©	
PREMIUM	HBO	♣ (6) Robin Hood ('18) 卐		Moonlight Sonata: Deafness		Watchmen © 卐		
	HBO2	Silicon Valley ©		(7:50) Without a Paddle ('04) 卐		Belichick & Saban 卐		
	MAX	The Gunman (R,'15) 卐	Sean Penn. ©			The Take (R,'16) 卐	Idris Elba. 卐	
	SHO	The Fast and the Furious (PG-13,'01) 卐	Vin Diesel.			2 Fast 2 Furious (PG-13,'03) 卐		
	STARZ	♣ Escape	(7:23) Johnson Family Vacation 卐			(9:02) Jack and Jill (PG,'11) 卐		
STZNC	♣ The Amityville Horror 卐		Dances With Wolves (PG-13,'90) 卐		Kevin Costner. © 卐			

Chicago Tribune

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Horoscopes



Today's birthday (Dec. 11): To your own self be true, especially this year. Persistent efforts grow lucrative ventures. Make a bundle this winter, then lend support with an unexpected shared expense. Personal challenges teach valuable tricks, contributing to a boost in your shared finances. Harness this strength to accomplish your dreams.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 7. Start a new chapter. A new two-week phase in communications, connection and intellectual discovery dawns with this full moon. Shift the direction of your research.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 8. A turning point arises around income and finances. You can find profitable opportunities over two weeks under the Gemini full moon.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 9. A challenge redirects you. This full moon in your sign illuminates a new personal direction. Expand your boundaries. Turn toward an inspiring possibility.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 6. Review priorities privately. Meditate on dreams past and future. Some concerns are well-founded. This full moon illuminates a transition. Begin an introspective phase.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 8. This full moon illuminates social changes. Patiently navigate a change. Friends come and go with community and group projects. Share appreciations, goodbyes and greetings.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 7. Finish a project before beginning another professional phase. This Gemini full moon sparks a career shift. Focus on current passions.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 6. An exploration changes. The full moon illuminates a shift in your educational direction. Experiment with concepts. Travel expands your view.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 8. The stakes could seem high with this full moon. Shift directions with shared finances over the next few weeks. Work out the next phase together.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 7. Reach a turning point with a partnership under the full moon. Compromise and collaborate for shared commitments. Adjust to a change in plans.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 8. Begin a new health-and-fitness phase upon reaching a barrier or obstacle. Review and revamp skills and practices under this full moon.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 7. Change directions with a romance, passion or creative endeavor under this full moon. Express your heart, imagination and artistry.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 7. Make repairs. Renovate, remodel and tend your garden. Domestic changes require adaptation under the full moon. Begin a new home and family phase.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater



Bliss



Bridge

Neither vulnerable, South deals

North		East	
♠ K 9 3 2	♥ K J 7 5	♠ 7 6 4	♥ Q 10 8 3
♦ A Q 6 5	♣ 10	♦ K 8 7	♣ Q 4 3
West		South	
♠ A	♥ A 6 4 2	♠ Q J 10 8 5	♥ 9
♦ 10 9 4 3 2	♣ A K 9	♦ J	♣ J 8 7 6 5 2

Although North America lags behind, Multi Two Diamonds has become very popular throughout the rest of the bridge world. Players open two diamonds with a weak two-bid in either major, freeing up opening bids of two hearts and two spades for other meanings. The search is on for the most effective use of those bids. One such use is shown in today's deal.

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
2♣*	Dbl	4♠	Pass
Pass	Dbl	All pass	

*Five spades plus a four-card or longer minor.
Opening lead: Ace of ♣

draw trumps and to set up his club suit. Preserving trump length in his hand was going to be important, so he led a low spade to his queen and West's ace. A low diamond through dummy's queen was ruffed by South and a club was ruffed in dummy. Another diamond ruff felled the king, but that didn't matter. The next club ruff, with dummy's king of spades was crucial. When the clubs split 3-3, South could draw the remaining trumps and claim his contract.

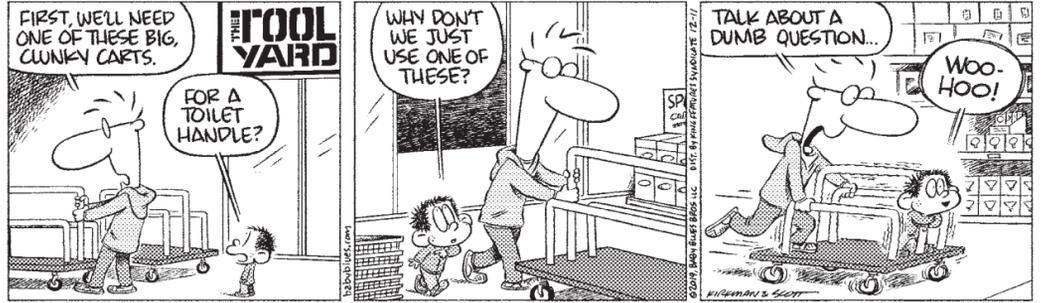
In the replay, after the same start to the defense, South lost control when he ruffed a diamond to trick three rather than starting spades. He had a chance to save himself later with a good guess in hearts, but he ended up down one.

— Bob Jones
tcaeditors@tribpub.com

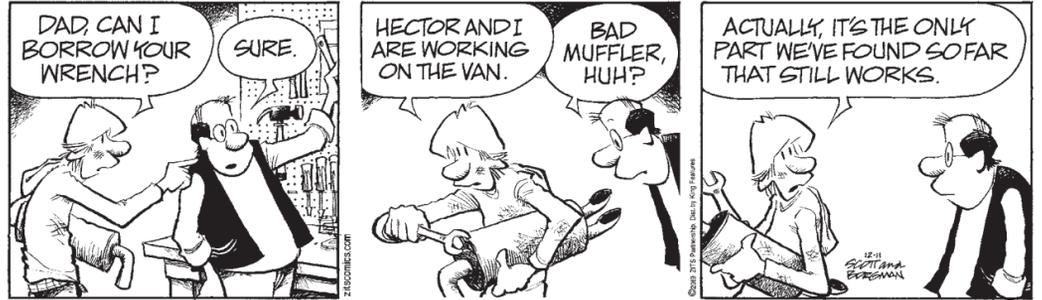
Dilbert



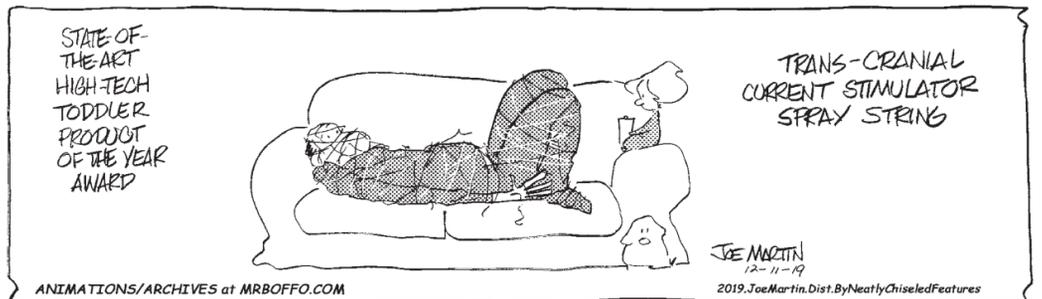
Baby Blues



Zits



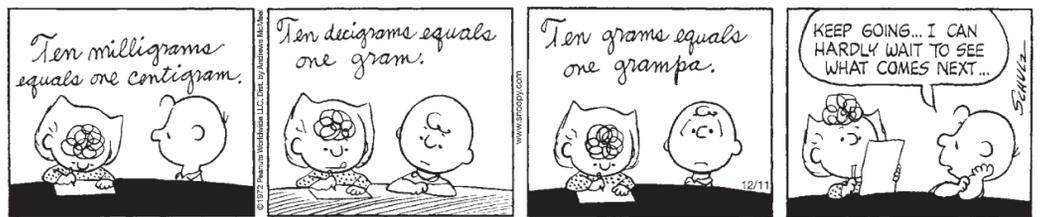
Mr. Boffo



Frazz



Classic Peanuts



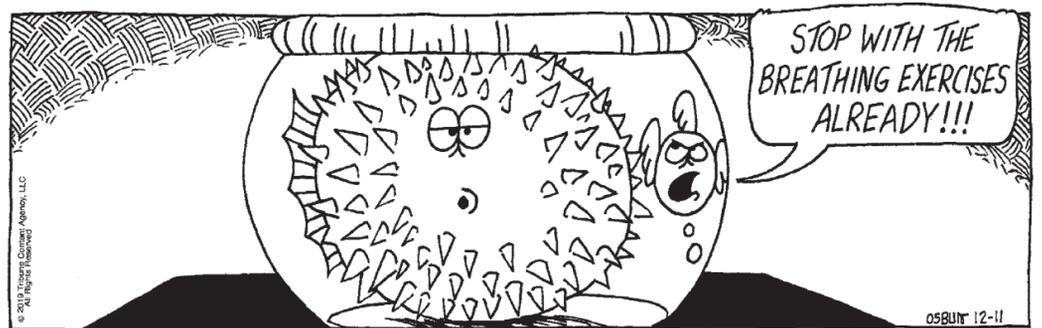
Pickles



Dick Tracy



Animal Crackers

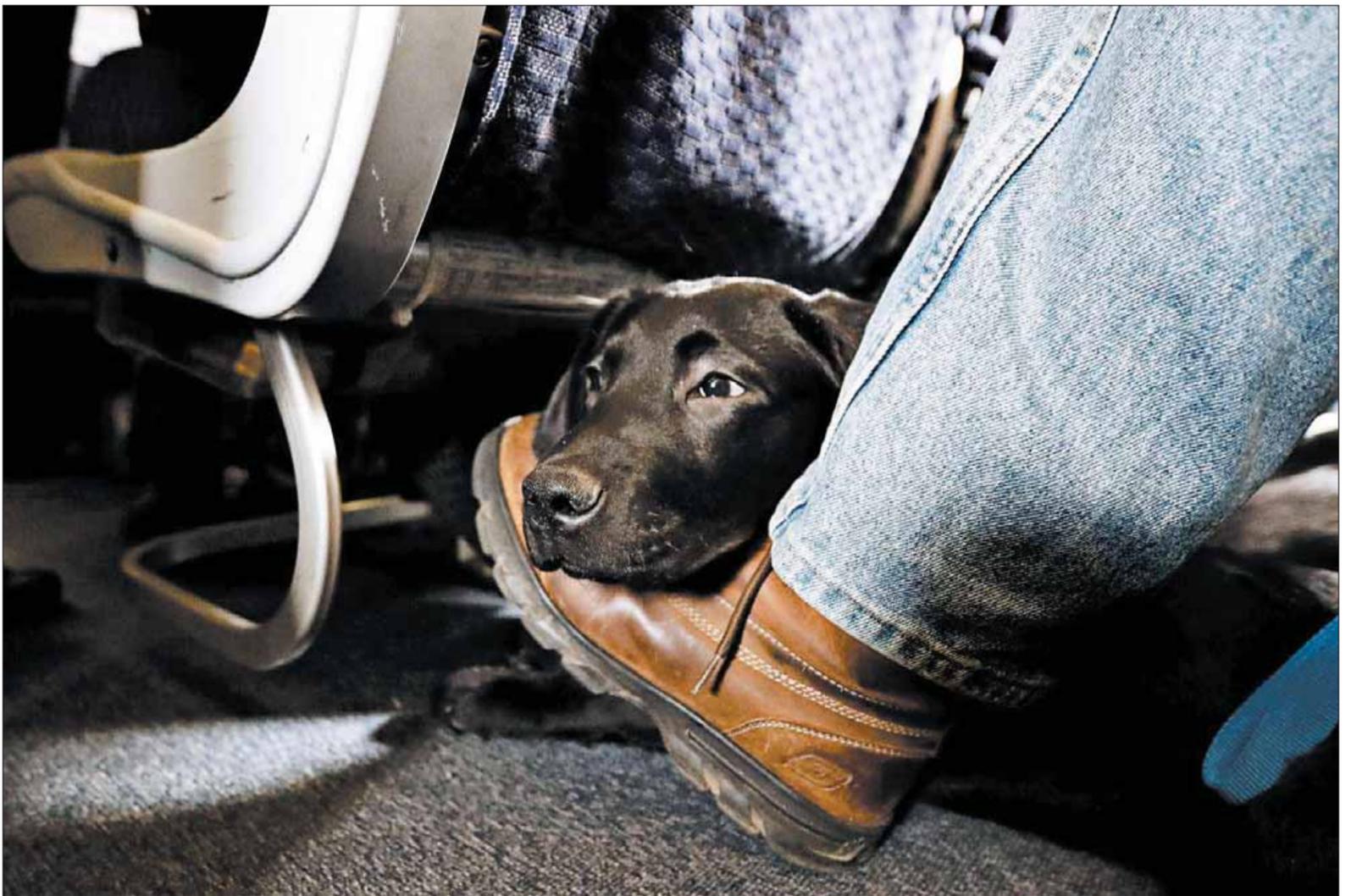


Prickly City



Chicago Tribune

HEALTH & FAMILY



JULIO CORTEZ/AP

The Department of Transportation is expected to issue new guidance for airlines about emotional support animals on board.

Snakes on a plane? Nope.

BY CINDY DAMPIER

It's holiday travel time, so here's a handy checklist before you head to the airport: Got your earphones? A scarf in case it gets cold on the plane? Slip-on shoes for the TSA line? Doctor's note for your emotional support snake?

Scratch that last one. In spite of what you may have heard about a wide range of emotional support animals showing up at airports, you won't find a warm welcome for your snake on board that flight.

Current Department of Transportation rules allow airlines to ban snakes, as well as rodents (sorry, emotional support squirrel), spiders and a few other creatures. But that emotional support cat rubbing his hair all over your black sweater? Or that dog in the next seat who's begging for your pretzels? They've got a ticket to ride. At least for now.

Transportation industry watchers and a slew of interested parties — including disability rights advocates, airlines and service dog providers — are awaiting updated

New rules for emotional support animals

rules from the DOT that will further refine policy around emotional support animals on airplanes. Federal policy changes are expected soon, perhaps before the end of the year. And though no one yet knows exactly what shape the new rules will take, chances are good that it's about to get a little harder to bring your ESA on board.

Keeping a menagerie of strange animals, not to mention pets masquerading as service animals, off flights seems like a good idea, right? But emotional support animals, in spite of the bad rap they've gotten lately, represent an issue that is more complex than it seems.

For some people, like Rory Diamond, CEO of K9s for Warriors, which provides service dogs to veterans with PTSD and other injuries, stricter DOT rules can't come soon enough. "Hopefully, it will be an improvement over the current rule," he says, "which is wide open and not able to contain the number of

untrained animals that are showing up on airplanes."

In Diamond's view, emotional support animals, which are not required to undergo specific training, don't belong on flights. "We think only service dogs should be allowed on planes," he says. "The issue with emotional support animals is that it's just ripe for abuse."

That abuse has grabbed plenty of headlines. In recent years, online businesses have emerged selling vests and harnesses for service animals as well as notes from therapists confirming the need for an ESA. Airlines typically require a doctor's note for an ESA to be allowed to board. In some cases, notes purchased online require that an online questionnaire be filled out to assess need, but the ability to easily buy credentials has led some pet owners to falsely claim ESA status for their animals.

The incentives for cheating go beyond the convenience of being able to bring your ani-

mal into off-limits locations; pet travel fees on airlines are typically in the hundreds of dollars. "These are people who just don't want to pay to get their dogs on the plane," says Diamond, "and it's causing a lot of trouble for people with legitimate service dogs." In fact, he says, the No. 1 problem veterans traveling with his organization's service dogs report is difficult encounters with ESAs or poorly trained service animals.

Jason Haag, CEO of service dog provider Leashes of Valor, is himself a veteran who suffers from PTSD and traumatic brain injury and has traveled with his service dog, Axel, for years. He's in support of a rule change for ESAs too. "Honestly," he says, "to put any untrained animal in a tube going 500 miles an hour with no exit doesn't sound like a great idea to me."

Untrained animals, Haag points out, may cause havoc on a flight by barking, moving around too much or being aggressive with humans or

other animals. "Unfortunately, when you have too many animals in an enclosed area and they have not been trained, bad things can happen," he said.

Airline employees try to maintain space between animals, but because service dogs should ideally be seated in the bulkhead row, ideal distance can be hard to achieve.

Haag and Diamond both support the idea of a national service dog registry, and Diamond has been working for two years to create an optional credential that, much like a parking permit for people who are disabled, could be promoted as a quick, visible assurance that a dog is a service animal. "It would be like TSA Precheck for dogs," he says, "and make it easier for everyone and much easier to fly."

Public perception around "fake" service animals has also increased the scrutiny people like Haag receive when they show up with a dog in tow. In 2015, Haag, a retired Marine captain, was flying home to Virginia from California after accepting an

Turn to **Animals**, Page 2

Daughters have hug rights at family gatherings



HEIDI STEVENS
Balancing Act

The Girl Scouts are back with their evergreen reminder that our daughters are not little hugging machines, and I am back with my evergreen LOUDER FOR THE FOLKS IN BACK.

In 2017, just as we were entering the holiday season, the Girl Scouts released a public service announcement encouraging parents to think twice before forcing their girls to hug relatives at family gatherings.

"Telling your child that she owes someone a hug either just because she hasn't seen this person in a while or because they gave her a gift can set the stage for her questioning whether she 'owes' another person any type of physical affection when they've bought her dinner or done something else seemingly nice for her



CAMILLE WESSER/GETTY

A Girl Scouts' public service announcement encouraged parents to rethink forcing their girls to hug relatives at family gatherings.

later in life," the announcement read.

"Give your girl the space to decide when and how she wants to show affection," it continued. "Of course, many children may naturally want to hug and kiss family members, friends and

neighbors, and that's lovely — but if your daughter is reticent, consider letting her choose what to do. Of course, this doesn't give her license to be rude! There are many other ways to show appreciation, thankfulness and love that don't require physical con-

tact. Saying how much she's missed someone or thank you with a smile, a high-five, or even an air kiss are all ways she can express herself, and it's important that she knows she gets to choose which feels most comfortable to her."

(We should also afford our sons the same space, I would argue.)

The Girl Scouts advice has been making the rounds anew on social media. I asked Nancy Wright, CEO of Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana, if the group released an updated version or if the original version was just picking up steam because it's the holidays.

"I think it's picking up steam because of what girls are facing in society right now," Wright answered.

Six girls sit on the board of directors for the Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana, she said. When the board gathers, Wright asks the girls to talk about the complexities they're navigating, the stressors they're carrying, the feelings they're experiencing and what grown-ups can do to help lighten

those loads.

"Girls feel incredible pressure to be perfect and to fit in and to perform and to compete," Wright said. "What they really need are adult champions who help them navigate all of that and let them know it's OK for them to be them. That includes not hugging Grandma if they don't want to."

Not everyone is a fan of the advice. I went on WGN Radio on Thursday to discuss the Girl Scouts' hugging boundary and several listeners called or texted to say it was a stretch to turn family gatherings into lessons about consent. Hugging Grandma isn't sending girls a harmful message, they maintained. It's hugging Grandma! She's Grandma!

I get that. But I'll add two points.

One: The American Academy of Pediatrics, on its healthychild.org blog, offers its own guidance about hugs.

"Do not force your children to give hugs or kisses to people they do not want to," it reads. "It is their right to tell even grandma or

Turn to **Stevens**, Page 2

Study: Impella device might pose dangers

New findings on pricey pump used in heart procedures

BY DENNIS THOMPSON
HealthDay

A pricey high-tech pump that maintains blood flow during heart procedures could be more dangerous to patients than its low-tech predecessor, a pair of recent studies finds.

The Impella device is associated with an increased risk of death, bleeding and stroke among patients undergoing angioplasty to reopen clogged arteries, two separate research teams concluded in presentations given in November at the American Heart Association's annual meeting in Philadelphia.

Using the device also jacks up costs, adding about \$15,000 to the average hospital price tag, the researchers report.

"The associated clinical outcomes did not show any substantial improvement, while costs of hospitalization rose," said Dr. Amit Amin, lead researcher for one of the two teams and an assistant professor at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis.

Doctors might want to be more judicious using the Impella until further research clears up these concerns, said Dr. Ranya Sweis, a cardiologist with Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine who commented on the two studies.

"Don't jump to the Impella just because it's new and it's cool," Sweis said.

But the device's manufacturer, Abiomed, countered that Impella's safety has been proven by repeated clinical trials, both those required for Food and Drug Administration approval as well as post-approval follow-up trials.

"We demonstrated Impella's safety and efficacy to the FDA using data gained through extensive re-



GETTY

A pricey, high-tech pump is associated with an increased risk of death, bleeding and stroke among patients undergoing angioplasty to reopen clogged arteries, two separate research teams concluded.

search," said Abiomed Chief Medical Officer Dr. Seth Bilazarian.

Sometimes patients undergoing angioplasty have a weak heart and need mechanical support to maintain blood flow to the rest of their bodies.

Prior to Impella's FDA approval in 2008, doctors relied on a tiny balloon placed inside the aorta, one of the large arteries leading out of the heart. The balloon keeps blood flowing by inflating and deflating in concert with a person's heartbeat.

The Impella device works by running a small tube up through blood vessels and into the heart itself. The tiny pump — the world's smallest, according to Abiomed — draws blood from inside the heart and

pushes it out into the aorta.

Impella has become a widely utilized option in angioplasty and is now used in about a third of patients who need blood flow support during the procedure, Amin's research team reported.

But the two new studies noted some troubling trends with Impella.

One team focused on angioplasty patients who were suffering from cardiogenic shock, a condition in which the heart suddenly can't pump enough blood to meet the body's needs. In those cases, blood flow support is needed to keep the patient alive while clogged arteries are reopened.

About 10% of heart attack patients have cardiogenic shock, said the leader

of that research team, Dr. Sanket Dhruva, an assistant clinical professor of cardiology at the University of California at San Francisco School of Medicine.

About 45% of those patients died during procedures that involved Impella, compared with 34% of patients whose blood flow was supported by an intra-aortic balloon, Dhruva said.

Bleeding risk also increased with Impella. About 31% of cardiogenic shock patients treated with the device had major bleeding, compared with 16% for patients treated with the balloon, Dhruva's team found.

Amin's team had similar findings, reporting that Impella increased risk of death by 24% and risk of

stroke by 34% compared with the intra-aortic balloon.

Amin and his colleagues investigated the cost and effectiveness of Impella versus the intra-aortic balloon by analyzing health data on more than 48,000 patients who underwent angioplasty with mechanical blood flow support at 432 hospitals between 2004 and 2016.

Researchers warned that these results were not from clinical trials and therefore could have been influenced by other factors.

For example, it's possible that doctors used the Impella device more often in procedures involving sicker patients with a poorer prognosis, Amin said.

"Sometimes sicker pa-

tients are used for therapies like the Impella," Amin said. "Whether this is a confounding affect or not is very hard to suss out."

The new findings run counter to a recently presented clinical trial that showed that Impella reduced serious heart complications by 29% compared with the balloon pump, Bilazarian said.

Another recent study, the National Cardiogenic Shock Initiative, found that Impella produced a 72% survival rate among patients suffering from cardiogenic shock, an improvement of 22 percentage points, Bilazarian added.

Sweis agreed that the results presented at the recent meeting aren't strong enough to call for Impella's removal from the market, given all the conflicting data.

"It would be premature to say Impella's done, because there's no good explanation for why the device in and of itself should increase mortality," Sweis said.

What's needed is more clinical trial data regarding the device and how it compares with the balloon pump, Sweis said.

American College of Cardiology past President Dr. Spencer King said these studies should lead to further research that helps doctors use the Impella device in ways most beneficial to patients.

"These kind of observations are very important to raise questions, to raise the hypothesis that we're not using these things at the right time or in the right patients," said King, an interventional cardiologist who said he's had mainly good experiences with Impella.

"The challenge is for people to know when it should be used and when it should not be used," King continued.

Amin's study was also published in the journal *Circulation*.

Animals

Continued from Page 1

award for Axel, who was honored at the American Humane Association Hero Dog Awards. But when an American Airlines employee decided to question whether Axel was a legitimate service dog, Haag was kept from boarding his flight.

"I was furious," he says, "but yet incredibly prepared for what happened. So I know firsthand what it's like with crazy regulations and people not understanding all of them."

To Charles Petrof, a senior attorney with Chicago disabled rights advocacy organization Access Living, Haag's story suggests the threats to access for disabled people that can be posed by bringing more scrutiny to ESAs. "For many people," he says, "getting on an airplane is an extreme stress event, and yet they may need to do that in order to travel. The more hurdles you add to it, the more you are pushing them away from getting transportation."

Petrof points out that, in spite of airline reports that show the numbers of animals on planes is steadily rising, serious issues with ESAs still appear to be relatively few. "We don't believe there are that many documented cases of prob-

lems," he says. "Instead, it's really a few high-profile cases that get everyone talking."

Remember Dexter the Peacock? He sparked plenty of internet outrage in 2018 after his owner tried to take him on board a United Airlines flight from Newark, New Jersey. (United said no, and promptly tightened its ESA policy.) But Petrof says we don't need new government intervention against oddities like Dexter. "That peacock has done large volumes of damage," he says, "and that's not the problem we have to solve."

Disabled rights advocates have long held that barriers to access must be kept low in order to promote inclusiveness for people who are already facing considerable obstacles, which is why public access policy severely limits even the questions a person seeking accommodations can be asked.

Requiring a higher standard of proof for ESAs, Petrof says, could become a barrier to travel, especially for disabled people with limited means. "If you need proof beyond a basic doctor's note," he says, "depending on what kind of health care you can afford, you may not get to see your psychiatrist more than once per year. And wait times for mental health treatment can be long. You may not be able

to satisfy these requirements in time to take a flight. So what it results in is, if you're poor and disabled, you're kicked off the plane."

Not that Petrof is in favor of people scamming the ESA policies to get their pets a free ride: "We're not trying to protect the people who are abusing the law," he says. But he doesn't believe an ESA crackdown is worth potential difficulties for the disabled community.

"Folks who need an emotional support animal in order to use the transportation service are faced with having restrictions placed on their ability to travel, just because some people try to play fast and loose with the law."

Instead, Petrof believes the ESA issue is one for the airlines to solve, on a case-by-case basis. "Once we start changing rules," he says, "it seems like access for disabled people ends up getting limited. The airlines need to address the dog or animal that is causing a problem. They have a lot to figure out: passengers with allergies, seating, keeping dogs separated. It's complicated. But honestly, if a dog is sitting quietly at someone's feet and not bothering anyone, why do we need to know why that dog is there?"

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Stevens

Continued from Page 1

grandpa that they do not want to give them a kiss or a hug goodbye. Inappropriate touching — especially by a trusted adult — can be very confusing to a child. Constantly reinforce the idea that their body is their own, and they can protect it. It is very important that your child knows to tell you or another trusted grown-up if they have been touched. That way, your child knows it's also your job to protect them."

Two: Kids need all the practice they can get saying no. "No" should come freely and comfortably out of their mouths when their gut tells them something's not quite right.

No, I'm not getting in the car with a driver who's been drinking. No, I'm not going to try smoking that. No, I'm not sharing my test answers with you. No, I'm not sending you a nude photo.

No, I'm not going to do a thing that feels wrong for me, just because it feels right to you. Just so I can be pleasing. Just so I don't make waves.

If your relatives make a fuss about you giving your child that kind of space and power, fine. There's your moment to say to your child, "Yeah, not all our noes are going to be popular. We get to say them anyway."

Happy holidays!

Join the Heidi Stevens Balancing Act Facebook group, where she continues the conversation around her columns and hosts occasional live chats.

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PARENTING Q&A

When connecting with kids, try not to criticize

BY MEGHAN LEAHY
Special to The Washington Post

Q: Our child is almost 4. She seemingly hates hearing criticism. If I mildly correct her during an otherwise happy encounter she will start fussing, fidgeting and jabbering, and won't stop. It's impossible to get her back to an even keel without walking away and ignoring everything for a while. I want to be able to say, "Please don't put your feet on the dining table" without her totally checking out. It's 100 times as bad at bedtime, because she absolutely won't settle. Thoughts on how to help her work through her obvious discomfort?

A: Thanks for writing; trust me when I say you are not alone in having a child who doesn't enjoy criticism. In fact, when I read your note, I thought, "Wait, who does enjoy criticism?" Unless you are accustomed to being picked apart, most humans bristle at being critiqued, children most of all.

To understand why your almost-4-year-old doesn't like criticism requires that you understand your child and how she is developing. First, 4 is a fun but intense age. The highs are high and the lows are low, but there are many signs of emerging maturity. You begin to see the 4-year-old show more consideration and patience and ability to follow more directions.

But. Here's where you may be running into some trouble: If your child is happily chattering about school or a show or a game and you interrupt her with, "Get your feet off of the table," you have bro-

It isn't fair to hold a preschooler too many expectations. Decide what you are willing to go to the mat for.

ken a connection between the two of you. This isn't a huge problem. I can virtually feel everyone reading this rolling their eyes at me, and I'm not suggesting we stop instructing, correcting and guiding our children.

But there's something to be said about the quantity and timing of these corrections. Like it or not, they can erode a relationship.

Imagine you are telling a story to a friend and you are right at the good part. I mean, it's really funny, and she stops you with, "Hey, you need a coaster for your glass." Whoosh. All the energy is gone. She may ask you to continue, but the moment has passed. You feel cranky and think, "No, I'm done sharing." Now, if your friend had listened and wordlessly put a coaster under your glass, poof! No problems.

Your 4-year-old cannot hide her displeasure with your interruptions and corrections. When you stop her mid-story she doesn't feel heard, and her way of handling that frustration is to be silly.

What are you supposed to do if any critique leads to shenanigans? Let's take a look at how often you are criticizing her. Take 15 minutes during your time with her and be honest about your praise-to-critique ratio. If you are remarking only on what your daughter needs to change, you are going to get misbehavior. Instead, ratchet up the praise, smiles and eye contact, because that facilitates cooperation, warmth and joy.

While you're at it, decide what you are willing to go to the mat for. It isn't fair to hold a preschooler to too many expectations; it isn't developmentally appropriate. Decide what you will never let slide. For instance, I would not allow my children to jump on my couches, period. Other parents can decide they are not concerned about this, and that's their right. I encourage you to choose your boundaries and critiques, hold them, and let everything else go.

Also, find nonverbal ways to guide her (good preschool teachers are masters at this). You don't need to actually say anything to maneuver feet off of a table, and because you know critiques spark bad behavior, challenge yourself to speak about what needs changing as little as possible. Again, this doesn't mean you let go of your boundaries; it means you catch yourself when you offer too many critiques.

Finally, one of the most important concepts I learned in my training is "connect before you direct." This means connection — a warm, loving relationship — is how and why children want to be good for us. Though some criticisms may need to happen, the younger the child, the more a loving connection is needed. So, when you ask how to help your daughter through her discomfort, I suggest you stop purposely making her uncomfortable. She's simply too little to handle it. Good luck.

Will you get dementia? Many don't grasp risk

BY LINDSEY TANNER
Associated Press

Many older American adults may inaccurately estimate their chances for developing dementia and do useless things to prevent it, new research suggests.

Almost half of adults surveyed believed they were likely to develop dementia. The results suggest many didn't understand the connection between physical health and brain health and how racial differences can affect dementia risk.

Substantial numbers of people who rated their health as fair or poor thought their dementia chances were low. At the same time, many who said they were in excellent health said they were likely to develop the memory robbing disease.

Many said they tried at least one of four unproven memory-protecting methods, including taking supplements like fish oil and ginkgo. The most popular strategy was doing crossword puzzles. Mental stimulation is thought to help, but there's stronger evidence for more challenging activities than puzzles — things like playing chess, taking a class, reading about unfamiliar topics, said Keith Fargo, who oversees research and outreach programs at the Alzheimer's Association. He was not involved in the study.

Research has shown that regular exercise, a good diet, limiting alcohol and not smoking make dementia less likely. Supplements have not been shown to help.

"We really haven't done a good job of getting the word out that there really are things you can do to lower your risk," said Dr. Donovan Maust, the study's lead author and a geriatric psychiatrist at the



MATT ROURKE/AP 2015

Research suggests many American adults inaccurately estimate their chances for developing dementia.

University of Michigan.

The study was published online recently in JAMA Neurology. It's based on a nationally representative health survey of 1,000 adults ages 50 to 64.

The survey asked people to assess their likelihood of developing dementia and whether they had ever discussed ways to prevent it with their doctor. Few people said they had, regardless of their self-rated risk for dementia.

The results raise concerns because doctors can help people manage conditions such as high blood pressure and diabetes that have been linked with dementia risk, Maust said.

Among those who said their physical health was only fair or poor, a substantial 40% thought they were at low risk for Alzheimer's disease or other dementia. Almost the same portion rated their chances as likely even though they reported very good or excellent physical health.

More whites than blacks or Hispanics surveyed believed they were likely to develop dementia and almost two-thirds of blacks

said they were unlikely. Only 93 blacks were surveyed, making it difficult to generalize those results to all U.S. blacks. But U.S. minorities face higher risks for dementia than whites — blacks face double the risk — and the Alzheimer's group has programs in black and Hispanic communities.

"There's lots of work to do ... to educate the public so they can take some actions to protect themselves," Fargo said.

One in three seniors die with Alzheimer's or other dementias, according to the Alzheimer's Association. While there are no medicines or medical treatments proven to prevent it, rigorous European studies have shown that healthy lifestyles may help prevent mental decline. The Alzheimer's Association is sponsoring similar U.S. research.

The new study used data from the University of Michigan National Poll on Healthy Aging. Adults were surveyed online in October 2018. Funding came from AARP, the University of Michigan health system and U.S. government grants.

PEOPLE'S PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

If coffee aggravates your heartburn, here's one fix

BY JOE GRAEDON AND
TERESA GRAEDON
King Features Syndicate

Q: I am a coffee lover. I can attest to the benefits you have written about regarding its ability to help maintain bowel regularity. I also suffer from heartburn. Coffee makes it worse. What can you recommend?

A: You might try a product called Prelief. It contains calcium glycerophosphate. According to the marketing, "Calcium glycerophosphate reduces the acid by up to 95% in your favorite foods and beverages; Works on the food, not on you."

Dentists have been studying this compound as a way of preventing tooth decay. In one study, the investigators found that adding calcium glycerophosphate to soft drinks greatly reduced experimental tooth enamel erosion caused by these acidic beverages (Journal of Applied Oral Science, July-August 2012). Presumably, this suggests that it can also reduce the effects of acid from coffee.

Q: My doctor prescribed gabapentin for diabetic neuropathy, but I am having some trouble with it. What worries me most is that I am unsteady. I'm afraid I will fall. It also gives me terrible diarrhea, so I'm not sure I will be able to continue with it. Are there any nondrug alternatives I could try?

A: Diabetic neuropathy (nerve pain as a consequence of elevated blood sugar damaging the nerves) can be difficult to treat. You might want to ask your doctor about a couple of supplements, however.

Benfotiamine, a synthetic form of the B vita-



CHAIDEER MAHYUDDIN/GETTY

If you love coffee, but it gives you heartburn, try a product called Prelief.

min thiamine, may be helpful. Alpha lipoic acid may also be beneficial (Minerva Medica, October 2017).

Q: I have found that 5,000 micrograms of biotin daily is a miracle drug for my weak, brittle fingernails. My dermatologist recommended this.

Also, because of previous skin cancer, I wear sunscreen whenever I am outside. My family doctor told me to take 2,000 IU of vitamin D3 to get my level up to the normal range. I am a healthy, active man, so I plan to continue with my current supplements.

A: Thank you for sharing your experience with biotin, a B vitamin. The federal Office of Dietary Supplements notes that an adequate daily intake of biotin for adults is 30 mcg. It goes on to state: "Signs of biotin deficiency include skin rashes, hair loss, and brittle nails. Therefore, biotin supplements are often promoted for hair, skin, and nail health. However, these claims are supported, at best, by only a few case reports and small studies."

Even though you are

taking a high dose of biotin, this nutrient appears quite safe. That said, it can interfere with some lab tests. Biotin artificially lowers the results of TSH and 25-hydroxyvitamin D tests. If you ever need to have blood drawn, make sure the lab knows you are taking biotin.

Q: If I'm not mistaken, some over-the-counter antihistamines have anticholinergic activity. Before reading that anticholinergic drugs could be bad for the brain, I've taken these for sleep a few nights in a row. For several weeks afterward, I experienced memory problems and migraines.

The yardman at my condo complex has been taking these drugs for years, and he barely has any mind left. He can't remember much of anything and apparently is not aware of it because he doesn't write things down. I believe a few customers have scolded him about this, but he apparently forgets that, too. I can hardly wait until he retires.

A: Diphenhydramine is a sedating antihistamine that is almost always included in nighttime pain relievers. It is the "PM" in products like Advil PM, Aleve PM or Tylenol PM.

Diphenhydramine has anticholinergic activity. That means it alters the action of a brain chemical called acetylcholine, which is crucial for cognitive function and memory. Geriatricians discourage the use of anticholinergic drugs in older patients because they can contribute to impairment.

In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Send questions to them via www.peoplespharmacy.com.

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The startlingly high cost of the 'free' flu shot

Variation is from deals by providers and health plans

BY PHIL GALEWITZ
Kaiser Health

In the Byzantine world of health care pricing, most people wouldn't expect that the ubiquitous flu shot could be a prime example of how the system's lack of transparency can lead to disparate costs.

The Affordable Care Act requires health insurers to cover all federally recommended vaccines at no charge to patients, including flu immunizations. Although people with insurance pay nothing when they get their shot, many don't realize that their insurers foot the bill — and that those companies will recoup their costs eventually.

In just one small sample from one insurer, Kaiser Health News found dramatic differences among the costs for its own employees. At a Sacramento, California, facility, the insurer paid \$85, but just a little more than half that at a clinic in Long Beach. A drugstore in Washington, D.C., was paid \$32.

The wide discrepancy in what insurers pay for the same flu shot illustrates what's wrong with America's health system, said Glenn Melnick, a health economist at the University of Southern California.

"There is always going to be some variance in prices, but \$85 as a negotiated price sounds ridiculous," he said.

Flu shots are relatively cheap compared with most health services, but considering the tens of millions of Americans who get vaccinated each year, those prices add up.

Health plans pass those expenses to consumers through higher premiums, economists say.

"The patient is immune from the cost, but they are the losers because eventu-



JOHN GIBBINS/SAN DIEGO UNION-TRIBUNE

The flu shot is a prime example of how the health care system's lack of transparency can lead to disparate costs.

ally they pay a higher premium," said Ge Bai, an accounting and health policy professor at Johns Hopkins University's campus in Washington, D.C.

Bai said the variation in payments for flu shots has nothing to do with the cost of the drug but is a result of negotiations between health plans and providers.

Typically, health insurers' reimbursements to private health providers are closely guarded secrets. The insurers argue secrecy is needed for competitive business reasons.

But there's one place those dollar figures appear for anyone to see: the "explanation of benefit" forms that insurers send to members after paying a claim.

Kaiser Health News reviewed forms that one of its insurers, Cigna, paid for some colleagues to get flu shots this fall in Washington, D.C., and California. Cigna paid \$32 to CVS

for a flu shot in downtown Washington and \$40 to CVS less than 10 miles away in Rockville, Maryland.

In Southern California, Cigna paid \$47.53 for a flu shot from a primary care doctor with MemorialCare in Long Beach. But it paid \$85 for a shot given at a Sacramento doctors' office affiliated with Sutter Health, one of the biggest hospital chains in the state.

Health experts were not surprised insurers paid Sutter more, though they were stunned just how much more.

"Sutter has huge clout in California, and insurers have no other option than to pay Sutter the price," Bai said.

The \$85 was not just far more than what Cigna paid elsewhere but also more than triple the price Sutter advertises on its website for people without insurance: \$25.

How does Sutter justify its higher prices as well as different prices for the same shot at the same location?

Sutter officials had no simple explanation. "Pricing can vary based on a number of factors, including the care setting, a patient's insurance coverage and agreements with insurance providers," Sutter said in a statement.

Cigna also said many issues are considered when determining its varied payments.

"What a plan reimburses a pharmacy/clinic/medical center for a flu vaccine depends on the plan's contracted rate with that entity, which can be affected by a number of factors including location, number of available pharmacies/facilities in that area (a.k.a. competition), and even the size of the plan (a.k.a. potential customers)," Cigna said in a

statement. "It is important to keep in mind that hospitals and pharmacies have different economics, including the cost to administer."

It's also noteworthy that Medicaid, the state-federal health insurance program covering more than 72 million low-income Americans, pays providers far less for a flu shot. In Washington, D.C., Medicaid pays \$15. In Connecticut, \$19.

Nationally, self-insured employers and insurers paid between \$28 and \$80 for the same type of flu shot administered in doctors' offices in 2017, according to an analysis of more than 19 million claims of people under 65 years old by the Kaiser Family Foundation in partnership with the Peterson Center on Healthcare. (Kaiser Health News is an editorially independent program of the foundation.)

"Your health plan could

end up paying more than double the cost for the same flu shot depending on where you get it," said Cynthia Cox, a vice president at the foundation.

"We see the same pattern for more expensive services like MRIs or knee replacements," she said. "That variation in prices is part of what's driving insurance premiums higher in some parts of the country."

The wide discrepancy in costs for the same service highlights a major problem in the U.S. health care system.

"We don't have a functioning health care market because of all this lack of transparency and opportunities for price discrimination," Melnick said.

"Prices are inconsistent and confusing for consumers," he said. "The system is not working to provide efficient care, and the flu shot is one example of how these problems persist."

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What to bake this weekend: Peppermint mocha brownies and cherry bars Page 6

Chicago Tribune
FOOD & DINING

Best cookbooks of 2019

From 'Indian-ish' to 'Joy of Cooking' to 'Ruffage,' these titles inspire us the most



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE; SHANNON KINSELLA/STYLING

BY TRIBUNE FOOD & DINING STAFF

In a publishing year crowded with gear books (Instant Pot, Air Fryers, sous vide) and diet books (Keto, plant-based), it's got to be hard for authors to stand out. As we searched through the hundreds of books that came in this year, these 11 did. From immigrant cooking to in-depth vegetable how-tos to black culinary history, these books are our picks for 2019's best — books we're just as likely to want for ourselves as much as buy for holiday gifts.

"Indian-ish: Recipes and Antics from a Modern American Family"

By Priya Krishna
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, \$28

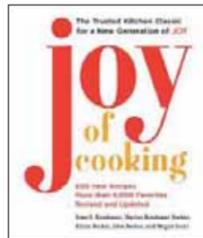
Like many children of immigrants, myself included, Priya Krishna grew up on dishes that held the essence of her parents' home country but were adapted to fit what was available to them. "Indian-ish" is a love letter to Krishna's mother, Ritu, who made pizzas out of roti, saag paneer with feta and Indian taquitos from leftover sabzi to appease her two American-born daughters. Enjoy a spirited exploration of Krishna's wholly authentic Indian-ish experience through the lens of her mother's recipes, from quick weeknight meals to grand dinner parties, that will have you agreeing that Indian food is everyday food, indeed. — Grace Wong



"Joy of Cooking: 2019 Edition Revised and Updated"

By Irma S. Rombauer, Marion Rombauer Becker, Ethan Becker, John Becker, Megan Scott
Scribner, \$40

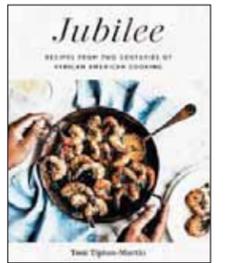
"Joy of Cooking" has been around since 1931, when Irma S. Rombauer self-published it following her husband's death. In the intervening years, three subsequent generations of the Rombauer-Becker family have left their mark on the beloved cookbook. This latest installment — a line-by-line review and revision by Rombauer's great-grandson John Becker and his wife, Megan Scott — strikes just the right balance. It's modernized but not lacking in tradition. It's comprehensive yet approachable for even first-time home cooks. With the advent of the internet, it's rare to see a completist cookbook these days; keeping "Joy of Cooking" relevant today is an admirable feat. With 600 new recipes and a thoughtful edit of the existing text, it's an excellent choice for a new generation of cooks, not to mention "Joy" fans who already have an older edition on their shelves. — Jennifer Day



"Jubilee: Recipes from Two Centuries of African American Cooking"

By Toni Tipton-Martin
Clarkson Potter, \$35

There are cookbooks that tersely mention history tidbits as sidebars to informing recipes or certain cooking techniques. Then there are cookbooks like Toni Tipton-Martin's "Jubilee," where history is made present and kept alive. Whether it's handheld curried beef pies for a snack, sweet tea cakes to accompany a cup of tea or coffee, or spiral sliced ham made luxurious with a Champagne glaze, there's one lasting thing made tangible in each flip through the pages filled with stirring photography. That is: None of us can afford to discount the role African Americans have always had, from the very beginning, in shaping food in regions across the country. — Nneka M. Okona



Turn to **Cookbooks**, Page 2

REVIEW Mako ★★★★★

B.K. Park raises the bar on sushi in Chicago

BY PHIL VETTEL

Back in February, I did a roundup of Chicago's omakase restaurants, and I declared Kyoten, Otto Phan's superb Logan Square restaurant, as "the best sushi experience in Chicago."

At the time, B.K. Park's Mako still maintained "long-anticipated" status, its opening date still uncertain. But Mako finally made its debut, I finally made my visits, and, with all continued admiration for Kyoten and chef Phan, I've revised my opinion.

That was then. This is wow. B.K. Park has been virtually synonymous with sushi excellence since 1999, when he was working at Mirai. After nearly seven years as head chef there, Park opened the acclaimed Arami and Juno restaurants. (He still has ownership of Juno.) He calls Mako his dream restaurant, and it's easy to see why. The dining room seats 22, which is a generous size among omakase specialists. The prized seats are the 12 spaces at the

Turn to **Mako**, Page 2



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The sashimi, from left, includes kinmedai, shima-aji, mana-katsuo and chutoro at Mako.

SHOWSTOPPING NEWS

From one of the most influential theater critics in America.

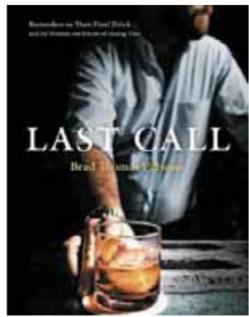
Chicago's own Chris Jones, covering theater news and reviews from Chicago to Broadway:

chicagotribune.com/theaterloop

Chicago Tribune
the Theater Loop
WITH CHRIS JONES

Cookbooks

Continued from Page 1



“Last Call: Bartenders on Their Final Drink and the Wisdom and Rituals of Closing Time”

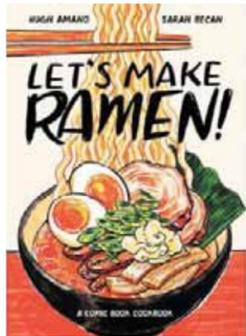
By Brad Thomas Parsons
Ten Speed Press, \$35

James Beard Award-winning spirits author Brad Thomas Parsons experienced an existential crisis after a revelrous night at a favorite local bar. Who among us hasn't? But Parsons and photographer Ed Anderson visited more than 80 bars and bartenders across the country, posing the question: “What is the last thing you'd want to drink before you die?” Illuminating answers and shadowed portraits reveal far more than final drinks. Recipes include three for Negroni, one from Lost Lake's Shelby Allison, co-owner of the lovely Tiki bar in the Logan Square neighborhood of Chicago. Now the challenge is on to raise as many glasses from the book before our final last call. — *Louisa Chu*

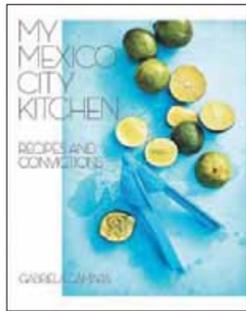
“Let's Make Ramen! A Comic Book Cookbook”

By Hugh Amano and Sarah Becan
Ten Speed Press, \$19.99

You'll find lots of recipes in this comic book cookbook by Hugh Amano and illustrator Sarah Becan, but the format really comes in handy when explaining the vast and often confusing world of ramen. Don't



know your shio from shoyu? The cookbook breaks down the differences with easy-to-follow illustrations. Wondering why tonkotsu ramen often leaves you in a “pork fat-induced stupor”? The book has a cartoon version of Ivan Orkin, the celebrated ramen restaurateur, tell you why. Even if you never make your own ramen, you'll better understand what goes into a great bowl. — *Nick Kindelsperger*

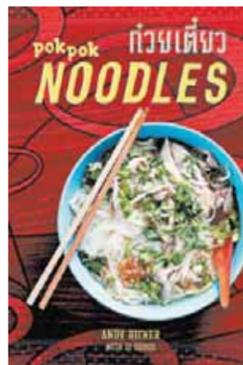


“My Mexico City Kitchen”

By Gabriela Cámara
Lorena Jones Books, \$35

Gabriela Cámara is the chef at Contramar, an acclaimed seafood-focused restaurant in Mexico City, so it's no surprise that here you'll find the recipe for that restaurant's iconic tuna tostada. But the bulk of the book focuses on the kind of approachable home cooking that you could do any day of the week. Inside you'll find humble yet satisfying dishes from soft-boiled egg tacos to a classic tinga de pollo. Don't miss

the salsa section. I think I've made the dead simple salsa verde cruda at least five times in the past couple of months. — *N.K.*



“Pok Pok Noodles: Recipes from Thailand and Beyond”

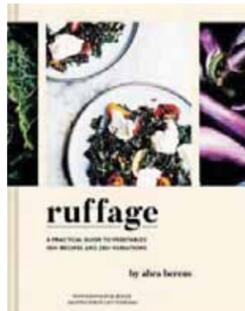
By Andy Ricker with JJ Goode
Ten Speed Press, \$35

As the name suggests, chef Andy Ricker (owner of Pok Pok Restaurants in Portland, Oregon) focuses just on Thai noodle dishes here, with the bulk going to noodle soups. And the recipes work. One sip of the kyattaiw muu naam sai (noodle soup with pork) and it felt like I was back in Thailand, slurping loudly and sweating profusely from adding too much phrik naam som (vinegar-soaked chiles) in the bowl. While nearly every recipe features subrecipes, most of these are relatively simple to prep. Plus, most will happily hang out in your fridge for a few days, so you can re-create the same noodle soup the next day in just a few minutes. — *N.K.*

“Ruffage: A Practical Guide to Vegetables”

By Abra Berens
Chronicle Books, \$35

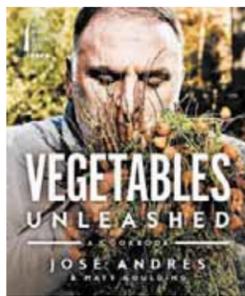
Not until well past the halfway point in her book does Abra Berens mention the word that makes up the title. “You gotta get your ruffage,” she writes, remembering an admonishment from some unnamed person, a parent probably.



She wields the phrase to dismiss boring salads, then launches into her love of salads and principles for creating great ones. Eating her vegetables is no chore to the former farmer and now chef, at Granor Farm in southwestern Michigan.

Instead, “Ruffage” is a fat, 450-page celebration of vegetables, an instructional tome with 100-plus recipes and myriad flavor variations. It's broken up into a well-considered pantry section, then the recipes, organized by vegetable, 29 of them, from asparagus to turnips and rutabaga. Essays open each chapter, then buying, storing and prep notes, before the recipes. Berens' writing style is inviting and true and real; you feel warmly welcomed in these pages.

It's a remarkable book, really, for an untried name in the publishing industry, and it's a triumph. — *Joe Gray*



“Vegetables Unleashed: A Cookbook”

By José Andrés and Matt Goulding
Anthony Bourdain/Ecco, \$39.99

José Andrés, the Spanish-American chef and Nobel Peace Prize nominee, has had a busy decade, but he's had help. At the height of his modernist tapas success, Andrés and wife Patricia founded World Central Kitchen, serving a hot plate of food when it's needed most to millions worldwide. This year he and co-author Matt Goulding may help save the world. If you've ever wondered what else to do with kale, cauliflower or squash, you'll find daily inspiration in stunning photographs with every alluring recipe, and stories of friends they call “Food Fighters.” Start with Andrés' ode to Spanish tortillas, the potato omelettes that feed his soul. — *L.C.*

village in Guanajuato, Mexico, and brings a profound dignity to what she calls “poverty food.” You'll be inspired and moved by this celebration of diverse immigrant cultures and stories — complete with stunning portraits of the chefs — and the food that allows you to experience a piece of them. — *G.W.*



“When Pies Fly: Handmade Pastries from Strudels to Stromboli, Empanadas to Knishes”

By Cathy Barrow
Grand Central, \$30

The curious title almost made us dismiss “When Pies Fly” when it landed this fall. How silly, we thought. How wrong we were. Barrow, a seasoned and accomplished cookbook author (“Pie Squared” and “Mrs. Wheelbarrow's Practical Pantry”), delivers again with a celebration of pastry-encased sweet and savory delights.

That title? It means the pies need no pan. So we get galettes, hand pies, poppers (her cute name for two-bite pies), empanadas, knishes, strudel and more, plus an innovation borrowed from her mother: framed pies, in which a slab of pastry is built up at the edges with decorative cutouts and fillings piled in. As unifying gambits go, panless pie feels freeing. And her recipes, while quite exacting at times, pay off on the promise. The cheeseburger hand pies had flaky pastry like I'd never had before. — *J.G.*

Nneka M. Okona is a freelance writer.

Mako

Continued from Page 1

graphite-and-walnut sushi bar, with their up-close views of Park's ministrations, and five two-seat tables a few feet away. Given Park's verbal reticence (he's all work, no talk at the bar, focused so fixedly on his food that he rarely looks up), and his habit of delivering many courses personally, table seats are just as enjoyable as the front-and-center spots.

The room is predictably minimalist, but in contemporary fashion. Walls are done in soft grays and graphite, decorated sparingly with three-dimensional, abstract artworks. Bronzed pieces resembling paint splatters decorate the wall behind the bar; a linen mural occupies the opposite wall, above the blue banquettes. Indirect lighting includes some curvy contemporary chandeliers that must have cost a fortune. The room is gloriously quiet, save for murmured conversations (clearing one's throat seems like an intrusion) and occasional exaggerated sigh of Park's blowtorch as it adds a finishing touch to a piece of fish.

Mako offers a single omakase (chef's choice) menu; the printed menu lists about 16 courses, but among these are three nigiri selections that comprise two or more pieces each, so that by meal's end you'll have experienced 20 bites, perhaps more; Parks' creations flow so seamlessly, it's easy to lose count. (That is what smartphone cameras are for.)

A quartet of tastes makes a powerful opening statement: Above a rippled plate sit a roulade of akami, the super-lean tuna bolstered by osetra caviar and crowned with a smidgen of gold leaf; an adjacent spoon holds salmon roe and cubes of Japanese yam, dusted with seaweed powder; and a nugget of king crab is dabbed with butter (mixed with wagyu fat) and topped with a tiny potato chip. Remove the plate to reveal pristine slices of smoked bonito



Chef B.K. Park prepares eel in the open kitchen at Mako.

BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS



The kusshi oyster at Mako.

and a wisp of trapped smoke.

Next comes a sashimi composition. In a tilted ceramic bowl holding flow-ers, river rocks and an oyster shell holding a dab of wasabi, sits a hollowed piece of bamboo bearing slices of kinmedai, shima-aji, mana-katsuo (star butterfish) and chutoro — an edible (well, partly) diorama that's beautiful to contemplate.

Park then shuffles the deck, alternating between nigiri selections and composed plates; among the latter are kusshi oyster with tomato and smoked trout roe, torched arctic char with burnt scallion ponzu and, one of the evening's highlights, perfectly grilled squab bearing a smoked-soy glaze. (With its crispy skin and edge-to-edge medium-rare meat, this dish would be a standout

anywhere.)

A couple of hand rolls, one featuring silky-smooth sea urchin and another filled with fatty otoro tuna, provide a crescendo of richness before sweets arrive — a palate cleanser of apple granita and green-tea foam, followed by a warm disc of sweet potato enveloped in whiskey caramel, topped with flecks of salt and presented alongside a tiny cloud of creme di-

plomat dotted with puffed genmai (brown rice).

I mentioned that Park hand-delivers many of his dishes; for the others, there's a cadre of highly polished servers, silent except for their sotto voce descriptions of each item. In the same way, the beverage pairings, which include Champagne, sake, wine and even a sip of sherry at meal's end, are explained thoroughly. (The beverage

Mako

731 W. Lake St.
312-988-0687
makochicago.com

Tribune rating: ★★★★★

Open: Dinner
Tuesday-Sunday

Pricing: Omakase menu \$175 (\$100 deposit required), beverage pairings \$85

Noise: Hushed

Ratings key: ★★★★★ outstanding; ★★★ excellent; ★★ very good; ★ good; no stars: unsatisfactory. Meals are paid for by the Tribune.

pairing is optional; I advise you not to skip it.)

I don't remember being this blown away, from opening course to finale, by a meal in quite some time. I can't call Mako a perfect dining experience, but it's awfully close.

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This man changed US wine industry

By Dave McIntyre
Chicago Tribune

It all started with a phone call, in 1994 or thereabouts. Warren Winiarski, founder of Stag's Leap Wine Cellars in Napa Valley, California, dialed up the main switchboard of the Smithsonian Institution, in the era before websites and email, and asked the non-plussed operator what the nation's museum was planning to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the 1976 Judgment of Paris wine tasting, where California wines beat the best of France.

Nothing, as it turned out. Winiarski's inquiry was bounced around from office to office until it landed with the archivist of the National Museum of American History. A quick check of the collections turned up a few desultory wine labels and an empty barrel, but little else. When museum officials researched the Judgment of Paris, they realized its significance to the history of American wine. And they sensed an opportunity.

Winiarski's phone call prompted the Smithsonian to host a symposium in 1996 called "Red, White and American," including a restaging of the famous Paris tasting. (American wines won again.) As part of the event, Winiarski donated a bottle of his 1973 Stag's Leap Wine Cellars SLV Cabernet Sauvignon, the top-scoring red wine in the Paris tasting, to the museum's collection.

Chateau Montelena also donated a bottle of its 1973 chardonnay, which scored highest among white wines. The bottles were later designated as national treasures.

More recently, the Smithsonian awarded Winiarski, whose name means "from wine" or



WINIARSKI FAMILY

Winiarski during the initial planting of Stag's Leap Vineyard in the Napa Valley in the late 1960s.

"from the winemaker" in Polish, its James Smithson Bicentennial Medal in a ceremony Nov. 21 at Stag's Leap Wine Cellars, in a room overlooking the vineyard that produced the winning wine. He is the first winemaker to receive the medal, which honors people for contributions to American art and culture. Previous recipients have been prominent in cinema, music and literature.

The seed Winiarski planted in the minds of the Smithsonian curators almost 25 years ago grew into the American Food History Project at the National Museum of American History. That's the project that gave us Julia Child's kitchen and created the exhibit "Food: Transforming the American Table 1950-2000," which opened in 2012 and reopened in October with fresh displays, including some on beer.

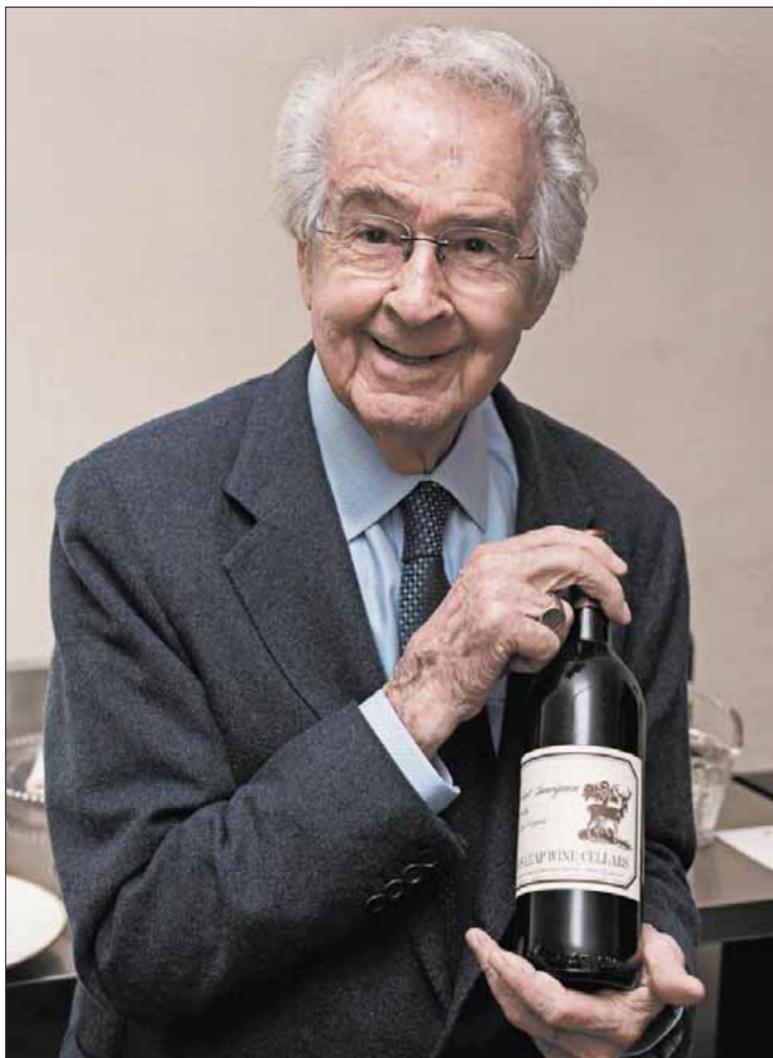
"Research is like a healthy grape vine," said Paula Johnson, the project's director since 1997. "Shoots and tendrils grow, berries form and mature, and for our team, every interviewee named yet another person, a place and a story that we wanted to pursue."

The project has spon-

sored annual winemaker dinners, highlighting issues of labor rights, Mexican American winemakers, and the rise of wine and food in American culture. It collaborates with the Julia Child Foundation for Gastronomy and the Culinary Arts on an annual Food History Gala, and has recently installed a demonstration kitchen in the museum "for programs that combine history, cooking and conversation," Johnson said.

"The history of California wine is a wonderful lens to explore shifting demographics and economies, landscape and land use, entrepreneurship and labor," Anthea Hartig, director of the National Museum of American History, said in her remarks at the award ceremony.

Winiarski, now 91, discovered his love of wine in the 1950s while researching the political writings of Niccolo Machiavelli in Italy. He abandoned an academic career and moved his family to California in 1964, where he took a job at Souverain winery. Two years later, he became the first winemaker at the Robert Mondavi Winery. As a consultant, he helped estab-



SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

Warren Winiarski holding a bottle of his 1973 Stag's Leap Wine Cellars Cabernet Sauvignon, which took first place at the Judgment of Paris tasting in 1976.

lish Colorado's wine industry, purchasing grapes in California to be sent to Colorado for processing.

In 1970, Winiarski and some investors purchased an old prune orchard off the Silverado Trail, a few miles north of Napa in what is now known as the Stags Leap District American Viticultural Area. When the 1973, his second vintage, made history in Paris, he famously quipped, "Never underestimate what you can accomplish with a prune orchard."

Winiarski sold the winery in 2007 to a partnership of Ste. Michelle Wine Es-

tates and Italian vintner Piero Antinori for \$185 million. He still owns Arcadia Vineyards, in the Coombsville area of Napa Valley, and sells the grapes to Stag's Leap Wine Cellars. Through the Winiarski Family Foundation, he supports various Napa land preservation campaigns, the University of California at Davis wine library, St. John's College in Annapolis, Maryland, (his alma mater), and the National Museum of American History.

During his remarks after receiving the Smithsonian Medal, Winiarski noted

that in 1996, when he helped launch the Food History Project, wine was a sensitive subject.

"We had to be careful about the way we talked about it in a public institution," he said. "There were people who continued to associate wine with Prohibition — it was booze!" The Smithsonian, he said, helped move wine beyond its image as a mere alcoholic beverage by documenting its role in American culture, life and politics. "They elevated it!"

Dave McIntyre is a freelance writer.

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Unwrap your taste buds

The best tamales in Chicago, from Mexican to Peruvian to Delta options

BY NICK KINDELSPERGER

While I've never encountered an inopportune time to feast on tamales — what's not to love about steamy, fragrant bundles of corn and fillings? — the dish does have a strong connection to the holiday season. Perhaps untying neatly wrapped corn husks reminds one of presents, or maybe it just helps to have a crowd to help construct the labor-intensive dish. Regardless, tamales deserve a celebration.

Although you could make your own, Chicago is stuffed with more places to buy tamales than you probably ever imagined.

When I started looking for Chicago's best tamales, I figured I'd spend most of my time at local Mexican restaurants, before briefly mentioning Delta-style tamales and Chicago's strange mass-produced style. That was it, right? How wrong I was. In "The South American Table," Maria Baez Kijac writes, "If I had to choose one food that epitomizes the creole cuisine of South America it would be the tamale." In other words, I had missed a whole continent.

Further research showed that tamales also show up in Caribbean countries. In fact, in "Gran Cocina Latina," Maricel E. Presilla writes that the "first record of tamales comes from the Spaniards who encountered them in Cuba on Columbus's first voyage in 1492."

According to Kijac, "the word tamale comes from tamalli in Nahuatl, the language of the Aztecs." The Spanish spread the use of that name during their conquest and general pillaging, so the term is common now. But it wasn't always that way. Kijac notes that the Incas called the food "choclotanda" in their native language of Quechua. Even today, many Latin American countries call tamales by different names.

While the dish's history stretches far back, the Spanish left an indelible mark on the dish. "Lard brought by the conquistadors was added to soften and enrich tamales and new fillings like pork, cheese and sausages were added," writes Kijac. A quick note about the singular form of the word "tamales." I got called out on Twitter for referring to a "tamale" instead of a "tamal," the Spanish singular form of the word. It isn't the first mistake I've ever made, and I've tried to use "tamal" whenever the restaurant uses that term. But "tamale" is also in English dictionaries, and it's commonly used in Chicago. Hundreds of hot dog stands around town have "tamale" on the menu. In every case here, I try to use the term the restaurant uses.

I know this list is far from complete, but here are some of the best tamales you can find in Chicago.

Mexican tamales

These are by far the most ubiquitous kind of tamales you can find in Chicago, though even here there is an incredible amount of diversity. What they share is that all are made with masa, from corn that has been nixtamalized (soaked in lime to release nutritional properties) and ground. This is then mixed with a kind of fat, usually a filling, and then steamed in either corn husks or banana leaves.

At Xocome Antojeria (5200 S. Archer Ave.), owner Bertha Garcia serves up flawless versions of tamales wrapped in corn husks. Both the pollo en salsa verde and puerco en salsa roja tamales (\$1.50 each) are impressively light and airy, with just enough meat inside to get some with each forkful. Garcia says she uses lard, but only a little bit. "Some places use too much," says Garcia, "but I don't." Instead, she makes sure to add a lot of chicken stock, which infuses each bite with a dark roasted



NICK KINDELSPERGER/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Green chicken tamal topped with smoky roasted tomatillo and poblano salsa (\$9.75) at 5 Rabanitos, 1758 W. 18th St.



Tamales (\$1.50 each) from Xocome Antojeria, 5200 S. Archer Ave., are impressively light and airy.



The fork-tender tamal Peruano with olives and shredded chicken (\$4.95) at D'Candela, 3449 W. Irving Park Road.

chicken flavor.

You'll also find lard in the skinny tamales (\$1.25 each) at La Casa Del Pueblo (1834 S. Blue Island Ave.). But don't let the size fool you. These tamales pack a powerfully meaty and fatty punch. That's especially true of the pollo en salsa verde tamales, where tender shredded chicken and spicy green salsa are wrapped up in masa.

But lard isn't essential for great tamales. At Tamale Hut Cafe (8300 Cermak Road) in North Riverside, the handsomely wrapped tamales are made with vegetable oil, yet they are astonishingly soft, allowing you to more easily appreciate the fillings. And few places get as creative as Tamale Hut. Here you can find classics like pork in red salsa next to ones stuffed with plump crab and sautéed spinach (\$2.25 each).

As much as I love tamales wrapped in corn husks, my heart belongs to banana leaf-wrapped tamales, which are usually labeled as tamales Oaxaquenos on restaurant menus. These tend to be bigger, more luscious and intensely fragrant. I reflexively swoon whenever I'm near one. That explains how I nearly collapsed on the floor when I got the puerco en mole verde tamal (\$5) at Kie-Gol-Lanee (5004 N. Sheridan Road), where the floral fragrance of the banana leaf mixes with the sweetness from the corn and the spicy notes from the mole.

Tamales Lo Mejor de Guerrero (7024 N. Clark St.) serves excellent corn-wrapped tamales, but I can't imagine visiting without ordering the enormous chicken en mole Oaxacano tamal (\$3). The masa is so tender, your fork barely meets any resistance when you dig in.

You'll also find lots of mole options at Yvolina's Tamales (814 W. 18th St.).

At this Pilsen shop you can ask for any tamal to get covered in mole (\$6 for each tamal, \$7.50 to get it covered in mole). But Yvolina's is also well known for its vegan options. The shop uses olive oil instead of lard, and often has a shocking number of vegetable fillings, including kale with mole, eggplant and spinach with mushrooms. Just check the chalkboard for what's currently available.

The prettiest tamal I encountered on my hunt was at 5 Rabanitos (1758 W. 18th St.), where you can get a gorgeous green chicken tamal (\$9.75) topped with a smoky roasted tomatillo and poblano salsa, cooling cilantro crema and salty queso fresco.

I'm also drawn to banana leaf-wrapped tamales stuffed with fresh corn. At Rick Bayless' Frontera Grill (445 N. Clark St.) the steamy fresh corn tamales (\$7) taste like a great big hug from sweet summer corn. Each one is topped with some tangy crema, salty crumbled cheese and strips of charred poblano for a little heat.

Leave it to Dos Urban Cantina (2829 W. Armitage Ave.) to take the most liberties while never losing the plot. The tamal tots (\$5) sound downright irreverent, but these extra crunchy squares are exactly the kind of snack food I crave. Plus, they are served with a creamy habanero crema, which keeps the heat to a moderate level, while bringing to the forefront the captivating fruitiness of the habanero chile.

Even better is the sweet corn tamal (\$8), a precisely cut rectangle of fluffy masa topped with a molten layer of funky Parmesan cheese that's served with charred tomato salsa.

I could spend a year eating and still never try all the Mexican tamales in Chicago. Here are just a



At Tamale Hut Cafe in North Riverside, the tamales are made with vegetable oil, yielding a soft texture (\$2.25 each).



The Venezuelan Christmas dish (\$19.95) features a large hallaca at Bienmesabe, 1637 W. Montrose Ave.

few more top-notch places to check out: Gordo's Tamales (2811 W. 55th St.), Tamales Y Mas Tamales (5836 W. Cermak Road, Cicero), Chilo Y Chela Restaurant (4213 W. North Ave.), Taqueria El Milagro (1923 S. Blue Island Ave.), Manolo's (2455 S. Kedzie Ave.).

Overwhelmed by all these options? We're only getting started.

Delta tamales

According to the Southern Foodways Alliance, "tamales from the Mississippi Delta are smaller than Latin-style tamales, are simmered instead of steamed, have a gritty texture from the use of cornmeal instead of corn flour, have considerably more spice, and are usually served with juice that is the byproduct of simmering." You can sample these tamales in style at The Delta (1745 W. North Ave.). An order of red hot (\$7) will get you three tamales stuffed with beef brisket and drenched in a fierce tomato sauce. They are genuinely messy and are best eaten smeared on crunchy saltines.

Chicago tamales

Outsiders might be shocked to learn that most self-respecting Chicago hot dog stands sell tamales. Just don't expect a traditional Mexican version of the dish. Instead, these fascinating creations are mass produced by one of two local companies, Supreme Tamale or Tom Tom Tamale. Both feature a heavily spiced meat paste coated in a cylinder of cornmeal. Instead of corn husks or banana leaves, they arrive packaged in plastic or paper.

Because of the cornmeal, these tamales seem to be directly related to Delta tamales. But in an interview with Fooditor, Peter Engler,

a South Side food enthusiast and former University of Chicago genetic research scientist, said the connection might not be that clear. "There are definitely similarities, but I don't buy the whole story that a Tom Tom is just a sort of adaptation of the Delta style," says Engler. "(Tamales) were sold by a Mexican street vendor before the Columbian Exposition (the 1893 world's fair held in Chicago)."

Regardless of their origin, you can purchase Chicago tamales at hundreds of hot dog stands around the city. In the western suburb of River Grove, Gene & Jude's (2720 N. River Road) sells Supreme Tamales (\$2.19), which I find to be aggressively seasoned, if not exactly spicy.

On the South Side, Fat Johnnie's (7242 S. Western Ave.) sells Tom Tom Tamales (\$1.25). These are much milder, though they do have a more prominent corn flavor. Of course, Fat Johnnie's is best known for serving a mother-in-law, in which a tamale is placed in a hot dog bun and covered in chili. The dish basically turns to mush after a minute, but if you've never tried one, it might be worth eating exactly once.

Tex-Mex tamales

Cantina Laredo (508 N. State St.) is a chain, which I usually try to avoid. But I decided to visit because it started in Texas and it has an ambitious new chef in Daniel Espinoza. He revamped much of the menu in the past year, but the recipe for the tamales (\$9) is still mostly the same one used at the chain since 1989. According to Espinoza, the tamales are "100% Tex-Mex" because they feature a finely chopped beef filling packed with spices like paprika, roasted garlic

powder and ground red pepper. Although the recipe is old, Espinoza claims everything surrounding the tamales is new, including an enticing creamy tomatillo salsa spooned on top.

Guatemalan tamales

The only difficult part of ordering at Antojitos Guatemaltecos (5823 W. Fullerton Ave.) is deciding what kind of tamal you want to try. The banana leaf-wrapped tamal Colorado (\$3.77) includes a hearty portion of shredded pork in fragrant corn masa, while the tamalito de chipilin (\$1.61) features a skinny tamal bulked out with chipilin leaves. (The leaves from this widely available plant in Guatemala have a soft and mild flavor close to spinach.) But I was most impressed with the chuchito de pollo (\$1.61), a petite tamal packed with chicken and topped with a tart tomato sauce.

You can also find chuchitos (\$4.50 for two) at Bryanna's Restaurant (5695 N. Lincoln Ave.). These adorable tamales are amply stuffed with pork and neatly topped with tomato sauce and cheese.

Venezuelan tamales

You won't find any tamales on the menu at Bienmesabe (1637 W. Montrose Ave.), the Venezuelan restaurant best known for its arepas. But look at the fine print for the Venezuelan Christmas dish (\$19.95) and you will find hallaca. It is large, orange and unbelievably soft. It also comes stuffed with briny olives, and three kinds of meat (beef, chicken and pork). This traditional holiday dish also comes with a huge portion of roast pork, ham bread and chicken salad.

Peruvian tamales

The tamal Peruano (\$4.95) at D'Candela (3449 W. Irving Park Road) is so tender, your fork will glide through the corn without resistance. It's also dynamically flavored with olives and shredded chicken. If that weren't enough, it comes with salsa criolla, a searingly spicy and acidic onion mixture, which helps cut through the creaminess of the tamal.

Cuban tamales

At 1492 Cuban Fusion Cafe (2615 W. North Ave.), the corn tamal Cubano (\$3.99) is made with fresh corn and bits of salty ham. This results in a supple texture with an extremely mild flavor. Fortunately, it comes with a cup of chimichurri sauce, which the staff assured me is very untraditional, considering the sauce is Argentine. But the restaurant does have fusion in its name, and the fresh herbs and biting garlic in the sauce pair well with the tamal.

If you had any doubts that you were eating a Cuban tamal at Senor Pan (4612 W. Fullerton Ave.), the kitchen sticks a tiny Cuban flag on its massive tamal (\$3.50) to drive the point home. It's stuffed generously with loads of some of the most tender and delectable roasted pork around.

Puerto Rican tamales

At Puerto Rican restaurants, you'll often find pasteles, which are made with mashed plantains and stained orange with annatto (a musky mixture made from ground achiote seeds). The pastel (\$2) at La Bomba (3221 W. Armitage Ave.) is wonderfully tender and stuffed with a lot of chicken meat. It's also surprisingly spicy and, thanks to some olives, briny.

I know this is just the beginning. If you have further suggestions, please let me know.

nkindelsperger@chicago.tribune.com



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Patrons drink beer at the Half Acre taproom at the Balmoral Avenue production brewery in Chicago.

Big Star, Half Acre join forces on new taproom kitchen

BY JOSH NOEL

Half Acre Beer Co. and taco joint Big Star were collaborating on a beer this summer when Half Acre's Gabriel Magliaro pulled aside one of Big Star's founders to ask him to coffee.

They met up a few days later at a Wicker Park coffee shop and Magliaro pitched a far deeper sort of collaboration between the two modern icons of Chicago hospitality: What if Big Star took over the kitchen at Half Acre's Balmoral Avenue taproom?

Within minutes, Terry Alexander, a restaurant industry veteran and partner in Big Star's parent company, One Off Hospitality, said he was on board.

"With how crazy things have become in restaurants — and competition being so strong — the risk was small, but the reward of working with Gabriel and his team was immense," Alexander said.

Big Star at Balmoral, which is expected to launch by early March, is a low-stakes move with plenty of potential upside for two Chicago trailblazers looking to evolve and stay on the leading edge of their respective genres.

For Big Star, the partnership facilitates growth to a new neighborhood with a built-in audience.

"The clientele is already sitting there," Alexander said. "We don't have to attract anyone else."

For Half Acre, the partnership offers fresh perspective and a powerful brand in an evermore crowded craft beer landscape. Though Half Acre is reliably among the city's most popular breweries, the metro area has grown from about 20 competitors when Half Acre opened to nearly 200. Fresh approaches are vital, Magliaro said, and after the departure of his chef earlier this year, the brewery's food service was at a crossroads.

"We could have doubled down and continued to be the engine for the food ourselves, or we jump on the opportunity to think differently, and I thought we should think differently," Magliaro said. "That's where my head goes in beer now: thinking differently and trying new things."

Half Acre launched the taproom at its Balmoral production brewery in 2017 with an ambitious menu helmed by Nick Lacasse, former executive chef at The Drawing Room and MFK. In its earliest days, the kitchen also included a bakery producing fresh loaves of bread to go.

The bakery never took off, however, and was soon converted to a retail shop. The food program, by Magliaro's admission, became a bit confused between various menus. Then Lacasse took a job this summer as executive chef with Aba, a restaurant in the Lettuce Entertain You chain.



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Half Acre co-founder Gabriel Magliaro, from left, executive chef for One Off Hospitality Paul Kahan and Big Star co-founder Terry Alexander at Half Acre's taproom.



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Lights above the beer garden at the Half Acre taproom.



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Big Star tacos de panza, from left, al pastor and de pescado at the restaurant's location across from Wrigley Field. Some or all will also be served at Big Star's forthcoming location at Half Acre Beer Co.

Building something new with Big Star seemed bigger than what Half Acre could do on its own, Magliaro said. (Nothing will change regarding the burrito-focused menu at Half Acre's Lincoln Avenue taproom.)

"It's so sensory rich for people at this point in time, it's our obligation as business owners to be completely sure we're delivering the truest and best possible experience," he said. "It was really about looking toward being the absolute most potent thing we could be."

The menu will feature the same Mexican street food at Big Star's other two restaurants: the original Wicker Park location and the one opened in 2018 across from Wrigley Field. But Big Star at Balmoral will also feature four to six new items, Alexander said, to help craft a new identity. The Half Acre kitchen is

significantly larger than the kitchen in Wicker Park, which "allows the team to have more time preparing different things, and an opportunity to play with some new items that haven't ever been on a Big Star menu."

In a restaurant long wedded to tacos, burritos are even a possibility, he said.

Big Star and Half Acre have traveled similar pioneering paths in their respective genres, seeming to intuit what people wanted before people knew they wanted it. For Half Acre, which launched its Lincoln Avenue brewery in 2009, that meant packaging a bright, fruity West Coast-style pale ale, Daisy Cutter, in 16-ounce cans long before either bright, fruity West Coast-style pale ales or 16-ounce craft beer cans were common in Chicago. Big Star, also founded in

2009, was similarly early to marry Mexican street food with a hip aesthetic — that is, pairing tacos with whiskey, craft beer and vinyl records in the trendy Wicker Park neighborhood.

"We feel like one another," Magliaro said. "Big Star does something very basic, but there's something sophisticated about what they do — raw enjoyment with the details of something very basic. It has a modern feel. Balmoral feels like that too. It all started to line up pretty perfectly."

The brands have been loosely attached for a decade; since launching, Big Star has never not had a Half Acre beer on draft, Alexander said. A mutual admiration led to the beer Half Acre and Big Star teamed up on this summer, an IPA celebrating Big Star's 10th anniversary, which was released in September (and called simply Big Star IPA).

But 10 years on, both brands are thinking about what's next. Alexander said he envisions 2020 as "focused on trying to take the next step with Big Star and the partnership with Half Acre is a big part of it."

"We've always talked about how you have to move forward or the brand loses a little something," he said. "When we opened we hit the scene running, but now there's a lot of other concepts that are similar so it's important for us to continue to move forward and instead of doing that with cookie-cutter places, to do some new ideas."

Big Star at Balmoral will deliver to the neighborhood and team up with Half Acre to host private events such as weddings. Expect signage promoting Big Star's presence at Half Acre, though modest. "It's the Half Acre brewery and we've got to respect that," Alexander said. "The last thing we should do is paint stars all over the place."

But in keeping with the Big Star motif, it will be bringing in a record player and a stack of records.

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E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS; SHANNON KINSELLA/FOOD STYLING

Cherry cookie bars are a longstanding Christmas tradition for JeanMarie Brownson's family.

Connecting with cookies

Bake up a holiday tradition with peppermint mocha brownies and cherry bars



JEANMARIE BROWNSON
Dinner at Home

Our family bakes cookies. A lot of cookies. Not so much in number as in variety. Most years we craft more than two dozen varieties. We broke a record in 2018 with 35 different types of cookies on display Christmas morning.

We do a lot of this baking together in my kitchen. For about eight hours every year, the house is filled with my siblings and their millennial offspring mixing, rolling, manning the oven, decorating and cleaning up the sugar. My sisters haul baking sheets, bags of flour, cookie cutters and tins from their house to mine. We were blessed to have our father photographing (and taste testing) all the activity for many years.

Natasha keeps count and frequently bakes a batch or two just to break records. Joseph, a talented baker, outshines us all in making the most intricate cookies. Glen and Marty read, then reread their recipes dozens of times. For Henry, it's all about the decorating — his sugar cookies look like edible art. Claire delicately sandwiches her pecan lace cookies with orange cream. We count Erika's buttery caramels as a cookie. Everyone bakes their favorites.

Each year we add new cookies to the repertoire. Ten years ago, my dad painstakingly gathered many of the recipes, typed them into uniformity and put them into binders. He gave us each a copy. The "Kaiser Kristmas Kookie Kookbook" definitely contains a sweet chunk of our family history.

Dozens of the 50-plus recipes are made every year for as long as the oldest of us can remember. Christmas would not be Christmas without kool-aid, oatmeal thins, blond brownies, shortbread logs and molasses cookies.

We argue about favorites. Dad's was never in doubt: Cherry cookie bars.

I cannot remember a holiday without this bright red cherry, oat and coconut bar cookie. Mom thinks the recipe originally came from a package of coconut — no one knows for sure. Last year was the first year I made the cookie instead of mom. I was tempted to swap out the maraschino cherries for something fancier. Nope. I'll always make the recipe the way Dad enjoyed them.

Peppermint says holidays better than any other flavor. No longer content to hang candy canes on the tree, we crush them and add the shards to everything from coffee drinks to cocktails and desserts. The Doyles bake chocolate peppermint stars, the Hansens make peppermint bark. This year, I'm transforming the family's favorite chocolate brownie into a holiday delight.

Reminiscent of coffee-house peppermint mocha drinks and candy shop peppermint bark, these are the brownies to make for this season. Rich and chocolatey, with a touch of coffee flavor, the brownies get topped with red and white bits of peppermint candy and a swirl of creamy white glaze.

Crushed peppermint candy is sold already crushed in small bags in the baking aisle (near the chocolate chips) in large supermarkets during the holiday season. Otherwise, put unwrapped candy canes or round peppermint candies into a small bag. Close the bag, and then tap the candy with a rolling pin or mallet to crush it to small attractive bits.

The Spice House sells a delicious, very fine, espresso powder that simply melts into your baked treats. Instant espresso coffee or Starbucks Via packets work nicely too.

These brownies are best served the day they are made, but they can be frozen.

I remove them from the pan and discard the foil used for baking. Then, before cutting into squares, wrap the brownies in plastic wrap and foil. Freeze solid, thaw at room temperature and cut into serving pieces.

Families grow. Some move away to follow their dreams. Fathers leave us legacies. The cookie tradition keeps us all connected. Forever.



Brownson adds peppermint to her family's favorite brownie recipe to make a holiday treat.

Peppermint mocha brownies

Prep: 20 minutes **Bake:** 35 minutes **Makes:** 3 dozen small brownies

8 ounces unsweetened chocolate, coarsely chopped

1 stick ($\frac{1}{2}$ cup) plus 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened

2 cups granulated sugar

4 large eggs, lightly beaten

2 tablespoons instant espresso powder

2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract

$\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon salt

1 cup all-purpose flour

1 bag (11 ounces) white baking chips, such as Ghirardelli

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup roughly crushed peppermint candy or candy canes

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup powdered sugar

About 2 tablespoons half-and-half or milk

1. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Line the inside of a 13-by-9-inch metal baking pan with heavy-duty foil. Lightly grease the foil.

2. Put the chopped chocolate and butter into a large, heavy-bottomed saucepan. Melt over very low heat, stirring constantly with a wooden spoon, until smooth. Remove from heat.

3. Stir in granulated sugar until incorporated. Then stir in eggs, espresso powder, vanilla and salt until smooth. Stir in flour just until incorporated. Gently fold in white baking chips.

4. Spread batter in prepared pan. Bake until center is just set, but not at all dry, about 30 minutes. Sprinkle with the crushed peppermint candy and gently pat it into the top of the brownies. Bake until candy just starts to soften, 3 to 5 minutes. Cool completely in the pan on a wire rack.

5. Pour powdered sugar into a small bowl and drizzle in just enough half-and-half to make a smooth, pourable glaze about the thickness of honey. Use a fork to swirl the sugar glaze over the brownies in an interesting pattern. Let stand until glaze sets, at least 1 hour.

6. To cut, use the foil to lift brownies out of the pan. Set on a large cutting board, then carefully pull the foil away from the brownies. Cut with a large knife into small squares. Store in an airtight container for several days.

Nutrition information per bar: 194 calories, 10 g fat, 6 g saturated fat, 31 mg cholesterol, 24 g carbohydrates, 20 g sugar, 3 g protein, 27 mg sodium, 1 g fiber

Cherry cookie bars

Prep: 20 minutes **Bake:** 30 minutes **Makes:** 36 small bar cookies

Base:

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup all-purpose flour

$\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon baking soda

$\frac{1}{8}$ teaspoon salt

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup firmly packed light brown sugar

1 cup uncooked old-fashioned oats

1 stick ($\frac{1}{2}$ cup) unsalted butter, melted

Topping:

2 large eggs

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup granulated sugar

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup roughly chopped, well-drained, maraschino cherries

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup flaked sweetened shredded coconut

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup chopped pecans or walnuts

$\frac{1}{4}$ cup all-purpose flour

$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon baking powder

$\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon salt

1. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Have a 9-inch square baking pan ready.

2. For base, mix flour, baking soda and salt in medium bowl. Stir in brown sugar, oats and melted butter until well mixed. Press the mixture over the bottom of the pan into a compact, even layer.

3. For topping, beat the eggs in the now-empty bowl. Add sugar and mix well. Add remaining ingredients. Mix well. Spread topping in an even layer over the base in the pan. Bake until top is golden and edges have pulled away from the sides of the pan, about 30 minutes. Cool on wire rack. Cut into small squares. Store in a covered tin.

Nutrition information per bar: 95 calories, 5 g fat, 2 g saturated fat, 17 mg cholesterol, 13 g carbohydrates, 9 g sugar, 1 g protein, 48 mg sodium, 1 g fiber

The tastiest shortcut to green shakshuka riffs on Indian dish

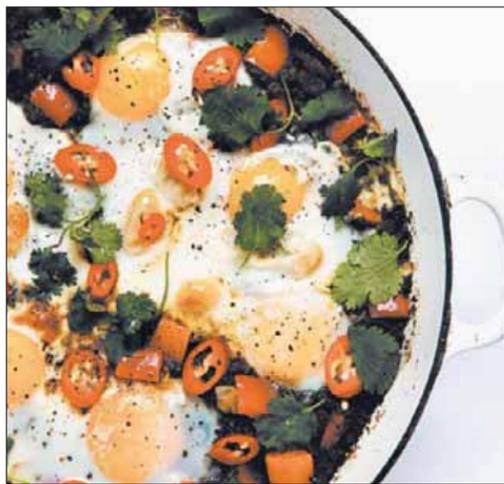
BY GENEVIEVE KO
Los Angeles Times

Normally, I can take or leave bell peppers. Even though their brilliant colors are irresistibly shiny, they still elicit no more than meh when eaten. But chef Lior Lev Sercarz showed me how to make bell peppers essential to a dish.

The secret is spices. Sercarz owns La Boite, an online and specialty food shop in New York City that sells well-sourced spices and his signature blends. When he asked if I wanted to help him write a cookbook a few years ago, I immediately said yes. Despite years of professional kitchen training, I knew little about spices and wanted to learn from the master.

One vital lesson: Spices bring out the sweetness in bell peppers. This is especially true in shakshuka, the Israeli dish in which eggs simmer in sauce sunny side up. Born and raised in Israel, Sercarz ate countless versions of this breakfast dish before creating variations of his own.

My favorite is green



MARIAH TAUGER/LOS ANGELES TIMES

shakshuka, for which cooked leafy greens replace the more common tomato-based sauce. Sercarz's easy recipe is ideal for brunch, but I am a nonfunctional human on weekend mornings, so I came up with a shortcut. Palak paneer, an Indian spinach dish, comes already spiced and cooked. Added to a simple base of peppers sauteed until sweet, it's an instant, su-

per-flavorful base for your eggs. It's the dish I turn to when I have leftover palak paneer from restaurants or takeout from Indian groceries, but freezer aisle options aren't bad either.

Sercarz taught me how spices fluidly cross borders in the kitchen, and you can taste that here. You'll want to sop up the savory sauce with bread. Pita, naan, chapati, challah — it all works.

Indian palak paneer shakshuka

Cook: 20 minutes **Makes:** 4 to 6 servings

Saag paneer can be substituted for palak paneer. It's the northern Indian version of this dish and sometimes includes other greens. The cubes of paneer cheese add a creamy richness, but it's just as good without if you don't eat dairy. Simply start with plain palak or saag instead.

- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 large yellow onion, cut in 1/2-inch dice
- 2 sweet bell peppers, preferably red and orange, cut in 1/2-inch dice
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 3 cups palak paneer or saag paneer
- 6 large eggs, room temperature
- 2 Fresno or other mild chiles, thinly sliced, for serving
- Cilantro sprigs, for serving

1. Heat the oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the onion, bell pepper, and a pinch each of salt and pepper. Cook, stirring occasionally, until the onion is translucent, about five minutes.

2. Add the palak paneer and 1/2 cup water. Cook, stirring, until the mixture begins simmering. If the mixture is too thick, stir in another tablespoon or two of water; it should be saucy. Crack an egg into a small bowl, then slide it on top of the simmering mixture. Repeat with the remaining five eggs, spacing them apart.

3. Cover the skillet and cook until the whites are just set and the yolks are still runny, seven to 10 minutes. The whites and yolks will continue to cook as they sit in the hot mixture. Remove from the heat and top with the chiles and cilantro. Season the eggs with salt and pepper and serve immediately.

SERIOUSLY SIMPLE

Blueberry tart celebrates the sweetness of Hanukkah

BY DIANE ROSSEN
WORTHINGTON
Tribune Content Agency

When I am in a pinch for time but want something special for dessert, I'll make a crostata. Sometimes called a galette in French cooking, this freeform tart has endless variations.

The unassuming appearance can be a good thing. Even my friends who fear pastry making have great success with this recipe, because it doesn't have to be picture-perfect. The rough country look also expands the



DREAMSTIME

opportunity for variation. I have seen versions that feature thick raspberry jam, fresh pitted cherries, apricots and nectarines, rhubarb and apples.

Fresh, juicy blueberries are the star of this easy holiday dessert. It's a real crowd pleaser for kids and adults alike. Don't forget a scoop of vanilla ice cream.

Blueberry crostata

Prep: 55 minutes **Bake:** 40 minutes **Makes:** 6 servings

If you do not want to make the crust from scratch, use a pre-made crust of your choice.

For the crust:

- 1 1/4 cups white pastry flour or all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 8 tablespoons (1 stick) frozen, unsalted butter, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1/4 cup ice water

For the filling:

- 1/3 cup plus 3 tablespoons sugar
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour, divided
- Zest of 1 lemon
- Pinch of salt
- 1 pound washed and dried fresh blueberries

For the tart:

- 1 large egg, well beaten
- 1 pint French vanilla ice cream (optional)
- 1. Prepare the pastry.** Place the flour, salt and sugar in a food processor fitted with a metal blade and process for about 5 seconds. Add the butter and a few tablespoons of water, and process until you have a crumbly texture, about 5 to 10 seconds.
- 2. Pat** the dough into a round form for easy rolling. If using pastry flour, continue immediately. If using all-purpose flour, refrigerate, covered for half hour. (If you are using prepared dough, defrost per

instructions, making sure to push together any cracks.)

3. Place a 10-inch diameter removable bottom disc of a springform or removable tart pan on a foil covered heavy baking sheet with a rim. (You won't need the sides of the springform or tart pan.) On a floured surface, roll out the homemade or packaged pastry into a round that is 13 inches in diameter. Roll the pastry back onto the rolling pin and transfer it to the tart bottom round, laying the dough flat to cover the round with a 3-inch border overlap all around on the baking sheet. Refrigerate while making the filling.

4. Preheat the oven to 400 F. In a medium mixing bowl, combine 1/3 cup sugar, 1 tablespoon flour, the lemon zest, salt and blueberries, and mix to coat the berries. Remove the tart from the refrigerator, and sprinkle 1 tablespoon sugar and 1 tablespoon flour evenly over the center of the crust. Arrange the fruit mixture in the center of the pastry, and then fold about 3 inches of the pastry edges up around the fruit, making pleats, to look like a free-form tart. Brush the pastry with beaten egg and evenly sprinkle the remaining sugar over the pastry and fruit.

5. Bake the tart for 40 to 45 minutes or until the fruit filling is bubbling and the crust is caramelized. Let cool at least 20 minutes on a wire rack. Slide the tart pan bottom to a serving platter. Slice, and serve with ice cream.

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