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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM



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Ross Cunning, coral research biologist at Shedd Aquarium, dives in October from a vessel working on reef restoration in the Bahamas.

Coral reefs are dying.

Shedd scientists are searching for a chance for their survival.

BY STEVE JOHNSON

BAHAMAS — Wetsuit still zipped up to his neck from an earlier dive, Ross Cunning stands amid dozens of chunks of coral in the saltwater live well on board the Coral Reef II, the research vessel owned by his employer, Chicago's Shedd Aquarium.

He's a research scientist by trade, but his tools at the moment are decidedly low-tech. Cunning has zip ties. He's got long-line clips, the quick-release fasteners used on deep-sea fishing rigs. Temporarily oblivious to his Bahamian coastal surroundings or the steady rocking of the 80-foot boat, he is attaching the live coral fragments to the rungs of ladderlike structures he and his team made out of PVC pipe and cord.

Metaphorically, the animals are canaries in

"Climate change reaches every reef on the planet. And so I think people are realizing that we have to do everything we can."

— Ross Cunning, research scientist at Chicago's Shedd Aquarium

the climate-change coal mine. Literally, they are staghorn coral, each about 5 inches long, each destined to be moved via the racks to an open-ocean underwater nursery as part of the researcher's experiment to identify the hardest, most heat-resistant corals, knowledge made desperately necessary by Earth's ever-hotter seas.

"Half of these go back down. Half go to Bimini on the rack," Cunning says, referring to the island closest to Florida where Bahamian waters are warmest in summer, coolest in winter.

As he and his fellow scientists perform this hopeful conservation work, looming off the boat's starboard side, maybe 1,000 yards away, is a tableau almost too perfect in its dark

Turn to Reefs, Page 10

House's vote will underline party lines

21 years after Clinton's, Trump's impeachment plays out partisan script

BY ALAN FRAM Associated Press

WASHINGTON — This week's virtually certain House impeachment of President Donald Trump will underscore how Democrats and Republicans have morphed into fiercely divided camps since lawmakers impeached President Bill Clinton.

Twenty-one years ago this Thursday, a Republican-led House approved two impeachment articles against Democrat Clinton. While that battle was bitterly partisan, it was blurrier than the near party-line votes expected this week when the House, now run by Democrats, is poised to impeach Trump.

Two of the four Clinton impeachment articles were killed — something party leaders today would jump through hoops to avoid for fear of highlighting divisions. All four Clinton articles drew GOP opposition, peaking at 81 on one vote. That's an unthinkable number of defections today.

"Obviously it was partisan, but it wasn't as intensely partisan as today is," said Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., one of four Republicans who opposed all the Clinton impeachment articles and the last remaining member of that group in Congress.

In the upcoming votes on impeaching Trump, Democrats expect support from all but a few — two to perhaps 10 — of their members. Republican leaders envision no GOP desertions.

Few defections are expected by either party when the GOP-run Senate holds a trial, probably in January, on whether to oust Trump from office. No one expects Democrats to muster the two-thirds Senate majority needed for removal over charges that he leveraged U.S. military aid

Turn to Impeach, Page 35

A plan for spending e-cigarette fees

Sen. Dick Durbin and Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi propose funding program to fight teen vaping epidemic. Chicagoland, Page 4

Use Twitter to get airlines' attention

Passengers and airlines alike are wising up to the power of treating social media as a public customer service hotline. Business



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE Tags with product information hang at the Mission dispensary in Chicago.

Navigating recreational pot landscape

How, where and what you'll be able to buy in Illinois starting Jan. 1

BY ALLY MAROTTI

When marijuana dispensaries open their doors for recreational sales in Illinois on Jan. 1, customers will walk into a shopping experience more akin to a Walgreens or Apple store than a stereotypical pot shop.

Many companies have remade medical marijuana dispensaries

to be bright, technology-driven and streamlined. Here's what you need to know before you head to a dispensary on Jan. 1.

Where can I buy marijuana?

So far, 32 operating medical marijuana stores around the state have received all needed approvals to sell recreational weed.

The state is approving applications from existing dispensaries on a rolling basis, but if a municipality votes down recreational sales, the state approval is moot. Residents of communities

such as Naperville and Arlington Heights, for example, will have to go to a different town to legally buy weed.

Illinois has yet to start awarding licenses to stores that weren't already selling medical marijuana.

What can I buy?

Marijuana flower — the buds that can be smoked — typically is the most popular item among recreational consumers, partially

Turn to Pot, Page 14

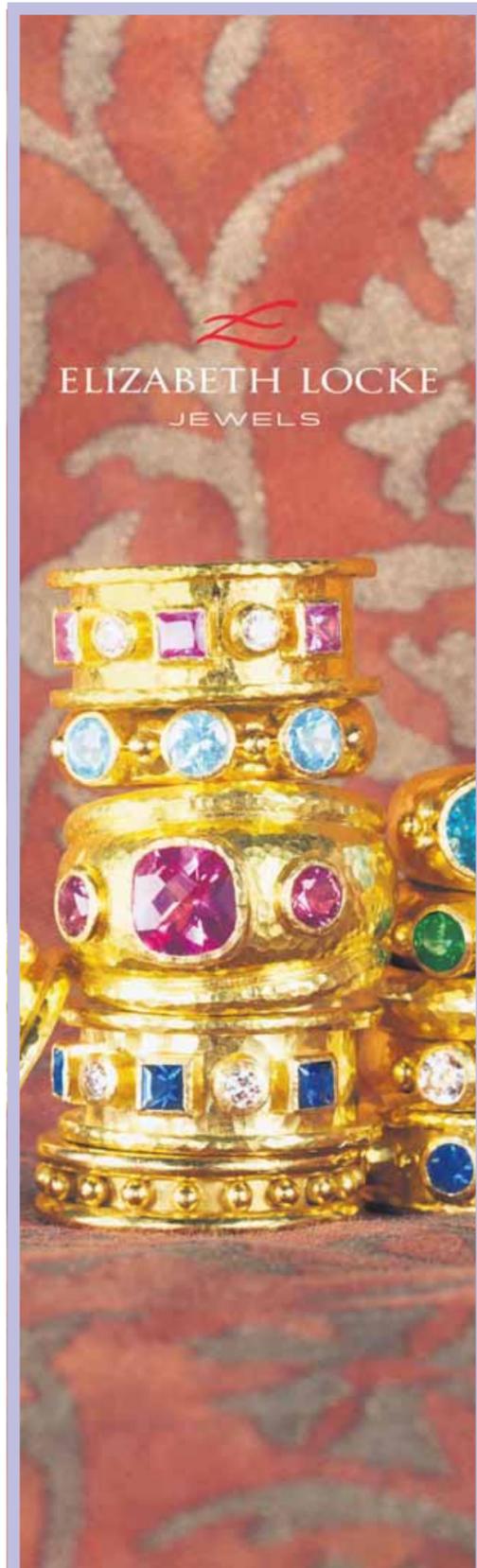
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ANDREW HARNIK/AP

Madeline Strasser, chief clerk for the majority on the House Judiciary Committee checks votes on an article of impeachment.



JOHN KASS Democrats' impeachment of Trump is way too thin

Where did the Trump impeachment go? When House Democrats began selling tickets to their President Donald Trump Impeachment Theater — shouting their outrage, preening on those late-night talk shows — it was much meatier business. It would be full of collusion with Russia, blackmail of Ukraine, it would contain extortion and go heavy on bribery. The way the Democrats sold it, Americans were to expect some giant roast, bone in, with a rich, thick gravy, to feed a nation longing for justice from Orange Man Bad. At least, that's what Democrats promised. But that's not what they delivered for consideration for a vote by the full House, was it?

What they offered weren't High Crimes and Misdemeanors. They didn't serve up alleged crimes. Instead, they offered only attitude and rhetoric, without meat and bone. They promised everything and yet ended up providing nothing, like air sandwiches offered to feed that angry mob they've stoked since the day Trump infuriated them by not losing the election to Hillary Clinton. "I feel ... thin. Sort of stretched, like ... butter scraped over too much bread," said the plucky little Hobbit, Bilbo Baggins, in "Lord of the Rings."

When Democrats began selling impeachment, they weren't little Hobbits, but giants to be carved in stone, with Old Glory behind them as they mouthed the words of Benjamin Franklin about saving the republic. So, where has the impeachment gone, the impeachment that was promised?

Democrats ended up offering only two thin counts: abuse of power and obstruction of Congress. But where were the serious crimes upon which to build a legitimate impeachment and convince Republicans to join them?

There are no crimes in this, only political arguments predicated on Trump's great sin: He defeated Hillary with his 62 million deplorables, and the Democratic elites have hated him and them ever since.

The House Democratic impeachment of Trump does accomplish two things. It drives independents to his side, even those who loathe his manner, his vulgarity and brutishness, because they see what the silkies of the left have done. And it lowers the bar for impeachment, inviting some future Congress to impeach a president just because he defeated them.

Every president has been accused of abusing power by a Congress led by the other party. Consider Barack Obama, who promised to make his own laws when he felt like it, because, "I've got a pen, and I've got a phone."

And the obstruction of Congress count? Every president has been accused of such by the opposition party in Congress.

If House Democrats wanted to force testimony from White House officials to get them to tell what they knew about Ukraine — something Trump as president had the right to deny them — they had a remedy. Go to the courts to let the third co-equal branch of government decide. But Democrats didn't want to wait for White House witnesses. They wanted drama and all they produced was farce.

Yet there was real abuse of power in this story, which starts in that debunked Russia-Collusion fever dream and weaves into Trump's phone call with the Ukrainian president when he asked Ukraine to investigate the Bidens.

Abuse of power happened when Democratic presidential candidate and then-Vice President Joe Biden was Obama's point man in Ukraine. Biden's son Hunter is a father's nightmare, a train wreck of a man. But the Ukrainian gas company Burisma didn't worry about his character or his complete lack of experience in the gas business.

Hunter was Joe Biden's son, who received at least \$50,000 a month from Burisma. Per Obama, Joe Biden had \$1 billion in U.S. loan guarantees for Ukraine. But he demanded that the Ukrainian prosecutor investigating Burisma be fired. "I said ... I'm leaving in six hours,"

Biden bragged on video. "If the prosecutor is not fired, you're not getting the money! Well, son of a b——. He got fired. And they put in place someone who was solid at the time."

Quid. Pro. Quo. So why were bribery and extortion removed from the Democrats' articles of impeachment? Because Joe Biden is their presidential candidate. And discussing quid pro quo, or extortion or bribery, leads right to Joe and Hunter Biden.

In liberal media accounts, Americans who see Trump Impeachment Theater as partisan hackery and farce are often belittled as morons. They're described as mindless idiots who've been sucked into the cult of Trump.

But constant media and political ridicule by the liberal elites can backfire, as it did here in working-class areas in 2016, and as it did just days ago in the United Kingdom with the overwhelming victory of Boris Johnson and the Conservatives over the Labour Party.

As it shrinks in stature, the House Democrat impeachment is beginning to resemble those much-hyped products that you find, forgotten and dusty, in the "As Sold on TV" aisle in dreary discount stores.

ShamWow, Nancy Pelosi. Pull the Calming Comfort Blanket under your chin, Jerry Nadler. Adam Schiff? Your easy-on Sock Slider is cheap at any price.

In another life, I trained for a career as a newspaper columnist by working as a butcher at my father's supermarket on Chicago's South Side.

I carved roasts, boned out beef necks, chopped chickens and sliced lunch meat. Some customers wanted their sausage sliced thin enough to see right through.

Like the House Democrats' impeachment of President Trump, sliced too thin, airy, with too little meat. Just butter scraped over too much bread.

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Trumps cry about impeachment, insult Thunberg and shoot a sheep



REX W. HUPPKE

Sing it with me, folks: "... three Fox fools, two lying Trumps and impeachment in our country!" I love the holidays, even though this past week has me looking back and asking: "What the (BLEEP) just happened?"

Wholesome Trump family mocks a teen, shoots an endangered sheep: President Donald Trump and his family proved this week that they won't let a looming impeachment distract them from doing appalling things.

While Democratic leaders in the U.S. House prepared and debated articles of impeachment, Trump used his copious free time to attack a teenager on Twitter.

After 16-year-old Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg was named Time magazine's Person of the Year, our dignified commander-in-oaf tweeted: "So ridiculous. Greta must work on her Anger Management problem, then go to a good old fashioned movie with a friend! Chill Greta, Chill!"

HAHAHAHAHAHA!!! IT'S FUNNY BECAUSE HE'S AN UNPOPULAR WORLD LEADER AND IS ABOUT TO BE ONLY THE THIRD PRESIDENT IMPEACHED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SHE'S A WIDELY RESPECTED TEENAGER DEVOTED TO MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE!

Thunberg, a fifth of Trump's age yet 5,000 times wiser, responded by updating her Twitter bio to read: "A teenager working on her anger management problem. Currently chilling and watching a good old fashioned movie with a friend."

Savage. It's of course worth noting that only a week ago, the Trump family and the full right-wing-outrage choir were howling mad because a witness in the impeachment hearings used a pun involving Trump's teenage son's name to make a point about the powers of the presidency.

First lady Melania Trump tweet-harumphed: "A minor child deserves privacy and should be kept out of politics."

Yes, unless that minor child is named Time's Person of the Year and your husband is jealous because people actually respect her.

Not to be outdone by his father, Donald Trump Jr. made headlines as we learned he may have recently received special treatment from the Mongolian government that allowed him to shoot an endangered sheep.

That's right. A sheep. And not just any sheep, but an argali, which is one of the largest kinds of sheep on the planet. Don Jr., aka Captain Bravehunter, shot a large, endangered Mongolian sheep, at night, using a rifle with a laser sight.

Pickin' on teens and killin' sheep. All in all, a very on-brand week for the Trumps.

Harvey Weinstein nears settlement that will never be enough: Former Hollywood producer and



NICHOLAS KAMM/AFP VIA GETTY

Swedish climate activist Greta Thunberg speaks at a climate protest outside the White House on Sept. 13.

massive dirtbag Harvey Weinstein is apparently nearing a \$25 million settlement that would end almost all the sexual misconduct lawsuits brought against him.

Chicago-based attorney Elizabeth Fegan said nearly 30 former Weinstein employees and actresses, who have accused him of everything from rape to sexual misconduct, have agreed to the deal.

Some attorneys criticized the proposed agreement, saying it forces some victims to settle. Louise Geiss, a plaintiff in a Manhattan federal court class-action lawsuit, praised the settlement and called it "a wake-up call for all companies that they will be held accountable if they protect predators in their midst."

Based on the sheer number of victims and the mountains of evidence against Weinstein, I would've been in favor of a much larger financial settlement and an agreement that Weinstein be "jettisoned to the moon." Sadly, no one asked for my opinion.

Housing advocates stand up — here's hoping Chicago listens: There's a woeful lack of affordable housing in Chicago, so it was good to see advocates from nearly 40 groups meet with city leaders to push legislation that might address the problem.

They came together Wednesday to talk about reforming the city's Affordable Requirements Ordinance, which in theory requires developers who get city support to provide units for low-income residents or pay a fee to help with subsidies.

The advocates want a new ordinance that does away with the fee option, making it mandatory for builders to include units accessible to lower-income people and to build more of those units in upscale and gentrifying neighborhoods.

This issue demands more attention. I hope the City Council and Mayor Lori Lightfoot take what housing advocates are suggesting seriously and work to level the playing field.

Tribune columnist remains strangely beloved: The Insult-A-Columnist Holiday Food Drive, which gives readers a chance to express their love or hate for me

while helping the Greater Chicago Food Depository, is chugging along nicely, with more than \$35,000 already raised.

But I remain flummoxed by the unbalanced results. The RexRocks team is outpacing the RexStinks team by an embarrassing margin, with pro-me folks giving more than \$33,000 and anti-me people chipping in a shade under \$1,500. Even I don't like me that much.

Remember, if the RexStinks team wins, I get ice water dumped on my darn, fool head outdoors in January while wearing an "TM A MORON" T-shirt. And it will all be videotaped and promoted online.

Who wouldn't jump at that opportunity? C'mon, haters. Let me have it right here: <http://myfooddrive.org/#InsultRex>.

Lincoln Park Zoo lions get sweet new digs, but ... The lions at the Lincoln Park Zoo will be getting a \$15 million upgrade to their lion hangout, including a food-delivery zip line and ample space.

Zoo CEO Kevin Bell said it will be "a much better habitat for the animals," and I think that's fabulous. I've always been a big fan of lions, and I'm not just saying that in case I one day accidentally ride the zip line into the new habitat.

My only problem is with the name. The new facility will be called Pepper Family Wildlife Center, after donors Richard and Roxelyn Pepper. My gratitude to them, but couldn't they have gone with something like: "LION LAND: HOME OF THE ROOOAAARRRRR" or "PEPPER'S HOUSE OF FELINE FEROCITY"?

Maybe, "THE PEPPER FAMILY'S EXTREME SANCTUARY OF LION AWESOMENESS."

I don't mean to seem ungrateful. I just think lions deserve a little pizzazz.

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MARY SCHMICH is on assignment.

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■ In Sunday's preprinted A+E section, a story recapping events of the year in visual arts incorrectly said that the Smithsonian removed the Sackler name from its galleries of Asian art. The Tribune regrets the error.

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Chicago Tribune CHICAGOLAND

A plan for millions in fees on e-cigarettes

Durbin and Krishnamoorthi propose legislation

BY KATE THAYER

A fee placed on manufacturers and importers of e-cigarettes could fund a federal prevention program to arm educators and students with tools to fight the teen vaping epidemic, according to pending legislation proposed by Sen. Dick Durbin and Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi.

Durbin and Krishnamoorthi announced the federal legislation, dubbed the Prevent Act (Providing Resources to End the Vaping Epidemic Now for Teenagers), at an event Friday at Jones College Prep.

"The meteoric rise in youth vaping has created a national public health crisis," said Krishnamoorthi, D-Schaumburg. Adequate prevention and education will be "a massive undertaking, but if we do it now, we have a chance of arresting this epidemic. And we have to do it immediately."

Both legislators have been vocal about the dangers of vaping as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has reported steep increases in e-cigarette use among high school- and middle school-age students. Public health advocates have blamed the devices for a new generation getting hooked on nicotine, and Durbin said Friday that producers of the devices should have to shoulder the burden of prevention costs.

Krishnamoorthi has also proposed limiting nicotine levels in e-cigarettes, and he leads a congressional subcommittee investigation into the marketing practices of Juul Labs, the largest maker of e-cigarettes, which has been criticized for targeting young people.

The Illinois attorney general's office filed a consumer fraud lawsuit Thursday against Juul Labs, alleging it targets minors and misrepresents the ability of its devices to help smokers



Delano Walkes uses an e-cigarette in the Loop on Friday.

CAMILLE FINE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin speaks at a news conference about vaping in September in Chicago.

quit.

While there are other pending efforts for federal, state and local flavor bans and other tactics to curb teen vaping, Durbin said the added fee could fund a stronger, "front-end" approach to educate kids before they start.

"I hope we've learned from past experience a 'just

say no' campaign ... is worthless," Durbin said. "We have got to think of more creative, peer-to-peer efforts."

The fee, assessed quarterly by the Food and Drug Administration, would be similar to existing user fees for cigarettes and other tobacco products. Makers of e-cigarettes would pay a fee based on the number of products they make. If the legislation is successful, the fees would create a \$200 million fund allotted for FDA- and CDC-issued annual grants. State and local health departments and nonprofits could apply for the grants, which would do the following:

- Train school employees on how to prevent vaping, and provide information on youth nicotine addiction and cessation tools.
- Provide prevention resources for parents.
- Develop social media and

marketing campaigns to educate students on health risks through partnerships with advertising agencies, nonprofits, advocacy groups and others who work in youth substance abuse prevention.

The last piece is crucial, Durbin and Krishnamoorthi said, and would enhance prevention work of educators across the country who started to notice the uptick in vaping in recent years.

School administrators in the Chicago area have said they've implemented programs but are challenged by the wide availability of e-cigarettes, despite laws banning minor use, and the ability of kids to hide the sleek, compact devices.

Students are also pushing vaping among their own social groups, Krish-

namoorthi said.

"This peer-to-peer type of campaign is absolutely essential if we're going to change the culture," he said.

Chicago Public Schools CEO Janice Jackson attended Friday's event. She said CPS has adjusted its health curriculum to include vaping prevention, but additional funding would help its efforts.

Jones senior class President Trinitee Wells, 18, said students need more facts about vaping. Some of her peers won't heed the warnings, she said, but "they will do so knowing the risks."

Ruby Johnson, a New Lenox parent whose daughter fell ill and was hospitalized for a week in August from a vaping-related illness on the way to her Colorado college, is now an advocate speaking at congressional hearings and at Friday's event. She said parents need education; she

didn't know what vaping was until she found a flash-drive-looking object in her daughter's cosmetics case.

"I had to Google it," Johnson said.

The legislation has bipartisan support and also is sponsored by Rep. Peter King, a New York Republican. But Durbin said he expects a fight.

"It's going to be a battle," he said. When "fighting Big Tobacco, they never give in early or easy."

Yet the public backlash against Juul — and top investor Altria, the parent company of Philip Morris USA — has prompted recent concessions by the company, such as halting sales of flavored e-cigarettes that are appealing to teens, including, most recently, top-selling mint. Tobacco and menthol flavors will now be the only available options.

The company, which has stated repeatedly that its products are aimed at adult smokers looking for alternatives, also has pulled its U.S. advertising and has developed programs to curb teen use of its products. Users across the country have sued the company, saying they're addicted to nicotine and have experienced health problems. Juul, whose representative did not respond for comment, would pay the majority of the \$200 million in annual revenue generated by the proposed fee as the company produces most e-cigarettes sold in the U.S.

Along with statistics showing e-cigarettes are mostly used by teens, the e-cigarette industry is plagued by a mysterious respiratory illness that started to appear in patients earlier this year. As of last week, more than 2,400 people have been hospitalized and at least 52 have died, according to the CDC. While public health officials say they still don't know the cause, more recent evidence points to THC-filled, black-market vapes as the culprit.

kthayer@chicagotribune.com

2 state workers out at DCFS over AJ Freund case

Handled hotline probe 4 months before boy's killing

BY CHRISTY GUTOWSKI

State officials confirmed Friday that two child welfare professionals who were recommended for dismissal for their handling of a hotline investigation into AJ Freund four months before the 5-year-old boy's tragic death are no longer employed with the agency.

Carlos Acosta and his supervisor, Andrew Polovin, are no longer state employees following a lengthy internal disciplinary process, according to a spokesman for the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. He declined to say whether the men were fired or voluntarily quit.

"Following the heartbreaking death of AJ Freund, DCFS began a comprehensive review of the entirety of our work with AJ's family to understand what needs to change to prevent tragedies like this from happening again," said Jassen Strokosch, the agency's spokesman. "As part of this review, DCFS has taken personnel action regarding Carlos Acosta and Andrew Polovin, the caseworker and supervisor involved in the case. Mr. Acosta and Mr. Polovin are no longer employed by the state."

He said DCFS is continuing to examine "the department's work in this case and will take all necessary action to protect the children and families we serve."

Acosta was the child protection specialist assigned to investigate a Dec. 18 hotline call from Crystal Lake police regarding a

bruise on AJ's right hip. The child gave various statements about the cause of his injury, including that the family's dog had pawed him, but records show he also told an emergency room doctor, "Maybe mommy didn't mean to hurt me."

Acosta, who also serves as an elected McHenry County board member, deemed the allegation of abuse unfounded about two weeks later after consulting Polovin, who also was the supervisor in two earlier hotline investigations involving AJ.

The employees, who both have about 25 years of agency experience, were reassigned to paid desk duty nearly eight months ago, after AJ was reported missing. His body was found six days later, on April 24, in a shallow grave about 7 miles from his home.

His parents, Andrew Freund and JoAnn Cunningham, and JoAnn Cunningham, were charged with first-degree murder that same day. Cunningham, 36, pleaded guilty Dec. 5. She faces up to 60 years in prison when sentenced next year. Freund, 60, still awaits trial.

One day after Cunningham's guilty plea, Acosta and Polovin were placed on a 30-day unpaid suspension pending discharge, sources said.

The two state employees are named in a federal lawsuit filed in mid-October on behalf of the slain boy's estate, which represents his three siblings. It alleges that Acosta and Polovin showed "an inhumane indifference to AJ's safety" in their handling of the December 2018 hotline investigation.

One day after the suit was

filed, DCFS received a confidential interim report by Inspector General Meryl Paniak that recommended their termination. The report also recommended terminating a third worker, Kathleen Gold, who investigated a hotline complaint involving AJ from March 21, 2018. Gold has since resigned.

The inspector general report, which focused on the agency's handling of the March and December hotline investigations, found the employees "failed to see the totality" of the troubled history of AJ's family and missed opportunities to intervene.

Acosta and Gold were carrying a caseload above what is allowed under a federal consent decree at the time of their contact with AJ's family, a systemic problem that has long vexed DCFS and that child welfare advocates say puts vulnerable children at further risk.

None of the employees have responded to Tribune interview requests.

Polovin had been paid \$171,500 so far this year, according to the state comptroller's office database. Acosta was paid nearly \$91,000 in 2019.

DCFS administrators have acknowledged mistakes in some of the agency's previous contacts with the family and have since stepped up training, including for veteran workers and say they are working to reduce investigator caseloads. The agency has hired more than 200 staff members this year after receiving a budget increase, administrators said.

Since 2012, the state agency had received at least 10 DCFS hotline calls regarding Cunningham's care

of children — from police officers, hospital staff, neighbors, a private agency caseworker and even her own mother, the Tribune has previously reported.

Four of the 10 complaints came in 2012, before AJ was born, and involved the alleged neglect of a foster son she had raised for 15 months and of an older biological son. Only one DCFS investigation ended in a finding of credible evidence of neglect by Cunningham — when AJ was born in October 2013 with a derivative of heroin and other drugs in his system, records show.

Polovin was involved in all three of AJ's hotline investigations, including at the boy's birth when the DCFS supervisor approved his being placed in the state's protective custody with one of his mother's cousins. The woman wanted to adopt him, according to records.

He was about 20 months old when a McHenry County judge in June 2015 allowed the boy's parents to begin raising him. Cunningham and Freund had completed drug treatment, counseling, random drug screens and other community-based recovery services, court records show. The case was closed in April 2016, thus ending state monitoring.

AJ last attended day care that June and relatives say the couple cut them off from contact several months later when he was about 3 years old. Cunningham had relapsed on heroin by at least March 2018, records show, when police found her passed out in a parked car with fresh track marks on her body.

That incident was the basis for one of four DCFS

hotline calls alleging abuse or neglect in 2018. Two of the calls — both involving suspicious bruising — resulted in DCFS investigations.

DCFS assigned Gold to the March incident after a hospital social worker called the hotline to report AJ had odd bruising on his face when he and his younger brother came with their father to retrieve some of Cunningham's belongings.

Gold initially went to Cunningham's old address from 2012 and failed to see AJ until one month later despite an agency rule that mandates a good-faith effort to see a child within 24 hours, records show. She did not see the inside of AJ's house until nearly two months after the hotline call.

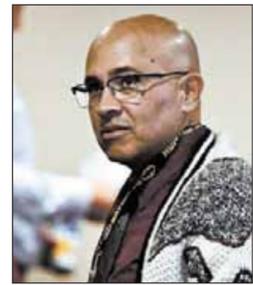
Gold eventually closed the investigation as "unfounded," citing among other factors Cunningham's return to drug treatment and the presence of the boy's father, Freund, an attorney.

In the last documented hotline call, about the large bruise on AJ's right hip, Acosta deemed there was a lack of credible evidence and closed the case as "unfounded" despite the family's troubled history and the boy's comment to the emergency room doctor implicating his mother.

Acosta did not seek further expert medical opinion or obtain a forensic interview with AJ to try to determine the cause of the bruise before closing the investigation, records showed.

Polovin, the supervisor, approved the findings in both 2018 hotline investigations.

AJ was killed April 15,



Carlos Acosta was the last child welfare investigator who made contact with AJ Freund before his death.

according to authorities, four months after that last hotline call.

McHenry County State's Attorney Patrick Kenneally said his staff has worked to improve communication between various agencies in cases involving DCFS. He also has appointed a special prosecutor to oversee McHenry County juvenile abuse and neglect cases.

Cunningham's mother, Lori Hughes, who was estranged from her daughter in the final two years of AJ's life after winning custody of an older child, had harsh words for the DCFS employees for not notifying the family or conducting more thorough investigations.

Hughes said she is convinced of her daughter's guilt and hopes AJ's death will raise awareness and bring about systemic change to Illinois' child welfare system.

"I don't know that we'll ever be at peace," she said. "You think about it every day. You're constantly sad. It's a sadness you have every day."

Freelance reporter Amanda Marrazzo contributed.

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CPS updates policy on timeouts, physical restraints

Board acts after Tribune, ProPublica investigation

BY HANNAH LEONE

The Chicago Board of Education has updated its policy on physical restraints and timeouts to comply with recent emergency action by the Illinois State Board of Education following a Chicago Tribune and ProPublica Illinois investi-

gation into the misuse of seclusion and isolation in public schools statewide.

The board voted unanimously Wednesday to update the policy, which states that timeout and physical restraints cannot be used as punishment and may only be used for therapeutic purposes or as a way of keeping a safe learning environment.

CPS's existing policy already banned isolated timeouts. And restraints were

already allowed only if authorized in a student's individualized education plan and if they are used by trained staff in instances when students pose threat to themselves or others.

The new policy is considered temporary but could become permanent in 90 days if adopted following a public comment period.

Any adult who supervises students during a timeout or applies physical restraint is to be trained in

de-escalation, restorative and behavior management practices, according to the policy, which now further defines timeout and physical restraint and includes compliance guidelines.

Since Nov. 20, when ISBE initiated its emergency action, CPS staff members have been required to document any uses of timeout or restraint and report that to the district and to ISBE.

The policy also stipulates

that a review will be initiated if a student is subjected to three instances of non-therapeutic seclusion or physical restraint.

Board President Miguel del Valle said interim policies were adopted Wednesday because the issues required immediate action, but that the items will be posted for public comment online and people can weigh in on the final policy. The new board's process for community input on policies

has been working as members hoped, he said.

"We already see that as result of public comment, changes are made," del Valle said.

Proposed policy or rule changes open to public comment are posted on the board's website so that community members have at least 30 days to review proposals and submit feedback. Staff members review comments before posting publicly on the website.

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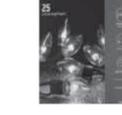
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Hundreds gather to remember Juice Wrld

BY PAIGE FRY

With phone lights reflected off The Bean in Millennium Park and music pouring out of portable speakers, young people from across Chicago belted the chorus to Juice Wrld's song "Lucid Dreams."

"I still see your shadows in my room. Can't take back the love that I gave you. It's to the point where I love and I hate you."

The makeshift memorial was created through a Facebook event called "Juice Wrld Memorial Millennium Park" and began about 7:30 p.m. Friday. People gathered to celebrate and remember Juice Wrld, a young rapper from the Chicago area who died Dec. 8 after suffering cardiac arrest at a private hangar at Midway Airport.

The Facebook event read, "Let's Come Together As One For Juice Wrld Bring Your Music, Liquor, And Drugs." More than 2,500 people marked themselves as "interested," and others at The Bean on Friday night said they found out about it through screenshots of the Facebook event that were shared on Instagram and Snapchat. The hundreds of teenagers and 20-somethings used it as their chance to come together, in their own way, to show their love for the 21-year-old rapper, whose real name was Jarad Higgins.

Older generations, they said, may not understand why Higgins' music helped them through hard times or why they continue to support him after police and federal agents found 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 in Higgins' and his entourage's luggage, according to law enforcement sources.

Erik Sebastian, 16, said he met Juice Wrld at a Chicago skate park about a year and a half ago around the time his music video for "All Girls Are The Same" was released. A lot of people in the Chicago skater community came to show their support because Higgins was one of them, he said.

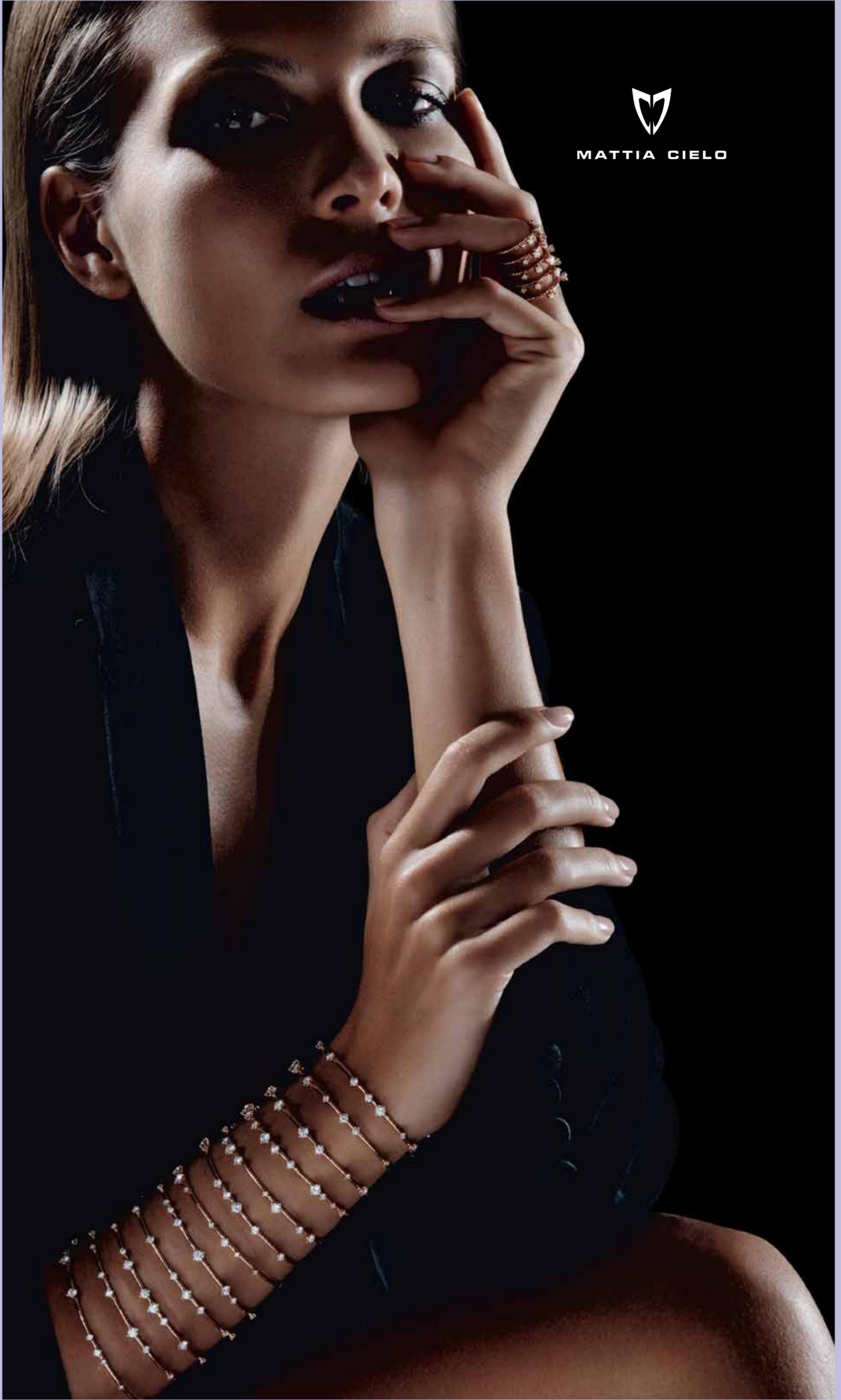
"We love Juice Wrld," he said. "So many positive vibes. Not a negative person here."

Naombi Givens, 17, and Alayssha Martinez, 17, came up to Millennium Park from the Englewood neighborhood after they saw a lot of people from their high school share the Facebook event on social media. Martinez said she discovered Juice Wrld about a year ago after a friend told her about him, and she's been listening to him since. Hearing that he died was tragic, especially because his music was starting to become more mainstream, she said.

"He was one of my favorite rappers. He really helped me through some stuff with some family issues," Martinez said. "We saw this (event) and thought no way this could be happening."

Vanessa Solis, 21, carried a homemade poster with a picture of Higgins and his birth date and death date. She said she came because her friend made the Facebook event that brought everyone out.

"We wanted to spread some love and support," she said. "We lost a good-ass artist. Always keep him in your heart."



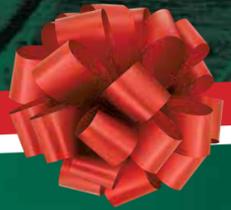
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1 dead, 2 hurt after stolen vehicle hits house

Chicago police were pursuing Jeep on Far South Side

BY PAIGE FRY

A teenage boy was killed and two other teenagers were injured when a stolen vehicle crashed into a house in the Fernwood neighborhood Thursday night on the Far South Side, according to authorities.

Police tried to stop the Jeep about 7:20 p.m. near West 107th Street and South Wentworth Avenue, Chicago police spokesman Sgt. Rocco Alioto said at the scene. The vehicle fled, triggering a pursuit. Officers spotted the Jeep near 103rd Street, going at high speed, and when it hit a dip in the road, the 17-year-old driver of the Jeep lost control, with the Jeep jumping the curb and crossing "numerous" front lawns, according to a police crash report.

The driver lost control in the 10200 block of South Wentworth, Alioto said, "striking a building, causing major structural damage."

The driver's name had not yet been released by the Cook County medical examiner's office Friday evening.

The vehicle crashed into the house about 7:30 p.m., said Frank Velez, a commander with the Chicago Fire Department.

The driver of the Jeep was pronounced dead at the scene, according to the report. The two passengers, a 17-year-old girl and a 16-year-old boy, both suffered abrasions in the crash, according to the report. The two passengers were taken in fair condition to Comer Children's Hospital, Velez said.

The house was occupied, but no one inside was injured, police said. Peoples Gas was on the scene in the event of a gas leak, Alioto said.

Four others at the scene declined to be taken to a hospital, according to Velez.

The vehicle that crashed was reported stolen Tuesday in the 2000 block of East 95th Street, according



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Fire Department and utilities workers inspect a house on South Wentworth Avenue after a vehicle crashed into it.

to a police source and the police report.

The fatal crash brought out community activist Eric Russell, who said although he does not support juveniles allegedly breaking the law, Chicago police have a record of what he described as "reckless" vehicle chases.

He pointed out the Memorial Day weekend death of Verona Gunn, who was fatally struck after Chicago police vehicles collided while responding to an emergency call in Austin.

"We were absolutely outraged once again the Chicago police just refused to respectfully engage our community," Russell said at the scene. "This is a residential, area and there are rules and regulations to be adhered to as it relates to high-speed chases."

According to the Chicago police directives system, all vehicle pursuits must meet a "balancing test" to commence. The threshold is described as any situation in which the necessity to take the suspect into custody

outweighs the danger of a chase. Certain safety considerations include speed, volume of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and weather and road conditions.

Glenn Thomas, a Cook County Board Up encl-

sure specialist, stood by at the scene waiting to see if the vehicle would be pulled out of the house so he could help repair the building.

The vehicle was covered in debris from the house, and it appeared the vehicle's

roof was pulled back, he said.

"You can't even tell if it's an SUV or a regular car," he said.

Marilyn Clay, who lives nearby on 104th Place, said her granddaughter called her because a car ran into

her friend's house, so Clay walked over to see what happened. She knows at least three people live in the house that was struck and that they normally don't sit in the front of the house, where the vehicle had crashed.

"I was a little scared," said Jawonn George, who came to scene with Clay. "It's kind of a pity he died. It's just sad."

Kevin Lillybridge, 60, was about to walk his cocker spaniel, named Coco, when he saw police lights down their usual route. His family has owned a home in the nearby Roseland neighborhood for more than 50 years, but he's noticed families who had been there for generations had started leaving years ago. More crime has come in, he said, and it isn't shocking to hear what happened, as he noticed people often speed through the area. But many people in the area are hardworking and not involved in crime, he said.

"When you see stuff like that, Roseland gets an eye-sore. But it's not like that," he said. "I think that's just unfair."

Chicago Tribune's Alice Yin contributed.

pjry@chicagotribune.com

No bail for extradited suspect in 2013 murder

BY MADELINE BUCKLEY

Mateusz Zabrzanski strangled and stabbed his roommate, Sarah Kresilova, after an argument that grew so loud that multiple neighbors in their Dunning apartment building heard the confrontation, prosecutors allege.

Zabrzanski, 31, then ran to his mother's home and asked for help to flee to Poland, leaving Kresilova on her bedroom floor, stabbed in the head, neck, chest and abdomen, according to prosecutors. By the time police secured an arrest warrant accusing Zabrzanski of the brutal 2013 attack, he was already out of their reach in Krakow, Poland. A Cook County judge on Saturday ordered Zabrzanski held without bail after he was extradited from Poland. He arrived in Chicago on Thursday, more than five years after Kresilova, who worked in Chicago as a waitress, was killed.

"He is a flight risk," said Judge Arthur Wesley Willis, denying Zabrzanski's public defender's request for bail.

Zabrzanski appeared in court with the aid of a Polish translator and through the translator told the judge he understood the proceedings.

In the early morning hours on June 24, 2013, Zabrzanski came home to his and Kresilova's apartment in the 6500 block of West Addison Street and got into a loud argument that grew physical, Assistant State's Attorney John Brassil said during the Saturday bond hearing at the Leighton Criminal Court Building.

After stabbing Kresilova, Zabrzanski ran to his mother's apartment, where he told her he had attacked Kresilova, Brassil alleged. He gave her a butcher's knife to hide, prosecutors

said. His mother also noticed blood on his hand.

Chicago police officers later recovered the butcher's knife from the mother's apartment, according to Brassil. Zabrzanski asked his mother for help leaving the country. She borrowed more than \$2,000 to buy a plane ticket to Poland, Brassil said. Zabrzanski also texted and called a friend, and told her he had killed Kresilova and planned to flee to Poland, Brassil said. He said he was at the Polish Consulate obtaining a passport and agreed to meet the friend at his mother's house.

The friend went to the home and saw Zabrzanski and his mother preparing to leave for the airport, according to Brassil. She yelled at him that Kresilova did not deserve to die and that they needed to report her death.

Brassil said Zabrzanski ignored her and left for the airport. The woman then called police and requested that they check on Kresilova.

Officers found Kresilova on the floor of her bedroom covered in blood with multiple stab wounds. Her autopsy also showed signs of strangulation and blunt force trauma, Brassil said.

Zabrzanski also texted a second friend and asked for a ride to the Polish Consulate. He told the friend that he had fought with Kresilova and that she was dead, prosecutors said. He said he would not call police because they would put him in jail. He also told a third friend about the attack, prosecutors said.

In the 24 hours following the attack, prosecutors say Zabrzanski borrowed more than \$2,000 and obtained passport photos for his expired visa as well as an emergency passport.

mbuckley@chicagotribune.com



Zabrzanski



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Shedd scientists trying to save coral reefs

Reefs, from Page 1

symbolism: a hulking power plant that supplies electricity to New Providence, the Bahamas' most populous island, and the mammoth oil tanker tethered just off the island to feed it.

They are reminders of why Cunning's work is vitally important and why it is profoundly challenging. Despite knowing better, people in the past half-century have only accelerated their burning of fossil fuels. The oceans are already warming rapidly — absorbing more than 90% of the extra heat the planet now produces — and even if humans radically change their behavior tomorrow, they will continue to warm.

The result is an existential crisis for coral. Many scientists fear the shallow-water varieties that form reefs may not survive the century. Coral reefs build up over centuries but can die in just two successive summers of abnormal heat. With such temperature spikes and the resultant coral bleaching events increasing in frequency, reefs may become the first of the planet's major ecosystems to disappear. That threatens not only the astonishing biodiversity that gets coral reefs called the "rainforests of the sea," but also the up to a billion people worldwide who depend on the benefits reefs provide in seafood and tourism.

In the face of these threats, Cunning — like scores of fellow scientists in the burgeoning field of coral research — feels particular urgency about his work. It pits their best efforts and expertise against earthly odds steadily rising against them, and at stake is the prospect of a world without coral.

"As we're literally watching these ecosystems collapse before our eyes, we're all realizing we have to do something," says the 35-year-old South Loop resident, hired by Shedd for his coral expertise a year ago. "We can't just sort of stand by, and we can't rely on more traditional conservation approaches like marine protected areas. We can't just say, 'No fishing over here, and the reef is going to be fine.'"

"Climate change reaches every reef on the planet. And so I think people are realizing that we have to do everything we can."

On its own, a coral is not a charismatic animal. It hardly seems capable of having accomplished so much in its time on Earth. Yet this animal related to jellyfish and sea anemones created the planet's largest living structure, Australia's Great Barrier Reef, and it and other reefs host more than a quarter of ocean life despite occupying less than one percent of the marine environment.

The Shedd scientist holds up one of the creatures he is about to transplant to the nursery off the southwest tip of New Providence. It looks like a skinny, craggy, red-brown rock — a segment of sugar candy made with rusty water, perhaps, or a particularly gnarly crab leg.

"The white tip on the end is the growing portion," he says, pointing to the small, fleshy, mouthlike circle. "It's called the apical polyp" — the polyp at the apex. "And it's growing in both directions. And then you can see another branch forming."

Staghorn coral grow fast and, historically, they grew easily. They were once one of two dominant reef-building corals in the clear waters surrounding the more than 700 islands that make up the Bahamas, where the Shedd centers its oceanographic research.

When they thrived, these coral were magnificent builders whose structures not only supported ocean life but protected coasts from hurricane impact. As the live polyps at the animals' growing tips and the algae that live symbiotically within them drew nutrients from the sun and water and stretched ever outward, the skeletons behind hardened into calcium carbonate and became reef structure and, eventually, softened again into sand.

Now the staghorn in this region is at about 3% of its former abundance, a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration report estimates. While earlier devastation occurred due mostly to pollution and disease, now warming oceans and the resultant bleaching are the No. 1 threat to this already critically endangered species.

"We've lost so much of the staghorn coral," says Cunning. "In Bimini, for example, where we're heading next, there's only two known genetic individuals of staghorn coral there that we've been able to find."

Cunning readies five racks of

the staghorn, 60 specimens, that he and fellow divers will carry down, 40 feet below the ocean surface, to the coral nursery below.

As these animals are watched and measured to test their resilience in coming years, perhaps among them will be the hoped-for "supercoral," a specimen whose genetics are so sturdy it can help this vital and surprisingly complex creature survive the coming crisis years and make it out the other side.

Cunning — precise like his neat red beard, more analyst than poet — doesn't like to talk about "supercorals," although it is one of the drastic remedies science is now seeking.

"I try to avoid saying it," he says. "It's kind of a loaded term" — imprecise and, as he adds, "reductionist." He thinks it's important to forge ahead by doing the science. But he does allow himself a small note of celebration.

"After this next dive, this nursery will be fully populated and complete, which is exciting," he announces.

Minutes later, holding his dive mask to his face with one hand and one of the ladders lashed with live corals in the other, he walks off the boat's back platform, one baby step into the beautiful, fragile, changing waters.

It was at the Great Barrier Reef that Cunning developed his love for coral. He grew up in Indianapolis, but his undergraduate semester abroad from Duke University took him to Australia, to a scientific research program centered on one of Earth's natural wonders.

The students split their study time between reef and rainforest, he recalls, and for him it was an easy pick.

"We were out on the Great Barrier Reef learning about these ecosystems while we were snorkeling all day every day," he recalls. "I learned to scuba dive there and was just blown away by coral reef ecosystems. I was just absolutely fascinated and decided to make a career studying them."

Graduating Duke with a biology and environmental science major, he went on to earn his Ph.D. in marine biology and ecology from the University of Miami. Fellowships to continue his coral studies followed at the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology and then at U-Miami again.

His research has mostly been about the relationship between coral and the algae that live within them, especially on the impact that heat can have. A May study he headed was, he says, "an opportunity to deliver a more concrete conservation message." It found that a major Port of Miami dredging project to accommodate super-size container ships had killed over half a million coral within a quarter-mile of the channel, a significant loss in the state that hosts the continental United States' only close-to-shore reef tract. The state's reefs had already diminished by about 70% since the 1970s.

So when the Shedd advertised for a coral researcher to round out its Caribbean research team, Cunning was a strong candidate. He had been looking for an academic posting, he says, but he loved the idea of being able to continue doing hard science in an institution also trying to communicate that science directly to the public.

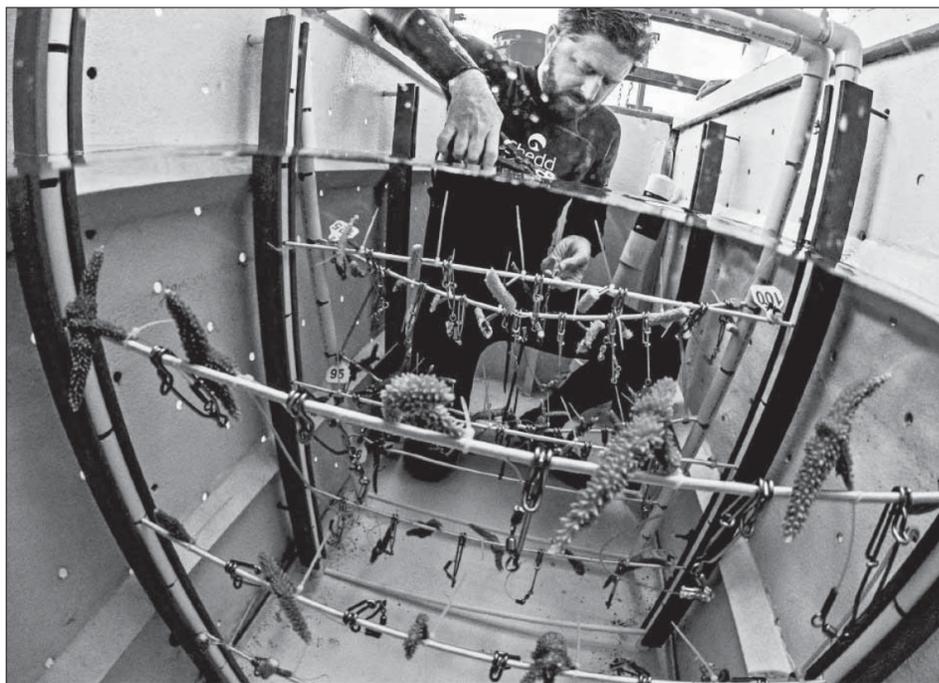
"I didn't think studying corals would bring me back to the Midwest," Cunning says, with a chuckle.

The aquarium is one of Chicago's most popular tourist attractions, but few of the nearly 2 million annual visitors realize that it is more than a menagerie and spends more than \$3 million annually on its field research team. The Shedd's applied-science efforts have been refocused in recent years under CEO Bridget Coughlin, herself a Ph.D. in applied biochemistry, to have one group studying local freshwater aquatic life and the second working in the Bahamas, an independent country spanning some 600 miles to the east of southern Florida.

Their tight lens on Bahamian marine life takes advantage of the Miami-based Coral Reef II, commissioned by Shedd in 1984 for the collection of marine life to display back in Chicago but long since repurposed for science, a conversion mirroring the change zoos and aquariums have made toward conservation. This group of salt-water researchers was already studying creatures along the food chain from conchs to iguanas to groupers to sharks. Adding coral at the low end made sense, Coughlin says, because of coral's huge significance in the marine environment and to the Bahamas and as a



Shedd Aquarium research scientist Ross Cunning, right, and Amanda Weiler, Shedd's dive program manager, collect coral samples at the Yellow Bank coral reef near Exumas in Bahamas on Oct. 16.



Cunning secures coral fragments to their ladder-like racks in preparation for delivering them to an ocean-floor nursery.

climate-change bellwether.

"It's a great marrying of something the public understands — coral bleaching, temperatures of the ocean rising — and a great scientific endeavor," Coughlin says. "What we do on site (is) to engage people with animals and then extrapolate it to out in the wild and how Shedd can contribute to the solution."

Cunning's aha moments on the Great Barrier Reef came early in this century, before many people fully realized the threat posed by diminishing atmospheric protection from the sun. Now the Australian reef system, as the most famous coral reef in the world, has become a different kind of teaching tool, one whose decay is chronicled in an attempt to awaken the public to the coral crisis.

Now it is routine, too, to find pictures in news stories about the crisis captioned "dead coral reef," morose tableaux where there are no more colorful fish and exotically shaped coral, only scuzzy, opportunistic algae covering the bumpy, defeated skeletal remains.

The scientific studies and reports about vanishing coral and hotter waters around them are piling up, and even the typically dry titles of such writing hint at the situation's urgency. "Unprecedented 3 years of global coral bleaching 2014-2017?" "Risk-sensitive planning for conserving coral reefs under rapid climate change." "Decadal changes in heat tolerant coral symbionts." The last is a working title for one of Cunning's current coral studies.

The 2017 documentary film "Chasing Coral" won an Emmy. It's by the same people who made "Chasing Ice" five years earlier and similarly chronicles a quest for a vanishing resource fundamental to the planet. (It's on Netflix.)

At the Shedd Aquarium's Wild Reef exhibit, a \$40-plus million spectacular homage to the diversity reefs engender that opened in 2003, you'll read that the challenge to coral reefs comes mostly from pollution and other direct human impacts. Global warming gets mentioned only in a small and more recently made section of the exhibit that talks about the science the aquarium supports; one of Cunning's tasks upon returning from his research trip is to further update that section.

But even as the science accumulates and filters out into the public more steadily, it can still be hard to get people to pay attention at the level of engagement scientists say the issue demands.

"I think people just don't understand the importance of the ocean. It's completely 'out of sight and out of mind,'" says Richard Vevers, an adman-turned-ardent conservationist who is one of the stars of "Chasing Coral."

"This is the first time in human history where we've been on the verge of losing a planetary scale ecosystem, and it is arguably the most diverse one on the planet and one of the most valuable," says Vevers, who runs his 50 Reefs initiative out of Rhode Island, aiming to funnel conservation efforts into reefs that might be

salvageable. "But it's the first one because they (corals) can only really cope with about 1.5 degrees centigrade ocean temperature rise before you've lost almost all of them."

By 2014, half of the world's coral reefs — and, again, almost all the staghorn corals of the Bahamas — had been lost already, to a combination of disease, pollution, overfishing and heat stress, explained Mark Eakin, coordinator of the NOAA's Coral Reef Watch program, in a 2017 online seminar.

Then came the three-year global coral bleaching event, an unrelenting assault on coral's ability to respond to stress that shocked even the most pessimistic scientists because of its unprecedented duration.

In bleaching, live coral turn white in a reaction that looks like shock, and is. The coral react to the perceived crisis of too-high temperatures by expelling the algae that live within them and give them color and help them feed. They can often recover from single bleaching events, but when the white-outs happen repeatedly, many will die.

The local impact in the Bahamas has been obvious, says Shelley Cant-Woodside, director of science and policy for the Bahamas National Trust, a local NGO advising Bahamian government on conservation policy.

"Almost every year we're reporting coral bleaching whereas before it would have been once every five years, every 10 years," she says. "More and more after



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Ross Cunning, right, and his dive team depart from the Coral Reef II, Shedd Aquarium's dedicated research vessel, to collect coral samples.

each bleaching event, you are seeing areas where the majority of the coral cover has gone. Then it gets dominated by algae. Reefs where you had towers of elkhorn coral and staghorn coral, where you used to have these mushroom forests, have basically become rubble. Once they die, there's nothing really continuing to grow. When hurricanes come they flatten it out a bit. It becomes this downward spiral."

Globally, the first widespread bleaching event came in 1983, the result of an El Niño weather pattern that pushed exceptionally warm waters into the temperate, shallow zones where reefs develop. Then came one in 1998, and then again in 2010. But they were only precursors to the events of middecade.

"The 36-month heatwave and global bleaching event were exceptional in a variety of ways," says the 2018 NOAA report titled "Unprecedented 3 years of global coral bleaching, 2014-2017." "For many reefs, this was the first time on record that they had experienced bleaching in two consecutive years."

Many South Pacific reefs experienced their worst-ever bleaching, and "reefs in the northern part of Australia's Great Barrier Reef that had never bleached before lost nearly 30% of their shallow water corals in 2016, while reefs a bit farther south lost another 22% in 2017," it continues.

"All told, more than 75% of Earth's tropical reefs experienced

bleaching-level heat stress between 2014 and 2017, and at nearly 30% of reefs, it reached mortality level."

And as a baseline, even before heat spikes, global ocean temperatures are about three-quarters of a degree warmer than a century ago, NOAA's Eakin said in the web seminar.

By 2050, he said, "90% of the coral reefs around the world are going to be suffering from the kind of heat stress that causes bleaching on an annual basis, and that's just not sustainable. If coral bleaching keeps happening over and over, it's like having forest fires come through where forest fires have already come through."

In the face of such facts, doomsday thinking is hard to avoid.

The Atlantic two years ago, right after the series of bleaching events, published an article headlined, "How Coral Researchers Are Coping With the Death of Reefs: The drumbeat of devastating news can take its toll on the mental health of people who have devoted their lives to coral."

But scientists, too, can rally against repeated stresses and find reasons to be optimistic. All the dire forecasts "do not necessarily take into account the fact that coral may be able to acclimate or climatize or have some innate resilience," says Andréa Grottoli, president of the International Coral Reef Society and professor of earth sciences at the Ohio State University. "So being able to identify resilience is critical."

The goals are, in a sense,

modest: "to act as a bridge," she says, "and maintain enough reef ecosystem function so that by the time we do get climate change under control and conditions on reefs start to improve, there's enough reef, there's enough coral there, to propagate them going forward."

Coral conservation and restoration efforts "have not always been guided by science," she says, but thanks to a growing body of research like Cunning's, "that gap is narrowing."

And there is little choice because, as Grottoli puts it, "doing nothing ensures complete failure."

So pretty much wherever researchers study coral, there is work taking place to restore reefs, to identify resilient animals, to breed them more efficiently and get them to grow more quickly.

"There is a very intense sense of urgency around these activities," says Cunning, "There is a lot of hope, otherwise people wouldn't be doing it."

The sun is out and the Caribbean is calm on this October Tuesday, a perfect afternoon for strapping on the scuba gear. A dive boat from a local Sandals resort has settled in between the Coral Reef II and the oil tanker, likely offering its dive tourists a look at an oft-visited wreck, a boat sunk on purpose for the Bond film "Never Say Never Again," and at a jaw-dropping bit of underwater geography.

"That's the wall right over there, the Tongue of the Ocean. It dips off



A staghorn coral fragment is part of Shedd researcher Ross Cunning's "reciprocal transplantation experiment" to identify heat-resistant coral.

Learn more about coral at the Shedd

Ross Cunning and other Shedd scientists go to the Bahamas to study coral. While there, they practice the same kind of reef protection people on tropical vacations should: Use only coral-safe sunscreen, be careful not to step on reefs or break off coral, and make sure you do not anchor a boat directly on a reef.

But for average folks, the Chicago aquarium offers a chance to experience the fascinating, beautiful, threatened animals far from any ocean. The main central tank on the aquarium's top floor is called the Caribbean Reef. Its 90,000-gallon tank offers a highly concentrated slice of underwater life in the vicinity of coral reefs in the region where Cunning does his research.

But down one floor, the spectacularly vivid Wild Reef exhibit, replicating Filipino reef life, goes much more specifically into what coral are, how they live and what endangers them. Its signs offer full details and helpful graphics about how coral live, reproduce and build reefs.

Opened in 2003, it talks more about pollution and other direct human threats to coral than the primary current danger of climate change.

But a newer section toward the end of Wild Reef does address the threat of global warming as it details Shedd's work, including with the SCORE International conservation group, to grow coral fragments, help coral spawn and restore reefs. One of Cunning's duties since his return from his October research trip is to lead an update of that area with a look into the research he is conducting.

Stories on the aquarium web site offer further details about coral and how Shedd works to preserve it. And guest engagement staff are on hand to augment what exhibits offer by talking directly with visitors about their interests and concerns. Some are National Network for Ocean and Climate Change Interpretation-certified, says a spokeswoman.

At the Shedd Aquarium, 1200 S. Lake Shore Drive; with \$14.95-\$39.95 general admission, 312-939-2438 and www.sheddaquarium.org

to six-and-a-half thousand feet right there," explains Hayley-Jo Carr, a native Brit and longtime dive instructor-turned-full-time coral conservationist with the Perry Institute for Marine Science, one of the Shedd's local Bahamian partners.

Almost directly below the aquarium's vessel, the Perry Institute's Reef Rescue Network has established the coral nursery where Cunning's transplanted staghorns will be placed. It's a tranquil, sandy, almost featureless location that gives no clue of the great precipice looming nearby. The nurseries themselves are as DIY as the transport racks Cunning built: This one is a stand of 11 floating trees made of white plastic PVC pipe anchored to the ocean floor. Each tree holds 50 fragments of staghorn coral dangling from the branches via fishing line, waiting for the moment when they will be moved to an existing reef in hopes of re-establishing staghorns in these waters.

Cunning, Carr and a third diver, Valeria Pizarro, a research associate at the Perry Institute originally from Colombia, kick downward, then spend the next half hour moving the fragments from the ladders onto the trees. Viewed from a snorkeler's distance at the surface, they look like farm laborers who happen to have compressed air tanks on their backs.

As they work, a Caribbean reef shark sashays slowly by, not showing much interest in the science or the people conducting it. The divers tag each coral specimen, measure it, and take a picture so there will be a baseline for comparison as local divers chart their growth in coming months and years. They use waterproof note-taking devices that resemble an Etch-A-Sketch children's toy.

"Got corals up. Took corals down. Measured corals. Photographed corals," Cunning, back on board, explains to a colleague. "Now we're done."

This is the conclusion of one round in an elaborate game of musical chairs. The design of Cunning's "big reciprocal transplantation experiment," as he puts it, has seen him move 570 coral chunks among four locations.

"We want to find which corals are going to do the best as our oceans warm," Cunning says. "That's the big advantage of being able to spread these identical coral fragments across this big temperature gradient. Transplantation on this scale to my knowledge has not been attempted before."

"It makes it a unique trip," adds John Parkinson, the University of South Florida marine biologist working with Cunning on the research. "The idea of moving corals around big distances, you can't fake."

It's possible to do such an experiment, the scientists note, precisely because the Shedd — unlike virtually any of its peers — maintains its own boat.

The Coral Reef II is more plow horse than show pony, but even if it can't run fast, it can run steady and it can run in relatively shallow waters.

The big boat hosts two motorboats that buzz out to reefs or other daily research locations. All across the main deck are a range of live wells, small tanks that can hold live specimens. On this trip, with only the biggest wells toward the

back in use to ferry the staghorns around, those on the port side serve as storage tanks for extra diving gear.

Time on such a vessel is precious and Cunning and the others on board are making full use of this two-week trip.

Earlier, he and the team took biopsies of coral on a set of reefs off of Lee Stocking Island, in the Exuma Islands archipelago to the east of New Providence, snipping tissue samples as they dove and depositing them in individual plastic envelopes for later study. They did this because 24 years before, one of the scientists who was on board earlier — Andrew Baker, who was Cunning's doctoral thesis adviser at Miami — had sampled the same reef.

"We collected the same number of the same species of coral from the same reef," Cunning says. "We now have fully comparable datasets."

Having such an apples-to-apples comparison is a rarity, and it will allow Baker and Cunning to determine whether the corals' algae have changed over that time period: "Has there been any increase in thermally tolerant symbionts?" he asks. In other words: Are the algae and their coral hosts adapting to warmer waters on their own?

A third, ongoing project, is, in essence, a coral sampling extravaganza. Taking DNA biopsies whenever he gets the opportunity, which the divers do by using a very specific human cosmetic device to snip no more of the polyp than a parrotfish might bite off, Cunning is building a database of coral from across the Bahamas, specimens that he will bring back to Shedd and analyze in the on-site genetics lab, in part to track what he calls "genetic flow."

"We use Revlon Gold heavy-duty toenail clippers," he says with a smile. That brand seems to hold up best to being used underwater.

Also on board is Shedd researcher Andy Kough, taking advantage of the fact that spiny lobsters, one of the species he studies, can be found in the vicinity of corals. "My normal move is conchs," says the effervescent Kough, who shares an office with Cunning back in Chicago, "but since (Ross) is going to reefs, lobsters love reefs."

While the captain, first mate and cook take care of everyone's seafaring and nutritional needs, a Shedd aquarist who grew up in Oak Park and two University of Miami graduate students help the Shedd scientists; the latter's deep orange "UMiami Scientific Diving" swim shirts are the envy of most everyone aboard. Shayle Matsuda, a University of Hawaii doctoral student originally from Evanston, joined the trip to conduct his own research on corals.

And the Shedd's dive program manager, Spring Grove native Amanda Weiler, is aboard, too, supervising the dives, recording tank pressure levels and the like, as she is on hand to do, she explains, on any dive-heavy trip.

"The Shedd was, like, my dream growing up!" Matsuda tells her. "Mine, too!" Weiler exclaims. "Wild Reef was my 'aha' moment."

There are 13 people aboard, not counting two visiting journalists

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Reefs, from Previous Page

and a PR representative, and the 14-or-more-hour days move in a steady rhythm of breakfast, dives, lunch, dives and more dives, dinner and then, at night, pulling out the laptops to record data collected during the day.

On Tuesday evening, after the corals have been transplanted off of New Providence, the boat begins the journey around the island to anchor overnight to the west, near the Exumas, a location particularly popular with tourists who have boats because of the protected marine national park and the sheer number of islands to visit.

Dinner — flank steak, gnocchi with peas, buttered carrots and cherry cheesecake, all prepared in the boat's galley — has been cleared, and the boat is underway. As the diesel engine thrums below decks, the laptops come out. Carr is doing a Facebook post on behalf of the Perry Institute. A crossword book somebody brought gets passed around.

A researcher copying underwater photos via the cabin's sole desktop computer shouts, "Dendro!"

"Dendrogyra is very rare and endangered in Florida," explains Parkinson, the USF professor, "but there's a lot of it here. We get excited."

The common name of dendrogyra cylindrus is pillar coral, for the way the species grows upward, like clusters of cactus. On a Shedd research trip to the Exumas in the spring, Cunning says, he saw a group of dendrogyra that he calls "probably the coolest coral colony I've ever seen."

"It was by far the largest individual pillar coral colony I've seen — like, by orders of magnitude," he later elaborates. "It would probably take five minutes to swim all around it. I had no idea they could even get that big."

He biopsied it, of course. In light of the challenges facing coral, such notes of encouragement take on magnified importance. Cunning mentions the big news that the Florida Aquarium, in Tampa, recently announced it had successfully induced pillar coral to spawn in captivity.

It was a world-first that could be crucial in saving the species from extinction, said Roger Germann, the former Shedd executive who now runs the Florida Aquarium, in announcing the breeding success.

The scientists on board have been encouraged, too, they say, by the release of "Chasing Coral" and



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Kelsey Johnson-Sapp, a coral researcher from University of Miami, prepares collected coral samples.

the positive reception it's received. "I think most people know," says Matsuda. "They know what coral bleaching is, whereas 10 years ago ..."

But hanging over everything is a throbbing question.

It will be explained in stark terms later, in a phone interview, by Phillip Dustan, a veteran reef scientist at the College of Charleston who worked with famed oceanographer Jacques Cousteau in the 1970s and was featured in "Chasing Coral."

"They want to replant the reef and regenerate the reef?" Dustan says. "That'll be great until it gets hot again, and then they'll die."

On board the Coral Reef II, the researchers are all too aware of this dilemma — that maybe in the most narrow-eyed analysis the action that will do coral the most good is to devote all of one's efforts to slowing down the planet's warming.

Carr frames it directly. Research and conservation efforts like her organization's Reef Rescue Network around the Bahamas and Cunning's efforts to find heat-resistant coral are important, she says, to help the animals survive what is coming. "It's a race to increase resilience," she says.

But, she says, "All of that is still in vain if we don't address climate change. We are one part of a huge research community. We're doing everything we can. But the (primary) thing that will save them is mitigating climate change."

The summer of 2019 was op-

pressive, the warmest she's experienced in a decade in the Bahamas.

"It was just too hot," Carr says. "We need to find that supercoral, right, Ross?"

The patch reef is more beautiful than its name would imply, a swirling oasis of life centered on a mobile-home-sized coral mound in the clear waters of the Yellow Bank, a rarely navigated region between the Exumas and New Providence.

Cunning spotted these reefs from a small airplane last year. He knew he wanted to return and visit them up close because "they're in the middle of a very large, shallow bank where the water can heat up more quickly than the deeper waters surrounding it," he says. "But despite those higher temperatures, the area is full of these patch reefs."

"If they've been adapting to this warm place for a very long time now, we can essentially ask them, How did you do it? We can query their genomes and now start to understand genetically how they have adapted to live in warmer places."

But as Wednesday morning breaks he has to wait to even get there because these can be treacherous waters, precisely because of the patch reefs. The boat's captain won't move into their vicinity until the sun is high enough that he can clearly see the coral heads below the ocean's surface.

"I love the fact of, How many people do you think have ever

been to these random little specks of reef?" says Kough, Cunning's Shedd colleague. "Probably not many."

As the boat waits on the sun, the scientists ready their instruments. In addition to taking biopsies for DNA samples, Cunning and the team will also plant devices, known by their "HOBO" trade-name, that periodically log water temperatures and can be retrieved later.

And they will test a new, \$30,000 device on loan from its German manufacturer that uses light to measure coral health non-invasively. About the size of two two-liter soda bottles end-to-end, it will be aimed at coral to take readings and, as one scientist put it, "see if we can figure out a metric to see if they're bleaching before they bleach."

Cunning talks with his fellow divers as the sun reaches the necessary height and the vessel begins picking its way toward the target reefs.

"Your mission will be to find a patch reef," he tells Brendan Wylie, the Shedd aquarist from Oak Park, who cares for coral in his job at the aquarium.

"Should I care to accept it," Wylie responds, quoting "Mission: Impossible."

"You have to accept it," says Cunning, laughing. As lead researcher on this trip, he is in charge of the science, just as the captain is in charge of the boat. "So find 20 to 30 samples and deploy a HOBO."

In a few minutes, Kough steps into the room, excited. "Patches!" he announces.

They are called patch reefs because they dot the sandy sea floor like adornments sewn randomly onto a jacket. Almost as soon as Coral Reef II can drop anchor — being careful not to strike a reef — Cunning and three other divers are down under, giving their target a thorough exam.

"The corals on the Yellow Bank looked pretty good," Cunning will say later. "They were nice reefs. They had high coral cover, maybe 40% or even higher. There's still a pretty good diversity and the corals were healthy there," not actively bleaching like the team observed in some earlier dive areas on the trip.

There are no staghorn, but here and on nearby reefs are almost two dozen other coral species, most prominently the mountainous star coral and the mustard hill coral, unimpressive in its lumpen, yellow appearance but known to be one of the most stress-tolerant of Caribbean corals.

Around them is a seemingly thriving little biosphere. Tucked into a sort of cave is a spiny lobster, the target of the Bahamas' biggest fishing industry, identifiable by its spotted body and hide-and-seek nature. The sponges that resemble badly-thrown pottery are called, naturally enough, vase sponges; glazed in earthy green and scattered atop the reef, they look like the early days of someone's new craft hobby.

Gloriously striped little fish dart in and out of the hollows, their quickness a reminder of their place in the food chain. Looking like a particularly maladapted school of fish themselves, Cunning and his fellow black-suited divers move more slowly, pinching and probing, on their way to collecting 146 DNA samples from four such reefs. Their exhaled breath rises in silver bubbles, breaking at the surface 15 or so feet above and just a few kicks away from the back platform of the research vessel.

Swimming around this reef is like getting a window into a time when coral reefs were abundant and relatively unthreatened. This one has been chosen to offer its secrets to scientists who would protect it for the future. But it is, again, a speck in the ocean, a patch applied to a very big problem.

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Family of man who died in store sues

He was detained by security on suspicion of shoplifting Nov. 22

BY MARIE FAZIO

The family of the man who died last month inside a bustling Lakeview East Jewel-Osco while being detained by security on suspicion of shoplifting has filed a wrongful death lawsuit against the store, according to the Cook County Circuit Court.

The eight-count lawsuit, filed Tuesday by the victim's nephew, Abelardo Escriba-Omar, charges Jewel Food Stores and holds the store, 3531 N. Broadway, responsible for the victim's death and for the injuries the victim suffered before his death, according to the family's attorney.

According to authorities, Eugenio Escriba-Guzman, 55, was detained in Jewel-Osco after employees suspected him of shoplifting on Nov. 20 about 6:45 p.m. Employees said he had "store merchandise" in a bag and he was seen "walking past the point of sale, at which point he was detained," police said at the time.

Escriba-Guzman was handcuffed and "escorted" to a security office, officials said, where responding officers found him handcuffed, unconscious and "slumped backward," police spokeswoman Kellie Bartoli said at the time.

Paramedics arrived and attempted to revive him but he was pronounced dead at the scene, she said. An autopsy on the body of the man, was inconclusive and pending further information, according to the Cook County medical examiner's office.

"We're continuing to investigate this tragic incident," said Jay McCarron, the attorney representing the victim's family.

The lawsuit alleges that the security guards and other employees were acting "within the scope of their employment" when they grabbed the victim by his clothing, threw him to the ground and moved him to a separate room in the store.

"As a direct and proximate result of one or more of the aforementioned intentional acts by the Defendant ... (the deceased) then and there suffered severe injuries, both internally and externally," the lawsuit states.

The family seeks compensation of more than \$50,000 for the "harm caused by the defendant ... for the defendant's egregious conduct, to deter this defendant from negligent acts and to protect the public safety, according to the lawsuit.

"We're trying to find out what the reason for using such aggressive force was," McCarron said. "Whatever they think he did, it's hard to envision how the force being used was reasonable given the circumstances."

"He was battered and pinned to the ground," he added. "He suffered significant fear and pain and suffering."

The attorneys have asked that Jewel preserve all relevant evidence. McCarron said he expects the case to proceed under normal civil procedure.

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CAMILLE FINE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Interim Chicago Police Supt. Charlie Beck, left, and Mayor Lori Lightfoot hang decorations outside of Washington Park Field House on Saturday.

Activists work to spread hope with lights along King Drive

BY DEANESE WILLIAMS-HARRIS

Community activists from My Block, My Hood, My City were nearing the end of efforts to round up volunteers willing to hang holiday lights on King Drive in a symbolic effort of trading trauma for hope.

"Our hopes are to light up King Drive," said Jahmal Cole, one of the "Be a Part of the Light" campaign organizers. "Almost 1,000 people have helped so far. We want to replace the trauma with hope."

King Drive began as Grand Boulevard, then South Park Avenue, before being named after civil

rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in 1968. Sadly, King Drive marks places on the South Side where violence and crime have been rampant.

More than 10 Chicago neighborhoods cross King Drive, from Bronzeville to Roseland, and the group hopes to inspire community members as well as outsiders to work together for peace, Cole said.

"We are elevating empathy," he said. "In the words of MLK: 'Darkness cannot drive out darkness, only light can do that.' We are trying to take away the darkness."

As of Friday, Cole said the group had about 100 homes or structures to go, including string-

ing lights on the Washington Park Fieldhouse, just south of Garfield Boulevard.

Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot attended a lighting ceremony Saturday afternoon at the park.

On Sunday, the group is set to convene at Palmer Park, 201 E. 111th St., from noon to 3 p.m. and focus on homes from 103rd to 115th streets in the Roseland neighborhood.

This Christmas holiday marks the second year of working to expand cheer beyond the Loop and Magnificent Mile.

In all, My Block, My Hood, My City wants to encourage the community to work together by bringing lights to sometimes dark

streets.

"Our want is to inspire people. Hanging lights is just an excuse to get people working together," Cole said. "Why do the holiday lights stop downtown?"

Cole knows the importance of setting an example for the younger generation, he said.

"It may surprise some, but some of these kids have never seen a Christmas tree," Cole said. "But today, they will see people sharing and working together to make things better."

Cole added he hopes the movement will continue yearly throughout Chicago.

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Geography bee cheating allegations center of upcoming trial

Accusations rocked Oak Brook district nearly 4 years ago

BY MADELINE BUCKLEY

Nearly four years after geography bee cheating allegations rocked an Oak Brook school district, the long and costly litigation that followed is set to culminate with a federal trial scheduled to begin Monday in Chicago.

Dr. Rahul Julka, a DuPage County surgeon, and his wife Komal Julka are seeking millions of dollars from the Butler School District 53 in the west suburb, alleging that the school district destroyed their reputations with unfounded accusations of cheating in the geography bee in which their sons, then 9 and 11, were set to compete in January 2016.

The school district, though, has maintained that it took appropriate action after, it says, Komal Julka registered as a "fraudulent" home school provider to purchase the geography bee questions from the company that administered the bee. She was also accused of

sharing the questions with at least one other family.

The trial is scheduled to be held in front of U.S. District Judge Matthew Kenedy at the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse in the Loop. Kenedy previously dismissed some counts of the lawsuit, but allowed two to go forward: that the school district intentionally caused the family emotional distress and that the school conducted an improper investigation and retaliated against the older boy when the family filed a grievance against the school by inserting negative records into his file.

The cheating allegations spawned multiple lawsuits after the school sanctioned the Julka boys and another student who was accused of obtaining the questions. The Julka family has said they obtained the test material unintentionally and that the school's process of issuing punishment was secretive and unfair.

Neither the school district nor its attorneys responded to requests for comment. In the past, former district Superintendent Heidi Wennstrom said the lawsuit was frivolous and would drain re-

sources from the schools.

In a statement sent to the Tribune, Komal Julka wrote that the family looks forward to telling their story in court.

"The acts done by the former school principal, former superintendent and former board president have caused significant grief to my family," she wrote.

In 2016, Julka's sons, then in fourth and fifth grades, were scheduled to participate in a preliminary round of the National Geographic Bee, an annual contest that the boys' school, Brook Forest Elementary School, was participating in that year.

In the federal suit, the Julka family says the boys' uncle, who was helping them study, went to the geography bee's website and purchased what the family thought were study materials to prepare for the contest. The uncle purchased the material with the mother's credit card, the suit says. He gave his home address and the National Geographic Society did a background check.

A few days before the geography bee, Komal Julka offered to share the materials with the

mother of classmates of her sons. That woman reported the alleged cheating to the school.

Komal Julka also went to "self-report" the incident to school administrators, and she and her husband decided to withdraw the boys from the competition, the suit said.

The school district banned the boys from all academic competitions in District 53 and added sanctions to their student records. The district handed down the same sanctions for the third student who was accused of also obtaining the material.

The Julka family first filed a lawsuit in DuPage County courts that was later dismissed. The school district lifted the penalties and removed the student file notes. Later, in April 2017, the family filed a federal lawsuit, saying the litigation wasn't about the money but was meant to bring attention to the issue.

The Julkas' complaint originally asked for an award of \$50 million. Their attorney, Dan Herbert, said they are asking for "millions" but are no longer asking for \$50 million.



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Mayor presses utility, aide's wife is lobbyist

Lightfoot sees no issues with ComEd, security chief's ties

BY JOHN BYRNE

Mayor Lori Lightfoot is calling for answers from ComEd over the federal investigation into its lobbying activities at the same time the wife of the mayor's security chief is working as a lobbyist for the utility.

Margaret Houlihan Smith in October added ComEd to her lobbying clients, and listed dozens of city departments she might lobby on the utility's behalf, including the mayor's office, according to city records.

The arrangement has raised questions about the kind of information Houlihan Smith might be privy to and the kind of access she could promise. But the mayor's office said it saw no issues with her security chief, James Smith, being married to a lobbyist for ComEd.

Houlihan Smith is a professional and is entitled to make a living, mayoral spokeswoman Lauren Huffman said in a statement.

"Beyond that, Jim Smith's sole responsibility in the administration is to oversee the security detail



Margaret Houlihan Smith testifies at a 2017 Chicago City Council Aviation Committee hearing about United Airlines forcibly removing a passenger from a flight at O'Hare.

protecting the mayor and her family. He does not have any role in policy or business decisions," Huffman said. "As noted at the start of the administration, Ms. Houlihan Smith is an experienced professional and understands there must be a clear separation between her professional work and Jim Smith's role in the Mayor's Office."

Houlihan Smith could not be reached for comment on her work for ComEd — specifically what type of

lobbying she might do on the utility's behalf. She was hired by ComEd in October as a contract lobbyist for matters both in Chicago and at the state level, according to Jean Medina, a spokeswoman for the utility.

Houlihan Smith is one of several former staffers for House Speaker Michael Madigan who have gotten work from ComEd. The Tribune was the first to report that federal authorities have asked questions about Madigan and his po-

litical operation as part of an ongoing investigation.

The Tribune also has reported that federal authorities had recorded the calls of former ComEd lobbyist Mike McClain, a long-time close Madigan confidant.

The federal investigation into the utility's lobbying activities has been roiling Springfield for much of this year. The Tribune has reported federal authorities are looking at payments made through ComEd's

network of consultants to people who seemed to have done little work. The payments were aimed at currying favor with certain lawmakers while circumventing lobbying disclosure rules, a source told the Tribune.

During a radio interview last week, the mayor said she needs an explanation from ComEd officials about the growing lobbying scandal in Springfield before considering renewing the utility's franchise agreement with Chicago in 2020.

"I think there's a lot of questions that ComEd is going to have to answer before we're going to get comfortable renewing our franchise," Lightfoot said in the interview with WLS-AM 890 reporter Bill Cameron. "We're in the early stages of those discussions, but the more that gets dribbled out through media accounts, my concern is rising."

In addition to ComEd, Houlihan Smith represents United Airlines, electronic cigarette giant Juul, slot machine and electronic gambling conglomerate Accel Entertainment and AT&T Illinois at City Hall, according to city lobbying records.

James Smith was a former U.S. marshal and a

managing partner at Silver Star Protection Group when Lightfoot announced after her election that he would coordinate her security. The move was a departure from the long tradition of the Chicago Police Department handling that duty.

Shortly after Lightfoot took office in May, Houlihan Smith declined to comment on the steps she and her husband planned to take to keep his security work for the mayor and her lobbying at City Hall separate.

Smith is often seen around City Council chambers, both when he's accompanying the mayor as part of her security detail and during council committee meetings when Lightfoot isn't on hand.

The couple also is sometimes seen together with politicians at City Hall. Earlier this fall, Houlihan Smith was seen introducing her husband to Northwest Side Ald. Jim Gardiner, 45th, in the hallway outside chambers. Gardiner said he vaguely remembered the introduction, but didn't think there was anything unusual about it.

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Pot

Continued from Page 1

because it's familiar and people know what to do with it.

There are also edible chocolates, cookies and gummies, cannabis-infused patches and rubs for sore muscles, tinctures that can be dropped under the tongue and concentrates in various forms.

Illinois dispensaries are expected to sell dozens of different products at the beginning of recreational sales. In the first full year of recreational sales, flower is expected to make up 55% of sales, edibles to comprise 22% and concentrates 20%, according to data from Chicago-based cannabis research firm Brightfield Group.

Do I need to bring my state ID or driver's license?

Yes. Only people 21 and older are allowed to buy marijuana. Customers will be required to show their ID before entering a store.

How much can I buy?

The law allows possession of 30 grams or about 1 ounce of flower, which is about as much as an adult can hold in cupped hands. Adults also can have 5 grams of cannabis concentrate for vaping, or 500 milligrams of the psychoactive ingredient THC in cannabis-infused products.

Stores won't be able to sell more than the legal limit in a single transaction, said Chris Slaby, spokesman for the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation.

It's up to individual consumers to make sure they don't possess more weed than allowed, but there's nothing to stop them from shopping at multiple dispensaries.

However, most stores expect the supply of marijuana products to run low during the first six months or so of sales. If that occurs, retailers might limit how much recreational customers can buy, or sell only to medical patients.

What if I'm coming from out of state?

Visitors, or those with out-of-state IDs, may possess up to 15 grams of marijuana.

It must be kept in a sealed container and inaccessible while driving. It's illegal to take marijuana across state lines, so it must be consumed before leaving Illinois. Using weed in a car or plane is banned.

How do I pay for it?

Most dispensaries only accept cash. Marijuana is still federally illegal, which means most banks don't work with companies in the industry. The same goes for credit card companies and payment processors. Many dispensaries have on-site



Kris Krane, president and co-founder of 4Front Ventures, which owns the Mission Dispensary, shows tags with product information for customers.



William Grabiec, left, is assisted by agent Dylan Williams at the Midway Dispensary in Chicago in October.

ATMs, and some have payment systems that accept debit or ATM cards.

Marijuana prices can vary, depending on the product and its potency.

With medical marijuana sales, the average transaction at Mission South Shore dispensary in the South Chicago neighborhood is about \$80, said general manager Rick Armstrong. At Midway Dispensary near the airport, a customer could get a 10-pack of cannabis-infused gummies, or a couple of pre-rolled, ready-to-smoke joints for \$20 to \$30.

Taxes vary by product and by THC content, which is displayed on packaging. Marijuana-infused products will be taxed at 20%. All other marijuana with 35% THC or less will be

taxed at 10%, and marijuana with THC content higher than 35% will be taxed at 25%.

That's in addition to standard state and local sales taxes. Municipalities also can collect up to 3% in marijuana taxes, and many, including Deerfield and Buffalo Grove, have decided to do so.

Will I be able to see the weed before buying?

No. Illinois retailers must keep products locked up before a sale.

Medical dispensaries usually display product packaging, so consumers can pick up the packages and read the descriptions. Some have touch-screen computers or tablets where customers look through the menu of products and learn

about the flavor profiles and THC content.

Occasionally, medical dispensaries will get sample jars with perforated tops so consumers can smell the cannabis before buying. Some hang product posters throughout the dispensary, so customers can see a picture of what they're buying. Only after a customer makes a purchase is the product handed over. The same process is expected with recreational sales.

Will I have to wait in line?

Probably. Most dispensaries have waiting areas for customers after they present their ID to security and before they go into the retail area. Some of those areas are very small.

The line likely will move

slowly in the early days of recreational sales, as workers take time to educate customers and talk through the available products, said Kris Krane, president and co-founder of 4Front Ventures, which owns the Mission dispensary.

"Even if they have experience with cannabis, (they) don't have experience with all the kinds of cannabis available on the legal market," he said.

Can I order online?

Many stores will allow customers to pre-order online, and pay when they pick up their order. Customers still must show their ID to get inside the store.

Can I light up as soon as I leave the store?

No. The law bans smoking in streets, parks and other public areas. Condominium associations can also prohibit on-site smoking. Chicago residents will be able to smoke weed in their balconies or backyards without being ticketed.

Where is the weed grown?

Marijuana cannot legally be transported across state lines, so everything purchased at a dispensary in Illinois was grown in the state. That's the same marijuana that's being grown for medical use.

Does marijuana go bad?

Most products have a sell-by date. Edibles typically expire in three to six months, and cannabis-infused concentrates last about a year, said Mission's

"Even if they have experience with cannabis, (they) don't have experience with all the kinds of cannabis available on the legal market."

— Kris Krane, president and co-founder of 4Front Ventures

Armstrong.

The expiration date speaks more to the quality of the product, he said. The effects it has on a user will be the same, but flower might dry out, for example, or cannabis-infused chocolate might melt.

Concentrates last the longest. Armstrong from Mission recommends storing cannabis products at about 65 degrees and keeping them out of sunlight. If cannabis flower dries out, sealing an orange peel in with the marijuana for a day or two will re-moisten it.

Does marijuana ever go on sale?

For medical patients, many dispensaries offer deals on certain days of the week and those discounts are expected to be offered to recreational buyers. Others run promotions or have loyalty programs.

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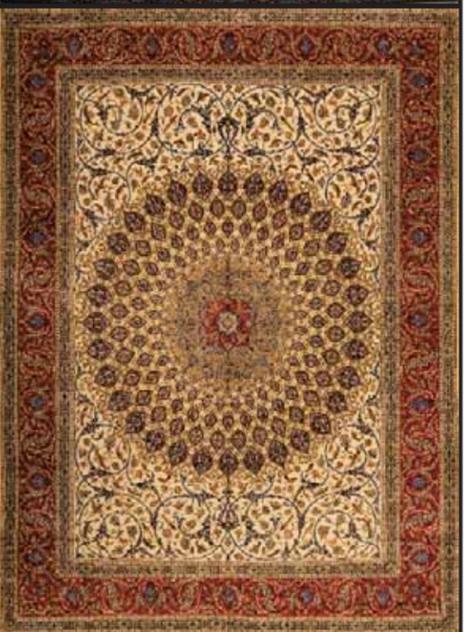
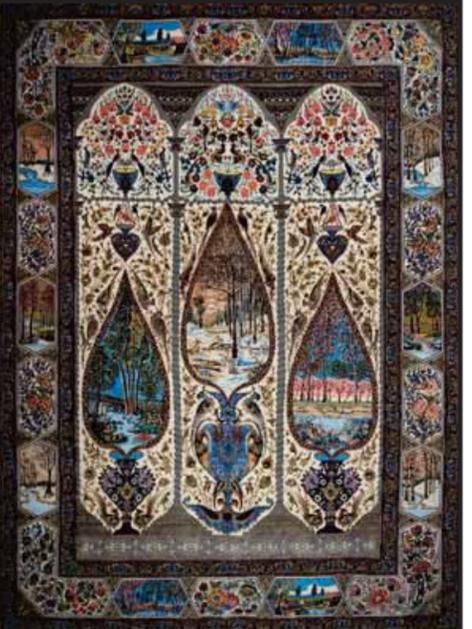
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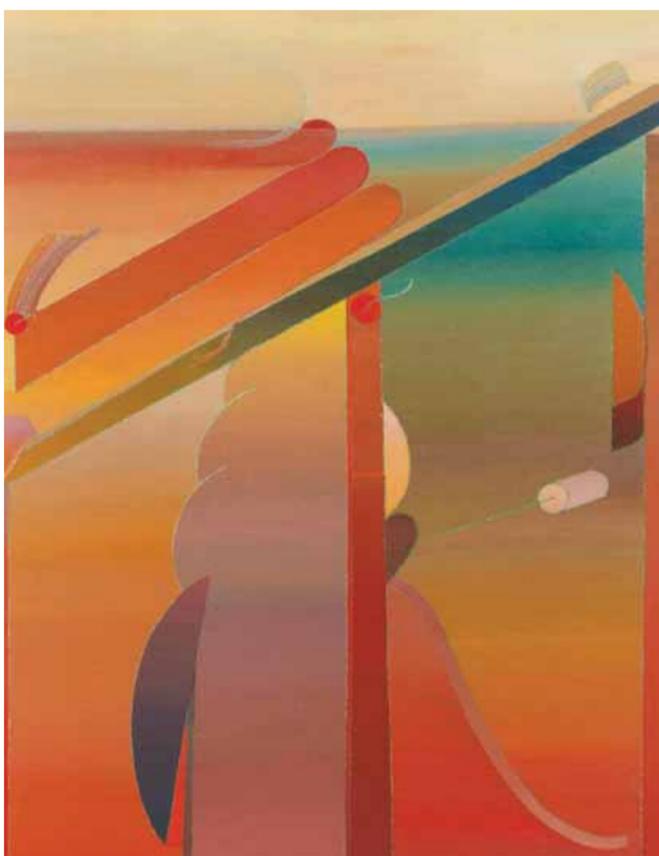
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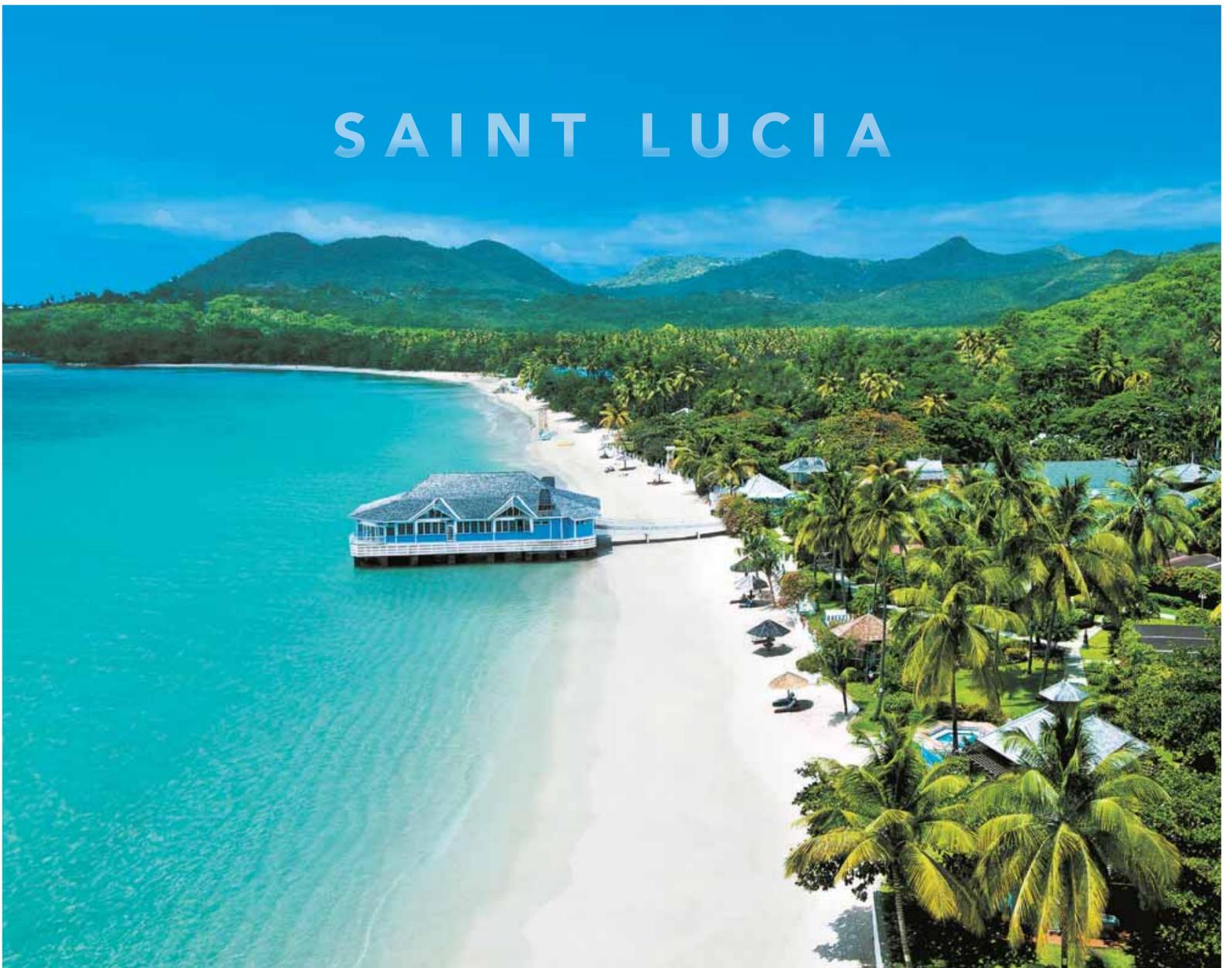


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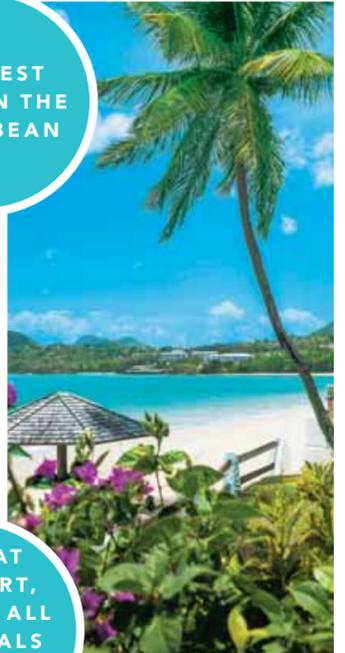
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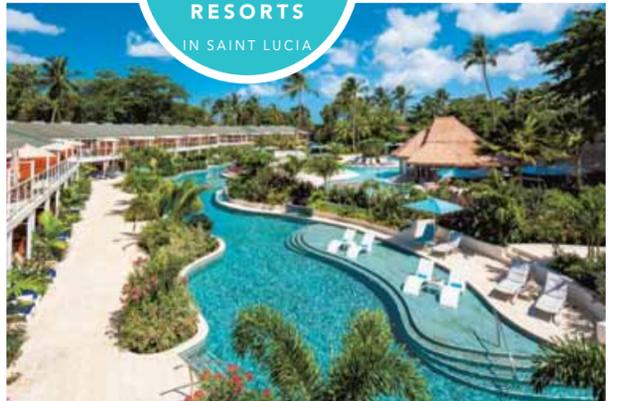


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Disciplinary panel suspends CPD sergeant for 6 months

BY JEREMY GORNER

A unanimous police disciplinary panel has suspended a Chicago police sergeant for six months without pay after he admitted that he unjustifiably used deadly force when he shot an unarmed teen with developmental disabilities in an off-duty incident two years ago.

The 7-0 decision by the Chicago Police Board on Thursday short-circuited the usual process that takes months to play out as administrative charges are filed and hearings on the evidence are held. The Police Board's eight-page decision noted that the shooting victim, Ricardo "Ricky" Hayes, has "an intellectual disability" that makes it impossible for him to be called as a witness at hearings. No one else witnessed the shooting on the Far South Side, the board said.

Even before any charges had publicly been filed before the Police Board, Sgt. Khalil Muhammad agreed to admit he violated various department rules in return for the recommended six-month suspension — a punishment that has been criticized as inadequate by attorneys for the 18-year-old wounded in the 2017 shooting as well as a Chicago police sergeant who filed a whistleblower suit against the city over the case.

The Civilian Office of Police Accountability, which investigates police shootings, had concluded that Muhammad acted in an "objectively unreasonable" fashion yet initially recommended only a suspension of 90 days without pay. After consulting with then-Superintendent Eddie Johnson, though, COPA agreed that Muhammad's punishment should be doubled to six months without pay.

But attorneys for Hayes and Sgt. Isaac Lambert, whose whistleblower lawsuit alleges the department tried to cover up the cir-

cumstances of the shooting, have said Muhammad should have been fired.

Among its findings, the Police Board held that Muhammad acted "without lawful justification" when he used force "likely to cause death or bodily harm without a reasonable belief that such force was necessary."

COPA's 30-page investigative report, obtained by the Tribune in a public records request earlier this year, said Muhammad had ended his late-night patrol shift in the Calumet District later than usual on Aug. 13, 2017. As he neared home in the Morgan Park neighborhood, he said he saw a suspicious black male by his

automatic pistol twice. Shortly after the shooting, a neighbor found a black cell-phone near where Hayes had been standing. Hayes suffered a through-and-through wound to his left armpit and a graze wound to his upper left arm. He was taken to Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn and treated.

Muhammad later told investigators that Hayes also had taken several steps toward him at the same time as he reached back and pulled out the dark object, according to COPA's report. COPA found that a preponderance of the evidence — meaning it was more likely than not — showed that Muhammad's decision to

Ricardo Hayes reportedly has an intellectual disability that makes it impossible for him to be called as a witness at hearings.

next-door neighbor's car shortly after 5 a.m., COPA said. Muhammad said he recalled that an officer who lived nearby had a gun and wallet stolen.

Muhammad, dressed in civilian clothes, told investigators in his initial interview more than a month after the incident that he identified himself as a police officer and asked Hayes what he was doing but that Hayes said something and ran off. After making a U-turn, Muhammad said he again announced his office to Hayes and said, "Let me see your hands," the report said. Muhammad told COPA that Hayes turned toward him, reached back with his right hand and started to pull a dark object out of his waistband — actions, he said, that were "consistent with someone pulling a weapon."

Still sitting in the driver's seat of his girlfriend's SUV, Muhammad said he feared for his life and fired his 15-shot Glock 9 mm semi-

open fire was "objectively unreasonable" and that an officer "with similar training and experience" would not have found that Hayes posed an immediate threat.

To back up its decision, COPA concluded that:

■ Muhammad, clad in a hoodie, could not reasonably expect Hayes to obey his oral commands because he was not obviously a law enforcement officer.

■ Muhammad had no reason to believe Hayes had committed a crime, let alone a violent one, or to believe he was armed and dangerous.

■ Hayes posed no immediate threat of death or serious bodily harm to Muhammad.

Faced with a much tougher standard of proof — beyond a reasonable doubt — the Cook County state's attorney's office declined to bring criminal charges against Muhammad.

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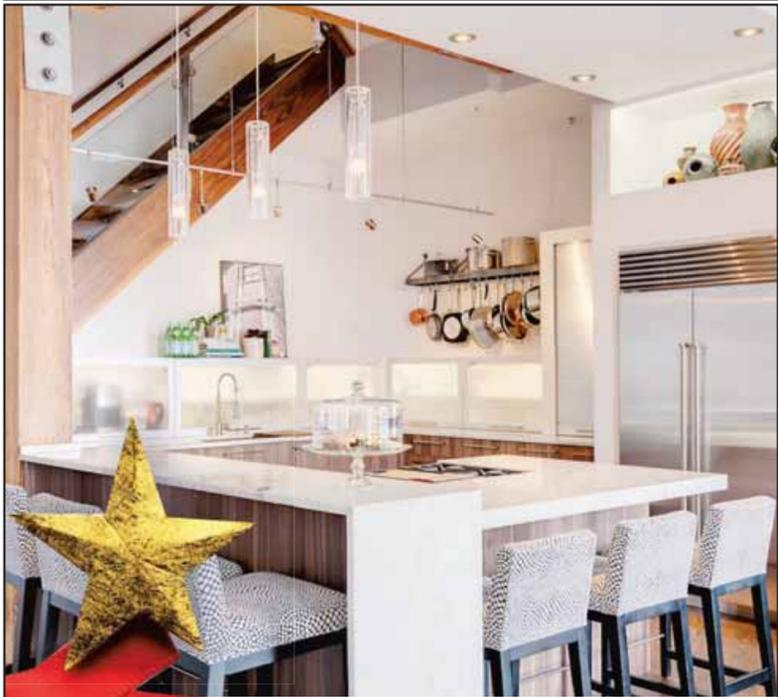
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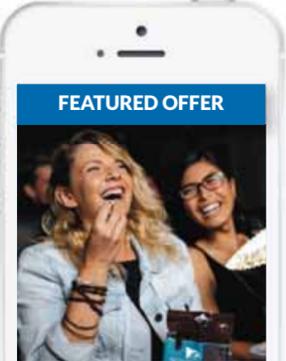
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Dr. Anne Fabricius and Dr. Stephanie Tsai at Oak Park Prosthodontics are passionate about providing patients with conservative, minimally invasive dental treatments.

Dr. Fabricius explains that the practice of minimally invasive dentistry begins with establishing the correct diagnosis. "Errors in diagnosis can lead to extensive dental work that may not be necessary. We commonly meet patients who have been told their fillings need to be replaced 'due to decay' but really just have staining around the edges and do not need treatment. Another example are patients who have been told that they have 'a cracked tooth' and need a crown – but really need nothing at all."

When a tooth does require treatment, all treatment options should be explored. Dr. Fabricius explains, "for example, a tooth that has been planned for a crown may be eligible for a filling or a more conservative onlay. During preparation for a crown, the entire outer surface of a tooth is drilled away. Alternatively, a filling only requires that the diseased tooth structure be removed, allowing large portions of healthy tooth to remain intact. Despite this, fillings are sometimes not offered because they can be time-consuming and less profitable for the dentist."

Dr. Fabricius explains that she frequently meets patients that are considering aggressive cosmetic treatments, such as veneers, that can require a substantial amount of their teeth to be drilled away. "While veneers are sometimes the appropriate treatment, less invasive treatments, such as whitening and



composite bonding should also be explored. These treatments are not only less expensive, but they require very little drilling. Our patients are amazed at the results."

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"Errors in diagnosis can lead to extensive dental work that may not be necessary."

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Dr. Anne Fabricius

Dr. Anne M. Fabricius

Northwestern University, BA Biological Sciences, *cum laude*
Harvard School of Dental Medicine, Doctor of Dental Medicine
University of Illinois at Chicago, Certificate in Prosthodontics

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Fearless Thunberg proves she's worthy of Time honor



HEIDI STEVENS
Balancing Act

Greta Thunberg spent her first day as Time's Person of the Year proving why she's worthy of the designation.

Bright and early Thursday morning, President Donald Trump hopped on Twitter to express his displeasure with Time's selection of the 16-year-old Swedish climate activist.

"So ridiculous," he wrote. "Greta must work on her Anger Management problem, then go to a good old fashioned movie with a friend! Chill Greta, Chill!"

Thunberg promptly updated her Twitter bio, which now reads: "A teenager working on her anger management problem. Currently chilling and watching a good old fashioned movie with a friend."

If you're going to shake the world from its slumber over the climate crisis; if you're going to energize and mobilize an entire generation of young people to save the planet they're inheriting; if you're going to argue your case in front of formal gatherings of leaders from across the globe; if you're going to do all this in spite of a large and loud cacophony of haters, you can't back down from a fight.

From Time's profile: "Thunberg began a global movement by skipping school: starting in August 2018, she spent her days camped out in front of the Swedish Parliament, holding a sign painted in black letters on a white background that read Skolstrejk för klimatet: 'School Strike for Climate.' In the 16 months since, she has addressed heads of state at the U.N., met with the Pope, sparred with the



carbon footprint. She has focused the world's attention on environmental injustices that young indigenous activists have been protesting for years. Because of her, hundreds of thousands of teenage 'Gretas,' from Lebanon to Liberia, have skipped school to lead their peers in climate strikes around the world."

I can't think of a better example of anger management, to be honest. What better way to channel the dread and fury and sorrow and panic you feel when you begin to grasp the scope of a catastrophe, than to get to work chipping away at it?

Of course people who don't want your solutions, who don't like what you're proposing, who stand to lose — profits, power, face — if things go your way would prefer you chill. Watch a good old fashioned movie. Ignore the problems looming outside your window, or, at the very least, numb yourself to them.

Thunberg has shown no appetite for such complacency.

She's the youngest person ever named Time's Person of the Year, a 92-year-old feature that annually designates a powerful individual who the magazine believes most significantly shaped the world that year.

"Meaningful change rarely happens without the galvanizing force of influential individuals," Time's editor in chief Edward Felsenthal wrote, "and in 2019, the earth's existential crisis found one in Greta Thunberg."

She may be just the ally this earth needs.

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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Child sex offenders in Aurora told they must move

Proximity of park cited to 19 Wayside ministries residents

BY MEGAN JONES, SARAH FREISHTAT AND DENISE CROSBY

For the second time this year, child sex offenders who live at Wayside Cross Ministries in Aurora were given letters stating they must find a new place to live within 30 days.

An Aurora police officer delivered letters to 19 residents who were scheduled to receive them around 7:30 a.m. Friday morning, police spokesman Paris Lewbel said. The letters said the men reside within 500 feet of McCarty Park and therefore by law must move.

The residents received similar notices in June but were allowed to remain at Wayside pending the result of a federal civil lawsuit filed against the city of Aurora. After the suit was voluntarily dismissed in late October, it was unclear whether the residents would be required to relocate until the new notification letters arrived Friday.

Wayside has operated for nine decades at its current downtown location and runs a variety of Christian-based rehabilitation programs, including those that help former inmates reenter society after leaving prison. Wayside houses 90 residents and 19 are registered



STEVE LORD/BEACON-NEWS

Wayside Cross Ministries in Aurora has been in the spotlight concerning 19 child sex offenders who live at the mission.

child sex offenders.

With breakfast already behind them Friday morning, most of the men were either in a classroom or, like Marcus Sabo, already at their jobs when authorities arrived.

Sabo, a four-year resident of Wayside and an employee, was the first to be called into a conference room, where the men were brought one by one and presented with the papers.

Sabo acknowledged "we knew this time was coming," and said he is committed to fighting in court any attempts to remove the men. "I thought this would

happen at some point," said Sabo, who has become the leader of the Wayside residents' battle with the city. "But I was guessing it would be some time next year ... although the timing does not matter too much."

Wayside Executive Director James Lukose, though, said the timing is meaningful.

"I was surprised, or saddened, with the fact that during the Christmas season these men have to go through this uncertainty in their life," Lukose said.

Attorneys Adele Nicholas and Mark Weinberg represented the 19 men in their

lawsuit against the city. Five of the men are resident staff members.

Nicholas said the city is standing by its position that McCarty Park is a playground, and Wayside's convicted child sex offenders live illegally within 500 feet of the park. Nicholas and Weinberg plan to meet with Wayside residents over the weekend to discuss a response.

"It's, of course, disappointing," Nicholas said. "This law is one of the most unjust laws in Illinois because people who are doing absolutely nothing wrong are suddenly told its a felony to remain where they are. There is no other law that works like that."

Nicholas said it is very likely they will file a lawsuit in Kane County that will tackle the heart of the problem: Is McCarty Park considered a playground and what are the perimeters for measuring the distance to Wayside?

Weinberg said they are planning to ask for an injunction or stay of enforcement as part of the state lawsuit, which they hope will mean the men will not be required to move out Jan. 15. Whether those measures are put in place will ultimately be up to a judge, though.

The federal civil lawsuit could also be reinstated at some point, Nicholas said.

Attorneys have previously argued that the distance between a residence

and a playground should be measured from the edge of the property line to the edge of the playground area within the park, not the edge of the broader park itself.

The edge of McCarty Park to the edge of the Wayside property is less than 500 feet, the city has said. But if the measurements are taken from the middle of the park, for example, the distance is more than 550 feet.

Police officers served the letters after meeting with officials at the Kane County State's Attorney's Office Thursday who agreed with the police department that McCarty is a playground and the property is within 500 feet, Lewbel said.

The police department has maintained that they have no legal authority to register child sex offenders who want to live within 500 feet of any protected spaces, including playgrounds, Lewbel said.

Officials from the state's attorney's office said they cannot comment on ongoing investigations.

The men will have to leave Wayside by Jan. 15, according to the notices. "That is in the middle of the winter," Nicholas said. "We are pushing people into homelessness and into the streets in January. I don't see how that makes anyone's neighborhoods safer or does anything good."

If the men have not left by Jan. 15, the police depart-

ment will notify the state's attorney's office which could authorize charges against the men.

Tensions between the city and Wayside have been high for much of the year, starting in the spring when the agency agreed to house Thomas Kokoraleis, a member of the infamous Ripper Crew, who was released from prison in March after serving a sentence for the 1982 murder of Lorraine Borowski. The current residency dispute would not affect Kokoraleis.

Recently, Wayside Cross's youth division was set to miss out on a city grant for the first time since the grant program was revived in 2018, amid tension between Aurora and Wayside. Later, after news reports about the situation, Mayor Richard Irvin recommended the program and another non-profit agency receive a different type of funding.

Irvin has previously said the notification letters have nothing to do with Kokoraleis or tension with Wayside. The city began using new mapping software that showed in the spring that the men are living too close to the park, officials said. Irvin has continued to say Aurora has no choice but to follow state law.

City spokesman Clayton Muhammad declined to comment Friday, referring questions to Aurora police.

mejones@chicagotribune.com

Pair pleads guilty in financial scheme against College of DuPage

Authorities say plot by Roselle couple netted \$200,000

BY CLIFFORD WARD

A Roselle couple pleaded guilty Friday in connection to what authorities said was a financial scheme against College of DuPage County that netted them \$200,000.

In a negotiated settle-

ment with DuPage County prosecutors, Cedric Ramey, 43, and Mary Allen, 40, entered guilty pleas.

Ramey made a blind plea of guilty to one count of theft over \$100,000 from a school or place of worship, a Class X felony that carries a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison and a minimum term of six years. He is due back in court in March, and a date for sen-

tencing will probably be set then.

His wife pleaded guilty to a Class 3 felony count of forgery and was sentenced to probation and 30 days in the DuPage County Jail. She was ordered to pay \$1,500 in restitution to College of DuPage and \$7,500 to the U.S. Department of Education.

Ramey and Allen were arrested in 2017 and

charged with more than 20 felony counts alleging a scheme to defraud COD.

Authorities said the couple recruited friends and obtained their personal information, which was used to apply for admission to COD and for federal tuition loans and grants administered through the college.

After being admitted and obtaining financial aid, the recruited people would

then withdraw from the COD courses, which resulted in a tuition reimbursement sent to the recruit via check or deposited electronically in a bank account. The recruit would then split the refund with Ramey and Allen, prosecutors allege.

When a person reported to COD in 2013 that she had received a tuition bill from COD, but had never at-

tended classes, an investigation began that eventually focused on the couple, prosecutors said. Authorities say the couple operated the scheme between 2012 and 2014.

Ramey and Allen were the only people charged in the scheme, authorities said.

Clifford Ward is a freelance reporter.

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Chicago Tribune PERSPECTIVE



AMANDA VOISARD/FOR THE WASHINGTON POST

A bird in flight in May 2014 as the sun rises over Arlington National Cemetery in Section 60, where many Iraq and Afghanistan war dead are buried.

In Afghanistan, presidents lied and Americans died



STEVE CHAPMAN

The United States is the most powerful military power in the history of the world. Yet somehow we can't win a war.

In this century, we have undertaken two major ones: Afghanistan and Iraq. The first is the longest conflict Americans have ever fought — more than 18 years — and shows no sign of ending. The second qualifies as the most catastrophic U.S. foreign policy blunder since Vietnam.

Together, these wars have left more than 6,700 Americans dead and more than 52,000 crippled, maimed, blinded and otherwise injured. The accumulated and future costs to American taxpayers exceed \$6 trillion. We finally left Iraq without being able to claim victory, and we are still in Afghanistan. Our peerless military has failed at its mission.

That paradox actually helps explain the failures. They are not entirely, or even mostly, the fault of our military services. We proceed as though the best troops, the biggest budgets and the deadliest weapons are all we need. So we get ourselves into wars without understanding everything that victory

requires. Then we fail to learn from the devastating surprises that we encounter.

Documents obtained by The Washington Post about Afghanistan set into stark relief how deluded and dishonest our leaders have been. The material consists of confidential interviews with more than 400 military and diplomatic people with firsthand knowledge, conducted by the Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction.

What emerges from it is that they were failing and knew they were failing, even as the public was told the war was going well. "The American people have constantly been lied to," the head of SIGAR told The Post.

Remember George W. Bush's "Mission Accomplished" May 1, 2003, speech proclaiming the end of "major combat operations" in Iraq? That day, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, in Kabul, said the same thing about Afghanistan.

Shortly before returning in 2009, Army Maj. Gen. Edward Reeder, a Special Operations commander, recalled, "I was thinking that there has to be more to solving this problem than killing people, because that's what we were doing and every time I went back security was worse."

More than a decade later, the vicious cycle continues. Last year, U.S. officials told NBC News that the number of Taliban fighters had tripled over the previous four years.

The enemy, lacking American weapons and trainers, had the most precious commodity in war: motivation.

The number of Afghan civilians who died in 2018 was the highest on record.

We were trying to transform an alien society that we could barely begin to comprehend. After toppling the Taliban regime, we set up a centralized government in Kabul. The decision, said an unidentified State Department official "was idiotic because Afghanistan does not have a history of a strong central government. The time frame for creating a strong central government is 100 years, which we didn't have."

We made enormous efforts to build the Afghan police and army into competent partners. But those familiar with the effort, noted The Post, "depicted the Afghan security forces as incompetent, unmotivated, poorly trained, corrupt and riddled with deserters and infiltrators."

One Afghan official asked district tribal leaders why 500 security forces couldn't defeat a couple of dozen Taliban. The answer was that "the security people are not there to defend the

people and fight Taliban, they are there to make money" — by selling their weapons and fuel. The enemy, lacking American weapons and trainers, had the most precious commodity in war: motivation.

Most of the billions we spent were wasted on ill-advised infrastructure projects or stolen by corrupt officials. Some of the schools we built were taken over by the Taliban — and converted into bomb-making factories.

The effort suffered from Bush's rash decision to take on Saddam Hussein, yanking presidential and Pentagon attention away from Afghanistan.

The lesson, said former special envoy for Afghanistan James Dobbins, was to "just invade only one country at a time." By the time Barack Obama arrived, the Taliban had rebounded.

But neither Obama nor Donald Trump could bring themselves to admit we had no formula for winning. Like Bush, they stayed only to avoid the appearance of losing. Like Bush, they were willing to go on filling graves in military cemeteries to save face.

During the Vietnam War, John Kerry asked, "How do you ask a man to be the last man to die for a mistake?" To that question, our presidents have a ready answer: same way you asked all the others who died for it.

Steve Chapman, a member of the Tribune Editorial Board, blogs at www.chicagotribune.com/chapman. schapman@chicagotribune.com

OP-ART JOE FOURNIER

COVER GIRL BY JOE "GROWN MAN MOCKING A 16-YEAR-OLD. THAT'S NORMAL." FOURNIER



BESTREVIEWS

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CHICAGO FLASHBACK

Breaking history since 1847



CHICAGO TRIBUNE HISTORICAL PHOTO

Jerry, 5, didn't get those two front teeth for Christmas, but the truck was a grand substitute Christmas gift at Norwegian Lutheran Children's Home on Dec. 24, 1952.

A plea from a 'Good Fellow'

In 1909, thousands of Chicagoans were inspired to become Secret Santas to the city's children

BY ELISE DE LOS SANTOS

The holidays tend to inspire anonymous acts of goodwill. Every year we hear about valuable coins being dropped into Salvation Army donation kettles; just a couple of days before Thanksgiving this year, a gold coin worth \$1,500 was found in a kettle in suburban Geneva.

The air of mystery is as much a draw as the acts of charity themselves — who is the benefactor? What are his or her motivations? Is one person behind it all? Members of a secret group working together?

In 1909, one Chicagoan attempted to inspire an entire army of anonymous donors to rise up with an appeal that appeared on the front page of the Tribune.

"Last Christmas and New Year's eve you and I went out for a good time and spent from \$10 to \$200. Last Christmas morning over 5,000 children awoke to an empty stocking — the bitter pain of disappointment that Santa Claus had forgotten them. ...

"Now, old man, here's a chance. ... Just send your name and address to The Tribune — address Santa Claus — state about how many children you are willing to protect against grief over that empty stocking, inclose a two-cent stamp and you will be furnished with the names, addresses, sex, and age of that many children. It is then up to you, you do the rest. Select your own present, spend 50 cents or \$50, and send or take your gifts to those children on Christmas eve."

It was signed simply: "Good Fellow."

The appeal was published on Dec. 10; the next day, the Tribune reported that "yesterday's mail deliveries brought a peck of letters to Santa Claus addressed in care of The Tribune. They carry the pledge that at least 2,000 children ... will know now that there is a Santa Claus."

In the days that followed, the Tribune printed nearly daily reports on the growing response to the program. By Dec. 13, 1,011 Good Fellows had pledged to help 7,610 of the city's children. (That Tribune report also included this clarification: "In justice to all, it must be said that the 'Good Fellows' are not confined to the male sex. Many letters are being received from women. While old Santa always has been represented with long whiskers and masculine attire, 'Good Fellow' heartily welcomes the women.")

By Dec. 16, more than 14,000 children were on Santa's list. To cope with the volume of letters arriving in the Tribune newsroom, a "Christmas bureau" was created, with 12 men working under the original Good Fellow. The Tribune office was "a hive of

industry," with catalogers working late into the night to organize the children's names.

The work paid off. On Christmas Day 1909, "Fifteen thousand children in Chicago are happier this morning because of the campaign for a full Christmas stocking started by the original 'Good Fellow' and seconded by about 3,000 of his confreres in the big city."

After a successful first year, the Good Fellow campaign returned the next, inspiring not only more Chicagoans to play Santa Claus but also poetry to be written for the cause.

"Bring or send dear children contributions soon/ And address your parcels all to 'The Tribune' / The Good Fellows surely will your gifts divide/ Grateful to the givers for the city's pride," wrote one poet.

In early 1911, the Good Fellows caught the attention of the Chicago-based Essanay Film Manufacturing Co., the Hollywood of its time, which produced a movie about "a cynical old chap conveniently named Grouch" that tips its hat to the program.

Grouch's storyline bears remarkable similarities to that of Scrooge in Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." In a notable departure, Grouch reads "a newspaper account of the activities of the 'good fellows'" before he dreams of a Christmas past and soon after experiences a change of heart.

While it's unclear how many viewers of the film in other cities were inspired by it to do good, there is evidence the Good Fellow program reached those outside of Chicago — and those outside the usual scope of philanthropy.

"The Tribune yesterday received the following letter," the newspaper reported on Dec. 14, 1911. "Gentlemen: Inclosed please find post-office money order to the amount of \$10. This is sent you by a convict at this institution." The letter was signed by the warden of the Wisconsin State Prison.

The convict's donation, along with the contributions of 12,000 other Good Fellows, helped fill the stockings of 19,786 children that year.



CHICAGO TRIBUNE HISTORICAL PHOTO

Executives and employees of Central Motor Freight Association unload 6,000 Good Fellow Christmas gifts at Tribune Tower on Dec. 12, 1963.



CHICAGO TRIBUNE HISTORICAL PHOTO

Richard, 2, Carmen, 5, Consuelo, 3, and Dionisio, 11, in their home on South Peoria Street after Good Fellows had come and gone in 1941.

The Good Fellow program continued helping the city's needy children for decades. It eventually became part of Chicago Tribune Charities, which still operates today.

The intent of anonymity faded as the years passed. Later articles calling on readers to become Good Fellows published the names of those who had already donated gifts.

As for the identity of the original Good Fellow, that remained a tightly kept secret in the pages of the Tribune for the first 18 years, though the paper did let slip some details.

A note in the initial 1909 appeal assured readers that "Good Fellow" is not a professional philan-

thropist, he takes a drink, cusses a bit, and even goes out at night with the boys for a mild good time — but he has taken care of from fifteen to twenty children a year in Chicago."

Good Fellow himself wrote about "how it feels to go down a dark street with a bundle of dolls in one hand and a gun in the other," describing his endeavors from before the program started. "I was in a strange neighborhood with \$250 in my pocket. I stopped at a friend's place of business. He handed me a six shooter revolver. Then I trudged away, the revolver on top of the bundle of toys.

"There isn't a man in Chicago who would have stuck me up had he known my errand," he assured

Have a Flashback idea?

Share your suggestions with Editor Lara Weber at lweber@chicagotribune.com.

readers, "but there was a chance he might have held me up and then discovered my mission afterward."

This unflinching confidence in the goodness of Chicagoans was found in Edward Churchill Fitch, whom the Tribune revealed as the founder of the Good Fellow charity when he died in 1928.

A few years later, in the leadup to 1932's Good Fellow drive, the story of how exactly Fitch started the program was finally told.

The "kindly, unobtrusive" Fitch, an assistant city attorney, walked into the mostly empty Tribune offices at 1:30 a.m. and was let up to the managing editor's office. He explained to James Keeley that he had been distributing toys to poor children for the past five years.

"Tonight I was on a party with some friends and a good deal of money was thrown away. On my way home I began to think that good fellows might spend their money in a better way," Fitch explained. "I give you the idea for what it's worth. Don't use my name."

For the next three hours, Keeley and Fitch worked on a draft for the message.

"Prior to this night in 1909 no one had ever thought of enlisting newspaper readers in good-will movements," the 1932 Tribune article stated. "Today scarcely a large city in the country is without a Good Fellow program or its counterpart, and variations of the plan have been taken up abroad."

Though Fitch would later move to Springfield and continue his Good Fellow work there, he kept a close eye on the Chicago initiative in its early years.

Each year he'd visit the Tribune to check on the program's progress, he'd say: "Remember now, keep my name out of it."

Why the insistence on anonymity? The original Good Fellow explained that in his appeal to Tribune readers in 1909.

"Neither you nor I get anything out of this, except the feeling that you have saved some child from sorrow on Christmas morning. If that is not enough for you then you have wasted time in reading this — it is not intended for you, but for the good fellows of Chicago."

ekdelossantos@chicagotribune.com

CHANGE OF SUBJECT

By ERIC ZORN



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



NUCCIO DINUZZO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

From Airbnb to TikTok, the things that have risen onto our radar screen in the 2010s

On June 6, 2010, under the headline “A click better than couch surfing,” freelance travel writer Terry Gardner introduced Tribune readers to Airbnb, a new-fangled startup that connected travelers with property owners offering “accommodations ranging from an airbed in a living room to a real bed in a home.”

Nearly 10 years and mentions in close to 500 Tribune stories later, Airbnb has become one of those terms, those brands, that need no introduction or explanation.

To look back as the 2010s come to a close, I’ve made a chronological list of things — products, technologies, ideas, terms — that have become part of life since late-2009. As a proxy for common awareness I’m using the Tribune’s digital news archives (the company that became Airbnb actually launched in August 2008, for instance) and marking the first reference in our pages. And to keep the length of the list manageable, I’m not including songs, TV shows, movies or people who have risen to fame in the last 10 years. Consult other retrospectives for those.

July 19, 2010: “Siri” as the name for Apple’s digital assistant

Aug. 13, 2010: “Angry Birds”

Sept. 10, 2010: “catfish” as a verb to describe creating a fake online persona to scam a would-be romantic partner

Oct. 18, 2010: Instagram

Jan. 15, 2011: “tiger mother” as a term for aggressive parenting

Jan. 20, 2011: Venmo

June 2, 2011: “slut shaming” as a term attacking a woman for her sexual choices; and, on the same day, Fitbit

Sept. 23, 2011: Uber, the ride-hailing service

Nov. 3, 2011: selfie

Nov. 13, 2011: Bitcoin

Dec. 9, 2011: Pinterest

Jan. 17, 2012: “photo-bomb” as a term describing the effort to spoil a photo by behaving oddly in the background

March 1, 2012: man bun

March 11, 2012: “Alexa” as the name for the Amazon Echo digital assistant

March 30, 2012: humblebrag

May 10, 2012: “YOLO” as shorthand for “you only live once”

July 3, 2012: emoji

Jul 12, 2012: avocado toast

July 31, 2012: GoFundMe (the general term “crowdsourcing” dates back to May 2008)

Sept. 14, 2012: “showrooming” as a term for browsing bricks-and-mortar stores then order the items online

Oct. 10, 2012: twerking

Nov. 30, 2012: Snapchat, a social media app

Dec. 29, 2012: Lyft, the ride-hailing service

Jan. 10, 2013: 3D printing

Feb. 4, 2013: “hate-watching” as term to describe reveling in the badness of a TV show

April 14, 2013: “mansplaining” as a term to describe ... oh, never mind

May 26, 2013: “FOMO” as shorthand for “fear of missing out”

Oct. 3, 2013: revenge porn

Dec. 3, 2013: drone delivery

Jan. 28, 2014: Oculus Rift virtual reality headsets

June 1, 2014: trigger warning

June 20, 2014: Apple Watch

June 23, 2014: WeWork, the office-space rental company

Aug 15, 2014: Black Lives Matter

Oct. 15, 2014: “bae” as a slang term for sweetheart

Dec. 26, 2014: social justice warrior

May 4, 2015: “dad bod” and “body shaming” — both in the same article, appropriately enough!

Jan. 1, 2016: Impossible Foods, makers of the plant-based Impossible Burger

Feb. 12, 2016: cryptocurrency

May 12, 2016: “nonbinary” referring to gender identity

June 29, 2016: “woke” as a slang term for awareness of social injustice

Aug. 19, 2016: virtue signaling

Apr. 2, 2017: White Claw hard seltzer

May 3, 2017: antifa

Feb. 20, 2018: Juul vaping devices

July 5, 2018: deepfake technology

Nov 28, 2018: Green New Deal (in the U.S.)

Feb. 3, 2019: Tik Tok, short-video social media site

Re: Tweets

The Tweet of the Week (a feature of this column that dates to April 21, 2013) is “The miracle in Miracle Whip is that anyone would buy it when there’s perfectly good mayonnaise available that doesn’t taste like sadness,” by @hermanntrude. The poll appears at chicago.tribune.com/zorn, and you can receive an alert when it’s posted by signing up for the Change of Subject email newsletter at chicagotribune.com/newsletters.

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EDITORIALS

WHEN TAXPAYERS TRUST SPRINGFIELD PART 6

A motto for the Fair Tax: ‘Would we ever break a promise to you?’

Make your 2020 resolution now: ‘I’ve looked at the record — and I’m voting No.’

There are 5 million reasons why the push for a graduated income tax — honest, it’ll only whack rich people — just got more muscular. That’s how many dollars Gov. J.B. Pritzker is giving a committee created to persuade Illinois voters that a constitutional amendment enabling graduated rates would be a swell idea.

The governor’s donation could be a play to shock and awe opponents of taking more billions of dollars from taxpayers. Or it could signal that proponents worry that, come November, voters will reject the Pritzker Tax. Whatever the motive, \$5 million buys a lot of TV spots and internet pop-ups for what the governor calls his Fair Tax.

But the subtext of every request for your vote is that you should trust present and future Springfield politicians to keep this much-stated promise: Taxes would rise only for the highest-income 3%; the rest of us would get teeny tax cuts. But as you encounter Democratic primary election candidates, ask them: *You’ll guarantee me that Springfield wouldn’t also spike tax rates on middle-class taxpayers for how long, exactly?*

All but the hopelessly gullible can see that this envisioned extra \$3 billion a year from the fat cats is just a first grab. The big money is further down the income ladder. Yet Democrats have to keep asking for voters’ trust that they’ll spare the middle class — despite the sorry history that animates this series of editorials: “When taxpayers trust Springfield, here’s what happens.”

Better for the tax hike proponents to admit that lawmakers chronically break these pledges — and chronically pretend that this time will be different. To help proponents of the Pritzker Tax come clean about that, we’ve composed advertising copy they can use in a \$5 million ad campaign titled “Would we ever break a promise to you?”

‘Toll free in ’73!’

Sure, we Springfield pols promised voters a half-century ago that Illinois tollways would be freeways when toll revenue retired the construction bonds. Nice motto, “Toll free in ’73!” But what does that have to do with promising to leave middle-class taxpayers untouched. *This time, you can trust us.*

‘A state lottery will benefit schoolchildren!’

We never said in the 1970s that this *wouldn’t* be a shell game, did we? So what if we spent the lottery proceeds on education but moved a similar amount of education money to other spending? Clever ruse, huh? *This time, you can trust us.*

‘It’s just a temporary income tax increase, Part I: Only a 20% surcharge!’

Give us some credit: It took us four years to trash that 1989 promise and make the whole increase permanent. But really, our graduated rates will only gouge The 3%. *This time, you can trust us.*

‘Casino gamblers can’t blow the rent money!’

That was so quaint, the promise in 1990 that our big casino authorization law would limit gamblers to a \$500 loss per casino visit. OK, it didn’t wind up in the bill, but everyone thought it was there. *This time, you can trust us.*

‘No more \$15 billion pension liability!’

Sure, we told you in 1994 that our new payment scheme would defuse an unfunded liability that Gov. Jim Edgar called “a time bomb.” Then we spent money we should have invested in pensions on other stuff. You liked that popular spending and gave us your votes. Fair trade, yes? Never mind that we’ve exploded the pension liability to \$137 billion, unless you believe those Debbie Downers at Moody’s Investors Service who say your state pension debt is \$240 billion. *This time, you can trust us.*

‘Wrong, Judy. College Illinois will pay for itself!’

House Speaker Michael Madigan helped push this Democratic pander to parents — a



Gov. William Stratton, left, and Austin Wyman, chairman of the Illinois Toll Authority, at the Cermak Road plaza on Dec. 23, 1958, as the last of the state’s new tollways was opened.

prepaid tuition plan guaranteed to be self-sustaining. So what if then-Treasurer Judy Baar Topinka warned that College Illinois couldn’t do its only job: absorb rising tuition costs. And so what if this dead-bang-loser will cost you taxpayers \$501 million. *This time, you can trust us.*

‘Believe the governor: At most, a 1% tax hike!’

Just because Pat Quinn said in 2010 that he’d permit no personal income tax hike bigger than 1%, yet in 2011 signed into law a hike twice that high, you don’t think our current and future governors will protect The 97%? Don’t be cynical. *This time, you can trust us.*

‘It’s just a temporary tax increase, Part 2: We’ll fix Illinois ...’

Awright, Democratic leaders shouldn’t have declared on that night of infamy, 1/11/11, that a four-year, 67% income tax hike would “pay off our debt,” “pay the interest on that debt,” “pay our old bills” and “deal with the structural deficit.” Awright, we collected an extra \$31 billion, and we broke those promises. *This time, you can trust us.*

... and we’ll freeze the income tax rate for 10 years!’

OK, Democrats wrote that 2011 law to partially roll back the income tax rate in 2015, then freeze it for 10 years and lower it to 3.25% in 2025? Except by 2017 we wanted more money, so we melted down our “frozen” rate of 3.75% and goosed it to 4.95%. Except now we want still more money but only from some richies. *This time, you can trust us.*

‘One more tax hike and we’ll deliver reforms!’

So what if a bunch of us promised in July 2017 that if you’d tolerate that 32% income tax hike to a 4.95% rate, we’d reform property taxes, pensions, tax credits, workers’ compensation. Yes we broke our earnest promises but hey, we really wanted to go home from Springfield. *This time, you can trust us.*

All these FBI agents? They’re just tourists.

We want your yes vote on our big tax plan and we’ll handle these new billions with integrity — no insider deals to benefit the political cronies who give us money and muscle for our reelection campaigns. So pay no mind to our unfolding scandals, like that federal allegation that a House member tried to bribe, um, a Senate member. You voters just need to reread “How a Bill Becomes a Law — Unabridged Illinois Edition.” As for these search warrants, raids and secret recordings, move along, there’s nothing to see here. *This time, you can trust us.*

Futile task, asking Illinois voters to trust the promises of Springfield politicians who’ve suffered no consequence for ... all their broken promises. We don’t blame Pritzker for trying; he’s new in town. We do wish he’d embrace the wisdom of Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot: You can ask citizens for more money if you’ve streamlined and reformed governance.

But Illinois Democrats don’t talk about restructuring how state government operates. They talk about how much more money they need to prop it all up. Remember that when proponents of this taxing amendment scream that there’ll be crisis after crisis if voters don’t cave and approve it.

One solution obvious to everyone who isn’t in the pocket of public employees unions is to offer voters a second constitutional amendment — to preserve retirement benefits already earned by public employees, but to allow a reduction of benefits awarded in the future. Legislators have until May to put that amendment, too, on the November ballot.

As is, though, the oft-chumped people of Illinois have no smart option but to examine all these busted promises and understand that if Illinois allows graduated income tax rates, Springfield pols will find plenty of reasons to raise taxes not only on The 3%, but on big chunks of The 97%, too.

The one thing you truly can trust this time: Illinois politicians won’t reinvent and reform government until voters force them to reinvent and reform. Make your 2020 resolution now: I’ve looked at Springfield’s record — and I’m voting No.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

The backlash to Barack Obama’s presidency, of which Donald Trump’s nativist 2016 campaign was an expression, finalized the realignment of U.S. political parties. ... Given that Republicans failed to be drawn into political fellowship by the Obama method when it was being proffered by Obama himself, it is hard to see how Obama’s increasingly erratic vice president or a 37-year-old Harvard/McKinsey guy will be able to do the trick. The case that policy moderation, “heartland” (i.e., white and noncoastal) roots, and nonconfrontational rhetoric will crush Trump in an electability landslide does not, at this point, have much evidence to support it.

If indeed there is a significant chunk of independent and Republican voters who are ready to support a Democratic unity candidate, they are hiding from the people who conduct polls. And when you ask Republicans and Republican-leaning independents whether Trump should be removed from office and replaced by Mike Pence — which would seemingly be a much easier pill to swallow, if they were really ready to move on so long as the alternative wasn’t a hardcore leftist — they say no. ... Republicans like what Trump is doing; why would they vote for Joe Biden or Pete Buttigieg? ...

Biden and Buttigieg are appealing to voters who either don’t follow the news or have chosen to ignore its lessons, particularly the older ones who had their expectations set during eras in which structural factors made cross-party support more common. Many live in Iowa, New Hampshire and other putatively noncosmopolitan places. ... But that doesn’t mean they don’t live in a bubble, too.

Ben Mathis-Lilley, Slate

SCOTT STANTIS



PERSPECTIVE



MANDEL NGAN/GETTY-AFP

President Donald Trump addresses the Israeli American Council national summit in Hollywood, Florida, earlier this month.

Trump fights anti-Semitism one day, fuels it the next



CLARENCE PAGE

Could President Donald Trump be charged under his own executive order?

I had to ask myself that after he signed an executive order to crack down on anti-Semitism on college campuses, only a few days after insulting his audience in a weekend speech to a national Jewish organization in Florida.

What else can you say about a guy who pats you on the head with one hand and slaps you in the face with the other?

"A lot of you are in the real estate business, because I know you very well," Trump told attendees at the Israeli American Council's 2019 national summit in Hollywood, Florida, according to a transcript posted on the White House website. "You're brutal killers. Not nice people at all, but you have to vote for me you have no choice."

"You're not going to vote for the wealth tax," he also said. "Yeah, let's take 100% of your wealth away! No, no. Even if you don't like me; some of you don't. Some of you I don't like at

all, actually. (Laughter.) And you're going to be my biggest supporters because you'll be out of business in about 15 minutes, if they get it."

It should come as no surprise that some other Jewish groups condemned the president's remarks with such uncomplimentary terms as "deeply offensive" and "vile."

Jewish Democratic Council of America Executive Director Halie Soifer said in a statement Dec. 8 that Trump used "anti-Semitic stereotypes to characterize Jews as driven by money and insufficiently loyal to Israel." Jewish advocacy group J Street tweeted that the president is "incapable of addressing Jewish audiences without dipping into the deep well of anti-Semitic tropes that shape his worldview."

Well, this is just "Trump being Trump," say Trump apologists, and that much is spot-on accurate. Most of his speech talked about his gestures of strong support for Israel, including his decision to move the American embassy to Jerusalem.

And what could be more Trumpian than to sign an executive order on Wednesday targeting what his administration describes as a growing problem with anti-Semitic harassment on college campuses.

That's a worthy and unfortunately necessary goal. Over the last decade annually and dramatically to 1,986

incidents in 2017 from 751 in 2013, according to the Anti-Defamation League, which welcomed Trump's executive order.

Jonathan Greenblatt, CEO of the league, praised Trump's new order for giving police and campus officials a new tool in fighting anti-Semitism.

Members of both parties have proposed similar actions in Congress. But Trump's executive order also poses hazards for those who care about preserving something that is necessary, yet regrettably embattled these days: free speech.

For example, the order comes as the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement against the Israeli government has been rising up on some campuses. The movement began as a protest against the Israeli government's treatment of Palestinians. But over time that legitimate political issue has become intermixed in too many minds to mean opposition to the Jewish state itself.

A more technical but still intriguing sticking point raised by the president's order is its use of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to withhold federal money from schools that fail to act against discrimination against Jews.

Can Jews, besides being a religion or an ethnic group, be considered a race and therefore a protected class under Title VI? Experts speak eloquently on both sides of that issue, so I

don't expect that question to go away soon.

But our president, as he has shown many times, isn't into nuance. "If you want to accept the tremendous amount of federal dollars that you get every year, you must reject anti-Semitism," he said. "It's very simple."

No, nothing about race, ethnicity and fighting discrimination is simple. Meanwhile the plague of anti-Semitism appears still to be rising, with campuses hardly topping the list of terror threats.

The day before Trump's signing ceremony, two shooters, including one said to have published anti-Semitic posts and to have been a follower of the Black Hebrew Israelite movement, which is hostile to Jews, killed four people in a rampage in Jersey City that appears to have targeted a kosher market before the shooters also were killed.

The Department of Homeland Security recently shifted its strategy to focus on domestic racial terrorism, including white terrorists. That's a welcome move. So would leadership, not just provocation, from the White House.

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VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

A thoughtful way to celebrate holidays

Last year I decided to start a new holiday tradition and write Christmas letters of love to my two sons and daughter-in-law. I had some holiday paper and matching envelopes and proceeded to write loving thoughts from the heart. I hope they were moved by what I said and that they cherish these pieces of paper and keep them for future reading.

With all of the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, we rush around looking for the right present to buy for a loved one, which many times may get returned or regifted or tossed. How many hours do you spend on the internet trying to find the right gift for someone special? I am not saying not to buy him or her something, but we have gotten to be such a materialistic society that we have forgotten what the holidays are truly about, the birth of a "child." Family and friends are the important thing. Attend some Christmas programs, enjoy the Christmas lights and remember to ex-



CHICAGO TRIBUNE

press loving thoughts to those you know. Even a smile to a stranger could make the person's day.

May your holiday be blessed with family and friends and filled with loving thoughts from the heart.

— Dee Philiph, New Lenox

Spread your money around at stores

I am retired and have the abil-

ity and time to shop in lots of places, including Aldi's. While Aldi's is a great place to shop, I have found that the full-service stores, which are prevalent in Chicago everywhere, are not asleep at the switch either. If you take a little time to read the food ads in the Tribune or look online, you can map out a strategy that will save you money. Surprisingly, you might learn that the big-store prices on many items are not different than Aldi's on their house brands. Also, the big stores hire employees with disabilities, which is something that I am not aware of at Aldi's, where employees are cross-trained to do different jobs. The bottom line: There

are many reasons to spread your purchasing dollars, and that is good, and something that I do.

— Howard Kirschner, Morton Grove

Germany's integrity vs. America's denial

As reported in the Chicago Tribune on Dec. 8 ("In 1st Auschwitz visit, Merkel voices Germany's 'deep shame'"), speaking for Germany, Chancellor Angela Merkel just donated \$66.6 million to the long-term upkeep of the World War II Nazi work camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau. The camp is known for the infamous sign at its entrance, "Arbeit Macht Frei" ("Work will set you free").

Said Merkel, now 74 years after the end of WWII: The atrocities "are and will remain part of German history and this history must be told over and over again." In short, it is a moral debt Germany owns and embraces forever. This, in case anyone missed it, is in addition to the millions of dollars Germany has paid in reparations to Israel to atone for Nazi harm done specifically to Europe's Jewish communities in general. Not to mention strict German postwar laws against reviving Nazism.

This is what moral integrity looks like.

Compare that to the posture taken so far by America's politicians who have denied ownership of this nation's moral debt for establishing and maintaining the institution of chattel slavery from 1619 to 1865, 246 years, the profits from which, through agriculture, laid the economic foundation of this nation's wealth, posing it to make the most of the Industrial Revolution, which, along with our natural resources, has enabled the U.S. to become the world's leading power. Hardly any aspect of our economic system, including banks and the insurance industry, failed to benefit directly or indirectly from the profits of slavery.

All this on the backs, toil, pain and tears of kidnapped people, whose descendants are repeatedly told that, despite the accumulated collective wealth they were instrumental in creating, that there is no basis for reparations of any kind for this theft of person and labor. In our schools, American history textbooks likewise deliberately fudge, omit and gloss over the naked brutality of slavery, miseducating our youths, generation after generation.

This is what collective, institutionalized denial looks like.

— Ted Z. Manuel, Chicago



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Chicago Tribune

NATION & WORLD

What speech counts as anti-Semitic?

Order would widen scope of complaints on college campuses

By ELANA SCHOR
Associated Press

NEW YORK — President Donald Trump's order to expand the scope of potential anti-Semitism complaints on college campuses is raising the stakes of an already tense battle over how to define discrimination against Jews.

The executive order Trump signed Wednesday tells the Education Department, when vetting alleged Civil Rights Act violations that can lead to a loss of schools' federal funding, to consider a definition of anti-Semitism that could include some criticism of Israel. Several major Jewish American organizations hailed the order, but more liberal-leaning groups warned it could be used to muffle campus organizing against the Israeli government and in support of Palestinian rights.

Behind that divide are politically volatile questions: When does speech about Israel cross the line into anti-Semitism, and who is qualified to draw that line?

For supporters of Trump's order — which is aligned with bipartisan legislation that had stalled — the distinction is a clear matter of reining in those who would question Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state.

"There is no question that people have the right to criticize Israel. Jews, and non-Jews, do it very well," said World Jewish Congress President Ronald Lauder, who has financially backed



Yeshiva University students Aaron Heideman, left, and Marc Shapiro study at the university's library Thursday in New York. Heideman said the president's order will help his friends at secular universities who have run into problems.

LUIS ANDRES HENAO/AP

the GOP but recently launched a \$25 million project aimed at fighting anti-Semitism on both sides of the aisle.

"But the fact is that when criticism goes into attacks on the state, the Jewish state, that goes over the line."

The order does not mention Israel but cites the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance's suggested examples of anti-Semitism, which include "claiming that the existence of a state of Israel is a racist endeavor."

Jared Kushner, Trump's son-in-law and senior adviser, wrote in a New York Times Op-Ed that the order's broadened definition would convey the adminis-

tration's position that "anti-Zionism is anti-Semitism."

Critics of Trump's order take a more nuanced view, warning that the new definition promises to blur the boundary between legitimate opposition to what they see as unfair Israeli government policies and anti-Semitism.

Emily Mayer, political director of the liberal Jewish American group IfNotNow, described the order as a victory for efforts "to discredit any critique of Israel, Israeli policies or how Jewish supremacy has been codified within the Israeli state — to try to describe that as anti-Semitism."

Those concerned about blunt-force application of

the order often point to the president who approved it. Trump has been chided for echoing anti-Semitic stereotypes, and liberal Jewish Americans say his administration is ill-equipped to enforce a new standard for on-campus anti-Semitism.

The order "can't be viewed solely in the vacuum of the words on the page," said Halie Soifer, executive director of the Jewish Democratic Council of America.

Soifer called for a greater focus by the administration on the rise of violent white nationalism, noting that "while anti-Semitism is a problem on college campuses, it's not solely a problem on college campuses."

On campuses, where pro-Palestinian criticism of Israel can run high, the order's effect may be felt sooner than later.

Aaron Heideman, 22, a junior at Yeshiva University, praised the president's decision to issue the order and said it will help his friends at secular universities who have run into problems. "I'm happy that they'll have more inner peace," Heideman said.

Anti-Semitic incidents on campuses rose by 89% between 2016 and 2017, according to an Anti-Defamation League audit released last year.

In addition, Virginia GOP Rep. Denver Riggleman wrote to Education Secre-

tary Betsy DeVos on Wednesday seeking a review of federal funding for Georgetown University's Center for Contemporary Arab Studies, alleging anti-Semitic activity by faculty.

Riggleman's letter points to faculty supportive of an international anti-Israel boycott movement that has grown in popularity on campuses. The Trump White House has repeatedly decried the movement as discriminatory, and the House of Representatives has passed bipartisan legislation opposing it.

Organizers of the boycott campaign say their opposition lies with Israeli policies, not with Jews. But the parallels they draw between Israel and the oppressive apartheid-era South African government have fueled charges of anti-Semitism.

Among the prominent Jewish American groups who view the boycott movement as anti-Semitic is the Anti-Defamation League, which praised Trump's order. The league's website states that anti-Zionism "may be motivated by or result in anti-Semitism, or it may create a climate in which anti-Semitism becomes more acceptable."

The league's CEO, Jonathan Greenblatt, said that debating the existence of the Jewish state could be a suitable topic for an academic seminar.

"But in the world in which we live, America 2019, anti-Zionism is anti-Semitism," Greenblatt continued. "When you would deny Jewish people the right of self-determination ... when you'd hold them to a different standard than you would other people."

PM Johnson has victory, but he may risk UK's unity

Scotland, Ireland's wish to stay in EU poses stalemate

By JILL LAWLESS
Associated Press

LONDON — Leaving the European Union is not the only split British Prime Minister Boris Johnson has to worry about.

Johnson's election victory last week may let him fulfill his campaign promise to "get Brexit done," but it could also imperil the future of the United Kingdom of England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

In a victory speech Friday, Johnson said the election result proved that leaving the EU is "the irrefutable, irresistible, unarguable decision of the British people."

Arguably, though, it isn't. It's the will of the English, who make up 56 million of the U.K.'s 66 million people. During Britain's 2016 referendum on EU membership, England and Wales voted to leave the bloc; Scotland and Ireland didn't.

In Thursday's election, England elected 345 Conservative lawmakers — all but 20 of the 365 House of

Commons seats Johnson's party won across the U.K. Labour slumped to 203 seats, its worst showing since 1935.

In Scotland, 48 of the 59 seats were won by the Scottish National Party, which opposes Brexit and wants Scotland to become independent of the U.K.

SNP leader Nicola Sturgeon said her party's "emphatic" victory showed that "the kind of future desired by the majority in Scotland is different to that chosen by the rest of the U.K."

The SNP has campaigned for decades to make Scotland independent and almost succeeded in 2014, when Scotland held a referendum on seceding from the U.K. The "remain" side won 55% to 45%.

At the time, the referendum was billed as a once-in-a-generation decision. But the SNP argues that Brexit has changed everything because Scotland now faces being dragged out of the EU against its will.

Sturgeon said Friday that Johnson "has no mandate whatsoever to take Scotland out of the EU" and Scotland must be able to decide its future in a new independence referendum.

Johnson insists he will

not approve a referendum during the current term of Parliament, which is due to last until 2024. Johnson's office said the prime minister told the Scottish leader on Friday that "the result of the 2014 referendum was decisive and should be respected."

"What we've got now is pretty close to a perfect storm," said historian Tom Devine, professor emeritus at the University of Edinburgh. He said the U.K. is facing an "unprecedented constitutional crisis" as Johnson's refusal to approve a referendum fuels growing momentum for Scottish independence.

Politically and legally, it's a stalemate.

Without the approval of the U.K. government, a referendum would not be legally binding. London could simply ignore the result, as the Spanish government did when Catalonia held an unauthorized independence vote in 2017.

Sturgeon said she will lay out a "detailed democratic case for a transfer of power to enable a referendum to be put beyond legal challenge."

Devine said the administrations in Edinburgh and London "are in a completely



LINDSEY PARNABY/AP

Prime Minister Boris Johnson said his victory proved that leaving the EU is an "unarguable decision of the British people," but that doesn't include the Scottish and Irish population.

uncompromising condition" and that will only make the crisis worse.

"The longer Johnson refuses to concede a referendum, the greater will the pro-independence momentum in Scotland accelerate," he said. "By refusing to concede it, Johnson has ironically become a recruiting sergeant for increased militant nationalism."

Northern Ireland has its own set of political parties and structures largely split along British unionist/Irish nationalist lines. There too, people feel cast adrift by Brexit.

For the first time, Northern Ireland elected more lawmakers who favor union

with Ireland than want to remain part of the U.K.

The island of Ireland, which holds the U.K.'s only land border with the EU, has proved the most difficult issue in Brexit negotiations. Any customs checks or other obstacles along the currently invisible frontier between Northern Ireland and EU member Ireland would undermine both the local economy and Northern Ireland's peace process.

The divorce deal struck between Johnson and the EU seeks to avoid a hard border by keeping Northern Ireland closely aligned to EU rules, which means new checks on goods moving between Northern Ireland

and the rest of the U.K.

"Once you put a border between Northern Ireland and the rest of the United Kingdom, Northern Ireland's going to be part of a united Ireland for economic purposes," Jonathan Powell, who helped negotiate Northern Ireland's 1998 peace accord, said. "That will increase the tendency toward a united Ireland for political reasons too."

In Scotland, Devine also thinks the days of the Union may be numbered.

"Anything can happen," he said. "But I think it's more likely than not that the U.K. will come to an end over the next 20 to 30 years."



ST. JOHN PROPERTIES/WENDY HICKOK PHOTOGRAPHY

Employees react after St. John Properties surprised them with bonuses totaling \$10 million Dec. 7 in Baltimore.

Real estate employees get \$10M in bonuses

By BRITTANY SHAMMAS
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Hardly anyone knew what was inside the red envelopes handed out at a Maryland real estate firm's annual holiday party. So when employees at St. John Properties tore them open this month, the surprise was palpable.

Eyebrows jumped. Hands flew to mouths. And tears flowed — lots and lots of them.

Inside the envelopes

were holiday bonuses averaging \$50,000 and totaling \$10 million, life-changing sums based solely on tenure. One man, a maintenance technician who started at the company in 1981, received more than \$200,000.

"I was in shock," Stanley Ches told the "Today" show. "I'm still in shock. Everybody was shaking me down and giving me hugs."

The unusually high bo-

nuses drew a rush of attention to the Baltimore-based firm, which has clients in eight states. After announcing them publicly last week, the company's phones rang continuously.

The story continued making headlines. St. John Properties' offices kept buzzing with excitement.

"I just hope other companies look at this and realize that the employees are who



St. John

they are," company President Larry Maykrantz told The Washington Post.

Executives wanted to do something big to celebrate hitting a goal set in 2005: developing 20-million-square feet of commercial space.

They considered bonuses totaling \$1 million, \$2 million and \$5 million, founder and chairman CEO Edward St. John said in a video released by the company, "and I looked at the numbers and they just didn't impress me."



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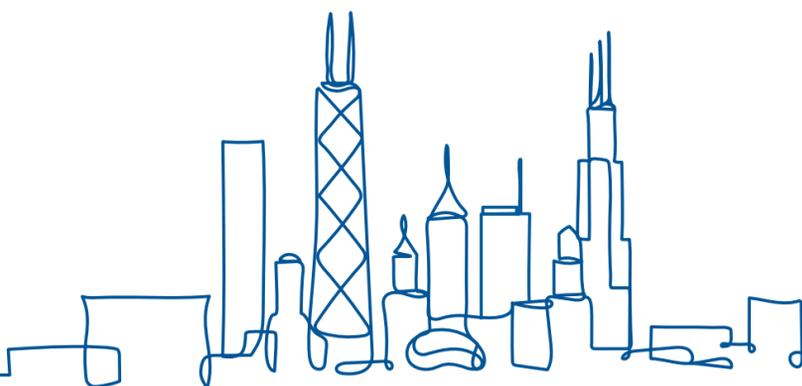
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FJM commemorates America's commitment to a free press by honoring journalists who sacrificed their lives in service to that cause.

This holiday season, you can make a significant difference and enhance the lives of fellow Chicagoans and families in need.



Chicago Tribune
HOLIDAY GIVING



DANIA MAXWELL/LOS ANGELES TIMES PHOTOS

Clarissa Ortega leads a class in a converted passenger bus in Tijuana, Mexico. The school is run by a nonprofit that supports children seeking asylum with their families.

A sanctuary of education

In a converted bus in Tijuana, a school emerges for kids of asylum-seekers awaiting US approval or denial

BY ALEJANDRO MACIEL
Los Angeles Times

TIJUANA, Mexico — It's a Friday morning and, as at any other school, children are cutting paper, drawing, reading aloud and playing with friends. There's some shouting and pushing, too, and their teacher patiently arranges the desks and gives instructions.

What's unusual is the setting: the inside of a passenger bus that has been converted into a classroom.

The school is part of the Yes We Can Mobile Schools project of the Yes We Can World Foundation, a nonprofit formed to support migrant children trapped on Mexico's northern border while they wait for U.S. authorities to accept or deny their asylum applications.

The effort was brought to life by Estefanía Rebellón, a Los Angeles actor who knows the pain and uncertainty of being an asylum-seeker. Eighteen years ago, at age 10, she fled her native Colombia after the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, better known as FARC, threatened to kill her family.

"One day, my parents were waiting for me outside of school and took me home. On the way, they told me we had to leave," she recalled.

The family abandoned their house in a prosperous neighborhood in the city of Cali, and her parents gave up their work as well-known lawyers. "Without understanding what was going on, I put some clothes in a suitcase, a doll and nothing else. My life and my memories stayed there," Rebellón said.

Exiled overnight, within a matter of days her family was in Miami and soon sought asylum with U.S. authorities.

Memories of that uneasy time came back last December when Rebellón first visited El Barretal, a shelter set up by Mexican authorities in Tijuana to receive caravans of migrants from Central America. Seeing the children, uncertain and anxious, she felt her heart shrink and resolved to do something — in the same way that a relative offered her home as shelter for Rebellón, her siblings and parents when they sought asylum.

"From that time, I remember the feeling of security that came from knowing that someone was holding our hand," she said.

Now it was her turn to lend that helping hand. In less than a month after returning to Los Angeles, she had formed Yes We Can World Foundation.

Before her visit to Tijuana, Rebellón had participated as an activist in some political movements, primarily against President Donald Trump's immigration and border policies, and on behalf of women's rights. But this cause was different, more personal. The children at El Barretal had emigrated from Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala and from the Mexican states of Guerrero, Guanajuato and Michoacán, where violence has forced thousands to seek safe harbor in the United States.

Some children walked for months to get to Tijuana. Some have lost relatives to gangs and organized crime.

"They come depressed, with



Children play after class in the converted bus in Tijuana.

the anguish of not knowing what's going to happen, with the uncertainty of knowing if they're going to be able to cross into the United States or will have to return to their places of origin," said Sandra Rodríguez, a teacher.

Another teacher, Clarisa Carrasco, plays soft, meditative music to help the students decompress. This morning she placed herself at the back of the classroom and asked the children to breathe. "Inhale. Exhale," she said, slowly raising and lowering her arms. "Inhale. Exhale."

The effect was immediate. Classroom noise yielded to silence, broken only by the delicate music.

Carrasco said the children "play, study, talk with their new friends, and have fun discovering the similarities and differences between one country and another."

"But only they know what they have lived and what they have suffered," she added.

The mobile classroom contains many stories. One belongs to Isabel, a 5-year-old from Guatemala, who hugged a teddy bear and chattered away about her experiences in a San Diego migrant detention center. Migrants call them *hieleras* — iceboxes — because they're often cold.

"They took us to the icebox," Isabel said. "It's freezing, and all they give you is an aluminum

blanket."

Isabel's mother, who said she had fled her homeland to escape an abusive husband, had pleaded for asylum. U.S. immigration officials were unimpressed. They denied her application.

"We're going back to Guatemala now," Isabel said. "I'm going to miss my school, my teachers and my friends."

The school began operating at full capacity in July and each day serves about 45 children ranging from 5 to 15 years old. But the need is so great that Rebellón and her colleagues immediately set up tents in an adjacent playground to provide additional classroom space for teenagers up to 18.

The bus is parked on the grounds of the Pro Amore Dei (For the Love of God) shelter in Tijuana, where dozens of immigrant families receive help. Thanks to Badrap, a Bay Area organization that donated a shuttle bus, they will start picking up children from different shelters and bring them to school.

The mobile school is a palliative for a crisis that worsens by the day. Trump's critics say that is due, in part, to his immigration policies, particularly the separation of families under the "Remain in Mexico" program.

Since its implementation in January, with the cooperation of the Mexican government, more than 30,000 asylum-seekers have

"(Children) come depressed, with the anguish of not knowing what's going to happen."

— Sandra Rodríguez, a teacher with Yes We Can Mobile Schools

been sent back to the border cities of Tijuana, Mexicali and Ciudad Juárez to await immigration court hearings.

For Rebellón, the challenges facing the immigrants echoed her own family's struggles, even after they won asylum. Her father, Carlos Rebellón, gave up his law briefs to work in a Walmart.

"Yes, we had to start over and made a big sacrifice, but for the family, you do whatever it takes," said Carlos Rebellón, 64.

As for Estefanía Rebellón, she grew up, learned a new language and customs, and dreamed of becoming an actress, traveling to Hollywood and being famous. Rebellón has had roles in series such as "Jane the Virgin" and in films including the short "On the Other Side."

"There was nothing that she could not do," said her mother, Sara Manzano.

She brought that resolve to creating her school. With the support of her boyfriend, Kyle Schmidt, she created Yes We Can World Foundation and set about acquiring a bus and transforming it into a mobile classroom. With a lot of work, they tore out the seats, lined the interior with wood and set up desks.

Using social media, Rebellón and Schmidt began asking for public support.

"People responded with incredible speed," Rebellón said. "I stood in a Home Depot and wrote on the social media that I needed plywood, and in a few hours, I got all that I needed."

"The key," said Schmidt, "is that everything is transparent."

The hardest part was finding a place to park the bus. "We went through all the immigrant shelters

in Tijuana," said Mario Medina, an official who ran El Barretal before the Mexican government shut it down in January. He and the foundation eventually chose Pro Amore Dei, which houses about 120 families and "has a great tradition of helping," Medina said.

Once the site for the bus was selected, a series of problems had to be solved, such as improving conditions in the surrounding area, which had to serve as a playground.

"We convened a team of volunteers, and in less than a day, we cleaned and prepared the land next to the shelter," Medina said.

Vince Young of the LA-area pest control company Warrior Termite donated the resources to build a fence around the school's perimeter. Gero Sosa, owner of a Tijuana electrical maintenance business called PYME, gave a lighting system to improve security, and the group This Is About Humanity donated playground equipment.

Thanks to such donations, each student receives a new backpack with pencils, pens and notebooks. They also receive uniforms and shoes. World Central Kitchen provides school lunches through an agreement with Yes We Can World Foundation. The effort relies on volunteers and four paid staffers — three teachers and a coordinator.

Students, on average, stay at the school 45 days. The school mainly serves as a transition to other schools, and teachers try not to waste the limited time they have with their students.

"I already know English," one boy, Marcos, told a companion. His family hopes to travel to Minnesota and he was already practicing his vocabulary. "Pollito ... chicken. Gallina ... hen. Lápiz ... pencil. Amarillo ... yellow."

Marcos is 7 and dreams of a new life in the United States, where all would be well.

"When you grow up, what do you want to be?" Carrasco asked.

Marcos didn't miss a beat. "I want to be rich."

"No," Carrasco said while giving him a hug. "I meant, what you would like to study?"

"Ah, I don't know," the boy said. Then with a serious look on his face, he added, "But I want to study what will help me get money and beautiful house."

The passenger bus that today has become a school required the work of dozens of people and contributions from more than 500 donors, most reached through social media networks.

"People support and trust us because we immediately show them the great impact we are making on the lives of these migrant children and because we show them exactly how the money that they donated is spent," said Rebellón.

But, as the need is great, Yes We Can World Foundation already is working on expanding its project to Ciudad Juárez, next to the Texas border.

"We're ready to take the next step," Rebellón said as she shepherded a group of volunteers from Los Angeles who had come to build the playground and construct the fence. "All help is welcome."



Actress Estefanía Rebellón, who formed Yes We Can World Foundation, greets the students in the converted bus. Originally from Colombia, Rebellón and her family sought asylum in the United States 18 years ago.

Newtown students turning to activism

Youth emerging as new voices for school safety

BY DAVE COLLINS
Associated Press

NEWTOWN, Conn. — They were children themselves when they lost siblings, friends, and schoolmates in the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting. Too young to comprehend the massacre, they spent years in shock and denial.

Seven years later, some young people in Newtown, still struggling with the trauma, are emerging as new voices for school safety and gun violence prevention. The activism, they say, has been a way to turn something horrific into something positive.

Twenty first-grade students and six educators were killed inside the school on Dec. 14, 2012, by a gunman in one of the deadliest school shootings in U.S. history.

Some stories from victims' siblings and students were in the school at the time of the shooting:

Natalie Barden

Natalie Barden was 10 when her brother, Daniel, 7, was killed. She attended a different school that went into lockdown as word of the shooting spread. She remembers being annoyed that morning as Daniel hugged her while they got ready for school.

Her favorite memories are of sleeping on Daniel's bed with Daniel and their older brother, James, because it was the biggest, and watching television, playing board games and wrestling.

Her father, Mark Barden, became an activist with the Sandy Hook Promise group he helped create after the shooting. Natalie disliked the media attention and interviews in their home because they brought back the pain of losing Daniel.

"When you're that young,



Mark Barden and daughter Natalie hold a photo of her brother, Daniel, at their home in Newtown, Connecticut.

it's really hard to wrap your mind around it," said Natalie, now a 17-year-old senior at Newtown High School. "Your sibling is such a big part of your life, and to know your brother for only 7 years is gone — I still can't wrap my mind around it. When I got to high school, it really hit me."

As she entered school, the shock was wearing off. Then 17 people were killed in the February 2018 shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. She was inspired by the Parkland teens who demanded action on gun control.

"That just kind of pushed me to become more involved with the whole youth movement," Natalie said in an interview.

Her sophomore year, Natalie joined the Junior Newtown Action Alliance, the youth arm of the Newtown Action Alliance, a local

group dedicated to promoting gun control measures.

She has called the offices of federal lawmakers, urging them to pass gun control bills, including an assault weapons ban. She began going on speaking engagements with her father.

An article she wrote for Teen Vogue last year sparked positive feedback from others affected by mass shootings, she said. She also wrote about her brother, feelings of loss and hope for the future in a chapter of a book published earlier this year, "If I Don't Make It, I Love You: Survivors in the Aftermath of School Shootings."

"I lost my brother, so I know how life-shattering a gun can be," she said. "I think it's just human nature to want to prevent others from feeling that way. We've kind of lost our innocence. We can't sit back and ignore it."

J.T. Lewis

J.T. Lewis also lost a brother in the shooting, 6-year-old Jesse Lewis. He was a 12-year-old seventh-grader at the time. Their relationship was like those of many brothers — lots of fighting and lots of making up, he said.

"As a kid, you grow up really fast when something like that happens to you," he said. "Most 12-year-olds wouldn't be able to comprehend it. It changes the trajectory of your life."

Lewis, 19, is a political science major at the University of Connecticut and a Republican running for the state Senate.

He never imagined becoming involved in activism. But shortly after the shooting, he found comfort in forming Newtown Helps Rwanda, which has raised college money for relatives of victims of the 1994 Rwan-

dan genocide.

Unlike many relatives of mass shooting victims, he isn't a gun control supporter. Instead, he favors improving school security and boosting mental health programs.

"I'm tired of watching my politicians fight for gun control to no avail," he said. "Right now, we need to look at other things. You're seeing a lot of shootings now where the measures they wanted to pass wouldn't have prevented anything."

Last December, Lewis was among those invited to the White House as President Donald Trump discussed the findings of a federal school safety commission.

Lewis said there is an extra sadness surrounding this year's anniversary of the shooting, because this is the first year most of the child victims have been dead longer than they were

alive. "The pain is still there," he said. "The lost person is still not there. Nothing is very different between now and last year."

Rayna Toth and Olivia Doscher

Friends Rayna Toth and Olivia Doscher were third-graders at Sandy Hook Elementary School, in different classrooms, when the shooting happened. Their classes gathered on carpets as teachers closed their doors and covered the door windows with paper.

"I knew when I was sitting in the classroom that I was in danger," Rayna said. "I think not knowing if I was going to be OK or if others were going to be OK was terrifying."

Olivia remembers one of her friends was crying. Then the school intercom came on with hysterical crying. They huddled in their classrooms until police with big guns came to lead them out of the school.

"At that point in my life, I didn't know what a shooting was because I was little," Olivia said. "I obviously knew something bad was going on."

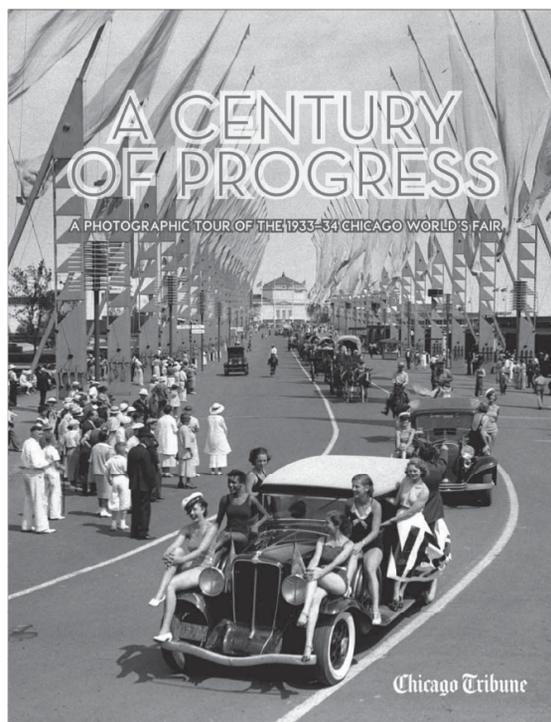
For a long time after the shooting, the two girls talked little about their experiences. But when they became sophomores at Newtown High School this fall, both joined the Junior Newtown Action Alliance because they wanted to prevent others from having to experience what they did.

"I knew I wanted to do it," Rayna said. "I was very young when the shooting happened, so I don't think I got to use my voice and say what happened to me."

Both have urged federal lawmakers to pass gun control bills. Rayna has written to families in Santa Clarita, California, where two students were killed and three injured in a high school shooting last month. She told them that it is OK to cry and that help is available to cope with their pain.

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Travel back in time to 1930s Chicago with *A Century of Progress: A Photographic Tour of the 1933-34 Chicago World's Fair*. This historical collection features more than 100 rare — and in some cases, unpublished — photographs documenting the fair's construction, demolition and everything in between. Readers will glimpse the technological feats and futuristic exhibits that characterized the fair, as well as elements of lasciviousness and insensitivity that, while clearly on display during the exposition, may prove shocking to modern readers.

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Chicago Tribune

Impeach

Continued from Page 1

and a White House meeting coveted by Ukrainian leaders to pressure them to announce investigations of his Democratic political foes.

Most Democrats were dismissive of the GOP's impeachment charges that Clinton lied to a grand jury and others about his affair with White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

"The Constitution is really to protect the nation against the abuse of presidential power. Any husband could lie under oath about an affair. It doesn't take presidential powers to do that," Rep. Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif., who opposed the Clinton impeachment and is still in Congress, said Friday.

Clinton was a lame duck but widely popular president who was presiding over a booming economy, and polling showed that impeachment had little support. That gave Democrats little reason to back the effort to remove him and made many Republicans think twice about backing impeachment.

That helps explain why 81 Republicans opposed one defeated Clinton impeachment article. The other three articles drew 28, 12 and 5 GOP "no" votes. No more than five Democrats backed any of the articles impeaching Clinton.



President Donald Trump boards Air Force One as he heads to the Army-Navy football game in Philadelphia on Saturday.

ANDREW CABALLERO-REYNOLDS/GETTY-AFF

Former Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas, was chief House GOP vote counter in 1998 and was known as "The Hammer" for his effectiveness in lining up support. In an interview Friday, he said he urged wavering Republicans to read evidence gathered by Ken Starr, the independent counsel who headed the investigation into Clinton that led to the

impeachment. DeLay said party leaders "cannot break arms" on an impeachment vote because it is too important. That echoes current Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., who has said she's not lobbying Democrats on the upcoming Trump votes. Trump faces reelection next year and has a strong track record of weaponizing

Twitter to demolish the political careers of Republicans who oppose him. Retired GOP Sens. Jeff Flake of Arizona and Bob Corker of Tennessee left Congress following running battles with Trump, and South Carolina Rep. Mark Sanford lost a party primary last year after running afoul of him. "If you cross Trump,

you're a short-timer when it comes to politics," said John Feehery, a GOP consultant and former House leadership aide. The calendar of both impeachment votes is another factor. The House's Clinton impeachment votes came a month after congressional elections, giving incumbents two years — a lifetime

in politics — until they next faced voters.

This year's Trump impeachment votes will come as the 2020 primary season is about to begin, putting recalcitrant Republicans at risk of facing Trump-backed primary challengers.

Meanwhile, Trump and his allies have trained their sights on the Democrats who represent districts that supported the president in 2016.

More than half of the 31 Democrats targeted by Trump haven't said yet how they'll vote.

Those Democrats who flipped Trump-won districts in 2018 credit their success to running on kitchen-table issues, namely health care and the promise to preserve protections for people with pre-existing health conditions; none claimed "they were with" Trump.

Only one of the Democrats in Trump's crosshairs sits on the House Judiciary Committee that voted on partisan lines on the two articles of impeachment Friday.

Rep. Lucy McBath of Georgia, who narrowly won her seat in 2018, said she voted her conscience.

"And I do so with a heavy heart, and a grieving soul," she said in a statement. "This is not why I came to Washington; I came to Washington because I love my country."

The Washington Post contributed.

Shooting shows NJ's strict gun laws aren't stopping imports

By MIKE CATALINI
Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. — Officials from states with strong gun restrictions have called for stricter firearm control in places with weaker laws to thwart traffickers, but the fatal attack on a Jewish market in New Jersey shows how fruitless those efforts can be.

Three civilians and a police officer were gunned down last week by two killers with anti-Semitic and anti-law enforcement beliefs, the state's attorney general said.

The attackers carried five firearms and a pipe bomb in the U-Haul van they drove to the Jersey City Jewish market before opening fire, officials said. Two of the weapons used by David Anderson, 47, and Francine Graham, 50, were bought by Graham in Ohio last year, police said. It's unknown where they got the three other guns.

New Jersey is among the states with the toughest gun restrictions in the country, and in the past two years, Democratic Gov. Phil Murphy has signed over a half-dozen new restrictions into law, including a lower bullet limit for gun magazines and a red flag law.

He's also made a priority of highlighting the so-called iron pipeline of firearms from other states — particularly along the Interstate 95 corridor.

Murphy, for example, is requiring state police to publish data monthly on guns recovered from crimes. The data show nearly 80% of so-called crime guns are from out of state.

Murphy says it's important to "name and shame" states with weaker gun laws that effectively import weapons into New Jersey. And in California, its Democratic governor and attorney general this year both criticized the contin-



A woman mourns Wednesday during the funeral of Mindel Ferencz, who was killed in a shooting in Jersey City, N.J.

EDUARDO MUNOZ ALVAREZ/AP

ued ability to bring in illegal firearms from other states despite California's strict gun laws.

For years, Chicago officials have complained that street violence often comes from the muzzles of guns sold in states with less-stringent laws.

Officials there and elsewhere have renewed demands for gun control at the federal level.

"It keeps happening, over and over and over again, on their damn watch," California Democratic Gov. Gavin Newsom said of federal politicians. "I can't put borders up in a neighboring state where you can buy this damn stuff legally."

Federal legislation is the missing factor, agreed Murphy's top gun adviser.

"If we're being honest, New Jersey is not an oasis and that's why it's extraordinarily frustrating," said Bill Castner. "We will continue to push and identify the most aggressive actions, but without a federal solution, it's extraordinarily challenging."

Shannon Watts, the founder of Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in

America, said her group is pressing ahead with state level gun control because of the political headwinds in Washington.

"What we have to do until we have the right president and Congress is go state by state," Watts said in an interview. "That's what we have to do now because of the political makeup. Every state is only as safe as the closest state with the weakest gun laws."

Second Amendment advocates, though, push back on the need for tougher state and national laws. Scott Bach, the executive director of the New Jersey Association of Rifle and Pistol Clubs, an affiliate of the NRA, invoked a common criticism of tougher restrictions: Criminals break laws, they don't follow them.

"Criminals laugh at gun regulations — the only thing they understand is severe punishment for actual gun crime," Bach said.

Officials are still investigating the Jersey City attack and have yet to release details about how the deceased attackers obtained their weapons.

Stung by spelling tie, Scripps isn't so wild about wild cards

By BEN NUCKOLS
Associated Press

The Scripps National Spelling Bee will have fewer participants next year. Whether it will have fewer champions remains to be seen.

Six months after the bee ended in an unprecedented eight-way tie because organizers ran out of words that were difficult enough to trip up the best spellers, Scripps has announced the first in a series of reforms to the competition. While bee organizers aren't saying how they'll come up with a more challenging word list, the bee is reducing the number of wild-card entrants, which ought to streamline an event that was becoming unwieldy.

The bee will have roughly 140 wild-card entrants, down from nearly 300 this year. That means the competition would top out at about 400 spellers. This year, there were 562 kids in the bee, which is open to students through the eighth grade.

And unlike in previous years, wild cards will be available only to seventh- and eighth-graders. There were dozens of first-timers and younger spellers among this year's wild cards, and current and former spellers said they were concerned the program had strayed from its intended purpose and was letting in nearly anyone able to pay the \$1,500 entry fee, plus travel, lodging and expenses. Spellers who qualify via the traditional route, by winning a regional bee, have their trip to nationals paid for by sponsors.

There were 17 wild cards age 9 or younger this year, and none survived to join the 50 spellers who made the finals. The preliminary rounds featured wild-card spellers who were clearly overwhelmed by such words as "tendon," "vestibule," "allocation"



Simone Kaplan hugs her mother, Alana, after reaching the final round of the Scripps National Spelling Bee in May.

PATRICK SEMANSKY/AP

and "gyro."

Fourteen-year-old Simone Kaplan of Davie, Florida, who just missed being part of the octet of champions in this year's bee, said she noticed the struggles of some younger wild-card spellers. "The change gives the students in sixth grade and below who don't win their district bees more chances to hone their skills for next year," said the eighth-grader, who is hoping to return for her fourth bee. "I think that making the bee smaller is also going to make it more competitive, so, yes, I think it is a good thing."

Paige Kimble, the bee's executive director, said ahead of the announcement that older kids ought to be the focus of the wild-card program because they are running out of chances to make the bee. She said Scripps will take into account applicants' performances in past bees and the difficulty of their regions.

Scripps also announced a financial aid package for spellers who apply through the wild-card program, known as "RSVBee." The bee will cover the entry fees and expenses of up to 18 wild-card spellers who qualify for free or reduced-price school lunches.

"We have always been sensitive to the financial

need aspect of RSVBee," Kimble said. "We look forward to helping spellers and their families who are in need make it to the national stage."

The wild-card program began with the 2018 bee in a bid to give opportunities to kids who live in highly competitive regions or in areas without sponsored bees, and it paid off immediately when Karthik Nemmani, a wild card from the Dallas area, won the bee. Dallas and Houston are home to some of the strongest fields of spellers at the regional level, and Karthik had lost his county bee to the girl he ended up defeating for the national title.

None of this year's eight champions was a wild card. As for the word list, its creation is a yearlong process, the details of which Scripps has always kept secret. Kimble would only say that the process is on schedule. But she maintains that the eight-way tie did not reflect poorly on the bee.

"We will present a competition that is challenging and that also honors the achievement of these spellers who have worked so very hard to master the ins and outs of the English language," Kimble said. "Our focus more than anything else is on celebrating that achievement."



RATNO SARDI/GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY

Cave art inside Bulu Sipong 4, Sulawesi, Indonesia, depicts hunting scene painted 44,000 years ago, the oldest known.

Oldest story told adorns Indonesian cave wall

By BEN GUARINO
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Archaeologists working in Indonesia say they have discovered the earliest artwork that depicts a story. It is a tale told in red pigment on a cave wall. The scene, in the scientists' interpretation, shows supernatural people hunting wild animals.

People living on the island of Sulawesi drew this image of pigs and horned animals as long as 44,000 years ago, according to a

study published last week in the journal Nature. Surrounding the animals are people or humanlike figures.

This artwork predates the charcoal cave art in Europe by thousands of years.

Ancient Sulawesi people, like European cave painters, drew lots of wildlife. On the limestone walls, animals loom larger than the other characters, who are nearly as spindly as stick figures. In one section, those figures cluster in front of a buffalo.

They appear to face off against the animal. Lines connect their small arms to the buffalo's chest.

"It's quite amazing. It's a narrative scene, and it's the first time we see that in the rock art," said study author Maxime Aubert, an archaeologist at Griffith University in Australia. "Everything," he said, meaning narration and creative invention, "is there from the beginning."

The large horned animals scrawled on the walls are anoa, a species of water buffalo found only on Sula-

awesi. Anoa are about the size of large dogs, but what they lack in stature they make up for in aggressive tempers. The characters in the scene appear to be hunting or, perhaps, wrangling one of the buffalo, Aubert said.

Study author Adam Brumm first saw the artwork as blurry photos in a messaging app. "I was just screaming with excitement when these images ended up in my phone," said Brumm, an archaeologist at Griffith University.

After Oregon tragedy, a lift for Christmas tree industry

BY ANDREW SELSKY
Associated Press

GERVAIS, Ore. — It was nighttime when Pedro Lucas came home, clutching receipts showing he had paid a funeral home to have the bodies of three immigrant laborers returned to Guatemala from Oregon.

The three, including two of Lucas' cousins, were killed when a pickup truck slammed into a van carrying them and 10 other Guatemalans home from work at a Christmas tree farm. Lucas' father, who arrived in America just seven months ago and sent part of his earnings to his wife in the village of Chacaj, was also in the van and remains in a coma, his back broken.

"It's unknown if he'll walk again," Lucas said in Spanish.

The Nov. 29 crash was a blow to Oregon's immigrant farmworkers, the driving force behind the state's \$121 million Christmas tree industry, the nation's largest.

On Wednesday, the U.S. House brought some relief when it passed a bill that would loosen restrictions on hiring foreign agricul-

tural workers and create a path to citizenship for more than 1 million farmworkers estimated to be in the country illegally.

The bill's fate in the Senate is unclear, and the White House hasn't said if President Donald Trump would sign it. But the 260-165 vote was a rare stroke of bipartisanship on immigration. The measure also requires farmers to use E-Verify, a system that checks whether someone can legally work, which farmers have fought against in the past.

The administration has expressed support for growers who say they are desperate for immigrants to fill jobs, even though Trump pinned his 2016 campaign and his domestic agenda to building a border wall with Mexico and introduced policies that make it far more difficult for immigrants to win asylum.

Both growers and Latino workers in Oregon say native-born Americans won't take these arduous field jobs.

"The person who works in an office, he doesn't know what it's like to work out there, how much one

suffers out there," Lucas said as he sat at his dining room table, the funeral home documents in front of him. "In this season, here we're warm inside, but outside, in the morning when it's cold and there's ice, you suffer a lot."

The crash shed light on "invisible work" happening in Oregon, said Reyna Lopez, executive director of a farmworker union called PCUN, an acronym in Spanish for Pine Workers and Farmers United of the Northwest.

Christmas tree farmers in Oregon, facing a tight labor market this year, used farm labor contractors who found migrant workers in California to help with the tree harvest, according to Oregon Employment Department officials.

In 2017, 4.7 million Christmas trees were harvested in Oregon, 4 million in North Carolina and 1.5 million in Michigan, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Oregon doesn't compile records on the percentage of immigrants in the Christmas tree industry, but it clearly relies on them. So do North Carolina and Michigan.



Farmworkers — most of them from Mexico — load trees onto a truck this month at Hupp Farms in Silverton, Oregon, where the Christmas tree industry is the nation's largest.



Alaska National Guard Staff Sgt. Joseph Sallaffie hands a gift bag to Corban Jimmy while Marlene Black looks on during Santa's visit to Napakiak, Alaska.

Santa, Guardsmen bring joy to beleaguered Alaska village

BY MARK THIESSEN
Associated Press

NAPAKIAK, Alaska — A school employee wearing a traditional pink Alaska Native smock called a kuspuk breezed through the hub-bub in the cafeteria adorned with murals of purely Alaska scenes, zigzagging through children clutching presents and past uniformed soldiers wearing Santa caps.

"Napakiak is happy today," she proclaimed to principal Sally Benedict.

That's a rare emotion of late for the 300 or so residents of this western Alaska community. "We're falling into the Kuskokwim River," Benedict explains, because of erosion that is forcing everyone to move their town farther inland.

But for one day this month, the Alaska National Guard gave folks a reason to smile, thanks to its "Operation Santa Claus" program, which featured the jolly old elf himself distributing gifts to the children.

"This lightens the load," said Benedict, a former Detroit educator who arrived last summer. "This is sunshine for us. It's a brightening of our day."

Now in its 63rd year,

Operation Santa Claus has become a rarity among National Guard units. Defense officials have shut down the program everywhere but Alaska, where the mission survives because the state is so large and some communities are so remote.

The program started in 1956 when the residents of St. Mary's, Alaska, had no money to buy children Christmas presents after flooding severely impacted hunting and fishing. Since then, Guard members try to visit at least two rural communities a year, delivering Christmas gifts and other needed supplies.

They've been to remote burgs with names like Koyukuk, Savoonga, Iliamna, Kwethluk and Tunuliak. The visit to Napakiak involved two aircraft: a 400-mile trip in a small airplane from Anchorage, then a five-minute helicopter ride to the village.

"We love this, we truly love coming here," said Maj. Gen. Torrence Saxe, the adjutant general of the Alaska National Guard who found himself topping ice cream sundaes with cherries for the revelers in Napakiak. "This is a proud

tradition."

The Guard isn't the only Santa's helper in the nation's largest state.

The Salvation Army is celebrating its 50th year of helping the Guard, collecting gifts, book bags and other items to be distributed.

Major corporate sponsors like Costco and Walmart contribute to the program, and Rich Owens for years has provided the ice cream from his Tastee Freeze restaurant in Anchorage.

"It's a labor of love," said John Brackenbury, the Alaska divisional commander of The Salvation Army.

Climate change is a contributing factor in the erosion caused by the Kuskokwim, a 700-mile-long river that becomes an ice highway for travelers in the winter, has been an on-going problem in Napakiak, but the pace has accelerated in the past few years.

"You see this at a number of rivers in western Alaska where the bank stability is so much less than it used to be because the warming temperatures are allowing the banks to just crumble away with even typical river flows," he said.

NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

North Korea conducts another test at long-range rocket site

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea said Saturday that it successfully performed another "crucial test" at its long-range rocket launch site that will further strengthen its nuclear arsenal.

The test — the second at the facility in a week, according to North Korea's Academy of Defense Science — possibly involved technologies to improve intercontinental ballistic missiles that could potentially reach

the United States.

The North has been dialing up pressure to coax concessions from the Trump administration.

In a separate statement, Pak Jong Chon, chief of the Korean People's Army's general staff, asserted North Korea has built up "tremendous power" and that the tests would be used to develop new weapons to allow the country to "reliably" counter U.S. nuclear threats.

Teen climate activist apologizes for 'against the wall' comment

MADRID — Climate activist Greta Thunberg, 16, of Sweden, apologized for saying politicians should be put "against the wall" after some right-wing critics took it to mean that she was advocating violence.

She made the comment to young activists Friday in the Italian city of Turin. Thunberg later said she was making a literal translation from Swedish, in which the expression

means to put someone on the spot with tough questions.

"That's what happens when you improvise speeches in a second language. But of course I apologise if anyone misunderstood this," she tweeted Saturday.

Thunberg told the crowd in Turin that world leaders were running away from their responsibilities to fight climate change.

Under pressure, Hallmark pulls gay-themed wedding TV ads

NEW YORK — Under pressure from a conservative advocacy group, The Hallmark Channel has pulled ads for a wedding-planning website that featured two brides kissing at the altar.

The network, which is in the midst of its holiday programming, removed the ads because the controversy was a distraction, a spokesperson said. "The debate surrounding these commercials on all sides

was distracting from the purpose of our network, which is to provide entertainment value," said a statement provided by Molly Biwer, senior vice president for public affairs and communications at Hallmark.

There was immediate criticism on Twitter. Ellen DeGeneres asked Hallmark: "Isn't it almost 2020? What are you thinking? Please explain. We're all ears."



A firefighter makes his way through a flooded neighborhood Saturday after heavy rains the day before in southwestern France. One person died and five others were injured as the floods threatened the Pyrenees-Atlantiques region. About 70,000 homes lost power.

China welcomes partial deal in trade war it blames on US

BELJING — China expressed cautious optimism Saturday about a first-step trade agreement that dials down a trade war it blames the U.S. for starting.

Chinese experts and news media joined government officials in saying the deal would reduce uncertainty for companies, at least in the short term. They remained cautious, saying both sides will have to show a willingness to compromise to resolve the more fundamental differences between them.

"It at least stabilizes the situation and lays a foundation for the next round of

trade talks or canceling additional tariffs in the future," said Tu Xinquan, a professor at the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing.

The countries announced a "Phase 1" agreement Friday under which the U.S. will reduce tariffs and China will buy more U.S. farm products. Chinese officials said the nine-chapter text, which includes intellectual property, technology transfer, financial services and dispute settlement, has to undergo legal and translation review before it can be signed.

Officials said the U.S. would begin phasing out tariffs on Chinese imports. The deal was announced two days before higher tariffs were set to kick in. China would make similar tariff cuts, the officials said.

China portrayed the deal as in line with the opening up of its economy and the deepening of its economic reforms. Increased imports of high-quality products from the United States and elsewhere will "meet the growing needs of the people for a better life," said Wang Shouwen, a deputy commerce minister and trade negotiator.

Sudan's al-Bashir gets 2 years in corruption case

KHARTOUM, Sudan — A court in Sudan convicted former President Omar al-Bashir of money laundering and corruption Saturday, sentencing him to two years in a minimum security lockup.

That's the first verdict in a series of legal proceedings against al-Bashir, who is

also wanted by the International Criminal Court on charges of war crimes and genocide linked to the Darfur conflict in the 2000s.

The verdict comes a year after Sudanese protesters erupted in revolt against al-Bashir's authoritarian rule.

During his three decades

in power, Sudan landed on the U.S. list for sponsoring terrorism.

Al-Bashir has been in custody since April, when Sudan's military ousted him after months of nationwide protests. The uprising eventually forced the military into a power-sharing agreement with civilians.

Gunmen kill 1 tourist, hurt 1 in Argentina, authorities say

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — Assaultants shot two British tourists while trying to rob them Saturday in Argentina's capital, killing one and seriously injuring the other, authorities said.

The attack occurred as the tourists approached a luxury hotel in the Puerto Madero area of Buenos Aires, the Argentine news agency Telam said.

Argentine officials said that assailants on a motorcycle, apparently supported by accomplices in a car, tried to steal the belongings of the tourists, according to Telam.

The tourists attempted to resist, the statement said. One was shot in the groin and the other was shot in the right lung. Both were taken to a hospital. Police are searching for the attackers.

The British Embassy said it was assisting family members of two British men after the attack.

In New Zealand: Specialist teams were due to return to New Zealand's volcanic White Island on Sunday to resume a land search for the bodies of two victims of an eruption that has now claimed 15 lives.

Two four-person teams wearing protective clothing and using breathing apparatuses were to land on the island by helicopter early morning in the hope of finding the bodies which have not been located since the island erupted Dec. 9.

While scientists said the possibility of a second eruption appeared to have receded, White Island remains "highly volatile."

Police said the toll from the eruption has risen to 15 with the death in hospital on Saturday night of a severely burned victim.

OBITUARIES

JOSEPH CHIODO 1945-2019



FAMILY PHOTO

Joseph Chiodo spent about 20 years as a special officer with the U.S. Secret Service in both Washington and Chicago.

Former Secret Service officer drove popemobile in 1987

BY GRAYDON MEGAN

Joseph Chiodo spent about 20 years as a special officer with the U.S. Secret Service in both Washington and Chicago, helping to protect presidents, visiting foreign leaders and, on one occasion, a future saint.

That was in 1987, when Chiodo drove the popemobile during Pope John Paul II's visit to Detroit.

"That assignment was a highlight for sure," said his son, Theodore. "Here is a Catholic-born son of immigrants from the West Side of Chicago driving the popemobile around the streets of Detroit."

Chiodo was also a Vietnam War veteran and Purple Heart recipient, who dedicated much of his time in retirement to helping veterans. He was commander of American Legion Post 250 in Hinsdale from 2012 to 2017.

Chiodo, a nonsmoker, was 74 when he died Nov. 29 in Edward Hines Jr. VA Hospital of complications from lung cancer, according to his son, a former deputy staff secretary for President Barack Obama. Chiodo had lived for about 20 years in Downers Grove after many years in Clarendon Hills.

Chiodo was born in Chicago in 1945. His father — who was an immigrant from Sicily, as was Chiodo's mother — died when he was 10 years old. While helping to care for his mother and siblings, Chiodo got into Fenwick Catholic high school in Oak Park, graduating in 1962.

Chiodo volunteered for the U.S. Marine Corps in 1966 and took courses at the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center in California to become a Vietnamese interpreter. Chiodo was an infantry rifleman assigned to

the 3rd Marine Division in Vietnam from 1967 to 1968.

His wartime service ended when Chiodo triggered an anti-personnel mine with his foot while on patrol with a unit of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam, his son said. The explosion threw him into the air. He was seriously wounded and was later awarded the Purple Heart.

According to his family, Chiodo was fond of saying, "Every day of my life after Vietnam is a gift."

After leaving the Marines, Chiodo coached football at St. Vincent Ferrer School in River Forest, then joined the Great Lakes Police Department. His son said he later became a Customs and Border Patrol agent and transferred from there to the Secret Service in the early 1980s.

He trained on the East Coast, but soon moved to the Chicago field office and spent most of his time there until retiring in 2001.

Tim McCarthy, now chief of police in Orland Park, worked with Chiodo as special agent in charge of the Chicago Field Office of the Secret Service before retiring in 1993.

"He was highly trained, highly disciplined and did an outstanding job," McCarthy said.

As a special officer, Chiodo drove follow cars and armored limos carrying people being protected and helped maintain armored vehicles and equipment for the office. McCarthy said.

McCarthy, best known as the Secret Service agent shot while shielding President Ronald Reagan during a 1981 assassination attempt, said Chiodo gave him a refurbished antique fishing reel when he retired, a reel he keeps in a display case in his home.

In retirement, Chiodo

focused his energies and his leadership skills on helping veterans.

"He was all in it for the veterans," said Tom Lynch, who served as adjutant during the five years Chiodo was post commander of Hinsdale American Legion Post 250.

"He went and solicited packages at Christmas-time," Lynch said. "Then we'd go to Hines (VA Hospital) and distribute care packages (to hospitalized veterans)."

Chiodo often visited veterans at Hines on his own and was also active helping families of hospitalized veterans, many staying in the Hines VA Fisher House. Fisher Houses provide a home away from home for families and caregivers of veterans and active-duty service members receiving treatment at major military and VA medical facilities.

"Joe was a special person and wonderful supporter of Hines Fisher House for many years," said Holly Wright, manager of the Hines Fisher House. "He always wanted to make sure that our veterans and their families had everything they would need during their stay. He was a huge advocate of our program and often promoted Fisher House throughout the community."

McCarthy said he recently attended the annual Secret Service Christmas party.

"There was a huge hole in the room," McCarthy said, "because everyone loved Joe. He was a guy that got things done."

In addition to his son, Chiodo is survived by his wife, Kathy; and his daughter, Caroline.

Services were held.

Graydon Megan is a freelance reporter.

DANNY AIELLO 1933-2019

Actor with roles in 'Do the Right Thing,' 'Moonstruck'

By MARK KENNEDY
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Danny Aiello, 86, the blue-collar character actor whose long career playing tough guys included roles in "Fort Apache, the Bronx," "Moonstruck" and "Once Upon a Time in America" and his Oscar-nominated performance as a pizza man in Spike Lee's "Do the Right Thing," has died.

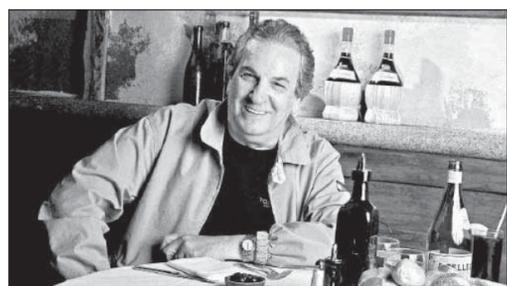
Aiello died Thursday night after a brief illness, said his publicist, Tracey Miller. "The family asks for privacy at this time," she said in a statement.

In a tweet, Cher mourned the man she called "a genius comedic actor." The two had starred in "Moonstruck," and she called it "one of the happiest times in my life."

Recognizable, if not famous, for his burly build and husky voice, he was an ex-union president who broke into acting in his 30s and remained a dependable player for decades, whether vicious or cuddly or some of each.

His breakthrough, ironically, was as the hapless lover dumped by Cher in Norman Jewison's hit comedy "Moonstruck." His disillusion contributed to the laughter, and although he wasn't nominated for a supporting-role Oscar (Cher and Olympia Dukakis won in their categories), Aiello was inundated with movie offers.

"Living in New York City gave me training for any role," he said in a 1997 interview. "I've seen people killed, knifed. I've got scars on my face. I have emotional recall when I work; the idea is simply to recreate it. I've seen it and experienced it. I've played gangsters, teachers, but



JIM COOPER/AP 2001

Oscar-nominated character actor Danny Aiello died Thursday night after a brief illness. He was 86.

most of my work has been in the police area. And for that I'm adored by the police in New York City."

The ebullient Aiello became a favorite of several directors, among them Woody Allen, who used him in the Broadway play "The Floating Light Globe" and the movies "Broadway Danny Rose," "The Purple Rose of Cairo" and "Radio Days."

Lee was another admirer and for "Do the Right Thing" cast Aiello as a pizzeria operator in a black neighborhood of Brooklyn, the movie climaxing with a riot that destroys his eatery. "This is my pizzeria!" he cried. Lee had first offered the role to Robert De Niro, but Aiello's performance brought him an Oscar nomination for supporting actor.

Among his other movies: "Fort Apache, the Bronx" (as a cop who threw a boy from a building), "Once Upon a Time in America," "Harlem Nights," "Jack Ruby" (as Ruby) and "City Hall."

Daniel Louis Aiello Jr. was born to Italian parents. His father, a laborer, left the family of seven children, and Daniel started working at age 9 selling newspapers, working in a grocery store and bowling alley, shining shoes and loading trucks.

In his teenage years, he joined a street gang and, he claimed, engaged in burglary and safe-cracking. He dropped out of high school before graduating, got married in 1955 and joined the Army.

After three years in the service, he worked at several factory jobs, landing as a baggage man at Greyhound. The ambitious Aiello rose to become president of the transit union.

But when Greyhound accused him of starting a wildcat strike and the union leaders agreed, Aiello quit his job.

He worked at one job after another, and in 1970 was hired as a bouncer at the New York comedy club Improvisation. One night, he was asked to act as an assistant emcee. "It was no big deal; it was just 'Danny, go up and announce the acts,'" he recalled in 1997. "There was a little bantering between acts, and I kept that short. I was terrified."

Yet Aiello soon branched out, playing small roles in the movies "Bang the Drum Slowly" and "The Godfather, Part II" and as the bartender lead in a musical play "Lamppost Reunion." Starting in 1980 he averaged three films a year, plus appearances in theater and television.

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON DECEMBER 15 ...

In 1791 the Bill of Rights went into effect following ratification by Virginia.

In 1890 Sioux Indian Chief Sitting Bull and 11 other tribe members were killed in Grand River, South Dakota, during a fracas with Indian police.

In 1916 the French de-

feated the Germans in the World War I Battle of Verdun.

In 1939 the motion picture "Gone With the Wind" had its world premiere in Atlanta.

In 1966 movie producer Walt Disney died in Los Angeles; he was 65.

In 1989 a popular uprising

began that resulted in the downfall of Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

In 2001 the Leaning Tower of Pisa, Italy, was reopened to the public after a \$27 million realignment that had dragged on for more than a decade.

In 2005 millions of Iraqis turned out to choose a parliament in a mostly peaceful election.

In 2013 about 4,500 mourners attended the funeral of iconic South African leader Nelson Mandela, who was buried in Qunu, his rural home village in Eastern Cape province.

In 2015 Chicago firefighter Daniel Capuano, 42, died while fighting a fire at a South Side warehouse; the 15-year veteran was survived by his wife and three children. Also in 2016 Wheaton College students protested after officials at the evangelical Christian school placed a tenured professor on administrative leave after she donned a traditional headscarf to show solidarity with Muslims and posted on Facebook that "we worship the same God."

WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

ILLINOIS
Dec. 14
Powerball 03 06 12 32 64 / 19
Powerball jackpot: \$150M
Lotto 01 02 17 21 44 49 / 03
Lotto jackpot: \$14.25M
Pick 3 midday 344 / 0
Pick 4 midday 7731 / 6
Lucky Day Lotto midday 05 12 20 36 42
Pick 3 evening 186 / 0
Pick 4 evening 3477 / 4
Lucky Day Lotto evening 07 16 27 30 39
Dec. 13
Mega Millions 17 21 29 39 56 / 22
Mega Millions jackpot: \$340M
Pick 3 midday 949 / 4
Pick 4 midday 0558 / 0
Lucky Day Lotto midday 01 14 27 28 36
Pick 3 evening 220 / 2
Pick 4 evening 6141 / 4
Lucky Day Lotto evening 13 22 27 40 43
Dec. 17 Mega Millions: \$372M

INDIANA
Dec. 14
Lotto 06 07 16 20 35 36
Daily 3 midday 058 / 0
Daily 4 midday 6456 / 0
Daily 3 evening 458 / 5
Daily 4 evening 3622 / 5
Cash 5 01 03 34 38 44
MICHIGAN
Dec. 14
Lotto 07 11 16 21 28 46
Daily 3 midday 248
Daily 4 midday 2872
Daily 3 evening 738
Daily 4 evening 5020
Fantasy 5 11 13 19 28 35
Keno 04 07 08 11 13 14
15 27 28 32 35 37 38 41
46 47 48 53 61 70 72 76
WISCONSIN
Dec. 14
Megabucks 11 18 30 31 32 36
Pick 3 412
Pick 4 9257
Badger 5 03 10 17 22 29
SuperCash 18 20 25 27 34 37

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Death Notices

Anderson, Charles S.

Charles S. Anderson, 91, of Elmhurst. Beloved husband of Angela nee Lizzadro; loving father of Miriam Lytle, Charles E. (Jan) Anderson, Ella (Garr) Budynsky, Fr. Gabriel Anderson, Gerard (Meghan) Anderson, Dorothy (Don) Asher, Mary Anderson, Laurence (Charlene) Anderson, Amy (Paul) Wheeler and the late Vincent Anderson; Cherished grandfather of 17; great grandfather of 6; Brother of Arthur (Maureen) Anderson and the late Dorothy Robinson; uncle of many nieces and nephews. Visitation at Ahlgrim Funeral Home, 567 S. Spring Rd., Elmhurst from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Tuesday, December 17, 2019. Prayers 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at the funeral home, going to Visitation Church. Mass at 11:00 a.m. Interment St. Mary Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, Memorials will be appreciated for the Lizzadro Museum of Lapidary Art. Info 630-834-3515 or www.ahlgrim.com.



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Aronson, Simon H

Simon H. Aronson, former partner at law firm, Lord, Bissell & Brook, beloved husband of Virginia (Ginny) Aronson, for 45 years and brother of Bernard Aronson, passed away on December 10, 2019, at the age of 76.

For most of his life, Simon Aronson invented magic tricks—especially magic tricks with playing cards. His tricks have been, and continue to be, performed all over the world by thousands of magicians, both professional and amateur. In the magic community, Aronson has long been revered for brilliant methodological innovations, creative scripting and plots, and for the sheer force of intelligence that he brought to all of his tricks and writings. Some of his work has attained such classic status that almost every magician in the world is familiar with it. Although he became famous more thanks to writing than performing (he wrote many books for magicians), he loved to perform for audiences, both small and large—whether he was doing his own close-up magic tricks or playing his part in the much-admired, two-person mind-reading act that he and his wife, Ginny, are famous for. Simon loved to meet with magician-friends to create and tinker with magic tricks collaboratively (something he did every week for more than fifty years), and he had friends in magic all around the world.

A celebration of Simon's life will be held at a later date.

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Axelrod, Sammye

Sammye Axelrod (nee Schwartz) beloved wife of Richard: Devoted mother of Scott (Cyndi), Paige (Ned), Marci (Rob). Amazing Grandmother of Amy (Tom), Kevin, Rachel, Brittani and Genna. Private Services have been held.

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Ballin, Dr. John Christian

Dr. John C. Ballin, 95, a resident of Hinsdale for 52 years, passed away on December 11, 2019. John was born at Ravenswood Hospital (Chicago) on December 3, 1924. He was inducted into the army the day after he graduated from Lindbloom High School in 1942. John was a decorated WWII veteran receiving 2 Purple Hearts, and the Bronze Star for "Meritorious Achievement in Ground Operations Against the Enemy." He landed on Omaha Beach one week after D-day, suffered frostbite so severe he almost lost his feet and was ultimately the sole survivor of his platoon. He was then reassigned to Scotland, where, as a gifted pianist, he took advanced studies at the Royal Academy of Music. He was discharged in 1945. John received BS, MS and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Chicago. While at Billings Hospital in 1950, he introduced himself to Mildred Louise Geiger, M.D. It was an immediate love match. They married June 30, 1951 at the University of Chicago Chapel and were together for 64 years until Mildred's death in 2015. John joined the American Medical Association in 1951 and spent his entire career there until his retirement in 1986. He was a frequent contributor to JAMA (100+ publications), Editor-in-Chief and author of AMA Drug Evaluation, Director of Scientific Activities, and Director Emeritus of the Division of Drugs & Technology. John was an active member of Grace Episcopal Church and the Hinsdale Golf Club. John is survived by his three daughters: Janet (Jay) Tuthill, Susan (Dr. Charles) Owens and Carol (James) Marshall, his grandchildren: Jori and Jack Tuthill, David, Michael and Katherine Owens, William, Jonathan, and Peter Marshall, and his two nephews, a niece, and their families. He was preceded in death by his wife, Mildred, his grandson, Thomas Marshall and sister, Phyllis B. Silhan. John's family is grateful to his dedicated caregiver of six years, Anita Sabos. A private family service and Eucharist will be held at Grace Episcopal Church. Memorials may be made to Grace Episcopal Church, 120 East First Street, Hinsdale, IL. Arrangements entrusted to Brian Powell Funeral Directors of Hinsdale. 630-703-9131 or www.powellfuneraldirectors.com



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POWELL FUNERAL DIRECTORS
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Ballin, Mary

Mary Ballin, age 91, nee Olenick, a strong, independent, three time cancer survivor, of Canton, IL and formerly of Chicago, IL, passed away peacefully December 13, 2019. Beloved wife of the late Michael. Loving mother of William (Catina); Dear grandmother of Anastasia and Michael Ballin. Dear sister of the late Zinea Dziura. Fond aunt of Jackie, Terry, and Nina and great aunt of many. Mary was a long-time member of All Saints Greek Orthodox Church in Peoria. Visitation Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at **Muzyka & Son Funeral Home**, 5776 W. Lawrence Ave, Chicago from 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. with prayer service at 6 p.m. Family and friends to meet Wednesday, December 18 at St. George Cathedral, 917 N. Wood Street, Chicago for a 10:00 a.m. Funeral Service. Interment Elmwood Cemetery. For information please call 773-545-3800 or visit Mary's tribute at www.MuzykaFuneralHome.com.



Muzyka & Son

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Barker, Fern Snider

Fern Snider Barker died in her Alameda, CA home on Oct. 31, 2019. Born Feb. 9, 1933 to Sol and Ruth Snider, Fern grew up in Glencoe, IL. Survived by sister Gale Whitnell, children Deb Barker and Brad Barker, grandchildren Meghan, Nick and Tessa Barker, ex-husband Bill Barker, 5 nephews and a niece. SF Bay area services in Spring 2020.

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Barnas-Robbins, Carole Mary

1934-2019 Carole Mary Barnas-Robbins (nee Redjinski), age 85, passed away December 13, 2019. Loving mother of 8 children; Joy Schwerman (Scott), Cindi Adams, Jack Barnas, Jolynn Sherman (Mark), Jim Barnas (Susan), Jennifer Garvey (Bernie), Jenn Gagnon, John Barnas (Michele). In addition to her 8 children she also had 27 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren. She was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. She spent the most of her life in the greater Chicago area, save for 20 years in the Phoenix, Arizona area during her retirement. Carole had a wicked, irreverent sense of humor which she passed on to each of children and grandchildren. She loved to play card and board games. She made friends wherever she went, whether it was in the Chicago area, Leisure World in Mesa, Arizona, or Brookdale Senior Living in Vernon Hills, IL. She enjoyed all the places she had lived but her favorite place in the world was Glenview, Illinois. Her favorite time of the year was the Holidays, and she loved to decorate her home, inside and out. This love of decorating one's home for the holidays has also been passed on to each of her children. She is preceded in death by her husband Hank Barnas, a son, Jack Barnas, a Nephew, Luke Adams and a second husband, Charles Robbins.

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Bates, Lorraine Elizabeth

Lorraine Elizabeth Bates was born August 25, 1945 in New Orleans, La and passed away on November 14, 2019 in Libertyville, IL. The eldest daughter of Edward H. Parker and Rosetta M. Parker, Lorraine was the beloved mother of Terrence D. Bates of Wadsworth, IL and Karen A. Bates of Chicago, IL. Lorraine is preceded in death by her infant daughter, Bobbie Bates and her husband, Bobbie J. Bates of Lake Forest, IL. She is survived by siblings Edward Parker Jr., Herman Parker, and Linda Williams. Lorraine was the proud "Granny" to Sydney Ellen and Bobbie Simone Bates and the affectionate Auntie to a host of nieces and nephews. A military bride of more than 20 years, Lorraine's early life included travel to U.S. bases and overseas to Camp Zama, Yokohama Japan. An accomplished professional in her own right, Lorraine was employed at national companies including Gulf Oil (now Chevron Corp) and Abbott Laboratories. A lifelong runner, Lorraine completed the 2000 Chicago Marathon. Lorraine Elizabeth Parker Bates, God's faithful servant, a devoted wife and loving mother, forever in our hearts.

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Bejec, Eulogio Villano

Eulogio Villano Bejec, age 80, of Naperville, passed away December 6, 2019. Visitation will be Friday, Dec. 27, 4:00-8:00 PM at the **Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services**, 44 S. Mill St., Naperville. Funeral Services will be Saturday, Dec. 28, 10:30 AM at the funeral home. Interment Assumption Cemetery, Wheaton. For info call 630/355-0213 or visit www.friedrich-jones.com for a complete obituary.



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Benas, Josephine

Josephine (Jankauskas) Benas, 94, of Schaumburg, was called to rest on November 28, 2019. Josephine was the beloved wife of the late George Benas. Loving mom of Barbara (Dennis) Marty, Bonnie, George (Robin) and John (MaryAnne) Benas. Dear Nana of six, Joseph (Angela) Marty, Beth (Philip) Maclin, Marie Ferentz, Barbara, Emily and Rose Benas. Treasured Great-Nana to Jessica and Leah Marty, Carter, Kellen and Asha Maclin and Lucy Ferentz. Visitation December 20th, 9:30 am at St Colette Church, 3900 Meadow, Rolling Meadows followed by mass at 10:30. Burial will be at St Casimir Cemetery 4401 W. 111th St. Chicago. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Colette Church or the American Heart Association. Information (847)253-0224.

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Biegert, Rev. Dr. John Evert

John Evert Biegert, 87, died December 6, 2019. Born in Abilene, Kansas to Clarence and Ella (nee Peterson) Biegert. Survived by daughter Diane Biegert, daughter-in-law Julie Jackson Biegert, three grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren. Preceded in death by his son Dr. J. Douglas Biegert, and most recently, his wife of 65 years and love of his life, Evelyn J. Biegert. Much-loved minister, tennis player, bridge player, bicyclist, golfer, animal lover, and traveler. Memorial service Saturday, December 21, 2019, 1:00 PM at First Congregational Church of LaGrange. Memorials to the memorial fund of First Congregational Church of LaGrange, 100 South 6th Avenue, LaGrange, IL 60525.

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Brandt, Nancy Hubbard

Nancy H. Brandt, 90, died peacefully in her Chicago home on December 8, after a year of battling health issues. It is said that faith without works is dead. Nancy believed that life without works is dead. She never sought the limelight, although it often found her. She never sought personal recognition but received a great deal. Hers is the story of how education changed one person's life, and how that person worked to change the lives of others. She was valedictorian of J.M. Atherton High School in Louisville, Kentucky, and received a full scholarship to Cornell University, from which she graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1950, where she met Jim Brandt, an engineering student and her husband to be. She received an MA in urban studies from Chicago's Loyola University, and for the past 14 years was part of a class at the University of Chicago that focused on a wide range of literary subjects. She and Jim also spent more than two decades studying archeology and traveling the globe to learn about ancient civilizations and cultures. By the time she and Jim moved with their children to Highland Park in 1963, she had turned her focus to politics—local, small-p politics. She served with the League of Women Voters and for two successive terms on the District 113 School Board, the last year as president. She joined Continental Illinois Bank's Investment Banking section, where she conceived of and developed a program of giving that, instead of sprinkling dozens of charitable contributions around the city, targeted many segments of just one community: schools, parent groups, businesses, police, and civic organizations. The results of her efforts in the Humboldt Park community are visible today. She was also invited to discuss this program at a town hall hosted by Bill Clinton during his 1993 presidential run. After moving to Chicago proper in 1981, Nancy and Jim joined St. Pauls United Church of Christ, where Nancy cofounded an adult education group called Faith and Public Issues, which helps to bring a faith perspective about subjects important to our public life, such as racism, climate change, and immigration, "so people can explore issues in depth, and discuss possible action." Nancy cofounded Protestants for the Common Good (PCG), an association of lay people and clergy that encourages individuals of faith to apply their beliefs to pressing public issues, such as poverty and economic justice, affordable housing, campaign finance reform, educational funding, and criminal justice. On the 15th anniversary of PCG's founding, her colleagues honored her, describing her as a "fervent inquirer, passionate advocate, inspiring colleague, [and] tireless laborer for fairness and justice." Nancy helped to found the Colleen Henry Writing Center, where Lincoln Park-area students can work with professional writers. She also brought her expertise in education finance to the League of Women Voters of Chicago Education Committee, which she chaired over the past three years. Most precious of all to Nancy was her marriage to Jim, her best love, greatest friend, fellow explorer, and constant companion for 68 years. Theirs was a marriage to be envied and serves as a model for many. She was predeceased by her son Jeffrey and is survived by her husband, Jim, and three other children, Barbara Brandt (Steve Tower), Carrie Carlson (Curt Carlson), and Doug Brandt (Kathy Keegan), as well as her loving grandchildren, Andrew and Lexi Carlson. A memorial service will take place at St. Pauls UCC, 2335 N Orchard St., Chicago, IL 60614, on January 25, 2020, at 2 pm.

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Cannon, Jules I

Jules I. Cannon, age 72, adored son of the late Lee and the late Bluma Cannon; much loved brother of Lori Cannon and the late J. H. Cannon; also his dating CNA Sandra Grant. We honor and thank Dr. Daniel Litoff for his noble and superior medical skills, as well as Kerry Peck and Patrick Bushell of the Peck Ritchey Law Firm for their astute and compassionate attention paid Jules. Never let it be said one person can't make a difference. Jules faced numerous obstacles and challenges taking each one on with tenacity, perseverance and integrity. Graveside service, Monday, December 16, 12:00 PM at Shalom Memorial Park, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to The Legacy Project, www.legacyprojectchicago.org. For information and condolences: 847-255-3520 or www.shalom2.com



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Crapia, Robert R.

Robert R. Crapia retired C.P.D., formerly of Chicago. Beloved husband of Mary. Loving father of Gina (Wally) Krueger, Debbie Pokol and Robert (Josette) Crapia. Devoted grandfather of Stephanie Buivis, Joey (Joanna) Pokol, Ashley (Emmeran) Weiss, Erica Kirinovic, Nicholas Pokol, Anthony Crapia, Samantha Krueger and Dominic Crapia. Cherished son of the late James and Lodell. Dear brother of 5. Memorial visitation Tuesday 3pm until time of service 7pm at RICHARD J MODELL FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES, 12641 W. 143rd St., Homer Glen. Member of F.O.P. and St. Jude Society. In lieu of flowers donations to Pulmonary Fibrosis Association appreciated. 708-301-3595 or rjmodellfh.com.

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Dreyer, Janice M.

Janice M. Dreyer (nee Miceli) - Of Lockport, passed away Thursday, December 12, 2019. Age 73 years. Survived by her daughter Darcy Burns and her son Bill (Stefanie) Dreyer. Four grandchildren Tyler Burns, Brooke Burns, Samantha Dreyer and Trevor Burns. Her brother Neil Cacciottolo and her companion of 18 years Joseph Sherfy. Funeral Mass will be held at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 410 S. Jefferson St. Lockport, Tuesday, December 17 at 10:00 A.M. Visitation will be held Monday from 3:00 - 8:00 P.M. at the Carlson-Holmquist-Sayles Funeral Home & Crematory, 2320 Black Rd., Joliet. For information call (815) 744-0022 or www.CHSFUNERAL.com

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Economides, Athan 'A.J.'

Age 92, a former longtime Hinsdale, IL resident and talented Chicagoland area Photographer, passed peacefully November 28, 2019. Beloved husband of the late Frieda; loving father of John (Joyce), Steven (Annette), Jason (Patricia) and Gregory Theo; proud grandfather of nine and great grandfather of five; brother of Constantine (Pat), the late Alex and the late George Economides; fond uncle of several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held in Joliet, where A.J. was born and raised with visitation at the Fred C. Dames Funeral Home, 3200 Black Rd. (at Essington Rd.), Joliet, on Friday December 20, 2019, from 4-8 pm. Services Saturday 10 a.m. at All Saints Greek Orthodox Church, 102 N. Broadway St. Joliet. Interment Woodlawn Memorial Park. For more information please call (815) 741-5500 or to view a complete obituary visit www.fredcdames.com



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EDWARDS, GEORGE PACE

GEORGE PACE EDWARDS, 75, passed away June 11, 2019, beloved husband of Mary Louise (nee Scalise); loving father of Georgianna & Caroline (Lia); dearest grandfather of three; beloved soulmate of Reef; fond uncle of Charles Adams; dear friend of Dominic Faraci. A memorial gathering will be held Thurs., Dec. 19, 2019, 7 p.m. at The Center, 12700 Southwest Hwy., Palos Park, (708) 361.3650. Memorial donations to Divers Alert Network are appreciated in George's name. <https://www.diversalertnetwork.org/development/donations.aspx>. Arrangements by **Zarzycki Manor Chapels, Ltd.** www.ZarzyckiManorChapels.com or (708) 839.8999.



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Farrell, Louise

Louise Farrell, nee Fijolek, 90, formerly of Arlington Hts; loving wife to the late John; loved mother to John (Sue), Janet (Gene), and Joanne (Len); cherished grandmother to Katherine and Mark; dear sister to the late Michael; sister-in-law to Geri; fond aunt to several nieces and nephews. Louise was a graduate of Alvernia High School and Loyola University, Chicago. Visitation will be held on Sunday, December 22, 3 pm until 8 pm at Glueckert Funeral Home, 1520 N. Arlington Hts. Rd. (four blocks south of Palatine Rd.), Arlington Hts., IL 60004. Prayers will be held 10:15 pm, Monday, December 23, 2019 at the funeral home proceeding Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic Church, 440 S. Mitchell, Arlington Heights, IL 60005. Interment will be at St. Michael the Archangel Cemetery in Palatine. In lieu of flowers memorials may be given to Our Lady of the Wayside Elementary School, c/o Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic Church, 440 S. Mitchell, Arlington Hts., IL 60005. Funeral Information and condolences can be given at www.GlueckertFuneralHome.com or (847) 253-0168.



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Faulstick, Barbara

Barbara Faulstick of Morton Grove, beloved wife of the late Bob; dear mother of Jim (Corrine) and Scott (Deanna) Pegoraro, Derek (Amelia) Faulstick and the late Michael Pegoraro; loving grandmother of Patti (Ron) Anderson, Lindsay, Alyssa, Maggie, Emma, Heidi and Molly; fond sister of Joyce and Jim (Pat) Parchuta. Funeral from **Simkins Funeral Home** 6251 Dempster St. Morton Grove Tuesday 9:30 a.m. to St. Martha Church 8523 Georgiana Ave. Morton Grove, Mass 10 a.m. Interment All Saints Cemetery. Visitation Monday 3 to 8 p.m. Sign online guestbook at www.simkinsfh.com 847-965-2500



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Fazy, Stanley L

Stanley L. Fazy, Korean War Army Veteran. Beloved husband of Betty nee Birk for 69 wonderful years. Loving father of John (Nancy) Fazy, Marianne Frank & the late Thomas Fazy. Cherished grandfather of John, Jenifer, Jaclyn, Sara, Larry, Kristina, Michael, Kevin, Thomas, Elizabeth, Tiffany & Thomas. Proud great grandfather of many. Dear uncle of many nieces & nephews. Funeral Tuesday 9:00 am from **Thompson & Kuenster Funeral Home**, 5570 W. 95th St., Oak Lawn to Queen of Martyrs Church, Evergreen Park, for Mass at 10:00 am. Interment Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery. Visitation Monday from 3:00 pm until 8:00 pm thompsonkuensterfuneralhome.com 708-425-0500

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FEBLES, CHARLES MANUEL

82 of Winnetka. At peace in Christ Dec. 11, 2019. Beloved husband of Iris nee: Betancourt; loving father of Charles Anthony "Tony" and Susan (Eric) Livvendahl; fond grandfather of Axel, Eric, Peter and Spencer Livvendahl; dear brother of the late Richard. Visitation Tues., Dec. 17, 2019 9:30 am until mass 11:00 am at SS Faith, Hope & Charity Church, 191 Linden St., Winnetka. Internment and military honors All Saints Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Catholic Charities appreciated. For info: **SEGUIN & SYMONDS FUNERAL HOME**, 847-432-3878

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Freund, Janet W.

Janet W. Freund, née Wolf, beloved wife of the late Gustav, loving mother of James and the late Erwin and the late Arthur Freund, and devoted long time friend of Martha Jo Mathews (Kansas, Fry family) died December 8, 2019 at age 105 after suffering a debilitating stroke in March of 2006. She is survived by her son, James, and his wife Donna, her grandchildren Joshua (wife Rose, great grandchildren Penelope Peach and Memphis James), Jessica (of Green Bay), Jillian Freund (of Madison, WI), and Andrea Freund (Santa Cruz, CA) and great-grandson Forest Arthur James Boffemmyer and her late daughter-in-law Emily Freund. Contributions can be made to Makom Solel Lakeside or to the charity of your choice. Private interment at Rosehill Cemetery. Memorial service will be held Sunday, January 5 at 10:30AM at Makom Solel Lakeside, 1301 Clavey Road, Highland Park, IL 60035. Light refreshments will be provided. Info at **Mitzvah Memorial Funerals**, 630-MITZVAH/630-648-9824 or www.MitzvahFunerals.com.



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Friedman, Gayle Sharon

Gayle Sharon Friedman. Beloved wife of 48 years of Donald Friedman. Loving mother of Todd Friedman (Erin Lawler-Friedman), Stacey (Daniel) Prass, and Christen (Jeffrey) Mahlmeister. Proud grandmother of Clint Lawler, Aiden and Hannah Friedman, Drew and Chase Prass, and Owen and Will Mahlmeister. Dear sister of Daniel Matlin. Service Monday, 10:00 am at **Chicago Jewish Funerals**, 195 N. Buffalo Grove Road (One block north of Lake Cook Road) Buffalo Grove. Interment Willow Lawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to National Kidney Foundation, www.kidney.org. Arrangements by: **Chicago Jewish Funerals**, 847.229.8822, www.cjinfo.com



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Gage, Marilyn Marie

Marilyn Marie Gage (nee Spealman), age 94, formerly of Wooster, OH and Glenview, IL, passed away peacefully at the Lemont Nursing & Rehabilitation Center, Lemont, IL on Thursday, December 5, 2019, after 32 years in nursing homes following a tragic car accident (as a passenger) where she suffered a traumatic brain injury. She was born March 2, 1925 in Fredericksburg, OH. Daughter of the late Robert and Mildred Spealman of Wooster, OH. Preceded in death by her husband, Howard E. Gage and sister, Nadene Rogerson. Devoted mother of Kathleen (John) Achterberg of Naperville, IL and Caroline (Howard) Damask of Gurnee, IL. Loving grandmother of Alison (Kevin) Carnie, Bethany (Scott) Butera and Evan Damask. Fond stepmother to Barbara Gage and Jack (Lynda) Gage. Dear great-grandmother to Reese, Kendall and Christopher.

In high school, Marilyn excelled at oration and often gave patriotic speeches. Even in her later years, she enjoyed reciting "Unknown" by Bruce Barton. She was a proud graduate of St. Thomas School of Nursing in Akron, OH (Class of 1946) and later worked at Doctors Hospital in Akron. After marrying and raising a family in Glenview, IL, Marilyn returned to nursing as an OB nurse in Highland Park, IL. She was a former member of Glenview United Methodist Church. Marilyn played the piano and loved to sing with her daughters. We will fondly remember her sweet voice, scotch in one hand, cigarette in the other with Chopin playing in the background. You are finally at peace dear Mother and you will be in our hearts forever.

Interment will be private with future inurnment at Prairie Township Cemetery, Holmesville, OH. In lieu of flowers, donations in Marilyn's memory may be made to the Brain Injury Association of America, P.O. Box 7416, Merrifield, VA 22116-7416 703-761-0750, www.biausa.org

Arrangements by **Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Naperville, IL**. For more information, please call (630) 355-0213 or visit www.friedrich-jones.com



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Gillespie, Reverend Edward F.

Reverend Edward F. Gillespie died Dec. 9 in St. Charles, Illinois. Father was born on April 1, 1931, in Chicago to Edward Gillespie and Mary Agnes O'Byrne Gillespie. Father Gillespie was ordained by the Most Reverend Loras Thomas Lane at St. James in Rockford on May 25, 1957. Father attended St. Mary Seminary in Baltimore, MD. Father served in active ministry for the Diocese of Rockford from 1957-2001 finishing his service as pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel in Aurora and retired there from active ministry on July 2, 2001. Father Gillespie had a gift of relating to young people which made his many years of ministry in education so fruitful. He touched many student's lives and is remembered fondly by so many. Father is preceded in death by his parents; Mary Agnes and Edward Gillespie both of Doonin, Kilcar, County Donegal Ireland. Father is survived by the O'Byrne family in Ireland and cousins from the Gillespie side here in the States and his good friend and caregiver Gail Quinn. Mass of Christian Burial will be on Tuesday, December 17, 2019, at 11:30 a.m. at St. Joan of Arc Parish, 820 Division Str., Lisle. Visitation will take place at the church from 9:30 a.m. until the time for the Funeral Mass at 11:30 a.m. Arrangements are being made by Adams Winterfield & Sullivan Funeral Home, Downers Grove. Memorials can be made in his name to the Diocese of Rockford Long Term Care for Priest Fund.



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Giorgolo, Constance Gloria

Constance Gloria Giorgolo (nee Ragusa), age 95, of Oak Brook, passed away peacefully on November 28, 2019 surrounded by her family. Beloved wife of John Giorgolo for a wonderful 60 years. Loving mother of Laura (Jonathon) Jennings and Adrienne (Daniel Belko) Giorgolo. Devoted grandmother of Jonathon, Ryan, and Siena. Fond cousin and friend of many. Constance was a longtime dietician, receiving her degree from Rosary College (now Dominican University), and serving hundreds of patients at hospitals and nursing facilities including Cook County Hospital and DuPage Convalescent Center, and as a private consultant. Family and friends are invited to meet at 10:00am directly at Ascension of Our Lord Church, 15314 Summit Ave., Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181 for a Memorial Mass on Saturday, December 21st. Internment private. Arrangements are entrusted to **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, Countryside at 708-352-6500 or at HJfunerals.com.



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Gordon, Irene Danuta

Irene Danuta Gordon, 86, of Crystal Lake, IL, passed away December 7, 2019 in St. Charles. She was born April 11, 1933 in Radwan, Poland to the late Jozef and Karolina (nee Bloch) Rockocz. She came to the US in 1960 and married John S. Gordon on August 20, 1964 in Chicago. They moved to Crystal Lake in 1970 where they lived the remainder of their lives. She worked as an engineering draftsman for several firms. She retired from the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Chicago after 20 years of service. Irene is survived by her son, Mark (Wendy K. nee Geyer) Gordon of St. Charles; her grandchildren, Grace I. (Ethan) Abney of Iowa City, Andrew J. Gordon and Ellen M. Gordon of St. Charles; her sister, Wieslawa Glen (nee Rokocz) of Dabrowa Tarnowska, Poland; niece, Agnieszka Swiatek of Dabrowa Tarnowska, Poland; nephew, Sebastian Glen of Krakow, Poland. Visitation will be held Sunday, December 15, 2019 from 1:00 p.m. until the time of the memorial service at 5:00 p.m. at **Davenport Family Funeral Home and Crematory**, 419 E Terra Cotta Ave (Rt. 176) Crystal Lake. For online condolences visit www.davenportfamily.com or call 815-459-3411 for information.



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Grendahl, Edward P.

Edward P. Grendahl, age 88; Ret. Battalion Chief CFD and proud veteran of the US Marine Corp.; beloved husband of 67 years to Joan; loving father of Mary (Joel) Jaffe, the late James and the late Edward Jr. (Cheryl); cherished grandfather of Kari (Peter) Kelly, Erik (Stacy) Grendahl, Sharon (Sean) Delcambre and James Jaffe; great-grandfather of Abigail, Henry, Grace and Liam. Visitation, Friday, Dec 20th, from 3 to 7 p.m. at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 205 N. Prospect, Park Ridge. Funeral Service Saturday, Dec 21st, at 10 a.m. Interment to follow at Irving Park Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Park Ridge, would be appreciated. For information, **Nelson Funeral Home** at 847-823-5122 or www.nelsonfunerals.com



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Guistolise, Paul

Paul Guistolise, age 69, suddenly. Beloved husband of Clarice (nee Sinars). Loving brother of Philip Guistolise. Dear stepfather of Douglas (Laura) Sinars, Damon (Jennifer) Sinars and Melanie (Mark) Sheehan. Cherished nephew of Frank Guistolise. Loving uncle of David, Michael and Lucy. Also survived by many loving relatives and friends. Throughout his career and life Paul was known as a caretaker of family and friends. He served as Executive Director of the Guidance Center of Elmhurst-Edwards Hospital and was active in the development of Illinois' certification of substance abuse therapists. As an organizational consultant Paul was respected for his skill. As a clinician he was held in esteem. As a person he was deeply loved. Visitation Thursday 9-11 AM at Palos Gaidas Funeral Home, 11028 Southwest Hwy. (7700W) Palos Hills. Funeral Thursday 10 45 AM from the funeral home to Holy Family Villa, 12220 S. Will-Cook Rd. (Palos Park) for 11 30 AM Mass. Interment St. Casimir Lithuanian Cemetery. Express your thoughts and memories in the online Guest Book at www.palosgaidasfh.com (708) 974 4410



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Hoffmann, Paul G.

Paul G. Hoffmann, 82, of Wilmette, December 1, 2019. Husband of the late Lynda Hoffmann, nee Anderson. Loving father of Paul M. Hoffmann. Brother of Hildy Navratil. Memorial Service 11:00 am Wednesday, January 29, 2020 at St. John's Lutheran Church, 1235 Wilmette Avenue, Wilmette, Illinois, 60091. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to WFMT, Chicago's Classical Radio Station, WFMT.Com, or WTTW/WFMT, 5400 N. St. Louis Ave., Chicago, IL 60625. Interment Private. 847-251-8200.



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Jesser, Martin L. "Marty"

Martin L. Jesser passed away peacefully on Dec 13th with his loving wife of 65 years by his side. Martin (Marty) was a long time member of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange and a proud veteran of the Korean War. He is survived by his loving family: his wife Florence (nee Weiss), their three sons Dr. Kenneth (Dr. Jamye) Jesser, David (Constance) Jesser, and Robert Jesser, and 3 grandchildren Lincoln, Yale, and Mallory Jesser. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends. Chapel service, Monday 10 AM at **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. Interment Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Lou and Jean Malanati Brain Tumor Institute. For information or to leave condolences, (847) 255-3520 or www.shalom2.com.



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Kambers, Constance

Constance Kambers, Attorney, age 93, of Chicago, beloved daughter of the late Thomas and Christina Kambers; cherished sister of the late Irene (the late Emil) Simich, the late Mary Zielinski, the late Gus and the late Helen Cooney; fond friend of many. Family and friends are requested to meet Wednesday Dec. 18, at the Rosehill Cemetery Office 5800 N. Ravenswood Ave. Chicago, prior to a 2:00 p.m. graveside service. 847-966-7302 or www.skajafuneralhomes.com

SKAJA Terrace

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Korey, Eugene

Eugene Korey, 90. Beloved husband and best friend for 69 1/2 years of Pearl, née Polisky; devoted father of Irving (Vickie) Korey, Rhonda (Richie) Fried, and Ilene Korey; proud grandfather of Lindsay (Lewis) Letteroff, Brian (Katherine) Korey, Corey (Katie) Kravitz, Jared Goldstein, Jennie (Will) Dermott, Dan (Kai) Fried, and Andrea Fried; cherished great-grandfather of Shepherd, Jillian, Madeline, Evelyn, Eleanor, Brooke, and Brody; dear brother of Nowell (Lois) Korey; caring brother-in-law of Helen (late Sol) Zaitz; treasured uncle, cousin, and friend of many. Eugene's family wishes to extend a great deal of gratitude to caregivers Marifile Tocaldo and Augustus Juan. Eugene was a lover of life and his sweet smile will be deeply missed. Funeral service Monday, Dec. 16, 12 PM, at **Weinstein & Piser Funeral Home**, 111 Skokie Blvd, Wilmette. Interment Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Jewish United Fund, www.juf.org, Parkinson's Foundation, www.parkinson.org, or the American Macular Degeneration Foundation, www.macular.org. For info: 847-256-5700.



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Lewis, Norman

July 26, 1919-December 9, 2019
Norman Lewis, renowned women's clothing retailer and generous volunteer, died peacefully on Monday, December 9, 2019, surrounded by his loving wife of nearly 70 years, Audrey, his son James, daughter Ellen, and his son and daughter-in-law, Peter and Johnna.
Born on July 26, 1919, Norman was born and raised in Chicago. His parents, Louis and Ethel Lewis, had founded the Wm. A. Lewis Clothing Company, whose slogan—"Where the models buy their clothes"—became a familiar tagline on radio commercials aired in Chicagoland for decades.
Norman enlisted in the U.S. Army during World War II and served as a supply sergeant and military police officer overseeing German prisoners of war in Battle Creek, Michigan.
After his parents passed away, he ran the company with his two older brothers, William ("Bill") and Milton ("Mickey"). Bill died prematurely at the age of 50 in 1962, and Mickey and Norman continued to manage the company until their retirement in the mid-1970s. As the co-owner of Wm. A. Lewis, Norman was known for his gracious service and effusive attention to his customers. His warmth and outgoing personality were legion.
An inveterate sports fan, Norman introduced his kids to all his beloved Chicago teams: the White Sox, Cubs, Bears, Bulls, and Blackhawks. He had great seats to all of them. In his later years, there was no game on TV—college or pro—that Norman wouldn't watch.
In retirement, Norman gave generously of his time as a volunteer for a number of non-profit organizations: the Executive Service Corps, retired business executives who assist young entrepreneurs and burgeoning non-profits; Alta Vista Elementary School, where Norman took enormous pleasure in reading to students and assisted in literacy education; and Mote Marine Aquarium, where he served as a docent.
He will be missed by his many friends at Club Longboat where he and Audrey have lived for 30 years and is survived by his wife, Audrey, his sons James and Peter, his daughter Ellen, five grandsons and three great-grandsons.
Norman was devoted to Audrey, whom he married on December 20, 1948, endlessly professing his love on a daily—oftentimes hourly—basis until the end of his life. Of his many accomplishments, his greatest achievement was his undying love for and devotion to Audrey.
In lieu of flowers, the Lewis family requests that you send donations to the Mote Marine Aquarium or the charitable organization of your choice. No memorial celebration is planned at this time.

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McCullough, Harriet M.

Harriet M. McCullough, age 73, of Chicago, IL. Loving sister of Thomas (the late Sandy) McCullough, Jane (Ralph "Skip") Wagoner, Jack (Ruth) McCullough, Edward McCullough, and the late George McCullough. Proud aunt of Kerry and Allison Wagoner; Ian (Laura), Annie (Nicole), and Sarah McCullough; Patrick (Christina) McCullough. Dear aunt of many grand nieces and nephews. Visitation Wednesday, December 18, 2019, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at **Donnellan Family Funeral Home**, 10045 Skokie Boulevard, at Old Orchard Road, Skokie, IL 60077. Funeral Mass Thursday, December 19, 2019, 10:00 a.m. at Shell Catholic Center, 2110 Sheridan Road, Evanston, IL 60201. Private interment Calvary Cemetery, Winnebago, IL. In lieu of flowers, memorial may be made to Habitat for Humanity International, 322 West Lamar Street, Americus, GA 31709. Info: www.donnellanfuneral.com or (847) 675-1990



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McKeever-Walsh, Katherine

Katherine L. McKeever-Walsh, nee Brunner, age 78, passed away peacefully on December 10, 2019. Loving wife of Martin Walsh and the late James W. McKeever; Cherished mother of Margie (Jack) Love, Jim (Peggy) McKeever, Katie (Vince) and the late James (Doohan) Copia; Maureen (David) Sebok, and Colleen (the late Stan) Marszalek; Beloved grandmother, step-mother, and step-grandmother of many; Dear sister of Santa Rose Brunner. Katherine was preceded in death by her parents, Frances and Clifton Brunner. Funeral to begin at 9:15 AM on Monday, 12/16, at Blake-Lamb Funeral Home, 4727 W 103rd, Oak Lawn, proceeding to St. Terrence Church, 4300 W 119th Pl, Alsip, for a 10 AM Mass of Christian Burial. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery to follow. Visitation will be on Sunday, 12/15, from 3-8 PM, at the Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Christmas without Cancer at www.christmaswithoutcancer.org



Blake-Lamb Funeral Home
Oak Lawn

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McNichols, Kathleen Brahm

Kathleen Brahm McNichols, 73, beloved by many. Survived by sisters Maggie Brahm and Jean Brahm (Bob) Ward, daughter-in-law Tricia Wickert and family, 6 nieces and nephews, and 8 grand nieces and nephews. Kathleen was predeceased by longtime partner Tom Wickert, sister Patty Brahm (Jim) Regan, and parents Bill Brahm and Rita /Nettie Brahm Baar. She was a graduate of St. Luke and Trinity High School in River Forest; Alumna of Loyola (BS), University of Chicago (MBA) and Palmer Chiropractic Institute. A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, December 21 from 1:15 pm to 4 pm at The Lakeview Center at Gillson Park, 800 Gillson Park Dr. Wilmette, IL 60091. In lieu of flowers, memorials appreciated to Doctors Without Borders, www.doctorswithoutborders.org. Arrangements by **Brian Powell Funeral Directors of Hinsdale**. For information 630-703-9131 or www.powellfuneraldirectors.com



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Melton, Erwin

Erwin Melton, age 99, beloved husband of the late Sylvia "Billie" Melton (nee Heiser), happily married for 68 years; loving father of Roger (Beverley) Melton and Susan (Alan) Sebulsky; cherished Poppa of Allison (AJ) Colbert, David Sebulsky and the late blessed Sarah Sebulsky; dear brother of the late Martin (the late Phyllis) Melton; treasured uncle to nine nieces and nephews; a special thank you to Barbara Gebela and Rosaly Martinez for their care and dedication. Born and raised in Columbus, OH, Erwin and his family later settled in Detroit, MI where he was the founder of Quality Pipe Products. Erwin was a proud WWII veteran, having served in the Army Air Corps. Chapel service Mon, Dec 16, 3:00 PM at Shalom Memorial Funeral Home, 1700 W. Rand Rd., Arlington Heights. Interment at Shalom Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, Erwin wanted donations to go to the Sarah Sebulsky Foundation which supports children's charities in the memory of his beloved granddaughter. For information and condolences: 847-255-3520 or www.shalom2.com.



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Mervis, Richard C.

Beloved pediatrician in Barrington, medical staff president at Advocate Good Shepherd Hospital and pediatric residency director at Cook County Hospital, Richard passed away peacefully on December 13 after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

His family, friends, patients, coworkers and residents will remember his kindness, his smile and laughter, his joy at seeing and holding children, his passion for fighting healthcare inequality, his daily bagels and his sharp taste in clothes. Richard was a founding member of the Pure Gold Ski Team; he loved to travel, walked incessantly and had absolutely no mechanical aptitude.

Richard is survived and loved by his wife Martha Gottlieb, her children, Persephone Nerge, Matthew Shirrell, Sara Howard and Molly Lowe, and her ten grandchildren, his children Ari, Rebecca and Yoni, his daughters-in-law Rachel and Pamela, his grandchildren Adam, Yael, Eli, Dani and Julian, his brother Charles Mervis, sister-in-law Bonnie Mervis, and their children and grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to medicines sans frontiers or other worthy causes. For more information, visit www.richardmervis.org

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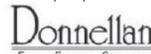
David A. Muir. Age 90. Passed December 10, 2019 in Missoula, Montana and was born in Blue Island, IL. U.S. Army Veteran. Beloved son of the late August and Viola (nee Wicherts) Muir. Loving brother of Lorraine Muir Anderson. Dear uncle of Susan Anderson, Christina Kristin Anderson and Bruce Anderson. Services and interment private. David was a graduate of Bradley University and lettered in basketball and tennis; U.S. Professional Tennis Association President 1970-72; USPTA National Board of Directors 1967-72; USPTA Midwest Division President 1962-66; USPTA Master Professional; Head coach USTA Competition Training Center- South Chicago 1988-2009; Tennis teaching pro for over 60 years; Taught Tennis to over 10,000 students including many college and professional players; Trained dozens of Chicago Tennis Teaching Pros; Won 11 national doubles championships; Head Pro Beverly Hills Tennis Club; Manager- Head Pro/ South Side Racquet Club/ One of the first US indoor tennis clubs; Owner-Head Pro/ Holiday Tennis Club; Author of the book, "Congratulations Pro"; USPTA's Lifetime Achievement Award 2015; Inductee - 1991 - Midwest Professional Tennis Hall of Fame; Inductee - 2010 - Chicago Tennis Patrons Hall of Fame; Chicago Tennis Patrons Dave Muir Scholarship Fund- 2010; David's favorite quote: Seeded unranked. When I'm reborn, I hope it's up North. Arrangements by **Brady-Gill Funeral Home** Tinley Park. 708-614-9900 or www.bradygill.com



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Nally, Lucy M.

Lucy M. Nally nee Burden, beloved wife of the late Carl W. Nally; loving mother of Ronald (Ruth Ann) Nally, Carol Ann (Michael) Chavala and Deborah Bernat; dearest grandmother of Marisa Nally and Karla Nally (fiancé Kevin Hansen), Tommy (Miyaki) Chavala, Candice Wojcik and Dawn (Paul) Riggs; great-grandmother of eight; fond aunt to many nieces and nephews. Visitation, Monday December 16, 2019 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at **Donnellan Family Funeral Home**, 10045 Skokie Boulevard at Old Orchard Road, Skokie, IL 60077. Committal Service, Tuesday, December 17, 2019 11:00 a.m. at Queen of Heaven Cemetery, 1400 S. Wolf Road Hillside, IL 60162. (meet at office). In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to American Heart Association, 3816 Payscale Circle, Chicago, IL 60674. Info: www.donnellanfuneral.com or (847) 675-1990.



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Nowicki, Edward J.

Nowicki, Edward J. Died Dec. 5, 2019. Husband of Diane. Father of Eric Nowicki (Deanna Welsh), Adam Nowicki. Grandfather of 2. Former Detective Chicago Police Dept. Narcotics. Celebration of Life Dec. 18, 2019 4:00PM - 7:00PM Haase-Lockwood Funeral Home 620 Legion Dr. Twin Lakes, WI. Memorials National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund 901 E. Street NW, Suite 100, Washington D.C. 2004-2025. Online condolences HaaseLockwoodfhs.com.

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Ochota, Patricia J.

Patricia J. Ochota, nee Quinlan, age 78, of Oak Park; beloved wife of Jerome, loving mother of Suzanne (the late Charles) O'Neill; devoted grandmother of Patricia; dearest sister of Suzanne (the late Thomas) Larocca; fond aunt of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Saturday, December 21 9:45 a.m. until time of funeral mass 10:30 a.m. at Ascension Church, 808 S. East Ave., Oak Park. Private interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to Make-A-Wish Foundation are appreciated. Funeral info: 708-383-3191 or drechtersbrownwilliams.com

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Parenteau, Virginia M. 'Ginny'

Virginia "Ginny" M. Parenteau (nee Hochstatter) age 82 of Mt. Prospect, Illinois past away on December 13, 2019. Beloved wife of Dudley for 61 years. Loving mother of Daniel (Wendy Weisman), James (the late Sheri Schwimmer) Andrew, and the late Dudley Jr. Devoted Grandmother of Sam, Myles and Taylor. Ginny was an avid skilled quilter and absolutely loved her position as Director of the USO at O'Hare Airport where she participated for ten years. Visitation on Wednesday, December 18, 2019, beginning at 9:30 a.m. until time of funeral mass at 10:30 a.m. at St. Emily Catholic Church, 1400 E. Central, Mt. Prospect, Illinois, 60056. Interment will be in All Saints Cemetery, Des Plaines, Illinois, 60016. Funeral care by **G.L. Hills Funeral Home**. For info please call (847) 699-9003.

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Parker, Charles A.

Charles A. Parker, age 88 of Naperville. Formerly of Winneconne, WI. Korean War Army Veteran and retired electrical engineer for Commonwealth Edison. He will be drinking champagne for eternity as of December 11, 2019. Beloved husband of the late Mary Ellen nee Wessendorf. Loving father of Ellen (Daniel) Burke, Susan (David) Tans, Cathleen Nelson, Charles (Kimberly) Parker, Laura (Dale) Jumisco and Gary (Joyce) Parker. Beloved son of the late Anna and Charles Parker. Proud grandfather of 11. Great grandfather of 13. Dear brother of David (Debby) Parker. Fond uncle and friend of many. Services were private. Arrangements by **DuPage Cremations, Ltd. and Memorial Chapel** (630) 293-5200.



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Patterson, Nancy M.

Nancy M. Patterson, nee Austerman, age 85, a long-time resident of Naperville, IL, passed away peacefully on December 11, 2019. A memorial visitation will be held on Friday, December 20, 10:00-11:00 AM at Grace United Methodist Church, 300 E. Gartner Rd., Naperville. A memorial service will follow at 11:00 AM with Pastor Daniel Cochrane officiating. **Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services**, Naperville is entrusted with arrangements. For information please call 630/355-0213 or visit www.friedrich-jones.com for a complete obituary.



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Plochman, Carl M.

Carl Morris Plochman, 95, died peacefully November 30 in Evanston, Illinois surrounded by his loving family. Carl was born in Evanston on August 14, 1924 to Carl Morris and Margaret Webber Plochman. He was a graduate of Evanston High School class of 1942 and majored in mechanical engineering and industrial management at Purdue University interrupted by military service in the V-5 program in naval aviation and pilot training. His interest in private flying followed him for many years.

After returning to Purdue, Carl met Barbara Bauman of Winnetka on the university campus and they married on August 21, 1948. Moving back to the Chicago area, he joined his father in the family food business as the third generation of the mustard company, Plochman Inc., founded in 1852.

After living in Park Ridge for five years, the couple settled in Winnetka with their four children and lived in the same house for fifty years before moving near Plaza del Lago in Wilmette, and then on to Presbyterian Homes, Westminster Place in Evanston.

Carl actively retired from the mustard company at the age of 65 in 1989, turning over the company to his son, Terry (Carl III), the fourth generation of the family business.

Beginning in 1933, Carl relished his time with family at their Wisconsin cottage as a highlight of each summer. Family members of all ages will remember and cherish his sense of humor and his warm smile.

Carl had many interests throughout his life, including the Sports Car Club of America in its early days, Chicago theater (Wisdom Bridge, Steppenwolf, Victory Gardens, Shakespeare, Writers), Lyric Opera, the Chicago Symphony and the Winnetka Presbyterian Church and choir. He served as a trustee of the Music Institute of Chicago and was Board Chairman and an active member of the C.G. Jung Institute. He, along with Barbara, enjoyed backpacking and scuba diving in their many travels from Alaska, Russia, and China, to Papua New Guinea and New Zealand. Carl continued flying and became an avid photographer often for the church.

Carl is survived by his wife, Barbara, of 71 years and his children; Carl III "Terry" (Anne) of Stockton, NJ; Nancy "Sajidah Kazmi" (Zainulabedin) of London, UK; Christine Dowling (Martin) of Belfast, N. Ireland; and Carol Ricker (Brad) of Madison, WI. Grandchildren include Heather Plochman (Mark Sarne), Emily Ricker (Kyle Perry), Helen Ricker, Joseph Dowling, Simon Dowling, Abigail Meletti (Chris) and David Waugh (Jennifer) in addition to six great-grandchildren.

A memorial service will be held December 21, at 11:00 AM at the Winnetka Presbyterian Church, Willow and Hibbard Roads in Winnetka. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be sent to the Geneva Foundation of Presbyterian Homes, 3200 Grant Street, Evanston, IL 60201; C. G. Jung Center, 817 Dempster St., Evanston, IL 60201; Music Institute of Chicago, 1490 Chicago Ave., Evanston IL 60201.

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Popoff, Nicholas A.

Nicholas A. Popoff, age 90, of Frankfort, IL. Beloved husband of Hildegard Popoff nee Spandel. Loving father of Steven (Kathy) Popoff and Sue (Tim) Patton. Proud grandfather of Christopher and Nicholas Popoff; Megan, Timmy, Joey, and Katie Patton. Dear brother of the late Wsewloed (the late Magdalena) Popov. Fond uncle of Sasha (Susie) Popov and Tania Popov. Shortly after immigrating to the United States with Hildegard, Nick served as a Corporal in the Intelligence Division of the US Army from 1952-1954, at Fort Meade, Maryland. One of his proudest achievements was being able to serve the country he called home. Visitation Tuesday, December 17, 2019, 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. with a Prayer Service at 7:00 p.m. at **Donnellan Family Funeral Home**, 10045 Skokie Boulevard, at Old Orchard Road, Skokie, IL 60077. Interment Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, IL. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to Holy Trinity Orthodox Seminary, PO Box 36, Jordanville, NY 13361. Info: www.donnellanfuneral.com or (847) 675-1990.

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Pump, Susan M.

Susan M. Pump nee Zummo, age 65 of Wheaton. Formerly of Chicago. Loving mother of Sara (Nick) Allen and Douglas (Meagan) Pump. Beloved daughter of the late Margaret and Frank Zummo. Adoring grandmother of James "JJ", Carmella and Margaret. Dear sister of Frank Zummo. Loving cousin and friend of many. Please Omnit Flowers. Family and friends to gather for a celebration of life Sunday, Dec. 22nd from 1PM to 4PM at River Park Moose Lodge 8601 Fullerton Ave., River Grove, IL 60171. Arrangements by **DuPage Cremations, Ltd. and Memorial Chapel** (630) 293-5200.



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Rossi, Jean J.

Born March 30, 1926 in Plainfield, NJ, passed away December 10 in his Des Plaines home. The son of Jean and Margaret Rossi (nee Marra), he is survived by his wife of 62 years, Ilene; daughters Mary Noonan (Bill), Anna Shew, Paula Cafferata; son John; grandchildren John Noonan (Allie), Kaia Noonan, Kirstin Shew, Warren Shew, Eric Shew, Joseph Cafferata (Kellie), Gina Cafferata, Mary Cafferata, Thomas Cafferata and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his sister Norma Carroll (Bruce) and Anthony Rossi (Barbara). Jean served in the US Navy from 1944-1946. After leaving the Navy, Jean received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology in 1957 from the University of Ottawa. He began his career in alcoholism treatment at Willmar State Hospital in Willmar, Minnesota in 1951. There he met and married his wife, Ilene Lindsoe. In 1961, he and his family moved to Illinois to aid in the development of The Alcoholism Treatment Center at Lutheran General Hospital. He was program director from 1969 until 1974 when he moved into private practice. In retirement he enjoyed traveling and spending time with his grandchildren. Visitation and Memorial Service is planned for December 28, 2019 at St. Mark Lutheran Church, Mount Prospect, IL. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to the Parkinson's Foundation.

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Chicago Tribune Death Notices

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

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Sanes, Lucille

Lucille Sanes nee Rosen, 97, beloved wife of the late Sol; loving mother of Barbara (the late Don) Jones, Jeffery (Janice) Sanes and the late Beverly Sanes; cherished grandmother and great grandmother; many loving nieces and nephews. Graveside service Monday, 11 AM at Waldheim Cemetery (Kielcer Aid Society), Gate 78, Roosevelt Road. For information or to leave condolences, **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, (847) 255-3520 or www.shalom2.com.



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Serauskas, Elaine Dolores

Elaine Serauskas was born on August 7, 1943 in Chicago, IL, and peacefully entered Eternal Rest on December 1, 2019 in New Orleans, LA. She was a devoted Mother, a caring Sister, a loving Grandmother, and a dear friend to all who knew her. She is survived by her daughter Lori Serauskas Torres and her son Damien Serauskas (Gail). She has three wonderful grandchildren (Maya, Will, and Ellie) whom she loved deeply. She was preceded in death by her parents Bert and Evelyn Whitney, as well as her brother Glenn Whitney. Elaine grew up in Franklin Park, IL and graduated from Mundelein College in Chicago. She married and soon moved to Atlanta with her new family. She lived outside of Atlanta, GA for most of her adult life, working and raising her two children. She recently relocated to New Orleans and quickly embraced the Big Easy. Her presence will be sorely missed. She will be laid to rest outside of Atlanta in the Spring of 2020, in accordance with her wishes. At her request, in lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the National Kidney Foundation, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, or the Humane Society in her name.

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Shaughnessy, Donald J.

MISSOULA — Donald J. Shaughnessy, age 87, of Missoula passed away on Wednesday Dec. 4, 2019, at Riverside Health Care Center. Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday Dec. 17, 2019, at 11 a.m. at Christ the King Catholic Church with a reception to follow. Garden City Funeral Home, Missoula, MT is handling the arrangements, please visit gardencityfh.com for a full obituary.

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Sides, George Edwin

George Edwin Sides, 85, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, November 24, 2019, in Vero Beach, Florida. George was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, to Robert and Gertrude Sides on August 27, 1934. He was happily married to Barbara Sides for 35 years. He graduated from Drexel University and had a successful career as a stockbroker. He served in the United States Army for two years. George and Barbara resided in Gurnee, Illinois, and Vero Beach, Florida. He had a passion for tennis and music, performing with the Cantata Chorus at Christ by the Sea United Methodist Church in Vero Beach and with the Sea Oaks Beach and Tennis Club Chorus. He also served on the executive board of the Whole Family Health Center.

A loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather, George is survived by his wife Barbara; children: Jeanine Reaume (Tom), Kathy Melling, Rebecca Studer (Dennis), Karen Broms (Rob), Robert Sides (Lynn), David Rosenthal (Shannon) and Samuel Sides (Carey); 16 grandchildren: Kristine, David, Leona, Sam, Jessica, Rachel, Josh, Logan, Dylan, Carly, Fred, Jeffrey, Catherine, Cander, Grant, Emma; and one great-grandson, Tommy.

George was preceded in death by his parents, brother Robert and granddaughter Victoria. Contributions in memory of George may be made to Sea Oaks Homeowners & Employees Learning Program (H.E.L.P.) at 8811 Highway A1A, Vero Beach, FL 32963 which supports scholarships for employees and their families, the Mardy Fish Children's Foundation (www.mardyfishchildrensfoundation.org) and Drexel University (<https://drexel.edu/>). The family extends sincere thanks to the Sebastian Medical Center and all those who offer continued support.

Arrangements are under the direction of **Strunk Funeral Home** and Crematory, Vero Beach. A guest book is available at www.strunkfuneralhome.com.

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Siegel, Ann

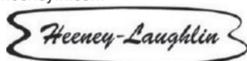
Ann Siegel nee Cohen, 98, beloved wife of the late Abe for 43 years; loving mother of Craig (Susie), Mark (Linda) and Ilene Siegel; cherished Baubi of Jason (Maurine) Siegel and Alison (Foster) Lewin; adored great grandmother of Jonah and Ethan. Funeral, Tuesday 12:15 PM at Temple Chai, 1670 Checker Road, Long Grove. Interment Waldheim. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Temple Chai OSRUI Scholarship or Lifelong Jewish Learning Funds. For information or to leave condolences, **Shalom Memorial Funeral Home**, (847) 255-3520 or www.shalom2.com.



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Stanton, Lorraine Calhoun

Lorraine Calhoun Stanton, Age 92, Born into Eternal Life on December 12, 2019. Beloved wife of L. Patrick Stanton for 68 years. Loving mother of Larry (Susan), Sue (John) Wilson, Mark (Coleen), Mike (Laurie), Polly (Tim) Kelly, Mary (Jim) Corrigan, John (Monique), Tim (Tammmy), and Patrick (Karen) Stanton. Proud "Bopper" to her 35 grandchildren and 21 great-grandchildren. Beloved daughter of the late Helen and Charles Calhoun. Devoted sister of the late Bob (the late Betty) and the late Chuck (the late Helen) Calhoun. Fond aunt of many nieces and nephews. Alumna of Aquinas H.S. and Mundelein College. Former assistant publicity director of the Empire Room at the Palmer House Hilton, co-proprietor of Baskin-Robbins in Beverly, co-founder of Morgan Park Catholic Youth Ministry Center, and recipient of Lifetime Achievement Awards from the Beverly Arts Center and Beverly Area Planning Association. Visitation Thursday, December 19, 2019, 3-8pm at Christ the King Church, 9235 S. Hamilton Ave., Chicago, IL 60643. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at Christ the King Church, Friday, December 20, 2019 (Lorraine's 93rd Birthday) at 10:00am. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Memorials to Christ the King School Foundation, or Morgan Park Catholic Youth Ministry Center, 1825 W. Monterey Ave., Chicago, IL 60643 are most appreciated. Info: Heeney-Laughlin Funeral Directors, 708-636-5500 or www.heeneyfh.com



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Swift, Stephen Muckerman 'Big Yea'

On Thursday, December 5th, 2019, Stephen Muckerman Swift, fondly known as Big Yea passed away unexpectedly at the age of 59. Big Yea was born on November 29th, 1960 in Chicago, IL to Hampden and Margaret (Muckerman) Swift. Stephen graduated from Lake Forest Country Day School, Lake Forest Academy and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Saint Leo University in Saint Leo, FL in 1985.

Stephen had a passion to serve and protect others. Joining the Kiwanis Club in April 2004 it became his second family. Stephen embraced bimonthly Kiwanis meetings where his genuine desire, willingness to serve and protect others was a natural fit with their mission of serving youth. At their seasonal fundraisers, you could readily spot him wearing his characteristic, beaming and infectious smile, whole heartedly sharing his contagious good will. Always patient and inclusive, happy to all, willing to listen and offer his help, he was a hit with children, friends, new and old, and the elderly.

Stephen began his day with his fitness routine at the Lake Forest Rec Center, often followed by morning services at St. Mary's Church before going to work at the family owned business, John S. Swift Print Co. Stephen enjoyed dog walking, playing golf, biking, beach swims, movies, travelling and trips to Lake Forest Library. He was lifelong Cubbies and Bears fan. As a voracious reader, he studied U.S. History and enjoyed Mystery and Geography. His Library Card was worn thin! Stephen's loyalty reflected on his family, friends and community in so many helpful and sincere kindnesses. Always a joy to have around, welcoming to all, a gifted listener and eager walking companion, remarkably friendly and loads of fun, made Stephen universally loved!

Stephen was preceded in death by his father Hampden, his mother Margaret and his brother Hampden, Jr. He is survived by family members Jessica M. Swift, John S. Swift (Mary), Nina E. Swift, Christy S. Maxwell (Peter), Laura C. Swift, Shepard C. Swift (Patricia), Martha Maria Swift, Bryan M. Swift (Lindsey), Stewart G. Swift (Dodie), Sheila S. Keil, Constance J. M. Swift (Quinn Miklos), twenty-three nieces and nephews and the family dogs, Star and Molly. A funeral mass will be held on Friday, December 20, 2019 at 11:30 am at Church of St. Mary, 175 E. Illinois Rd., Lake Forest, IL. Private interment at Lake Forest Cemetery. For information — **Reuland & Turnbough Funeral Directors** of Lake Forest, 847-234-9649 or www.RTFunerals.com. In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to The Kiwanis Foundation of Lake Forest and Lake Bluff, P.O. Box 34, Lake Bluff, IL 60044.



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Tetens, Arnold Roland

Arnold Roland Tetens age 82 of Park Ridge beloved husband of Fran (nee Kutt); loving father of Eric (Michelle), Kathleen (Tom) Burek, and Matthew Tetens; cherished papa of Connor and Brendan Burek; dear brother of Dennis (Betty) Tetens and son of the late Arthur and Irene Tetens. Visitation Sunday 3pm-9pm at **Oehler Funeral Home**, 2099 Miner St (corner of Northwest Hwy/ Rt 14 and Rand Rd) Des Plaines, funeral prayers will be said Monday morning 10:00 am at the funeral home then going to Our Lady of Ransom Church 8300 Greenwood Ave, Niles, IL. Mass 11:00 am Interment Maryhill Cemetery. For info please visit www.oehlerfuneralhome.com or call 847-824-5155

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Thrush, Mary Alice McLean

Mary Alice McLean Thrush (age 88) passed away peacefully, in the presence of family, on December 9, 2019 at the Presbyterian Homes in Evanston, IL after a prolonged struggle with the consequences of cerebral aneurysm suffered in 1996. Born to Hugh Alpine McLean and Elizabeth West McLean, Mary grew up in North Tonawanda, New York, outside of Buffalo. She was the second of four sisters, and attended the Buffalo Seminary, and then Smith College.

Prior to that traumatic event, Mary had been a leading businesswoman in Lincoln Park and a loving mother to her three children. Mary's first job with IBM launched both her career and her marriage. It was at IBM in Endicott, NY that she met and married George Herbert Thrush III. The two moved to Chicago in 1959 and were married for 62 years. Upon moving to Chicago in the 60's, Mary became actively engaged in charitable and community service both at the Junior League, the Rehab Institute of Chicago, and later the Lincoln Park Conservation Association (LPCA), as a formidable member working to help support the renaissance of Lincoln Park, which was on the cusp of a resurgence. After raising her three children, Mary redirected her career to focus on real estate development and sales. She and her husband—among the first to see the development potential of the Lincoln Park and DePaul neighborhoods—formed Brown Bird Development and oversaw the transformation of many Victorian buildings. Eventually, she started her own real estate brokerage firm, Mary Thrush Real Estate, and thrived through the 1970s and 80s as a sole proprietor, providing all of her clients with highly personal service.

Her beauty, grace, hard work, and good humor allowed Mary to thrive in her adopted home of Chicago, where she and George lived in Lincoln Park for over fifty years. She was perhaps best known as true friend and mentor to other women in business, just as the workplace was changing. Mary was active in The Church of Our Savior on Fullerton Avenue, and saw to it that her children were given exposure to the Episcopal faith early in their lives. Mary is survived by her loving husband George Herbert Thrush III; her three children George Herbert Thrush IV, Blair Thrush Lele (Milind Lele), and Anne Thrush Newman (James Newman); her six grandchildren Alexander Thrush, Hari Hugh Lele, Alice Anne Lele, Elizabeth Gita Lele, Leila McLean Newman and Piper Allen Newman; and her three sisters Jean McLean Bostwick, Margaret McLean Caywood, and Catherine McLean Eagleson. Visitation Tuesday, December 17, 2019, 10:00 a.m. until time of Funeral Service 11:00 a.m. at **Church of Our Savior**, 530 W Fullerton Parkway, Chicago, Illinois 60614 with a reception following. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Brain Aneurysm Foundation, 269 Hanover Street, Hanover, MA 02339. Info: www.donnellanfuneral.com or (847)675-1990.



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Urbanska-Yeager, Barbara A.

Barbara Urbanska-Yeager passed away suddenly at the age of 61, on November 13th. Far too soon for a woman so full of life and love for her family, friends and community she served. Married for 26 years to Martin Yeager. A family worker at Jewish Family and Community Services for 31 years. Helping clients through her work in Refugee Resettlement Services and Holocaust Community Services. She will be missed but her spirit will live forever. Survived by Martin Yeager (Spouse), Krzysztof Urbanski (Brother), Bagusha Urbanska (Sister-in-Law), Hania Urbanska (Niece), relatives in Chicago, Germany, Poland, Sweden and throughout the USA and her countless friends. Services have been held. Donations can be made to JCFCS.org; arkchicago.org; emanuelcong.org or the charity of your choice.

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Urigo, Barbara

Barbara Ann Urigo (nee Cralick) passed away on December 8th 2019. She was born on July 5th, 1936 the daughter of William and Mary Cralick in Brooklyn, N.Y. Barbara was a devoted daughter, wife, mother, sister, grandmother and friend to many. She always made time for others especially her eight grandchildren whom she loved dearly. Barbara was preceded in death by her husband, Robert Urigo and her sister Mary Gaughan of New York. She is survived by her brother and sister-in-law, Donald and Carolyn Urigo of Potomac, MD., her sons Robert Urigo, Jr. (Robin), Christopher Urigo (Katherine), and daughter Caroline Compall (John) and grandchildren Robert, Kristyn, Jessica, Melissa, Nic, Ben, Cameron, and Christine. A wake will be held at Leonard Memorial Home 565 Duane Street, Glen Ellyn from 4-8 pm on Tuesday December 17. A funeral mass will be held at 10 am Weds Dec 18th at Saint Petronille Church 420 Glenwood Ave, Glen Ellyn. For more information, please visit leonardmemorialhome.com. In lieu of Flowers donations may be made to the Les Turner ALS foundation in memory of her late husband Robert Urigo.



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Van Dermeir, John M.

John M. Van Dermeir, beloved husband of the late Marcella M. Van Dermeir. Loving father of Laura Brown, John (fiancée Stephanie Fuller), Mark (Melissa) and the late Michael. Cherished grandfather of Kyle (Hilary), Trevor, John, Timothy (fiancée Nicole Gleason), Sofia, and Cody. Longtime companion and travel partner of Marian Harrington. Loving uncle and dear friend to many. Memorial visitation Wednesday December 18th, 3-8 PM and Thursday 9:30 AM until time of service at 10:30 AM, **Smith-Corcoran Funeral Home** 6150 N. Cicero Ave. Chicago. Interment following at Calvary Cemetery. Donations to Misericordia Heart of Mercy 6300 N. Ridge Blvd. Chicago, IL 60660 would be appreciated. Info 773-736-3833 or www.smithcorcoran.com



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Weber, Gerald E. 'Jerry'

Gerald E. "Jerry" Weber, age 57, a resident of Naperville, IL since 2005, formerly of Chicago and Orland Park, IL, passed away suddenly on Thursday, December 12, 2019 at his home. He was born February 7, 1962 in Chicago. Arrangements by **Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Naperville, IL**. For service times and a complete obituary, please visit www.friedrich-jones.com or call (630) 355-0213 for more information.



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Wenshe, Amy D.

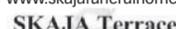
Amy D. Wenshe, age 62, a resident of Plainfield, IL, passed away suddenly on December 11, 2019. A memorial visitation will be held on Sunday, December 29, 1:00-3:00 PM at the **Overman-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services**, corner of Routes 30 & 59, Plainfield. A Celebration of Amy's life will follow at 3:00 PM at the funeral home. Interment will be private. Donations may be made to the Will County Humane Society. For info call 815/436-9221 or visit www.overman-jones.com for a complete obituary.



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Wodnicki, Edward S.

Edward S. Wodnicki, retired Deputy Superintendent of the Chicago Police Department and Executive Director of the Cook County Sheriff's Department. Age 85. Beloved Husband of the late Joan Wodnicki nee Johnson. Loving Father of Edward Michael (Nicole), Susan Tomaselli, and Debbie (Angelo) Ranieri. Cherished Grandfather of Rachael "Ree", Brandon, Jake, Alyssa, and Sara. Dearest Brother of the late Joseph, the late Helen, and the late Estella. Visitation will be held on Sunday December 15, 2019 from 4 pm until 8 pm at **Skaja Terrace Funeral Home** 7812 N. Milwaukee Ave. Niles, IL. Funeral Monday December 16, 2019 at 10:45 am to St. Juliana Church for 11:30 am Mass. Interment Maryhill Cemetery. Edward was a member of the United States Marine Corps, Korean War Veteran 1952-1956. Edward Stanley Wodnicki was born on February 24, 1934, in Chicago, Illinois. His father, Stanislaw, was 45 and his mother Ludwika, was 39. He married Joan L. Wodnicki on October 24, 1956 in his hometown. Funeral information 847-966-7302 or www.skajafuneralhomes.com



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Wolfson, Barbara

Barbara Wolfson, born to Chicago's Ben and Anne Levitan, married Marvin Wolfson, the dearest of husbands, 69 years ago. Marv and Barbara professed their love to each other daily. Raising a family in Winnetka, Illinois, they later made a home in Spring Green, Wisconsin.

Though preceded in death by parents, sisters Judith and Gladys, and beloved son James, to the end, she valued the love of children, Andrea (Scott) Center, Nancy (Richard) Peidelstein, Susan (Dave Robertson) Clapp, grandchildren Alice (Lewis) Talerico, April (Alexander) Pegg, and great grandchildren Sonya, Eleanor, and Alden. Sister-in-law Janet (Charles) Peters, nieces, nephews, cousins, and dear friends will miss her. Barbara especially loved family being together. Barbara was kind, friendly and gracious to others without regard to social standing, and was an eternal optimist. She adored her dog Iris. She was passionate in her volunteer service. She & Marv loved doing everything together.

The family is grateful to the health care providers, caregivers, friends, and all others who provided Barbara with the maximum amount of independence through her last decade.

A life celebration will be held December 22, 11:00 am, at Cress Funeral Home 3610 Speedway Rd, Madison, Wisconsin. Casual attire. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to your local food pantry. Online condolences are available at www.staffordfuneralhomes.com or www.cressfuneralservice.com. The Richardson-Stafford Funeral Home and Cress Funeral and Cremation are assisting the family with the arrangements.

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Wolfson, Pauline (Majewski)

Pauline Majewski Wolfson, age 99 longtime resident of Olympia Fields, passed away on November 26, 2019. Loving wife of Leo Wolfson, mother of Paulette Williams, Francine Voight (Vaughn), Lawrence Wolfson, and Jeanine Novak, grandmother of 8, and great-grandmother of 8. Born April 4th, 1920 in Armstrong Creek, WI, Pauline died 3 days before her 74th wedding anniversary. Family and friends will gather for a memorial service in celebration of her life, on Sunday Dec. 15th, at 1:30 pm at Shir Tikvah, 1424 W 183rd, St Homewood, IL. In lieu of flowers donations to the Autobahn Society would be appreciated.

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Yuza, Mary

Paris, Illinois, formerly of Chicago. Mass of Christian Burial 5:30 p.m. Monday, December 16, 2019 St. Marys Catholic Church Paris, Illinois. Entombment Resurrection Cemetery Chicago, Illinois 11:00 am Tuesday, December 17, 2019. www.stewartand-carrollfuneralhome.com



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Zinn, D. Laini

Laini Zinn died peacefully in her sleep on Nov. 16, 2019 in Chicago, joining her husband Rev. Dr. J. Robert Zinn and son Richard in the heavenly choir. She is survived by her son William and daughter Cindy and their spouses, her sister Katie, 4 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren. As an artist, musician, teacher, and volunteer, she lived out her motto "Bloom where you are planted." Various lovingly referred to as a 'dynamo', 'force of nature', and 'Zany Laini', her legacy is more expansive than we have room for in this obituary! Share in celebrating her life at 3 pm on June 27, 2020 at St. Pauls UCC, 2335 N. Orchard St. Chicago, IL. In lieu of flowers please donate to <https://www.lutheranrealcommunities.org/gift> and patronize your local artists.

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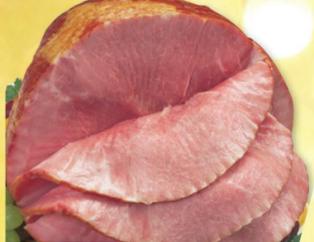
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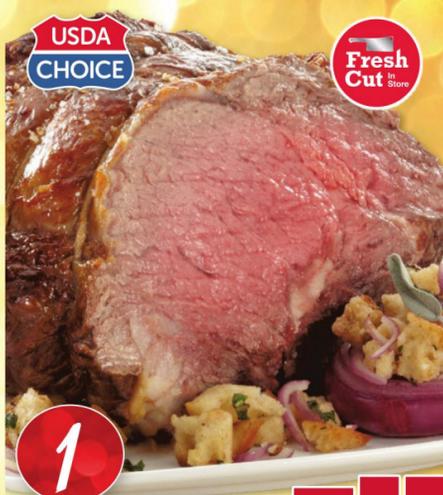
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3
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4
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18.99 lb.



6 7
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4.99 lb.



8 9
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Joshua Maresca, of Los Angeles, was greeted at the gate at O'Hare International Airport with a case of White Claw hard seltzer by United Airlines employee Brian Dalton after Maresca sent tweets saying his flight was delayed.

Stuck on a tarmac
and need answers — or a case
of White Claw — from the airline?

Try Twitter



American Airlines surprised Gary and Carol Clair, of Schaumburg, with champagne, balloons and upgraded seats after their daughter sent a tweet asking if the airline could do something memorable for their 50th wedding anniversary. AMERICAN AIRLINES

How social media became the best place to get attention

BY LAUREN ZUMBACH

Two hours after a September flight from Los Angeles to Chicago was scheduled to take off, the plane was still on the tarmac, temperatures in the cabin were rising and a passenger with a Twitter account had a hankering for a White Claw hard seltzer.

“Chaos on @united flight UA1987. Send us @WhiteClaw ASAP #TheThirstIsReal,” Joshua Maresca tweeted.

United Airlines was listening. After landing, a member of the airline’s social media team told the passenger United “heard your calls for the claw” and handed him a case.

“Was I still mad I missed my dinner plans? Of course,” said Maresca, of Los Angeles.

But the way the airline went the extra mile — and showed a sense of humor — made a difference. “It really lightened the mood,” he said.

Passengers and airlines alike are wising up to the power of treating social media as a public customer service hotline. Social networks like Twitter and Facebook can give passengers a platform to air their grievances and quickly get help on the go. Airlines, meanwhile, are tuning in more closely than ever, both to keep tales of travel gone

awry from spiraling into public relations nightmares and to seize opportunities to build goodwill with travelers and their followers.

Millions of people will head to the airports this holiday season, when U.S. airlines are expected to carry between 2.2 million and 3 million passengers each day between Dec. 19 and Jan. 5, according to

industry group Airlines for America.

Add in winter weather — especially in Chicago — and at least some are guaranteed to run into delayed flights, missing bags and other travel headaches.

In the early days of Facebook and Twitter, customers who got tired of waiting on

Turn to **Airlines, Page 3**

Overhaul of anti-redlining law proposed

Trump administration’s latest effort to transform bank loans, housing market

BY RENA MERLE
The Washington Post

Financial regulators appointed by the Trump administration proposed Thursday an overhaul of a 40-year-old anti-discrimination law, potentially upending the way banks make loans to low-income communities.

The proposal is another big win for the banking industry, which has argued for years that 1977’s Community Reinvestment Act was outdated and didn’t account for the popularity of online banking. Under the proposal, the industry would gain new flexibility when attempting to comply with the law aimed at stamping out redlining, in which banks either refused to lend to people in minority neighborhoods or charge those borrowers more.

The proposal is the Trump administration’s latest effort to radically transform the housing market, including a massive plan released earlier this year to shrink the government’s role in making mortgages.

Democrats and consumer

groups warn the most recent proposal would make it easier for banks to comply with a law meant to stamp out decades of redlining. “This is a major transformation of the law. It upends how the CRA works,” said Jesse Van Tol, chief executive of the National Community Reinvestment Coalition.

The proposal was unveiled by Office of the Comptroller of the Currency and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. It has sparked a rare split between financial regulators: The Federal Reserve, which also regulates some banks’ compliance with the law, has yet to sign off.

The Federal Reserve still hopes to reach an agreement with the other regulators to support the proposal, Chairman Jerome Powell said at a press conference Wednesday. “I don’t know whether that will be possible or not. We’ll just have to see,” he said. “We would certainly not want to create confusion or a sort of tension between the regimes if they do turn out to be slightly different regimes.”

Turn to **Housing, Page 4**

Head shops come out of the shadows

As weed becomes legal, new customers may begin frequenting once-stigmatized stores

BY ABDEL JIMENEZ

Head shops, once a business catering to the hippie counter-culture of the 1960s and 1970s, are getting a second life.

The shops, which sell bongos, pipes and other smoking paraphernalia, never really went away. The industry has been evolving quietly for decades as new forms of smoking — like vaping — became popular and women increasingly patronized the shops, experts say.

But with recreational marijuana sales set to begin Jan. 1 in Illinois, local head shops — with names like Smoke Depot and The Zen Den Glass and Vape — could start seeing customers who never thought they’d cross the threshold of a paraphernalia merchant.

Once stigmatized, head shops are being liberated, and “as recreational marijuana expands into more states, they are going to do whatever to compete,” said Sandy Caputo, director of marketing and sales for HeadQuest, an Albuquerque, New Mexico-based trade magazine.

Store owners are rushing to stock their shelves and possibly set aside space in their shops where customers can smoke, although local governments have been slow to roll out the regulations that would make it possible.

In Chicago, Ald. Gilbert Villegas, 36th, said he is working with Mayor Lori Lightfoot’s administration to craft a proposal that would permit on-site consumption of marijuana at dispensaries

Turn to **Shops, Page 2**



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Pete Rivers creates a blown-glass pipe on Dec. 5 at his shop Zen Den Glass and Vape in River Grove.

Firm says it’s close to deal to buy shuttered MetroSouth hospital



MIKE NOLAN/DAILY SOUTHTOWN

A Chicago company says it plans to open an emergency department with part of MetroSouth.

BY MIKE NOLAN

A Chicago health care consulting firm hopes to close by the end of the month on a deal to buy the shuttered MetroSouth Medical Center in Blue Island, with plans to eventually reopen parts of the facility.

David Smith, chief executive of Third Horizon Strategies, said he has been in talks with the hospital’s owner, Quorum Health, to acquire the hospital, which closed toward the end of September, for \$1.

A Quorum representative said there is no agreement at this time with Third Horizon, and that Quorum “continues to have discussions with multiple organiza-

tions about the transition” of the hospital.

Smith, who is also co-founder of the Health Care Council of Chicago, said there are no plans to reopen MetroSouth as a full-service hospital, but that a priority is to establish a standalone emergency department.

There are several hurdles to that taking place, however, including help from the Illinois General Assembly in passing legislation.

In June, citing multimillion-dollar losses and underuse of hospital facilities, MetroSouth and Quorum sought approval from state regulators to close the hospital, which had been a fixture in downtown Blue Island for more

than a century.

Initially, the timetable called for the hospital to close around the end of that year, but MetroSouth wound up operations ahead of an October vote by the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board, whose approval of the application was a moot point at the time.

According to Quorum, a handful of employees remain at the hospital, 12935 Gregory St., and Smith said he has made four or five site visits.

“It’s a great facility,” he said.

He said Quorum would be “leaving a pretty extensive amount of equipment” and is maintaining the property.

Smith has formed a corporation, South Side Health Inc., to take MetroSouth and said he plans to partner with other health management organizations to restore some services.

“The initial priority is an urgent care type of platform,” which could be established fairly quickly, he said.

To open just an emergency department would require approval of legislation, something that stalled in last month’s veto session.

A measure that had been introduced by state Rep. Bob Rita, D-Blue Island, and which cleared

Turn to **Hospital, Page 4**

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Shops

Continued from Page 1

and smoke shops.

Pete River, owner of The Zen Den Glass and Vape in River Grove, would like to create a designated smoking area at his store, which he thinks would attract more customers. But it's unclear whether such a space would be allowed.

Lawmakers revised the state act that legalized marijuana to allow on-site consumption at dispensaries and smoke shops, but the legislation gives the final say to municipalities. It's also up to local governments to establish a permitting process.

River Grove hasn't released any details yet, including zoning ordinances for dispensaries, but village officials are working with the community and the board on a plan, Mayor David Guerin said.

In the meantime, River already has seen an uptick in new customers because The Zen Den is near amedical marijuana dispensary.

River, a glassblower, makes most of the products sold in the store. He also creates custom items for walk-in customers and other head shops in the state.

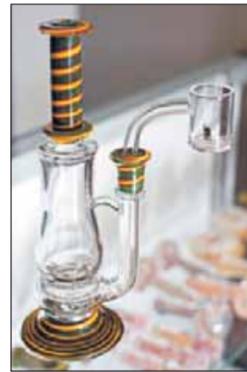
"In the past two months our sales have gone up," said River, 35. "I've been completing more custom orders for clients."

Not every local head shop expects a surge in business after Jan. 1.

Charlie Oraham, one of four co-owners of Smoke Depot in Chicago's Bucktown neighborhood, said it will be business as usual.

"We should see growth the first weeks, but I don't think it's as big a deal as people think," Oraham said. "Unless you are next to a dispensary, I'd be shocked to see a 10% increase in product sales."

Walking into a head shop, first-time customers might be struck by the large number of smoking products available for sale. The stores are typically small and often have lower light. They display large pipes on the walls and clusters of smaller equipment on glass shelves.



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Ahead of recreational marijuana sales, legal in 2020, some smoke shops are stocking up their shelves with products. Pete Rivers has been creating his own blown-glass pipes.

From vape pens to products containing CBD, the compound extracted from the cannabis plant that doesn't get users high, head shops have adapted their offerings over the past decade in response to consumer trends.

But weed paraphernalia is still a core offering in the \$12 billion head shop industry, Caputo said.

Older users still gravitate to pipes for smoking marijuana. The younger generation often consumes marijuana by vaping and through a process called dabbing, Caputo said.

Dabbing involves inhaling a heated cannabis concentrate called wax.

Dean Ridley, the owner of Dopeboo.com, a Chicago-based online retailer of pipes, vaporizers and other marijuana accessories used for smoking, has noticed an uptick in the number of female customers.

"A couple of years ago, about 65% of our customers were male. Now it's almost an even split. It's kind of like

online dating," Ridley said. "It used to be taboo, but now more women find it acceptable and are getting into it."

"Our customers value discreet shipping and packaging, the same as it applies to other items they purchase online," Ridley said.

The company studied its clients and found that female shoppers preferred vaporizers compared with other smoking products. Vaporizers like vape pens accounted for 38% of sales in 2019, according to Dopeboo.com research.

Themed pipes are another trend among users, Radley said.

"We have an Empire Glassworks that looks like (President Donald) Trump. Themed pipes are popular and a little more expensive. The eggplant is another extremely popular one. It's bit of a fashion statement and a fashion statement. It's also fun," Ridley said.

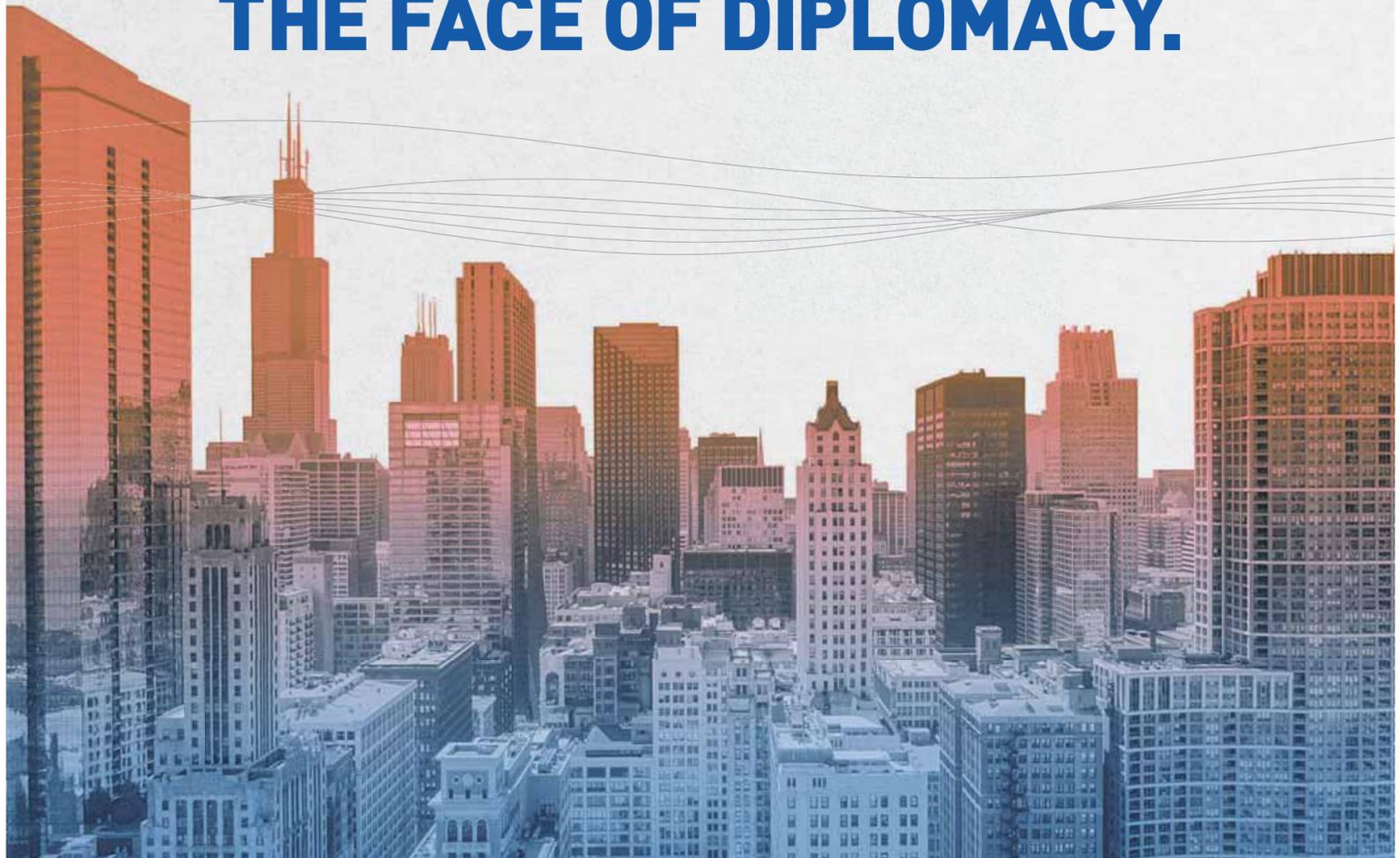
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Tech hotbed may require city permits for ideas

San Francisco may make businesses apply before using streets as a testing ground

BY JANIE HAR
Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Tired of San Francisco streets being used as a testing ground for the latest delivery technology and transportation apps, city leaders are considering requiring businesses to get permits before trying out new high-tech ideas in public.

Supporters of the legislation, which the Board of Supervisors will take up Tuesday, say it would be the first of its kind in the U.S. They say it's long overdue in a city that's a hub for major tech companies but is more accustomed to reacting to the sudden arrival of new technology — such as when hundreds of dockless electric scooters appeared overnight last year.

The e-scooter trend has led to complaints from people in cities across the country.

The tech industry has showered San Francisco with high-paying jobs and cemented its reputation as a place for big ideas, but the success of home-grown companies Airbnb, Lyft and Uber has vexed some residents as streets have become more congested and the housing shortage has worsened.

"I support innovation and technology, but our residents are not guinea pigs,

and our public infrastructure is not a free-for-all," said Norman Yee, president of the Board of Supervisors who introduced the legislation.

The Office of Emerging Technology would serve as a one-stop shop for entrepreneurs who want to test their products in San Francisco's public space. Companies would not be allowed to experiment unless the office declares the tech in question a "net public good."

It's not clear how criteria will be used to evaluate proposals, but companies that share data, ensure public safety and privacy when testing, and promote job creation would fare better than those that don't.

The office would have oversight over new technology launched on, above or below city property or on public right-of-ways, but the legislation does not spell out all the possible technologies the office would oversee.

Yee said hoverboards, delivery drones and data-gathering devices on sidewalks or other public infrastructure would be subject to regulation. He's even heard of a business that wants to promote low-tech pogo sticks as transportation. The concept makes him shudder.

"Can you imagine?" Yee said. "Let's put a stop to that before they drop 10,000 pogo sticks into the city."



DAVID PAUL MORRIS/BLOOMBERG

People ride LimeBike and Bird electric scooters on the Embarcadero in San Francisco in 2018, when hundreds of dockless scooters appeared on sidewalks in the city.

Local officials have a duty to protect public infrastructure and to send the message that public space is "not the Wild West" for anyone with coding skills and a neat idea, said Aaron Klein, a fellow in economic studies at the Brookings Institution, a public policy think tank.

"On the other hand, too much local control and too many hoops to jump through can be easily manipulated by vested interests to fight advancement," he said.

San Francisco political strategist Jon Golinger says it's time that City Hall took

control after nearly a decade of political leaders allowing businesses free rein. The lenience made some people wealthy but didn't provide enough public good to a city with skyrocketing housing prices, growing homelessness and widening income inequality.

"It had a detrimental and lasting effect on the quality of life and the health of our city," he said.

For instance, San Francisco did not start regulating Airbnb until 2014, years after the company started advertising short-term rentals despite a city law that

prohibited such stays. Officials also are tangling with Uber and Lyft over congestion, user data and driver pay, among other issues.

Transportation companies like those ride-hailing services are overseen by the state so could not be regulated by the city office, says Erica Maybaum, an aide to Yee. It also would not regulate a service like Airbnb because that involves a private platform and private properties, she said.

The Silicon Valley Leadership Group, founded by David Packard of Hewlett-Packard, objects to the per-

mitting requirement, saying it would stifle innovation and burden business.

But the legislation has the backing of sf.citi, a tech association founded by angel investor Ron Conway, who's a longtime nemesis of advocates of stricter regulation.

"We believe that the supervisor's approach of working with — rather than against — industry to build legislation is the kind of leadership this city needs to be successful," said Jennifer Stojkovic, sf.citi's executive director.

Vikram Aiyer, vice president of public policy at food delivery service Postmates and a member of the work group that crafted the legislation, said at a public hearing last month that the days of public-private head-butting are over.

"This is an era in which government needs to build empathy for technology, and technology companies must build more empathy for government," he said.

Yee came up with the idea for regulation nearly two years ago, after he successfully passed legislation requiring companies to get permits to test delivery robots. The idea gained more urgency after hundreds of dockless scooters appeared on city sidewalks in 2018, providing a fun ride for some but irritation for others forced to weave around them.

The city moved to ban the scooters until officials could regulate them.

Airlines

Continued from Page 1

hold when calling traditional customer service hotlines or failed to get a response over email turned to online public shaming as a last resort. Now, passengers start conversations with private messages as social media has become a place to seek help, not just vent, said Harry Rollason, marketing director of customer service messaging company Conversocial.

Michael Petrelis tweeted at United when his luggage failed to make it on to a recent flight from Newark to the Dominican Republic. Petrelis, of San Francisco, said he's tweeted at companies before when he feels they "aren't being good corporate citizens," and prefers to post publicly, though he messaged United privately so he could send longer messages.

"It keeps the company, hopefully, more responsive," he said.

A tweet can't rescue a vacation ruined by a canceled flight, and the potential audience doesn't guarantee better treatment than a traveler would get over the phone. In the case of the missing luggage, Twitter wasn't a magic bullet. According to Petrelis, the bag, which contained medications, still hadn't arrived the day after his flight and the airline turned down a request for an upgrade on his flight home.

Sometimes, all a passenger gets is an apologetic note. But airlines will offer updates about flight delays or field questions about bag fees and upgrade policies, at times within minutes.

Airlines based in North America take about 20 minutes, on average, to respond to public tweets, according to a 2018 report on airlines' Twitter activity from Conversocial. Chicago-based United was the slowest, but the airline said it's gotten faster over the past two years, bringing the average time it takes to respond to public and private Twitter and Facebook messages from 191 minutes down to 8 minutes.

Airlines say they have increased the size of customer service teams focused on social media as the number of messages has grown, though Southwest Airlines still gets more calls than Facebook and Twitter messages. According to Conversocial, airlines were mentioned in anywhere from 9.6 tweets per hour at Spirit Airlines to 95.4 per hour at Chicago-based United, though airlines responded to fewer than a quarter of those messages, on average.

United increased the size of its social customer care team by 50% at the start of 2017. Since then, it went from responding to half of messages it considers "engageable" to 99%. That only counts posts that give United the opportunity to take action in response, not messages from frustrated customers who just want to vent.

"It was clear to us that oftentimes social media is the easiest and fastest way for customers to reach out to us in their moment of need, especially if they are at the airport or perhaps onboard," said Maggie Schmerin, United's managing director of social and digital media.

As airlines have staffed up to handle the influx of customer service requests, they're also keeping a closer eye on what passengers are saying about them. A series of high-profile incidents in 2017 made it clear that what happens on social media has real-world consequences for airlines.

At Chicago's O'Hare International Airport, video of 69-year-old David Dao being dragged down the aisle of a United Express aircraft quickly went viral, and the backlash mounted when United initially appeared slow to apologize. The airline later reached an undisclosed financial settlement with Dao.

United said its decision to increase the size of its social customer service team predated the backlash over Dao's flight. But both United and Southwest said that situation and other viral incidents prompted the airlines to have their social media teams work more closely with the rest of the airline's operations, including giving them seats in the control centers where employees oversee all airline operations.

"When you start to see all their followers chime in, it's like a snowball getting bigger and bigger," said Rob Hahn, business consultant and social care liaison at Southwest. "If we can at least engage, that can slow things down a little."

The hundreds of employees monitoring social media traffic — Delta Air Lines has 150 responding to customer service-related messages in five cities — aren't just on the lookout for potential public relations nightmares. Airlines are also getting savvy about spotting opportunities among passengers' tweets and Facebook messages to boost their reputations.

When Frontier Airlines delayed, then canceled, an October flight that was supposed to take a New Jersey high school cross country team to a race in Orlando, Florida, coaches couldn't

find another way to get all 80 athletes to the race with less than 24 hours' notice and assumed the trip was over, said Matt Purdue, head coach of Ocean City High School's boys cross country team.

But students tweeted about the canceled flight and tagged Delta in a post. The airline, which doesn't usually fly between Philadelphia and Orlando, saw the tweets and sent a plane and crew from Atlanta to Philadelphia to pick up the team. Frontier worked with Delta on the team's travel arrangements.

The private flight took off around 4 a.m. and, despite the lack of sleep, the boys' team won and the girls took second, Purdue said.

"I couldn't believe people were being so nice to us," he said.

So do passengers with bigger online audiences get better treatment? When it comes to customer service questions, airlines say they work to treat everyone equally, though employees do see passengers' follower count.

When United's social media team recognized a United aircraft in a photo Tyler Cameron, a contestant on "The Bachelorette," posted, they gave him a first-class upgrade for his return flight — and a red rose. Cameron has since had a more formal influencer partnership with the airline, Schmerin said.

The airline wants employees to be aware of when an influencer is on board, and flight attendants have an app that provides information on passengers, including those with a large social following, Schmerin said.

But a passenger's digital audience is hardly the only factor, Schmerin said. The airline invited a Denver family out for a tour of the airport that turned into a surprise reunion between the dad, returning from military deployment, and his two sons after their mom reached out on social media.

"We didn't look up the mom or family to say are they on social media, and will they post about it," Schmerin said. "It's something we're mindful of, but it's not the only thing." Nor did Sarah Atkinson's relatively modest audience on Twitter — fewer than 300 followers — keep American from jumping on her private message asking the airline to consider doing something special for her parents, Gary and Carol Clair, who were celebrating their 50th anniversary with a European river cruise.

With less than a day's notice, American surprised the Schaumburg couple with balloons, champagne

and a business-class upgrade on the second leg of their trip, Atkinson said.

Gary Clair said he and his wife have been flying American for years but usually travel in coach. "I took a picture on my phone of the tickets, because I'll probably never see that again," he said.

That kind of service is hardly something travelers can count on. The results are usually more modest, airlines say. About 10,000 passengers have gotten rewards like frequent flyer points, vouchers for free Wi-Fi or Southwest-branded swag since the airline began scouring social media for passengers to surprise with a perk about four years ago.

"We don't want it to be an expectation," said Ashley Mainz, Southwest's senior manager of social business.

Tales of airlines going above and beyond to help particular travelers often generate buzz, but Dan Gingiss, a speaker and consultant focusing on customer experience, questioned whether the impact lasts.

"I would much rather they focus on making every customer's experience good to great than making one customer's experience viral," he said.

Airlines and passengers say they think there's value in giving passengers positive stories memorable enough to share, even if it can be tough to quantify.

"Most of the time, if anyone is talking about a flight it's because it was a bad experience, or it was

late or their luggage was lost," Atkinson said. "To have a story you can't stop talking about because it's so fun and special, I have to think there's some benefit to the airline in that."

If travelers without a big audience are trying to get an airline's help over social media, Gingiss advises starting with a private message and keeping the tone civil despite the stress of travel. Choosing not to air grievances in public might

buy some goodwill, and many conversations will end up moving to a private channel anyway to keep the passenger's personal info or booking details out of public posts, he said.

"It's not the squeaky wheel that gets the grease, it's the customer who's respectful and polite and asking for something reasonable," he said.

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Deposit & Loan Guide

Institution	Int Acct	Chkng Mkt	Money	3 mo		6 mo		12 mo		18 mo		24 mo		36 mo		60 mo		Phone / Website
				CD	CD	CD	CD											
Synchrony Bank	NA	1.20	0.75	1.00	2.00	2.00	2.10	2.10	2.25									800-869-3813 www.synchronybank.com
	NA	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000									

Savings Update

Can money be gifted for a house down payment?

With first-time homebuyers often struggling to save a down payment, gift money from their family can be a welcome fix. But simply transferring funds from the Bank of Mom & Dad to Johnny's bank account won't alone solve the problem. Both giver and recipient need to follow certain gift money rules.

First, the type of mortgage being applied for, as well as the borrower's credit score, will determine how much personal investment is required in the down payment vs. how much can come as a gift. For instance, FHA loans have different rules on this than conventional mortgages, so the first step is learning the rules for the particular loan and situation.

Also note that down payment gift money must generally come from a family member, such as a parent, grandparent, aunt or uncle, or a sibling. Gifts from friends are typically not allowed, but contributions from a spouse, domestic partner, or fiancée usually are accepted.

Once the allowable gift amount is determined, be aware that all lenders will ask to see 2-3 months of bank statements. So any large, non-routine deposits that show up during that time period will need to be explained and documented.

Specifically, a gift deposited within that 2-3 month window will need to be confirmed with a gift letter from the donor. Most importantly, this letter establishes the relationship of the giver to the recipient and explicitly states that the money provided is being gifted, not loaned, with no expectation of the donor being paid back.

Gift money can be an excellent way to help new buyers get into their first home a little sooner than they would be able to on their own. The trick is simply doing your homework so both giver and lucky recipient can satisfy the lender's requirements.

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Housing

Continued from Page 1

Powell said the Fed is "strongly committed to the mission of ensuring that banks provide credit through their communities, particularly addressing the needs of low- and moderate-income households and neighborhoods. We also think it's time for modernization."

After the proposal was released Thursday, a spokesperson for the Fed said: "Any modernization of the Community Reinvestment Act must further the goal at the heart of the statute — encouraging banks to meet the credit needs of local low- and moderate-income communities. We look forward to studying the public comments on the rule proposed by the OCC and FDIC. At this time, no decisions have been made about how the Federal Reserve will proceed."

The public will have 60 days to comment on the proposal.

Rep. Maxine Waters, D-Calif., chair of the Financial Services Committee, said in a statement before the proposal was officially released: "We are concerned that the changes ... will make it easier for banks to pass their CRA exams, weakening their obligation to responsibly serve communities across the country. It is critical that the banking regulators do not jam through their proposal without giving the public ample time to weigh in, or without coordinating with the Federal Reserve."

Under the Community Reinvestment Act, or CRA, regulators periodically examine banks' lending practices for low- and moderate-income borrowers. A bank may get CRA credit, for example, for issuing a mortgage to a black borrower, financing an affordable-housing project or a small-business loan. Banks given a low rating can be hit with sanctions.

Banks have complained that they are judged too subjectively and don't often know what types of loans would qualify for credit under the law. The proposal would clarify what would qualify for CRA credit and potentially give banks more flexibility around what parts of the country the lending would be done in. Banks would also be encouraged to make loans to lower-income borrowers based on where their customers are rather than where the bank has physical branches.

Modernizing CRA "will enable banks to invest more in communities across the country," Richard Hunt, chief executive of the Consumer Bankers Association, said in statement. "Increasing transparency, reducing subjectivity and ensuring timely examination results are all important issues addressed in the proposal."

Joseph Otting, comptroller of the currency, said the proposal will "help ensure CRA remains an effective and relevant tool to encour-

age more lending, investment, and services in the communities banks serve."

He noted the agency had worked on the issue for more than 18 months. "Today's proposal is an important step toward making CRA work better for everyone."

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin echoed those comments in a statement. "Today's announcement by the OCC and the FDIC is an important step in improving the CRA and enhancing the ability of banks to deliver services in low- and moderate-income communities consistent with safe and sound operations. Community needs and the banking landscape have changed dramatically since the CRA was passed more than forty years ago."

But Van Tol warned that broadening the definition of what counts toward compliance with CRA could allow banks to focus on projects with the most profit. They "would rather finance a billion-dollar hospital facility than make mortgage loans to low- and moderate-income people," he said. "The motivations and incentives are going to go places where you can make the most money."

The existing law should be modernized and simplified, consumer advocates say. But the new proposal would only benefit banks and dilutes the original intention of the law to address redlining, they say.

Redlining persists in 61 metro areas — including Detroit; Philadelphia; Little Rock, Arkansas; and Tacoma, Washington, according to the Center for Investigative Reporting. The proposal also comes at a time when research shows that banks are closing down physical branches in black neighborhoods — including high-income ones — faster than in the rest of the country.

Since 2010, the number of bank branches in majority-black areas has shrunk 14.6% compared with 9.7% in all other communities, according to an analysis by S&P Global Market Intelligence. At JPMorgan Chase, the country's largest bank, the number of bank branches in majority-black areas fell by 22.8% compared with an overall decline of less than 1%, the data showed.

Otting has cited his experience as a banker for prioritizing a remake of CRA. During the global financial crisis, Mnuchin, a former Goldman Sachs banker, led a team of investors that purchased IndyBank and hired Otting to lead it. But when they tried to sell the bank, which had been renamed OneWest, community groups questioned its CRA compliance, hampering the regulatory approval process.

"I went through a very difficult period with some community groups that didn't support our community, who came in at the bottom of the ninth inning, that tried to change the direction of our merger," he said at a banking conference in 2018, according to The Wall Street Journal.

Hospital

Continued from Page 1

the House, would have provided millions of dollars in state funding to help operate an emergency room.

Smith said he has had discussions with Rita about the legislation again being considered when the General Assembly reconvenes next month.

Should that happen and the bill clear both chambers and ultimately receive the governor's signature, the state health facilities board would also need to sign off on any proposal to establish emergency care at MetroSouth, Smith said.

Quorum had, over the summer, said numerous times it had exhausted avenues aimed at finding a buyer that would keep all, or portions, of the hospital running.

Local elected officials and first responders had hoped a new operator could keep the emergency room open. According to MetroSouth and Quorum Health, the hospital's emergency room annually cared for more than 40,000 people.

Fire departments that took patients there are

transporting them to other area hospitals, such as Little Company of Mary in Evergreen Park and Ingalls Memorial in Harvey.

Ingalls is the closest hospital to MetroSouth, at 4 1/2 miles, or about 12 minutes, followed by Little Company of Mary, which is a bit more than 5 miles away, or 17 minutes, according to the health facilities board.

Area fire chiefs and other first responders, however, have said those travel time estimates are based on ideal traffic conditions and don't take into account the many freight railroad tracks that crisscross the area.

MetroSouth, founded in 1905 as St. Francis Hospital, was rescued from closing in 2008 when a for-profit operator bought it, renaming it MetroSouth, and it changed ownership a few years later.

MetroSouth's closing affected some 800 employees and local officials said that, beyond losing a major health care provider, the shutdown will have a ripple effect among Blue Island businesses that relied on the hospital for customers. The hospital includes about 700,000 square feet of space on 12 acres.

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INVESTING



52-WEEK					WEEKLY PERFORMANCE					YTD		1YR	
HIGH	LOW	INDEX	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	%CHG	%CHG	%CHG	%CHG	%CHG	
28290.73	21712.53	Dow Jones industrials	28290.73	27801.80	28135.38	+120.32	+0.4	+20.6	█	+16.7			
11226.54	8636.79	Dow Jones trans.	10895.03	10615.20	10775.76	+67.22	+0.6	+17.5	█	+13.3			
882.37	681.85	Dow Jones utilities	858.22	846.22	856.85	+1.81	+0.2	+20.2	█	+13.1			
13773.13	10723.66	NYSE Comp.	13773.13	13521.24	13697.34	+109.05	+0.8	+20.4	█	+16.5			
5793.76	4682.10	NYSE International	5793.76	5642.74	5756.15	+92.03	+1.6	+17.7	█	+15.0			
8517.52	5895.12	Nasdaq 100	8517.52	8339.37	8487.71	+90.34	+1.1	+34.1	█	+28.7			
8768.87	6190.17	Nasdaq Comp.	8768.87	8600.82	8734.88	+78.35	+0.9	+31.6	█	+26.4			
3182.68	2346.58	S&P 500	3182.68	3126.09	3168.80	+22.89	+0.7	+26.4	█	+21.9			
2043.15	1565.76	S&P MidCap	2043.15	2007.54	2024.72	+2.74	+0.1	+21.8	█	+16.9			
32396.92	24129.49	Wilshire 2000	32396.92	31865.00	32241.16	+202.18	+0.6	+25.2	█	+20.5			
1654.07	1266.93	Russell 5000	1654.07	1626.37	1637.98	+4.14	+0.3	+21.5	█	+16.1			
414.91	327.34	Dow Jones Stoxx 600	414.91	401.46	412.02	+4.67	+1.2	+22.0	█	+18.7			
7727.49	6536.53	FTSE 100	7429.04	7137.84	7353.44	+113.78	+1.6	+9.3	█	+7.4			

Most active

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE			
STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	
Chesapck Engy	.79	+0.03	
DanaHER Corp	148.52	+0.30	
Gen Electric	11.34	+0.24	
Bank of America	34.44	+0.77	
PG&E Corp	11.24	+1.59	
Ford Motor	9.23	+2.21	
Froenort McMoran	2.63	+1.27	
Aurora Cannabis Inc	2.63	+0.20	
Uber Technologies	28.49	+0.63	
AT&T Inc	38.26	+0.06	
Macy's Inc	15.18	+0.41	
Stwhstn Energy	1.99	-0.06	
Energy Transfer LP.	12.73	+1.23	

NASDAQ STOCK MARKET			
STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	
Adv Micro Dev	41.15	+1.52	
Naked Brand Group	.03	-0.00	
Apple Inc	275.15	+4.44	
Comcast Corp A	43.58	-0.66	
Microsoft Corp	154.53	+2.78	
Micron Tech	51.20	+3.27	
FuelCell Energy	.68	+0.12	
Arqule Inc	20.07	+10.40	
Cisco Syst	45.30	+1.46	
Intel Corp	57.79	+0.98	
Onicnova Therapeut	.29	-0.06	
Sirius XM Hldgs Inc	6.92	+0.09	
Caesars Entertain	13.18	+1.14	

EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS			
STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	
Alps Alerian MLP	8.13	+0.38	
Citigo Vel Inv Crde	3.80	-0.17	
iPath Sh Term Fut	15.53	-1.20	
iShares Brazil	45.69	+0.98	
iShs China Large Cap	42.60	+1.36	
iShs Emerg Mkts	44.42	+1.35	
Froenort EAFE ETF	69.56	+0.97	
iShares Rus 2000	163.33	+5.1	
Invesco QQQ Trust	207.19	+2.19	
SPDR S&P500 ETF Tr	317.32	+2.45	
SPDR S&P O&G ExpPdt	21.76	+0.53	
SPDR Financial	30.71	+0.35	
VanE Vect Gld Miners	27.72	+0.75	

Largest Companies

Based on market capitalization			
STOCK	CLOSE	CHANGE	
AT&T Inc	38.26	+0.06	
Adobe Inc	317.94	+11.71	
Alibaba Group Hldg	204.91	+3.02	
Alphabet Inc C	1347.83	+7.21	
Alphabet Inc A	1346.87	+7.48	
Amazon.com Inc	1760.94	+9.34	
Apple Inc	275.15	+4.44	
Bank of America	34.44	+0.77	
Berkshire Hath A	338080.13	+4440.10	
Berkshire Hath B	225.37	+2.76	
Boeing Co	341.67	-12.42	
Chevron Corp	117.96	-0.05	
China Mobile Ltd	39.21	+1.50	
Cisco Syst	45.30	+1.46	
Citigroup	76.39	+0.58	
CocaCola Co	54.42	...	
Comcast Corp A	43.58	-0.66	
Disney	146.38	-0.40	
Exxon Mobil Corp	69.23	-0.28	
Facebook Inc	194.11	-6.94	
FEMSA	95.32	+3.97	
HSBC Holdings PLC	38.43	+1.56	
HSBC Holdings prA	26.23	+0.19	
Home Depot	214.08	-0.20	
Intel Corp	57.79	+0.98	
JPMorgan Chase & Co	136.81	+1.77	
Johnson & Johnson	141.38	+1.00	
MasterCard Inc	296.09	+5.69	
Merck & Co	89.19	+0.95	
Microsoft Corp	154.53	+2.78	
Novartis AG	92.99	+0.92	
Oracle Corp	54.51	-0.32	
PepsiCo	137.94	+0.58	
Pfizer Inc	38.33	+0.04	
Procter & Gamble	125.47	+1.28	
Royal Dutch Shell B	57.41	+0.02	
Royal Dutch Shell A	57.44	+0.15	
SAP Se	138.50	+3.50	
Taiwan Semicon	58.25	+3.31	
Toyota Mot	142.10	-0.67	
Unilever NV	60.52	+0.59	
Unilever PLC	60.94	+1.13	
UnitedHealth Group	285.48	+5.29	
Verizon Comm	60.81	-0.38	
Visa Inc	185.14	+2.97	
Walmart Strs	120.29	+0.51	
Wells Fargo & Co	53.79	-0.58	

Largest mutual funds

Based on Total assets			
FUND	NAV	CHG	1-YR %RTN
American Century UltraInv	53.15	+4.0	+24.0
American Funds AMCPA m	34.21	+2.4	+17.6
American Funds AmrcnBalA m	28.88	+1.9	+14.4
American Funds AmrcnMutA m	44.30	+2.8	+14.9
American Funds BdfAmrcA m	13.28	+0.3	+9.2
American Funds CptWldGrncA m	51.76	+7.2	+18.8
American Funds CptWldGrncA m	51.76	+7.2	+18.8
American Funds EuroPacGrA m	56.47	+1.24	+21.8
American Funds FdmIntVlnsA m	64.15	+6.7	+19.3
American Funds GrlAmrcA m	53.52	+3.8	+19.1
American Funds IncAmrcA m	23.68	+1.7	+14.4
American Funds InvCAMrcA m	40.60	+3.3	+15.7
American Funds NewWldA m	72.02	+1.48	+22.9
American Funds NwPrspctVA m	47.96	+6.2	+22.6
American Funds SmCpWldA m	60.12	+5.6	+23.4
American Funds TheNewEcooA m	48.18	+6.8	+19.3
American Funds WAMIntVlnsA m	48.98	+3.0	+17.8
Baird AggrgateBdInstl	11.26	+0.4	+10.8
Baird CorStBdInstl	11.60	+0.3	+11.1
BlackRock StrIncOpIns	9.94	+0.3	+6.9
DFA EmMktCorEq	21.30	+6.4	+11.3
DFA EmMktsValInstl	28.34	+3.8	+6.8
DFA FvYrGlbFlns	10.98	+0.1	+4.5
DFA IntlCorEqIns	13.75	+2.0	+16.6
DFA IntlSmColInst	19.26	+2.8	+18.4
DFA IntlSmCpVallns	19.64	+3.9	+16.1
DFA USCorEqInstl	25.92	+1.9	+20.9
DFA USCorEqInstl	23.79	+1.7	+20.2
DFA USLgCpVallns	38.93	+2.3	+17.0
DFA USSMCPInstl	35.27	+1.7	+13.0
DFA USSMCPVallns	34.55	+3.5	+10.1
Dodge & Cox Bal	105.79	+1.14	+14.5
Dodge & Cox Inc	14.20	+0.4	+10.2
Dodge & Cox IntlStk	44.51	+1.06	+16.5
Dodge & Cox Stk	202.12	+2.96	+16.3
DoubleLine CorFl	11.11	+0.3	+8.4
DoubleLine TrRetBdl	10.69	+0.1	+7.0
EdgeWood GrInstl	37.53	+1.8	+23.4
FPA Crescent d	34.48	+3.0	+15.6
Fidelity 500IntlVlnsPm x	109.81	+1.0	+22.0
Fidelity BCGrowth x	105.23	+1.41	+25.8
Fidelity Balanced x	24.23	-4.2	+18.4
Fidelity CapSlnC	10.19	+1.0	+14.0
Fidelity Contrafund x	13.39	-3.6	+20.8
Fidelity ContrafundK x	13.40	-3.6	+20.9
Fidelity EmergMktsOpps x	20.02	+2.1	+23.2
Fidelity ExMktIdxtPr x	63.70	-1.77	+18.7
Fidelity Frdm 2020	16.67	+1.4	+14.8
Fidelity Frdm 2025	14.62	+1.4	+15.8
Fidelity Frdm 2030	18.21	+1.9	+17.2
Fidelity GlobaleqUSIdx x	12.96	-0.4	+16.2
Fidelity GroCo	19.22	+1.7	+28.2
Fidelity GroCo	21.58	+1.9	+26.8
Fidelity GroCoK	21.62	+2.0	+27.0
Fidelity IntlGr x	17.30	+4.0	+31.1
Fidelity IntlMktIdxtPrm x	42.51	-6.7	+17.2
Fidelity IntlVal x	9.80	-2.2	+15.0
Fidelity InvMGradeBd	11.60	+0.2	+10.7
Fidelity LowPStk x	49.35	+4.8	+19.0
Fidelity Magellan x	10.00	-1.36	+21.4
Fidelity OTCPortfolio	12.60	+1.5	+28.4
Fidelity Puritan x	22.41	-0.9	+15.4
Fidelity TotalBond	10.93	+0.3	+10.5
Fidelity TTMktIdxtPrm x	88.77	-0.8	+21.5
Fidelity USBdIdxtPrm	11.96	+0.2	+10.0
Fidelity Advisor NewsIns x	32.27	-1.78</	

Enough about you – let’s talk about me

Honest self-evaluation can be a helpful end-of-year tool

As 2019 comes to a close, it’s helpful to map out 2020 to see where you want to go in the months and years ahead. But first things first.

Before you embark on a 12-month plan, it’s a good idea to look back at the previous 12 months to see what you did wrong, what you did right and what you didn’t do. Using a personal self-review to find solutions to some of your problems at work — whether it’s spending less time answering emails or less money loading up on the daily \$8 artisan donut — may be less complicated than you think. To reach new goals, you’ll first need to go through an honest assessment of your good and bad habits, your successful and not-so-successful projects and your enthusiasm for what you do and where you do it.

Here are a few ways to approach an honest self-evaluation.

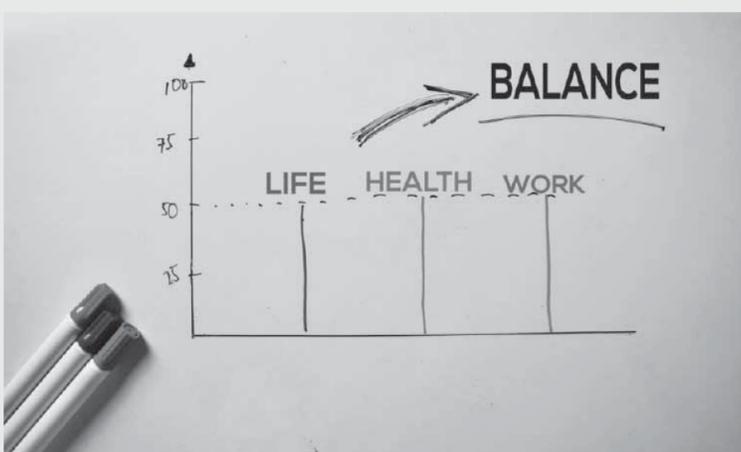
1. Be honest: No compromising on the truth when you’re listing your work-related attributes and habits. Feel free to ask others for input or use what others have said or written about you in 2019 as background but the true assessment has to come from you. That means those projects that others deemed successful but hardly were indicative of your potential get listed in the “need to improve” column. If you’re being honest, you’ll be able to identify the areas you can address in 2020 and beyond.

2. Consider the good and the bad: A balance chart can be a helpful tool when determining what works and what doesn’t. Draw a line down the center of a page — career coach James Merchant suggests writing the first draft of your self-evaluation in pen or pencil to create more of a direct connection to your thoughts — and label one side with a plus sign and the other with a minus sign.

Write down the things you’ve done well on the plus side and those areas where you’ve fallen short on the other. Accomplishments don’t have to be groundbreaking. Something as simple as “Stopped eating fast-food for lunch every day” could be one. “Stopped wasting time on Instagram during work” could be another. On the flipside, negatives can be “inconsistent effort in the morning” or “talk too much at meetings.”

3. Switch perspectives: Try to use the perspective of a client or co-worker that you value as an employee. Don’t necessarily try to put yourself in the evaluating shoes of your friends at work. Instead, view yourself through the lens of a manager you admire or a co-worker who has a stellar reputation at the office. Consider their viewpoint on whether you’re pulling your weight by asking for new projects or making yourself available to others when they need help.

— Marco Buscaglia, *Careers*



A balance chart can be a helpful tool when determining what works and what doesn't.



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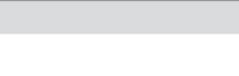
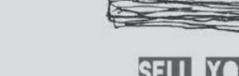
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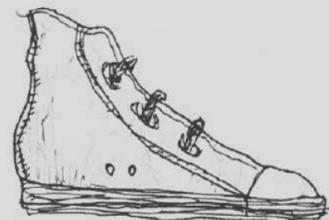
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What does your handshake say about you?

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Your first chance to make a great in-person impression is in your interview. When you're prepping your resume and your skill-supporting anecdotes, don't forget to make sure you're giving just as much prep time to your body language, as well.

9 to 5



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4

Basic but occasionally ignored interview tips

1. Be presentable

Wear a suit that fits, and don't cut corners when it comes to ironing or dry-cleaning, says leadership development professional Monique Honaman. "I knew one guy who was in such a rush the day of his interview that he only ironed the front of his shirt. Later, during the course of his interview day, it was hot and he was encouraged to remove his jacket and get more comfortable and it was clear that he had cut corners and only ironed the front! He was very embarrassed," Honaman says.

Also, while you should always wear deodorant, try to avoid perfumes and colognes. You never know who will be allergic or just downright averse to your scent. "A hiring manager once told me a story of how he didn't select an incredibly well-qualified candidate for a role because she wore the same perfume as his ex-wife," says career coach Danielle Beauparlant Moser. "He said she walked in the room and his only thought was how to get her out of his office as quickly as possible."

2. Know who you're meeting with

"Know the name of the interviewer so that you can ask for that person at the receptionist's desk," advises executive coaching expert Cheryl Palmer. "It's embarrassing when the receptionist asks, 'Who are you here to see?' and you can't remember. Have this information either in your head or write yourself a note that you refer to prior to arriving in the waiting area," Palmer adds.

3. You are being interviewed as soon as you walk in the door

"Most people would never think of the receptionist as being an interviewer, but it's true," Palmer says. "It's fairly common that the receptionist will report back to the hiring manager how candidates behaved in the waiting area. Don't be remembered as the one who ate all the candy out of the candy dish or spoke disrespectfully to the receptionist."

4. Make proper eye contact

"One of the most obvious mistakes interviewees make is with eye contact, and it costs a lot of people a lot of jobs," says career coaching pro Barry Maher. "Eye contact is simple. Any given eye contact should last about five seconds at a time. And if there's one interviewer, make eye contact with him or her about 40 to 60 percent of the time. More than 60 percent is intimidating. Less than 40 percent comes off as shifty and perhaps insincere, even dishonest."

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2019

Thrive with 5 of the year's best work tips

As 2019 comes to a close, it's time to focus on making some big — and some not-so-big — changes to your situation at work. We've listed five of the strongest pieces of advice we received in 2019 for those workers who are hoping to improve their future with their current employers and aren't too interested — at least not yet — in finding a new job.

1. Move beyond online networking: If you're looking for contacts in and out of your current field, don't rely solely on online networking, says Marty Gilbert, founder and CEO of the NorthShore Executive Networking Group in suburban Chicago. While Gilbert understands the importance of sites like LinkedIn, he thinks some employees think their networking begins and ends with an online connection. "Use your contacts wisely. Find out who your connections are connected with and then try to go to the source," he says.

Gilbert warns against over-relying on friends and family. "Those are people who know you really well — in most cases, too well. They may not feel comfortable mixing their professional and personal lives if a job comes up in their department that would be an ideal fit for you," he says. "It's usually better to use those contacts to introduce you to other contacts. You can use them to grow your network."

2. Remember, failing is an option: Tim Bono, author of "When Likes Aren't Enough: A Crash Course in the Science of Happiness" (Grand Central Life & Style, \$25), and the assistant dean in psychological and brain sciences at Washington University in St. Louis, says today's employees shouldn't be afraid to fail. "People who overcome adversity do better in life because they learn to cope with challenges," Bono says. "Failure is a great teacher, helping us realize what doesn't work so we can make changes for the better."

3. Consider a mentor: Jesus Bravo, assistant professor of management at the Carson College of Business at Washington State University in Pullman, Washington, says finding strong mentors can help employees prepare for the future. "Mentors can give you valuable career information, expand your social networks and help with honing professional skills," says Bravo, adding that there are benefits to mentors within and outside of your organization.

"Internal mentors can help with organizational issues and opportunities while external mentors can offer insights into larger career issues. Goal setting, career planning and role modeling are all ways that mentorships can help open your mind to new opportunities and experiences you may have not otherwise considered.

4. Basic decency applies in all settings: Spending time with co-workers away from the office — whether at company events or casual, after-work get-togethers — doesn't mean you no longer have to follow the behavioral guidelines you use inside the workplace. Stephanie Davis, an attorney with Maynard Cooper Gale's Labor and Employment Division in Birmingham, Alabama, says harassment of a co-worker in a restaurant or bar is often less obvious than it is at work, which can make it difficult for women to come forward. "Inappropriate behavior in a quiet office is going to be amplified if the right people are present. In a bar, it may just sound like part of the scene, part of what happens. But it's not. Ever," Davis says.

"People say 'hey, that was on our own time.' Fine, if that's your defense, fine. But don't think you won't be held accountable. Don't think the women you say lewd things about or the women you lock into extended hugs or the women you casually, jokingly touch as they walk by are assuming it's OK. Because they're on their own time, too. And they don't choose to get harassed on their own time. That's you. You made that call. And you should suffer the consequences."

5. Walk it off: Does your brain feel a little cloudy during the workday? Step away from your desk and take a brief walk. According to scientists at the University of California Irvine Center for the Neurobiology of Learning and Memory, as little as 10 minutes of exercise can result in increased memory and problem-solving skills, meaning a quick walk around the office or up and down the stairs can help shake free some of the workday cobwebs.

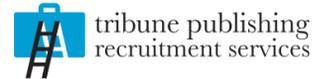
If you're looking for additional benefits, as well as a quick mood boost, try a vigorous 20-minute walk, suggests Michelle Paulson, a personal trainer in Concord, California. "It's one of the obvious aspects of life that we don't really put into practice," says Paulson. "Whenever we exercise, we get a small rush of endorphins. People think they have to work out for 60 minutes and hit a jacked-up heart rate to achieve any sort of chemical change in their bodies but in reality, it varies from person to person."

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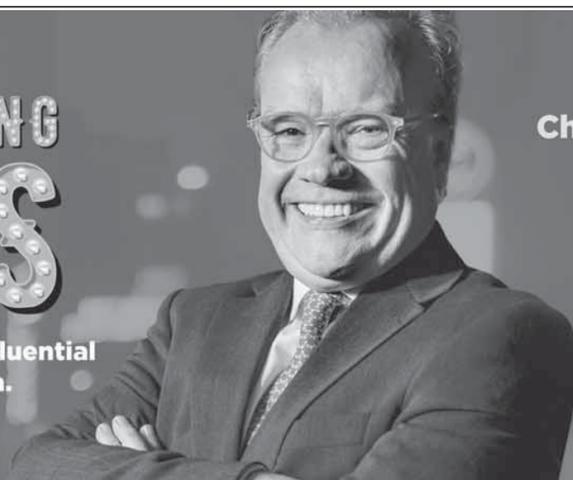


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BEARS AT PACKERS
NOON SUNDAY
FOX-32

MORE COVERAGE

■ Biggs: Bears have decision to make on Floyd. **Page 3**
■ Hicks activated and should face Packers on Sunday. **Page 3**
■ Win over Packers would keep Bears alive in playoff hunt. **Page 5**

‘This feels like *us* again’

Surging Bears head to Green Bay with confidence after staying unified through earlier struggles

BY DAN WIEDERER

At the end of an exhilarating Thursday night, Bears safety Eddie Jackson found himself enjoying the rush, immersed in the positive energy pulsing through the locker room.

“Bears 31, Cowboys 24” felt a little different. It felt overdue. It felt energizing. It felt gratifying.

It was, at long last, a complete victory with productivity across all three phases. “Oh, man,” Jackson said. “The whole game just felt right.”

After Jackson left Soldier Field on Dec. 5, he connected with his family and headed to River North for a late dinner at Chicago Cut. A plate of Colorado double-cut lamb chops and a sense of genuine fulfillment.

“It just felt good, man,” Jackson said.

“We were finally clicking. Plus, we had played three games in 12 days. So to come through that and get three wins and especially that last one, a big game in prime time ... it was like a relief off your shoulders.”

Jackson kept thinking about the electricity he felt inside Soldier Field. He was struck by the buzz of the crowd and the confidence of his teammates and how every big play took things up a level.

He immediately thought back to the bright-lights, big-stakes home games in 2018. Prime-time wins over the Vikings and Rams. The playoff game against the Eagles.

“It felt like that,” Jackson said. “The high energy. The fun we were having. That vibe matters.”

The result did too.

Turn to **Bears, Page 6**

BULLS

Bulls are tough but not physical

Boyle likes defensive competitiveness but wants to see same thing on offensive end. **Page 14**

BLACKHAWKS

Big fixes needed for big problems

Fire Colliton? Dump Bowman? Trade Kane? Everything must be on table for Hawks. **Page 14**

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

Heisman Trophy: Burrow by a mile

But deciding who's second and third creates lots of consternation. **Page 11**

BASEBALL

Boras the star of winter meetings

Cubs would need haul to trade Bryant; Sox giddy about Robert's prospects. **Page 10**

GOLF

‘10 minutes can change your life’

Chicagoan Vince India came excruciatingly close to earning his PGA Tour card. **Page 12**

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PHIL ROSENTHAL

Speaking up for Burkhardt

Fox's Kevin Burkhardt expects he'll have his voice back in time to call the 200th meeting between the Bears and Packers on Sunday alongside analyst Charles Davis.

Burkhardt lost his ability to talk after working last weekend's incredible 49ers victory over the Saints despite a serious head cold.

(That 48-46 thriller didn't air in Chicago because Fox-32 opted to present Redskins-Packers rather than the best available NFL matchup. The 49ers' victory in New Orleans was even more exciting than the Ravens' win over the 49ers, which Burkhardt and Davis worked the week before while Chicago's unofficial Packers station aired their game against the Giants.)

Merely scratchy during Sunday's telecast, Burkhardt's voice was completely gone by Monday.

"It happens from time to time, and it's normal from pushing your voice to the limit for 3½ hours and talking nonstop all weekend," Burkhardt explained by email. "But when I woke up Tuesday and still didn't have my voice, I got worried. So I went to see my incredible ear, nose and throat guy, Dr. Randy Schnitman."

The Beverly Hills ENT man prescribed vocal rest and a regimen of antibiotics and steroids, and Burkhardt was listed as "probable" for the noon kickoff at Lambeau Field on Fox-32.

"I am not going to lie," Burkhardt wrote. "I freak out over losing my voice. It's my biggest fear, but I trust, like other times, I'll be fine to call the game Sunday. ... There aren't any sick days in our industry, so I definitely am looking forward to being back to normal this weekend."

In the meantime, Davis was left to speak for them both.

"He's absolutely the best," Davis said of Burkhardt, his broadcast partner since 2017.

The duo, Fox's No. 2 NFL announcing team, originally was to be a trio, joined by former Bears quarterback Jay Cutler.

But that plan went up in smoke when Cutler unretired to join the Dolphins in training camp that summer, playing one more season before becoming a reality TV star with wife Kristin Cavallari.

It worked out — for everyone.

Davis, who has succeeded in three-announcer setups as well as two, meshed especially well with Burkhardt, assisted by Pam Oliver as field reporter.

Of course, it's helpful when Burkhardt can talk.

The following Q-and-A with Davis has been edited.

Looking forward to going to Green Bay?

Always look forward to going to Green Bay. I think we all look forward to going to Green Bay more in September and October for those of us who aren't exactly the hale and hearty stock. I grew up in New York state, but I lost my coping skills a while ago.

This is the celebration of the NFL's 100th year, and Sunday's the 200th meeting between these two teams, counting playoffs. There's something pretty cool about that.

Living here, one may get a skewed perspective. But how does the Bears-Packers rivalry resonate for someone like you who's dropping into it?

It resonates quite well. Growing up, I watched football incessantly and with the



FOX SPORTS

Fox Sports announcers Charles Davis, left, and Kevin Burkhardt will call Sunday's Bears-Packers game, assuming Burkhardt gets his voice back.

old NFL Films and music and John Facenda's voice with the old Black and Blue Division.

You always knew Bears-Packers was special. With NFL Films, you always knew your next cut was to George Halas and Vince Lombardi, Curly Lambeau and Sid Luckman, the history of it all.

What do you expect Sunday?

I expect a heck of a game Sunday because I think that the Bears — "righting the ship" is probably the wrong thing to say because people have said that ad nauseam. Every time they have a good game and it really kicks in with (Mitch) Trubisky, it's, "Oh, it looks like he's turned a corner, they're righting the ship," and I don't want to get there.

But this is not a fluke winning streak now. This looks more like what we expected when the season began. Really good defense and if you take care of the football, find a way to run it, can this young man ascend and make some key throws when necessary? We've seen that in the four (wins) out of five.

Gamers know you not only from your TV work on football and your hitch on Golf Channel, but also as the in-game analyst in the "Madden" video games the last few years. How much time does that take?

Every Monday and Tuesday during the season, my ("Madden" play-by-play) partner Brandon Gaudin and I, we go in the studio and we do what are called LCU's, which are commentary updates. That allows the players to get fresh commentary every week on every team.

We do that on Mondays. Then on Tuesdays, we do that and we'll also do updates for the game, fixes for the game, and frankly we've already started on the next season's game.

Then when the season's over, we'll go to the studio three to four times a week, but not every week. When we do go, it's concentrated time, typically from 10 in the morning to 3 in the afternoon with a break for lunch.

At least you're in a warm climate and indoors. You have an open-air booth at Lambeau and a game-day forecast of a high in the teens. They're going to have heaters for you and Kevin, right?

Last year, we were there for the Green Bay-Atlanta game in December and it was in the low 20s, and now it's supposed to be colder?

So, yeah, we pray for heaters, and our crew is very good about helping us out with that. But if you see me on Sunday, I'll probably be dressed like Bib the Michelin Man. I'll have many, many layers on, believe me.

LET'S PLAY 2

	Sunday @Packers Noon FOX-32	Dec. 22 Chiefs 7:20 p.m. NBC-5
	Sunday Wild 6 p.m. NBCSCH	Wednesday Avalanche 7 p.m. NBCSN
	Monday @Thunder 7 p.m. NBCSCH	Wednesday @Wizards 6 p.m. NBCSCH

SPORTS ON TV, RADIO

NBA	7 p.m. Knicks at Nuggets	NBA
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL	2 p.m. Oklahoma State at Houston	ESPN
	3 p.m. Purdue at Nebraska	BTN
	3 p.m. SIU Ed. at Northwestern	ESPNU WGN-AM 720
	4 p.m. South Carolina at Clemson	ESPN2
	5:30 p.m. Ohio State at Minnesota	BTN
WOMEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL	Noon Louisville at Kentucky	ESPN
NFL	Noon Bears at Packers	FOX-32 WBBM-AM 780, WCFS-FM 105.9
	3 p.m. Vikings at Chargers	CBS-2
	3:25 p.m. Rams at Cowboys	FOX-32
	7:20 p.m. Bills at Steelers	NBC-5
GOLF	11 a.m. Shark Shootout	Golf
	Noon Presidents Cup (taped)	NBC-5
HOCKEY	3 p.m. AHL: IceHogs at Marlies	NHL
	6 p.m. Wild at Blackhawks	NBCSCH WGN-AM 720
SOCCER	8 a.m. Wolves vs. Tottenham	NBCSN
	8:30 a.m. Wolfsburg vs. Moenchengladbach	FS1
	10:30 a.m. Arsenal vs. Man. City	NBCSN
	11 a.m. Schalke 04 vs. Eintracht	FS1
	1:30 p.m. Fiorentina vs. Inter Milan	ESPN2
	5 p.m. NCAA men's final	ESPNU

ASK THE REPORTER

BRAD BIGGS

What would an Allen Robinson extension look like, and how is his cap hit looking for next year without an extension?

@commentersports
Robinson has one year remaining on his contract, and if the Bears don't extend his deal before the end of the season, it will have to be an offseason priority for general manager Ryan Pace. Robinson's cap hit for next season is \$15 million. His three-year, \$42 million contract averaged \$14 million. I don't think that's far off from where he should be. He probably will seek a little more, but the Bears signed Robinson to a shorter-term deal because he was coming off a torn ACL. He has proved to be durable and productive. I'm not sure what Robinson, who will turn 27 before next season, will be seeking. Some players like to max out and get as much guaranteed money as possible. Others eye the length of the deal with the thought of getting another bite of the apple when they're in their prime. So perhaps he could look for another shorter deal that would guarantee him money and get him back to the bargaining table when he's 30 and the salary cap is larger.

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BEARS

D-day coming on Floyd

LB plays like All-Pro vs. Packers, but is he worth \$13.2 million in 2020?



BRAD BIGGS
On the Bears

If Leonard Floyd played against the Packers every week, he would be an All-Pro.

If Floyd played against the Packers every week, the Bears never would have needed to engineer a trade for Khalil Mack.

If Floyd could see only green and gold on the opponent's uniform every week, his ceiling would be extraordinary.

As Floyd prepares to face the Packers for the eighth time in his career Sunday at Lambeau Field, his future is coming under the spotlight for the Bears, who announced shortly after last season they would pick up the fifth-year option in Floyd's contract. They will have to decide if they want to continue with that option, which is estimated to pay Floyd \$13.2 million in 2020.

That's an expensive proposition general manager Ryan Pace will have to weigh. Outside linebackers coach Ted Monachino considers it a no-brainer.

"When that question gets asked, I will absolutely pound the table for Leonard," Monachino said. "I know that they'll ask, and all they will have to do is put the tape on and they will see the same things that I will describe to them."

That decision will be made two or three pay grades above Monachino, and it will be an interesting one for Pace's second first-round draft pick, especially considering the bomb his first one, wide receiver Kevin White, turned out to be. Pace is the one who has final say on whether Floyd will make it to the end of his rookie contract.

In other words, Pace is the one who can validate the pick and Floyd's development by paying him \$13.2 million. Based on average annual salary, that figure would rank 10th among outside linebackers right now. That isn't the average salary of Floyd's rookie contract over five years, but it gives you an idea of where that kind of money stacks up at the position.

Not bringing back Floyd would signal that the ninth pick in 2016 didn't measure up to his draft status. It also would create a sizable void in the front seven with the Bears already needing to re-sign inside linebacker Danny Trevathan or, more likely, replace him.

It's rare for a team to exercise a first-round pick's fifth-year option and then cut bait before that year arrives, but it does happen. Former Redskins quarterback Robert Griffin III and former Texans cornerback Kevin Johnson are two examples. Floyd's money for 2020 would become fully guaranteed if he's on the Bears roster when the league year begins March 18.

Floyd has been a monster against the Packers with 7½ sacks in seven games, plus 10 quarterback hits, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery and touchdown in his first experience in the rivalry as a rookie in 2016. He has two sacks in each of the last two meetings, including the 2019 opener at Soldier Field.

In 44 career games against other teams, he has 11 sacks, 33 quarterback hits, two fumble recoveries and one interception returned for a touchdown.

The disparity is vast, at least in terms of pass-rushing productivity, and Floyd has only one sack since the opener, coming in Week 9 in Philadelphia.

"I guess because they are in our division, those are guys I have been going against since my rookie year," Floyd said, searching for an explanation. "I don't know, man. It still all depends on rushing as a unit and containing Aaron Rodgers so that we can get sacks as a team. I honestly take the same approach I always take every week. I just seem to get home against them."

Floyd has been on the field for 83% of the defensive snaps, up from his career-high 75% last season. He possesses the kind of length that can give Packers left tackle David Bakhtiari issues at times, but Bakhtiari is one of the better pass blockers in the league. Floyd is far more athletic than right tackle Bryan Bulaga, but he has that advantage on nearly every right tackle he encounters.

"The biggest thing with Leonard is he is a confidence rusher," Monachino said. "The job he is doing right now with the little things we're asking him to do is unbelievable. If there was a way that they could evaluate that, the guy is playing at a really, really high level. There isn't (a stat column for that), and that's a shame."



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bears linebacker Leonard Floyd celebrates after sacking Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers on Sept. 5 at Soldier Field.

"Every week his approach is better. It's unbelievable the quantum leap he's made from a mental standpoint and a preparation standpoint. Unreal."

Defensive coordinator Chuck Pagano and Monachino added more responsibilities for Floyd in this scheme, in both the running and passing game, and he has responded. But setting the edge against the run and being a talented zone defender versus the pass aren't the kind of chores that get players elite money. They're not the first abilities you're seeking when using a top-10 pick on a player.

Monachino compared Floyd to Courtney Upshaw and Jarret Johnson, outside linebackers he worked with in Baltimore. They were solid players, not splashy, and they never got huge contracts. Upshaw was much thicker, while Floyd is more athletic than both, making him able to master more tasks versus the pass.

Assignment and alignment guys are valuable on every team. Everyone needs fit players, glue guys. But glue guys aren't paid huge money. If the Bears keep Floyd, they project to have \$39.8 million against the salary cap tied up in Mack (\$26.6 million) and Floyd alone. If the cap is roughly \$200 million, that means their two outside linebackers would account for 20%.

The Bears' strength is defense, and they certainly don't want to risk weakening that unit considering how badly the offense has underperformed this season. Moving on from Floyd and finding a cheaper alternative doesn't necessarily mean the Bears would be able to significantly improve the roster at another position with the resources saved.

To fully consider Floyd's value, you have to wrap your mind around the reality he is not an elite pass rusher and is unlikely to become one. That doesn't mean he doesn't have value; the question is whether that

value approaches \$13.2 million. It's possible the Bears could find middle ground with Floyd on a multiyear extension, but it's hard to imagine he would take a pay reduction without testing his value on the open market.

"We would sure hope that he is a Bear for life," Monachino said. "That is a special guy. I don't have anyone else that can do those things. There's not another one in that locker room."

Scouting report

Preston Smith, Packers OLB

Information for this report was obtained from NFL scouts.

Preston Smith, 6-foot-5 and 265 pounds, is in his first season with the Packers after spending his first four seasons with the Redskins. Smith signed a four-year, \$52 million contract in free agency with \$16 million guaranteed.

He leads the defense with 11½ sacks, ranking sixth in the NFL and surpassing his previous career high of eight. Smith produced 24½ sacks in 64 games for the Redskins, who drafted him in the second round in 2015 from Mississippi State.

Seven of Smith's sacks have come on third down, tied for the most in the league, and the Packers have the only defense with two players in double digits as outside linebacker Za'Darius Smith, also signed in free agency, has 10 sacks. The Smiths are the second tandem in Packers history to have 10-plus sacks in the same season, joining Reggie White (13) and Bryce Paup (11) in 1993.

"I didn't see this type of production coming," the scout said. "When they got Za'Darius Smith, he was their natural pass rusher on the edge with size, burst, twitch because I always looked at Preston Smith and said, 'OK, he's a very good football

player that is a base defensive end who can play in a 3-4 because he is so long and he's got size and he's physical at the point of attack.' I just didn't see him as a premier pass rusher because he doesn't have that elite twitch or first step off the ball like Za'Darius does."

"I'll tell you what, he is playing his ass off. They got a steal with him. You can look at Za'Darius Smith and Preston Smith as two of the best free-agent signings in the entire NFL offseason this year because of their impact in Mike Pettine's defense. What you get with Preston Smith is he's got a ton of pop in his pads. So when he gets a vertical push up the field, he can rock offensive tackles back on their heels, and he has super strong hands, like clubs. If you put this guy in a boxing ring, he would dominate people. He's got so much length that he's developed the ability to use a little speed to power and win with his hands and get home to the quarterback. He's had an awesome season, and that has surprised me. I saw a really good football player. I didn't see a player that could get up to the top of the league leaders in sacks. That's what he's done."

"After they signed him, I thought Preston Smith would be the guy that could get on the other side and maybe get some one-on-ones because they're going to have to slide protection a little bit or chip with the back on Za'Darius, but this guy has really cashed in on this opportunity and he's made Green Bay's front office look smart. I understand why Washington didn't pay top money for him because he wasn't getting 12 sacks a season with the Redskins. You have to look at what his past production was and what you evaluate his future production will be. For some reason Green Bay said, 'If we get both of these guys here, they both can get upward of 10 sacks,' and that's what they have done."

Bears activate Hicks from IR

Out 2 months, stellar DT set to return Sunday vs. Packers

BY COLLEEN KANE

The Bears activated defensive tackle Akiem Hicks from injured reserve Saturday as they traveled to Green Bay to face the Packers on Sunday afternoon.

Hicks hasn't played in a game since he suffered a left elbow injury Oct. 6 against the Raiders in London. He returned to practice two weeks ago, and coach Matt Nagy seemed optimistic Friday he would be ready for game action.

"Whether it's the trainers, whether it's

Akiem, whether it's Ryan (Pace), myself — (we're) just deciding, is this the way we want to go? Is this what we want to do?" Nagy said. "I like what I've seen all week long from him. That's a good thing. We want to get him out there."

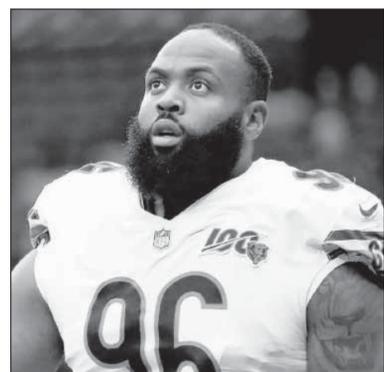
The 6-foot-4, 352-pound Hicks is an eight-year NFL veteran who made the Pro Bowl for the first time last season. He had his only sack of the year and two of his three quarterback hits in the opener against the Packers on Sept. 5 at Soldier Field.

The Bears have remained a top-10 defense even without Hicks, but having him back at full strength could help this week against Aaron Rodgers. Hicks said he loves to play against the Packers quarterback and

the challenges he presents.

"His ability to slip out of a sack, his ability to keep his eyes downfield," Hicks said. "Aaron Rodgers is one of the best quarterbacks to play in this league. You have to respect his capabilities while remembering that you're here to put him on his back."

To clear Hicks' roster spot, the Bears placed tight end Ben Braunecker (concussion) on injured reserve. They also announced that wide receiver Taylor Gabriel (concussion) and offensive lineman Bobby Massie (ankle) did not travel with the team; both had been ruled out when the Bears released their injury report Friday, as were Braunecker and inside linebacker Danny Trevathan (elbow).



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bears defensive tackle Akiem Hicks is set to return Sunday against the Packers in Green Bay.

BEARS



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Allen Robinson, the Bears' nominee for the Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award, signs autographs before the Giants game Nov. 24.

Robinson: 'Voice to the kids'

Receiver nominated for Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award

BY COLLEEN KANE

Bears wide receiver Allen Robinson is the team's nominee for the 2019 Walter Payton NFL Man of the Year Award, which recognizes a player for outstanding community service off the field as well as excellence on the field.

Robinson's Within Reach Foundation aims to provide educational opportunities and resources to low-income Chicago students.

"It's important to me because

growing up, (I benefited from) having both my parents in my life and having them support me a lot, and being fortunate enough to play Little League sports and have some good influences around me," Robinson said. "Being able to provide the same opportunity with some kids in the inner cities is big. My presence can go a long way, as far as being a voice to the kids, aside from a parent or teacher."

Robinson's foundation opened a "Reach for a Book Reading Zone" in Chicago at the Gantz Boys and Girls Club in May, and he also sponsored a shopping spree for 25 kids earlier this month.

"Those were pretty exciting, to see the work actually in place, how the kids can benefit, and to see the excitement on the kids' faces," Robinson said.

All 32 team nominees will receive a donation of up to \$50,000 in their name to their charity of choice. The winner of the award will receive a \$250,000 donation to the charity of his choice.

The award, in its 50th year — it was named after the late Hall of Fame running back in 1999 — will be handed out Feb. 1 in Miami, the night before the Super Bowl at NFL Honors, when the Associated Press reveals its individual award winners.

In his second season with the Bears, Robinson leads the team with 76 receptions for 898 yards and seven touchdowns.

Bears cornerback Charles Tillman was named the 2013 Walter Payton Man of the Year, marking the franchise's fifth player to be honored with the award. The team's other winners are Payton (1977), Dave Duerson (1987), Mike Singletary (1990) and Jim Flanigan (2000).

Current players to win the award are Drew Brees, Thomas Davis, Larry Fitzgerald, Jason Witten, Eli Manning and J.J. Watt.

Associated Press contributed.

Single-digit wind chill at Lambeau

Chicago Tribune staff

It's going to be cold Sunday for the 200th Bears-Packers game. Even colder than normal for a mid-December day in Green Bay.

The forecast for noon — when the teams renew the NFL's oldest rivalry at Lambeau Field — is 17 degrees with a wind chill factor of 8, according to the National Weather Service. The high is expected to be 19 — 9 degrees below average for Dec. 15 in Green Bay. But at least it's supposed to be sunny.

The game likely still won't register among the 15 coldest in Bears history.

The temperature for their matchup against the Vikings on Dec. 3, 1972, at Metropolitan Stadium in Minneapolis was minus 2 with a wind chill of minus 19.

Their coldest game at Soldier Field, which kicked off at 7:40 p.m. on Dec. 22, 2008, against the Packers, was 2 degrees with a wind chill of 13 below. Of the 10 coldest Bears games at the stadium, five were against the Packers.

And the 17-degree forecast is a far cry from the coldest game in Packers history. The temperature at kickoff for their 1967 NFL championship matchup against the Cowboys on Dec. 31 at Lambeau was 30 degrees colder: minus 13 with a wind chill of 49 below zero. The game became known as the Ice Bowl and is the coldest in NFL history.

Sources: Chicago Bears, Green Bay Packers, National Weather Service, Chicago Tribune reports.



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Sunday in Green Bay will be like this 2016 game at Soldier Field.

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Sept. 5 GB Lost 10-3	Sept. 15 @DEN Won 16-14	Sept. 23 @WAS Won 31-15	Sept. 29 MIN Won 16-6	Oct. 6 OAK Lost 24-21	Oct. 13 OPEN DATE	Oct. 20 NO Lost 36-25	Oct. 27 LAC Lost 17-16	Nov. 3 @PHI Lost 22-14	Nov. 10 DET Won 20-13	Nov. 17 @LAR Lost 17-7	Nov. 24 NYG Won 19-14	Nov. 28 @DET Won 24-20	Dec. 5 DAL Won 31-24	Dec. 15 @GB ▼	Dec. 22 KC 7:20 NBC-5	Dec. 29 @MIN Noon FOX-32
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Bears at Packers

NOON SUNDAY AT LAMBEAU FIELD | FOX-32 | PACKERS BY 4 (O/U 40.5)



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Matt Nagy celebrates with Bears quarterback Mitch Trubisky after the first touchdown during the third quarter against the Cowboys.

BEARS PLAYOFF PICTURE

Bears must beat Pack to stay alive — if they lose, much help is needed

BY RICH CAMPBELL

Time is running out on the Bears' stay in the hunt.

After their most complete performance of the season in the Dec. 5 win over the Cowboys, they didn't get any of the help they needed to climb back into the NFC playoff race. The Vikings, Rams and Packers all won, which has pushed the Bears to the brink of elimination in Week 15.

The Bears can't be eliminated Sunday if they beat the Packers. But if they lose, their playoff fate would be sealed by either a Vikings win (or tie) or a Rams win.

For what it's worth, Vegas oddsmakers favor the Bears to be eliminated. The Bears are 4½-point underdogs at Lambeau Field, while the Vikings are 2½-point favorites at the Chargers, and the Rams are 1-point favorites at the Cowboys.

But this playoff fantasy is supposed to be fun, right? For the Bears' part, they've narrowed their focus to beating the Packers and playing much better offensively than they did in the season-opening 10-3 loss.

"We've created that," coach Matt Nagy said. "We're in a position now where we've got to have help. But none of that matters if we don't win. It means nothing. Let's just control what we can control. Let's win."

Scoreboard watching

Seahawks at Panthers, noon Sunday: For the Bears to catch the Seahawks, the Bears would have to win out and the

Seahawks would have to lose out. That's highly unlikely. But, as a rule, Bears fans should root for eliminated teams — in this case the Panthers — to beat those still in contention.

Eagles at Redskins, noon Sunday: This game is pretty much irrelevant to the Bears. The best the Eagles can finish is 9-7, and it's difficult to envision a scenario in which the NFC's sixth and final playoff team has only nine wins. The Vikings already do. Realistically, the Eagles' only hope of making the playoffs is to win the NFC East. The Eagles hold the head-to-head tiebreaker over the Bears because of their 19-14 win Nov. 3.

Vikings at Chargers, 3:05 p.m. Sunday: The Bears desperately need the Vikings to lose. The Vikings are favored by about a field goal despite being 3-4 away from home this season and 1-7 west of home since coach Mike Zimmer took over in 2014. If the Bears lose at noon, a Vikings win or tie would eliminate the Bears.

Rams at Cowboys, 3:25 p.m. Sunday: The Rams lead the Bears by a game and have the tiebreaker because of their head-to-head victory Nov. 17. So the Bears need the Rams to lose as desperately as they need the Vikings to stumble. But as we know from the Bears' dominant victory Dec. 5, the Cowboys aren't exactly peaking at the right time. They've lost three straight, while the Rams have averaged 31 points in back-to-back wins. If the Bears lose, a Rams win would eliminate them.

NFC standings

(Top two seeds get first-round byes; division winners are top-four seeds; seeds 5 and 6 are the wild-card teams)

1. **49ers (11-2)** vs. Falcons
2. **Packers (10-3)** vs. Bears
3. **Saints (10-3)** vs. Colts
4. **Cowboys (6-7)** vs. Rams
5. **Seahawks (10-3)** at Panthers
6. **Vikings (9-4)** at Chargers

7. **Rams (8-5)** at Cowboys
8. **Bears (7-6)** at Packers
9. **Eagles (6-7)** at Redskins

NFC scenarios

BEARS

Cannot be eliminated in Week 15 if they beat the Packers.

Would be eliminated with:

1. Loss PLUS Vikings win, OR
2. Loss PLUS Rams win, OR
3. Tie PLUS Vikings win

PACKERS

Would clinch playoff berth with:

1. Win PLUS Rams loss or tie, OR
2. Tie PLUS Rams loss

THREE KEYS

Conversions in red zone a must

BY DAN WIEDERER

Fourteen weeks after the Bears and Packers opened the NFL's 100th season in prime time, the rivals will meet again Sunday at Lambeau Field. Both teams are in much different positions than they were when the season began.

The Packers, at 10-3, lead the NFC North and hope to earn a first-round bye in the playoffs. The Bears, meanwhile, are striving to keep meaning in their 2019 season for as long as possible. Matt Nagy's team also heads to Green Bay with the momentum of a three-game winning streak.

Can the Bears win their fourth in a row? Here are three keys for Sunday's game.

1 Red alert! Be efficient inside the 20 on offense.

Pregame analysis: Bears fans remember the frustration of Sept. 5. All the buildup. All the anticipation. The grand visions. And then the Bears delivered an offensive effort that produced only 254 yards and no touchdowns. Worst of all, with new life in the fourth quarter and a chance to finish a game-tying drive, Mitch Trubisky stared down Allen Robinson and threw an interception in the red zone with two minutes left.

Those miscues just can't happen Sunday. The Bears will have chances to move the ball all afternoon against a middle-of-the-road Packers defense. But they must finish drives with points against a defense that has shown a great ability to stiffen near the goal line.

Mike Pettine's defense ranks sixth in the red zone, allowing touchdowns on only 50% of opponents' trips inside the 20. Opposing quarterbacks have posted just a 68.7 rating in the red zone. Only the Patriots have been better (48.5).

2 Find ways to keep up with the Smiths.

Pregame analysis: The Packers have seen a promising return on investment on two of their biggest free-agent signings from last spring with outside linebackers Preston Smith and Za'Darius Smith combining for 21½ sacks through 13 games.

Bears offensive coordinator Mark Helfrich offered his praise of Za'Darius Smith: "He's scary. He's playing at a very, very high level. Both the Smiths are deployed in a lot of different ways than they have been in the past. That makes it that much more difficult."

3 Believe in star power.

Pregame analysis: We're all aware of Aaron Rodgers' 18-5 career record against the Bears, including the postseason. But Rodgers isn't invincible and isn't exactly on a tear in his first season running Matt LaFleur's offense. The Packers rank 16th in passing yards per game (233.1) and passing yards per play (6.81).

The Bears, meanwhile, have their own stars on defense. Remember, on their last trip to Lambeau Field, Khalil Mack had a strip-sack and an interception return for a touchdown. Safety Eddie Jackson finished his 2018 All-Pro season with an interception of Rodgers to seal a division-clinching win at Soldier Field. And defensive lineman Akiem Hicks could be back.

PREDICTIONS

Can the Bears beat the Packers to keep their playoff hopes alive?

BRAD BIGGS (7-6)

The 200th meeting in the NFL's oldest rivalry will mark the 56th start by Aaron Rodgers or Brett Favre against the Bears, meaning they've accounted for 28% of all games in the rivalry. Rodgers is 18-5 against the Bears, including one playoff win, while Favre was similarly dominant with a 22-10 record. The Packers offense hasn't been clicking the last three weeks while the Bears have been playing with confidence in winning four of their last five. Quarterback Mitch Trubisky has been better recently, and the uptick has mirrored more consistent production in a ground game that coach Matt Nagy ignored in Week 1 at Soldier Field.

RICH CAMPBELL (6-7)

The biggest reason the Packers are 10-3? Their plus-11 turnover ratio, which is tied for third in the NFL. Beyond that? In yards per play, their offense is 17th and their defense is 26th. In other words, this matchup shouldn't scare the Bears. If the Bears protect the ball and run it much more effectively than they did in Week 1, they easily could win. This will be a close game decided by a handful of plays. Maybe Akiem Hicks' return will help the Bears make them. The Bears are loose, and quarterback Mitch Trubisky is playing better. What an opportunity for Matt Nagy's team to showcase its growth.

COLLEEN KANE (8-5)

There was a more lighthearted vibe around Halas Hall this week. The locker room was downright rowdy Thursday while media members were present. Winning — and looking good while doing so — will do that. So behind a revived offense, the Bears seem likely to play better than they did in the season opener against the Packers. But I'm giving the Packers the slight edge at Lambeau Field, and that could make for a more somber final two weeks for a Bears team out of playoff contention.

DAN WIEDERER (8-5)

There's a sense of calm and confidence inside the Bears locker room right now that feels a lot like 2018. The Bears, with wins in four of their last five games, genuinely believe they're every bit as good as the Packers right now and realize they don't need to produce some sort of superhuman effort Sunday to pull off an attention-grabbing road upset.

20-17
Bears

21-20
Bears

21-20
Packers

23-20
Bears

BEARS



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

The Bears offense celebrates after a touchdown pass from Mitch Trubisky (10) to Allen Robinson (12) against the Cowboys last week. That kind of spirit was missing early in the season.

Unity, focus spike Bears' confidence

Bears, from Page 1

"For me it was just kind of like: 'Yes, baby. This feels like us again.'"

Don't get it twisted. Jackson and his Bears teammates haven't celebrated the victory over the Cowboys or their three-game winning streak as some sort of landmark breakthrough. They understand this season began with Super Bowl dreams, and as things stand, they remain playoff outsiders likely headed for an earlier-than-anticipated winter vacation.

In a matter of weeks, an inevitable reflection process will take hold as the Bears zoom out on how a midseason tailspin derailed their January plans.

But even with all of that, this team's ability to stay united, to keep itself focused, to remain solution-oriented and locked in on the present has become a major source of internal pride.

"Not once this season," Jackson said, "has it felt like guys are pulling apart."

That's part of why the win over the Cowboys felt so satisfying. Packers coach Matt LaFleur called it "a dominating performance." The Bears played at a high level and left with a surge of self-confidence to take forward into Sunday's rivalry game against the Packers.

The power of now

It's all too easy to treat the Bears' recent success with an eye roll, casting it as a too-little-too-late rally that only adds to 2019's sting. After all, every encouraging sign of growth the past several weeks has threatened to awaken the raw frustration of why this team's advances couldn't have occurred two or three games earlier.

But internally at Halas Hall, coaches and players have successfully steered around those "if only ..." traps, owning their predicament and directing their concentration toward improvement efforts for that day, that week, the next game.

The Bears realize they can't erase the Raiders' 97-yard fourth-quarter touchdown drive in London. They can't blow Eddy Pineiro's 41-yard field-goal attempt to beat the Chargers a few feet to the right. They can't undo a first half against the Eagles in which the offense gained only 9 yards.

There's so little in it for them to wallow, to allow any "what might have been" regret to smother their forward-looking drive.

Players didn't for one second enjoy that trying 55-day stretch during which they held only one "Club Dub" dance party. But they also recognize that extended losing stretches like the one they experienced can become divisive and unnerving. The temptation to check out constantly knocks. The urge to dole out blame must be quelled.

This group never went there.

"The biggest thing was we tried to look for solutions rather than pointing fingers," center Cody Whitehair said. "That can be easier said than done. But it's what we did. And that's what helped us get through it."

Coach Matt Nagy set the tone, leading with his natural positivity and honest feedback. In addressing players during the skid, Nagy made certain his messages were forthright.

"He came in and put it directly," defensive backs coach Deshaea Townsend said. "If you're going to complain and moan, there's

not a place for you here. That makes it simple for a player. That's the message you want your players to lead with."

As the Bears plummeted to a low point, the coaches were curious to see how players would react. What did they find?

"It's a group of grown men who don't blink," Townsend said.

Added Jackson: "We've got a special group of guys. High-character guys. Guys who love to compete. And guys who understand how to really stick together."

"That's easier said than done. You can talk about that all you want, like, 'Oh, yeah, we have these type of guys,' and then when adversity hits, you suddenly see people start separating and running away from it."

"But for us, it was the opposite. When stuff hit the fan, this group got closer, kept faith in one another and kept going."

Pressing matters

During this three-game winning streak, there has been an acknowledgment throughout Halas Hall that players are again playing loose and free and no longer pressing. Which, of course, is an admission of the obvious — that at one point this season, many players were pressing. Scuffling. Trying too hard.

That was easy to see with the naked eye, especially on offense, where the struggles were pronounced and unrelenting. Nagy was asked this week for his best guess on why that urge to press sneaked in.

"I'm not a psychologist," he said. "But I would say that when you lose, it's probably pretty normal for guys because everyone wants the same thing. They want to be really good at what they do. They want to win. That's the objective of why we're all here."

"And when you don't win, it creates (questions) about what the issues are and what are the problems and how do you fix them. So everyone tries to find the solution. And when you can't find it and then you lose, it just compounds."

Many players had never experienced a season with such valid hope and hype. And in turn, many had never experienced such unexpected failure.

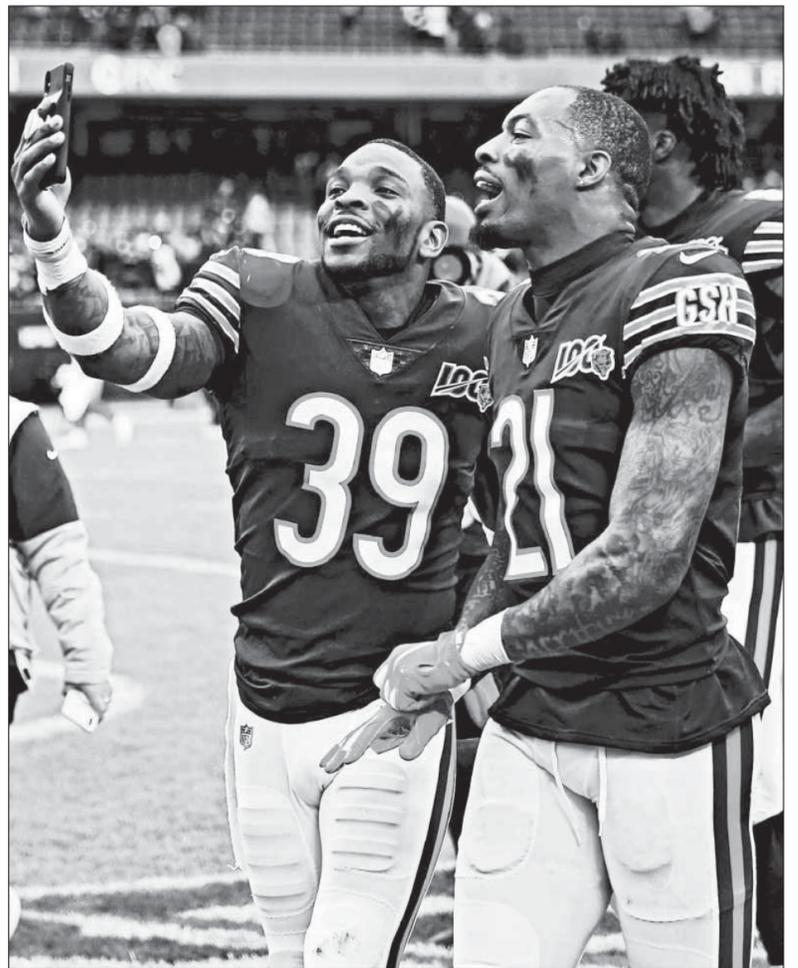
Quarterback Mitch Trubisky, for example, made only 13 college starts at North Carolina and never had been the face of an NFL franchise with legitimate Super Bowl aspirations. He also never had been the face of an NFL team's disappointments.

The struggles plus the avalanche of criticism that followed tested the 25-year-old Trubisky like never before. He took his own swing this week at assessing why the team, and the offense in particular, had grown so uptight for long stretches.

"I don't know exactly," Trubisky said. "But we have a bunch of guys who care so much, and you tend to press when you're not getting the results you want. And you have a bunch of people, including myself, who care so much and (yet) you don't know what's going wrong."

'It's simply fight'

The Bears have three more games this season, including Sunday's challenge at Lambeau Field. So it's too early to assess how this year's adversity and the push to get through it can help this team up the road.



Bears safeties Eddie Jackson (39) and Ha Ha Clinton-Dix take a selfie after the victory over the Giants on Nov. 24 at Soldier Field.

This was never supposed to be a one-season window of opportunity. Realistically, the Bears should be positioned to be playoff contenders in 2020 and 2021 and 2022 and beyond.

Through that lens, their show of resolve could have potential payoff in a future pursuit of a championship.

"There's definitely value to overcoming adversity like we have," Jackson said. "Because the next time you face it, you know what it feels like and how to get through it."

That might be an entirely unsatisfying consolation prize for a team that wanted its biggest rewards to come in the playoffs. But that doesn't mean it's not important.

"These guys have proven to me, and our staff, what they're all about," Nagy said. "Never once did they start pointing fingers. They never flinched. We've become closer through all of it."

"And regardless of what happens the rest of this year, I know this: I've learned a lot about who we are with the character (of this group). And I love that about them."

Defensive lineman Akiem Hicks, who is scheduled to return Sunday from an eight-game injury absence, appreciates the mettle this team has shown to keep this season's difficulties from becoming a spectacular unraveling.

"It's fight. It's simply fight," Hicks said. "We were getting punched in the mouth. We were down. We were kicked. And we got up and we kept fighting back."

"Then we won a fight. And then we won the next round. And we kept going. So the best way I can explain how we are in this position now is that the guys in here have a lot of fight in them."

That fight was evident in the win over the Cowboys. So was an enthusiastic spirit that accompanied the triumph.

Creating a vibe

Well before Jackson dug in on his victory lamb chops, he spent his Thursday night making sure his confidence and verve were felt. You might have noticed the All-Pro safety racing off the sideline and enthusiastically lifting Trubisky into the air after the quarterback's 23-yard fourth-quarter touchdown run had extended the Bears' lead to 17 points.

But that wasn't Jackson's only celebratory outburst. When Allen Robinson scored two touchdowns in the first half, Jackson made sure to mob him. When Anthony Miller fought his way into the end zone on a 14-yard pass play to open the second half, Jackson darted toward that revelry as well.

"Last year," Jackson said, "there was a lot of high energy and celebrations and fun. We kind of lost that in the beginning (of this season). I caught it myself. The offense would score and I'd be over on the bench just clapping and waiting for them to come back over to the sideline. Whereas last year, I used to be on the field. We all did. A guy would make a big play and we'd all be out there."

So where had that gone?

"I don't know why it was missing," Jackson said. "It just wasn't there. It's just something you can inadvertently get complacent with. I don't know if we had such high expectations for ourselves that guys just lost the thrill of it or something. Maybe that was part of it. But no. Have fun. When a guy makes a play, go celebrate it. Bring that energy back."

For now, the energy seems to be back. As enlivening as that win over the Cowboys was, an upset of the Packers would add to the vibe. With four wins in the last five games, the Bears head north feeling as if the rewards for their unity and focus are starting to come.

NFL

AFC

EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	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
Buffalo	9	4	0	.692	274	212	4-3-0	5-1-0	6-3-0	3-1-0	3-1-0
N.Y. Jets	5	9	0	.357	247	343	4-3-0	1-6-0	2-8-0	3-1-0	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
SOUTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	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
Tennessee	8	5	0	.615	318	255	4-2-0	4-3-0	6-4-0	2-1-0	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
Jacksonville	4	9	0	.308	230	337	2-5-0	2-4-0	4-6-0	0-3-0	1-4-0
NORTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
y-Baltimore	12	2	0	.857	472	257	6-1-0	6-1-0	8-2-0	4-0-0	3-1-0
Pittsburgh	8	5	0	.615	259	242	5-2-0	3-3-0	6-3-0	2-2-0	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
Cincinnati	1	12	0	.077	198	325	1-5-0	0-7-0	1-8-0	0-4-0	0-5-0
WEST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
y-Kansas City	9	4	0	.692	371	281	3-3-0	6-1-0	7-3-0	2-1-0	4-0-0
Oakland	6	7	0	.462	258	366	5-2-0	1-5-0	4-5-0	2-2-0	2-2-0
Denver	5	8	0	.385	236	261	3-3-0	2-5-0	5-5-0	0-3-0	2-2-0
L.A. Chargers	5	8	0	.385	289	251	2-4-0	3-4-0	3-7-0	2-1-0	0-4-0

NFC

EAST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
Dallas	6	7	0	.462	334	267	3-3-0	3-4-0	1-3-0	5-4-0	4-0-0
Philadelphia	6	7	0	.462	297	301	4-3-0	2-4-0	2-2-0	4-5-0	2-1-0
Washington	3	10	0	.231	188	310	1-5-0	2-5-0	1-3-0	2-7-0	0-3-0
N.Y. Giants	2	11	0	.154	247	362	1-5-0	1-6-0	0-3-0	2-8-0	1-3-0
SOUTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
y-New Orleans	10	3	0	.769	344	296	5-2-0	5-1-0	2-0-0	8-3-0	4-1-0
Tampa Bay	6	7	0	.462	378	381	2-4-0	4-3-0	2-1-0	4-6-0	2-3-0
Carolina	5	8	0	.385	300	360	2-4-0	3-4-0	3-0-0	2-8-0	1-4-0
Atlanta	4	9	0	.308	300	343	2-5-0	2-4-0	0-3-0	4-6-0	3-2-0
NORTH	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
Green Bay	10	3	0	.769	309	270	6-1-0	4-2-0	3-1-0	7-2-0	3-0-0
Minnesota	9	4	0	.692	339	249	6-0-0	3-4-0	2-1-0	7-3-0	2-2-0
Chicago	7	6	0	.538	243	232	4-3-0	3-3-0	1-2-0	6-4-0	3-1-0
Detroit	3	9	1	.269	287	335	2-4-0	1-5-1	1-2-0	2-7-1	0-5-0
WEST	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA	Home	Away	AFC	NFC	Div
San Francisco	11	2	0	.846	397	229	5-1-0	6-1-0	3-1-0	8-1-0	3-1-0
Seattle	10	3	0	.769	341	321	4-2-0	6-1-0	3-1-0	7-2-0	3-1-0
L.A. Rams	8	5	0	.615	311	262	4-3-0	4-2-0	2-2-0	6-3-0	2-2-0
Arizona	3	9	1	.269	272	374	1-5-1	2-4-0	1-2-0	2-7-1	0-4-0

x-clinched playoff spot, y-clinched division



RON SCHWANE/AP

Nick Chubb leads the NFL with 1,281 rushing yards and also is first with 253 carries and a 5.06 yards per carry average.

Hard work pays off for Browns' Chubb

BY TOM WITHERS
Associated Press

CLEVELAND — The chant began almost as a pleading cry and has grown into something of a commandment during Browns home games this season.

It goes, “Chubb! Chubb! Chubb!” It slowly builds and reaches a crescendo whenever the Browns offense faces a pivotal situation or needs a big play. Before the ball is snapped, Browns fans make it clear to first-year coach Freddie Kitchens, who’s also handling play-calling duties, by screaming what they want him to do with the ball.

Give it to Nick Chubb. “Yeah, I hear it,” the unassuming running back said, flashing an easy smile. “It gets me hyped. It gets me excited.”

It gets him yardage and no back in the NFL has gained more this season than Chubb, the hard-working, second-year back from Georgia who heads into Sunday’s game against the Cardinals with 1,281 yards — 38 more than the Titans’ Derrick Henry and 61 more than the Panthers’ Christian McCaffrey.

If he can hold off those two and finish the season on top, Chubb will be the first Browns player to lead the NFL in rushing since 1968, when Hall of Famer Leroy Kelly gained 1,239 yards in 14 games.

True to his nose-down, no-frills style, Chubb, who finished with 996 yards last season, said winning the rushing title belt wouldn’t be anything special. To Chubb, it would represent the sweat and blood he’s put into his craft during grueling, year-round weight-room workouts.

“It will mean a lot to me only because how hard I worked and it

paid off for me,” he said this week as the Browns (6-7) prepared to play the Cardinals (3-9-1). “That’s really the biggest thing for me is just when I work hard, it shows and I get the results that I want.”

Hard work. They should stitch that onto the back of Chubb’s brown jersey, along with a blue collar.

Since the day he arrived in Cleveland, the second-round pick has impressed coaches and teammates with his relentless drive and a selflessness that seems out of place in a sport where individual success is celebrated.

Chubb doesn’t just shun the spotlight. He hides from it.

During a game this season against the Dolphins, Chubb wore a microphone for NFL films, which captured a moment that describes him perfectly.

As he sat on the sideline after a touchdown run, Chubb was approached by star wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr., who said to his teammate, “I wanna score a touchdown.”

Not missing a beat, Chubb replied, “I wanna win.”

That’s Chubb in a nutshell. A very hard nutshell.

Chubb’s guarded, almost defiant attitude could be off-putting to those who don’t know him. But Browns left guard Joel Bitonio said that while Chubb may be on the brink of stardom, he remains the same humble 23-year-old who isn’t worried about any stat besides the final score.

Others can keep track of his yards and records, Chubb is counting only his reps on the squat rack. He’s aware the rushing title is within reach, but he’s not making it a priority.

“I work out with him every Wednesday morning and, just the

same quiet guy, hasn’t said a word about it,” Bitonio said. “You hear guys say all I want is the team to win, all I want is team success and I’m willing to bet Nick truly does want just team success and he would trade wins and everything for yards and touchdowns and it’s a credit to him, man.”

“You get a team of 53 Nick Chubbs, you’re going to be doing something right.”

Chubb, whose breakaway speed has surprised defensive backs, leads the league with 253 carries. However, it’s not shocking that he insists he feels “fresh” despite the workload. His 5.06 yards per carry average is also tops, and Chubb’s 98.5 yards per game are the most by a Browns player since Hall of Famer Jim Brown, considered by many to be the greatest back in pro football history.

He’s also the first Browns back to gain 1,000 yards from scrimmage in his first two seasons, one of the few feats Brown didn’t accomplish.

Chubb sees it as a team award. “We’re all in this together,” he said. “I’m just happy to be able to do it for the Cleveland Browns and to be a part of this journey that I’m on. I’m happy I have everyone here with me going through it with me. Everybody plays a part. The blocking, the guys block on the outside, the receivers, the O-line — just everyone. It is not just me.”

Chubb’s public persona hasn’t changed, but he may be feeling a little like a superhero.

Last week on Instagram, Chubb posted a message for Browns fans. “I’m whatever Cleveland needs me to be,” he wrote.

What did he mean? “That’s just a Batman quote. I like Batman,” he said. “That’s pretty much it. Don’t look too deep into it.”

PREDICTIONS

Week 15

BY SAM FARMER | Los Angeles Times

Last week vs. the spread: 11-4-1 | Season: 111-92-5

Patriots (10-3) at Bengals (1-12)

Noon Sunday | Patriots by 10 | O/U 41½
It seems every time the Patriots face a decent opponent, they struggle. The one-win Bengals aren’t as horrible as their record suggests.



Patriots 27, Bengals 21

Broncos (5-8) at Chiefs (9-4)

Noon Sunday | Chiefs by 10 | O/U 45
Vic Fangio has a tough defense, and Drew Lock is looking legit. Still, the Chiefs get the edge.



Chiefs 28, Broncos 23

Dolphins (3-10) at Giants (2-11)

Noon Sunday | Giants by 3 | O/U 46
The Dolphins are playing hard for Brian Flores. Do the Giants feel the same with Pat Shurmur?



Dolphins 27, Giants 20

Texans (8-5) at Titans (8-5)

Noon Sunday | Titans by 3 | O/U 51
Ryan Tannehill is 6-1 as the starter for the Titans, and Derrick Henry is a difference maker.



Titans 24, Texans 20

Seahawks (10-3) at Panthers (5-8)

Noon Sunday | Seahawks by 6 | O/U 49½
The Seahawks are coming off a spirit-crushing loss and they’re hungry to stay in the NFC West race with the first-place 49ers.



Seahawks 31, Panthers 20

Buccaneers (6-7) at Lions (3-9-1)

Noon Sunday | Bucs by 5½ | O/U 45½
The Lions are going to try to establish the run, but they aren’t going to be able to move it far on the ground against the Bucs defense.



Buccaneers 28, Lions 17

Bears (7-6) at Packers (10-3)

Noon Sunday | Packers by 4½ | O/U 40½
The Packers are living off a defensive name they earned early in the season, but they’re beatable. Mitch Trubisky has bounced back of late.



Packers 24, Bears 20

Eagles (6-7) at Redskins (3-10)

Noon Sunday | Eagles by 6 | O/U 39
Even though the hapless Redskins are still trying for Bill Callahan, the Eagles’ Carson Wentz should be able to lead his team to a road win.



Eagles 27, Redskins 17

Vikings (9-4) at Chargers (5-8)

3:05 p.m. Sunday | Vikings by 1 | O/U 45
Hard to know which Chargers team you’ll get from week to week. They’ve got confidence after stomping the Jags. The Vikings are too good.



Vikings 27, Chargers 23

Browns (6-7) at Cardinals (3-9-1)

3:05 p.m. Sunday | Browns by 3 | O/U 49
The Cardinals can’t stop anyone from throwing, so this could be a big day for Baker Mayfield. Kyle Murray has taken steps backward.



Browns 31, Cardinals 20

Jaguars (4-9) at Raiders (6-7)

3:05 p.m. Sunday | Raiders by 6½ | O/U 47
The Jags have lost five in a row, all blowouts. The Raiders are playing their last game in Oakland, so they’ll get their act together for a final farewell.



Raiders 27, Jaguars 21

Rams (8-5) at Cowboys (6-7)

3:25 p.m. Sunday | Rams by 1 | O/U 48½
Give Jared Goff time and he will pick you apart. The O-line is providing time, and Todd Gurley looks good. The Cowboys have lost four of five.



Rams 34, Cowboys 23

Falcons (4-9) at 49ers (11-2)

3:25 p.m. Sunday | 49ers by 11 | O/U 48½
Any questions about Jimmy Garoppolo have been answered the last month with four consecutive passer ratings of 110 or better.



49ers 30, Falcons 17

Bills (9-4) at Steelers (8-5)

7:20 p.m. Sunday | Steelers by 1 | O/U 37
Hard to bet against the Steelers in prime-time games, especially in Pittsburgh.



Steelers 23, Bills 18

Colts (6-7) at Saints (10-3)

7:15 p.m. Monday | Saints by 9 | O/U 46½
The Colts are heading in the right direction in the long term, but they’re banged up. The Saints will bounce back from a loss to the 49ers.



Saints 34, Colts 23

WEEK 16

Saturday, Dec. 21
Houston at Tampa Bay, Noon
Buffalo at New England, 3:30 p.m.
L.A. Rams at San Francisco, 7:15 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 22
N.Y. Giants at Washington, Noon
Cincinnati at Miami, Noon
New Orleans at Tennessee, Noon
Pittsburgh at N.Y. Jets, Noon
Baltimore at Cleveland, Noon
Carolina at Indianapolis, Noon
Jacksonville at Atlanta, Noon
Oakland at L.A. Chargers, 3:05 p.m.
Detroit at Denver, 3:05 p.m.
Arizona at Seattle, 3:25 p.m.
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BASEBALL

Boras: Baseball's big offseason star

Agent brings heat to (obsolete) winter meetings

After four days of nonstop walking and talking about baseball at the annual winter meetings, many executives, scouts, agents and writers found themselves on the same flights home.

Brewers general manager David Stearns earned my undying respect by sitting in a middle seat in coach on our flight to O'Hare, saving his organization money and declining even to upgrade to an aisle seat with extra leg room. Give the man a raise, Brewers.

Besides Stearns' middle seat, here are five other takeaways from the annual hot stove week.

1. Love him or hate him, Scott Boras delivers the goods.

The prominent agent set up a backdrop with his corporation's logo in the lobby of the San Diego Hyatt as if he owned the place.

Maybe he did. No one affected the market more than Boras, who got megadeals for Gerrit Cole, Stephen Strasburg and Anthony Rendon and is on track to get more than \$1 billion for his clients this winter alone.

I asked one agent if he and his peers hate Boras for grabbing the spotlight or love him for helping increase their own clients' value.

"I don't hate him," the agent said. "Mostly I'm in awe he's able to get what he gets. Who were the Nationals bidding against on Strasburg?"

2. Cubs players didn't have a say on their new manager.

After the 2010 season, several prominent Cubs lobbied for interim manager Mike Quade to be rehired, lauding his performance after taking over for Lou Piniella in August.

It worked, and Quade was back in 2011, his only full season on the job. Some of the same players complained about Quade that year, and incoming Cubs President Theo Epstein let him go after the season.

The theory exists that many current Cubs lobbied Epstein to hire their friend and former teammate David Ross as Joe Maddon's replacement, but Epstein said it's not the case. He said he "chatted briefly" with Jon Lester after the season but not about Lester's old friend Ross.

"I tried to draw a line," Epstein said. "It's not the players' decision. I respect what those guys think, but I don't want any of them thinking they can have a say in choosing who the manager is. That's probably not the best dynamic in the world. That's not the case here."

3. White Sox Chairman Jerry Reinsdorf is sick and tired of losing.

Reinsdorf agreed to speak Wednesday about Hawk Harrelson winning the Hall of Fame's Frick Award but didn't want to talk about his team's chances of compet-



PAUL SULLIVAN
On baseball

ing in 2020.

"I'm tired of being optimistic and then seeing my optimism was misplaced," he said, abruptly ending the interview.

Reinsdorf could've been talking about the Bulls as much as the Sox. Either way, the cumulative effect of owning two losing franchises is getting on his nerves.

Afterward, Reinsdorf chided a reporter for not following the "rules" of the interview session and asking him about the Sox. Oops.

Sorry, but Sox fans deserve to hear what Reinsdorf is thinking about the team's future. Apparently he's apprehensive about his remarks being misinterpreted, a stark change from the days when he spoke his mind on any subject.

I miss the old Reinsdorf. Can we get him back?

4. Better communication will be a key component of David Ross's managerial philosophy.

Ross played four seasons under Braves manager Bobby Cox, who banned music in the clubhouse.

While he didn't say he's anti-smartphone, Ross said he wants more communication between players and less time wearing headphones or looking at their phones.

Whatever they do, Ross wants them to do it together, even if it's complaining about the manager.

"You complain together," he said. "That creates relationships. You start talking about whether it's off-the-field stuff or winning stuff or being a part of certain moments in the season. Communication is how we develop those relationships."

"If you put your head down or your headphones on and you're staring at your phone in the locker room because your routine is done that day, you're not affecting the group."

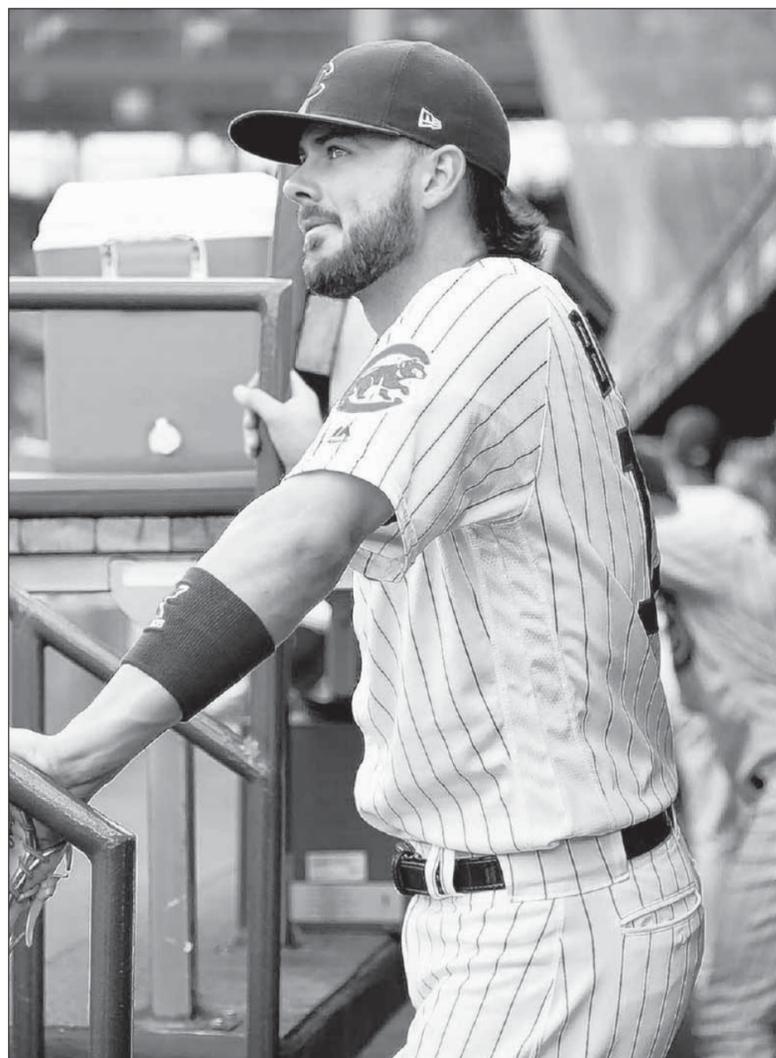
5. The winter meetings are obsolete.

Other than the after-hours socializing, the winter meetings really are unnecessary in this day and age.

It's a nice tradition to be sure, but baseball executives could do everything they do at the winter meetings from their homes or offices, on their phones and laptops, saving everyone a lot of time and money. It seems to work just fine at the July trade deadline when they're all separated and communicate via phone.

But if they insist on having an offseason meeting, they should combine the general managers meetings and winter meetings and hold it before Thanksgiving. More players would likely know before the new year where they'll be playing, and executives could have January to mostly chill before the long grind ahead.

Boras could fly from city to city if he needs some face time to get a \$300 million deal done.



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Cubs are waiting to see how the offseason free-agent landscape plays out before making any kind of deal for All-Star third baseman Kris Bryant.

CUBS

Any takers?

Who might be interested in Bryant — and what might he fetch in return?

BY MARK GONZALES

Kris Bryant's throw to first base for the last out of the 2016 World Series seemed to take an eternity for Cubs fans. That's how the Cubs — and potential trade partners — now feel as they wait for free-agent third baseman Josh Donaldson to sign and bring clarity to the Bryant situation.

Three seasons have passed since Bryant and the Cubs reached that zenith, and the team's steady regression has forced the Cubs to consider dealing their star third baseman and greatest asset to address other needs.

Donaldson could sign a lucrative contract before Christmas, which would help determine which teams remain in the market for a top-flight veteran third baseman. Here's a look at who might be interested in Bryant — and what they have to offer — if the Cubs decide to make a potentially franchise-altering trade.

Who needs an impact third baseman?

The Nationals couldn't retain postseason hero Anthony Rendon, who signed a seven-year, \$245 million contract with the Angels. A Nationals source cooled reports of their interest in Bryant, but that was before Rendon signed.

The Braves are waiting to see if Josh Donaldson, an Alabama native, will re-sign with them.

"I texted (Donaldson) a couple times, and I would have anyway," Braves manager Brian Snitker said. "You go through the season with a guy like that and what he did, and he grows on you. He's a good man. He's a bright player. I'm pulling for him no matter where he's at."

The Rangers and Dodgers could use upgrades at third, although they have internal options. And the Rangers might be inclined to pursue cheaper options in the midst of a rebuild with Bryant assured of only two more seasons of team control — or one if he wins his grievance over service time.

The Braves also have internal options in Austin Riley and Johan Camargo.

Who has young pitching to offer the Cubs?

The Braves, who signed former Cubs left-hander Cole Hamels to a one-year, \$18 million contract, have a plethora of young, controllable starting pitching that would fulfill any deal involving Bryant.

Left-hander Max Fried, 25, was 17-6 with 173 strikeouts in 165 innings in 2019. Fried won't be arbitration-eligible until 2022 and would give the Cubs security if veteran left-handers Jon Lester and Jose Quintana depart after 2020.

Right-hander Kyle Wright, 24, has struck out 267 in 267 1/3 minor-league innings but has walked 19 in 23 major-league innings.

Right-hander Bryce Wilson, 21, reached the majors at age 20 in 2018 and has a 96 mph fastball and sharp slider. But Wilson, a fourth-round pick in the 2016 draft, has walked 22 in 27 major-league innings and allowed five home runs in 20 innings with the Braves in 2019.

Left-hander Kyle Muller's fastball has been clocked at 98 mph, and the 22-year-old has struck out 336 in 326 2/3 innings over four minor-league seasons.

The Dodgers, who reportedly are trying to acquire All-Star shortstop Francisco

Lindor from the Indians, have three pitching prospects below Walker Buehler status.

Right-hander Dustin May, 22, struck out 32 in 34 2/3 innings with the Dodgers in a swing role after striking out 110 in 106 2/3 innings at Double-A Tulsa and Triple-A Oklahoma City. The wiry May would fill the fifth spot in the Cubs rotation in 2020 with a strong chance to move up quickly.

Right-handers Josiah Gray and Mitchell White would help fill the current gulf between the Cubs' major-league level and Class A, where top pitching prospect Brailyn Marquez currently resides with a chance to advance quickly, scouts say.

Gray, 21, struck out 147 in 130 innings with an 0.99 WHIP at Class A and Double A in 2019.

The Cubs scouted White, 24, at Santa Clara University after he underwent Tommy John surgery, but the Dodgers selected him in the second round of the 2016 draft.

After some struggles, White regained his mid- to high-90s velocity and struck out 105 in 93 2/3 innings at Tulsa and Oklahoma City in 2019.

Who can help the Cubs replace Kris Bryant at third?

The Braves' Austin Riley, 22, could be a long-term replacement. Riley also can play first base and the corner outfield spots.

Riley hit 18 home runs and drove in 49 runs in 2019, but he struck out 108 times in 274 at-bats with a .226 batting average and .279 on-base percentage.

"We love Austin Riley," manager Brian Snitker said. "I love Austin Riley. His upside is huge. We saw what he can do."

"But he's a young player, and we know in this league you don't surprise anybody for very long in the game anymore, and he's going to have to make adjustments, as they all do. Everybody has to at some point in time. He's very capable of that."

"We're very confident in his abilities, his aptitude, everything. The work ethic, everything he's got going on, and we look at him to be a special player for us at some point in time."

Wild-card considerations: If the Cubs seek two pitchers and a position prospect from the Dodgers, they could inquire about middle infielder Gavin Lux. But Lux, who hit two home runs off Cubs prospect Adbert Alzolay in a Triple-A game July 27, has six seasons of team control, which makes it highly unlikely the Dodgers would trade him.

If the Cubs seek solely pitching in any Bryant deal, they could pursue free agent Todd Frazier as a temporary solution at third. A former National League general manager envisioned Frazier being a perfect fit at Wrigley Field, and the 33-year-old likely would be amenable to a short-term deal.

If the Cubs settle on exclusively younger pitching prospects in a Bryant deal that frees up considerable money, they could look to a lower-tier free-agent market that includes left-hander Wade Miley, who was 19-8 with a 3.52 ERA with the Brewers and Astros over the last two seasons and has a 2.51 ERA against the NL Central during that span.

If the Cubs seek a bigger package for someone other than Bryant, Padres general manager A.J. Preller is a big fan of Cubs pitcher Yu Darvish from their days with the Rangers. But Darvish's current value to the Cubs, his controlled cost for the next four seasons and the Cubs' projected demands would make a deal highly unlikely.

WHITE SOX

Future star Robert 'can make leaps and bounds'

BY LAMOND POPE

SAN DIEGO — Most conversations at the winter meetings centered on possible additions from outside the White Sox organization.

The Sox are poised to gain a big bat from within next season in Luis Robert.

The center fielder is one of two Sox prospects, along with second baseman Nick Madrigal, expected to make an impact in 2020.

It's unclear when Robert will join the major-league club. But there's plenty of buzz surrounding one of the game's top prospects.

"Beyond the video, I would like to see him this spring, because I think this is going to be a big spring for Luis," Sox manager Rick Renteria said last week. "His skill set is obviously high-level. He can do a lot of things. I know that one of the biggest things that we were concerned about was keeping him on the field, getting the at-bats, playing in the field, doing baseball things."

"He is improving. He's a young man that can make leaps and bounds. He ... wants to prove to everybody what he's capable of doing in the major leagues, but we're looking at him in the spring and seeing where he is at."

Robert started with Class A Winston-Salem, Double-A Birmingham and Triple-A Charlotte in 2019. In 122 games at the three levels, he hit .328 with 32 home runs and 92 RBIs. He also stole 36 bases, becoming the first Sox minor-leaguer since at least 1988 to join the 30-30 club.

Robert is the top-ranked prospect in the organization, according to MLB.com, and No. 3 overall.

Robert eventually will be part of an



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Luis Robert hit 32 home runs in 122 games at various minor-league levels last year.

outfield that includes Eloy Jimenez, who hit 31 home runs as a rookie last season. The Sox had been in search of a right fielder this offseason, then landed Nomar Mazara on Tuesday in a trade with the Rangers.

General manager Rick Hahn understands the excitement surrounding Robert but wants to avoid thinking of him in terms of "the" new addition.

"We'll look at him ultimately as a player playing a significant role on a championship-caliber team at some point," Hahn said. "How quickly he gets to that point, we've got to give him the room to grow at his own pace. At age 22, that was his first full year playing in the States unrestricted. He made a tremendous impression on all of us — scouts and analysts throughout."

"But I don't want to put on him, and frankly, I don't even want to put on like a big free-agent signing like (Yasmani) Grandal, that expectation that this guy's coming in to be the savior. It's all parts of a championship club, all contributing in various ways that complement each other and get us where we want."

Extending beyond Robert, Renteria is embracing the heightened expectations for the team.

"Someone was asking me, 'How do you feel if you set them too high and all of a sudden things fall apart?' " Renteria said. "People, have expectations. Have them on me. Have them on our team. Have them on everyone. The whole point of professional sports is to win."

COLLEGE

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

DEPAUL 86, UIC 65

Demons put only loss in past, rout UIC

Moore's 26 guide victory — but Leitao has grander plans

BY SHANNON RYAN

Illinois-Chicago coach Steve McClain watched video of DePaul's first loss of the season and deduced a few things.

Besides the Blue Demons' athleticism and strong defense, McClain said he knew coach Dave Leitao would "get their attention." DePaul was going to be ready to get back on track.

He was right.

The Blue Demons rolled to an 86-65 victory Saturday against their crosstown rival at Wintrust Arena, marking the first time since 1999-2000 DePaul has won 10 games before January. It also helped erase the sting of their lone loss Sunday to Buffalo after upsetting Texas Tech on Dec. 5.

"The energy wasn't there," guard Charlie Moore said of the Demons' effort against Buffalo. "Coach let us know about it. We wanted to come out and show improvement."

Moore, a Morgan Park graduate and Kansas transfer, certainly did.

He led the way with 26 points on 8-of-15 shooting after struggling the last two games with a combined 5-of-29 effort. Moore added five assists and two steals with only two turnovers in 37½ minutes.

"We talked about fatigue," Leitao said. "Because of our situation, (Moore is) forced to play a lot of minutes. I challenged him. 'Don't let that define you. If you're trying to be great, there's no excuse.' If I offered to any player, 'Do you want to play 40 minutes?' What are they going to tell me? No? So now that you have this opportunity, seize the moment."

Leitao has grander plans for DePaul, so his response to the victory was tempered.

"I'm probably more pleased than happy," he said. "Happy is the end of the night at a Christmas party, whether it's libations or good company. I'm not ecstatic because we still have a lot of room to grow."

"We played good today, but good is not good enough. Great is where I want to be. We have a unique opportunity to do something. I don't want that to slip away from us."

Even after entering the game with renewed energy, DePaul missed eight of its first nine shots. The Blue Demons then clamped down on defense, causing three straight turnovers to fuel an 8-0 run. They never trailed again.

DePaul scored 23 points off 25 UIC turnovers. Forward Paul Reed had 16 points, 12 rebounds and three blocks.

"There's no question in my mind, in the years I've (coached against) DePaul, this is the most talented group and toughest group he's had," McClain said.

Forward Braelen Bridges' 14 points led the Flames (4-7), while Marcus Ottey scored 12 in his season debut after missing the first 10 games because of injury.

McClain said injuries have affected his team's start but he was encouraged by their effort Saturday. The Flames outrebounded DePaul 41-31 and held Jaylen Butz to 3-of-9 shooting.

"I put the schedule together thinking I'd have five seniors," McClain said. "Today the third one (Ottey) finally plays his first game. Hopefully I get the fourth one (Jordan Blount) back in two weeks."

"I'm disappointed in our record, but if you took most teams in the country and said, 'You don't get to play our first 10 games and you have to take three of your starters out,' they'd probably struggle."

ILLINOIS 69, OLD DOMINION 55

Griffin, Dosunmu spark Illini win, but Williams hurt

Associated Press

CHAMPAIGN — Alan Griffin scored 15 points and Ayo Dosunmu added 14, leading Illinois to a 69-55 victory against Old Dominion on Saturday at the State Farm Center.



Griffin

Freshman center Kofi Cockburn had 11 points and nine rebounds for the Illini (8-3), narrowly missing his seventh double-double. A.J. Oliver II led Old Dominion (3-8) with a game-high 17 points. Xavier Green added 13 points for the Monarchs.

Illinois guard Da'Monte Williams left the game midway through the first half with what appeared to be a shoulder injury. Williams, in obvious pain, was taken to the locker room and returned to the game a few minutes later after receiving medical attention.

The Illini, who defeated No. 3 Michigan on Wednesday, led 40-25 at the half, holding the Monarchs scoreless the final 3 minutes, 21 seconds before the break. Illinois opened the game with a 7-0 run and led 13-4 early. Cockburn was everywhere, blocking shots on one end and dunking the ball on the other.

Burrow easy pick, but who's next?

Young, Dobbins next best on evenly matched ballot



TEDDY GREENSTEIN
On the Heisman

This was the easiest Heisman Trophy ballot I ever filled out. And among the toughest.

Wait, what?

Easy because putting LSU quarterback Joe Burrow at the top was like deciding to clear out your

schedule to watch Bears-Packers. Duh.

Hard because there were five strong candidates for the final two spots. (Side note: It's crazy that baseball's American League and National League MVP ballots have you list 10 players, while the Heisman is confined to three.)

My final five (listed in alphabetical order):

J.K. Dobbins, Ohio State: His absurd speed-power combo helped him enjoy beastly games against Wisconsin (163

rushing yards, 8.2 per carry) and Michigan (211 rushing yards, four touchdowns). He totaled 100 carries in down-the-stretch victories over Penn State, Michigan and Wisconsin, doling out almost as many hits as he took.

Justin Fields, Ohio State: The stats are obscene — 40 touchdown passes, one interception and 10 rushing touchdowns. Fields is the engine that drives the nation's top-scoring offense. He's tough too. After taking a shot to the knee at Michigan, he fired an immaculate touchdown pass on his first play back on the field.

Jalen Hurts, Oklahoma: For a time it looked as if Oklahoma would be christened the new Quarterback U with a third straight Heisman winner. Hurts fell off with modest performances against TCU and Oklahoma State and threw 10 picks in his final seven games. He still ended up third behind Burrow and Tua Tagovailoa in passing efficiency rating.

Jonathan Taylor, Wisconsin: What a player — and what a Renaissance man.

Taylor rushed for 1,977 yards as a freshman, 2,194 as a sophomore and has 1,909 heading into the Rose Bowl against Oregon. He displayed amazing speed and agility on his 44-yard touchdown run in the Big Ten title game. A big knock, though, is his penchant for fumbling.

Chase Young, Ohio State: Young has a jaw-dropping combination of size, speed and the ability to make razor-sharp turns to slam into quarterbacks. His 16½ sacks are 2½ more than any player in the FBS — and Young racked them up despite a two-game NCAA-imposed suspension. He was quieted, though, in his final two games as Michigan and Wisconsin found ways to neutralize him.

The verdict: 1) Burrow; 2) Young; 3) Dobbins.

The final slot came down to Dobbins and Fields. I went back and forth. Both are brilliant talents. The tiebreaker: Dobbins is a junior who's likely headed to the pros. Fields is a sophomore who can win the award next year.

Didn't know how else to decide.



JASON SZENES/AP

LSU quarterback Joe Burrow talks to the media during a press conference before he won the Heisman Trophy on Saturday night.

It's Burrow by a landslide

LSU quarterback captures Heisman Trophy with more than 90% of 1st-place votes

BY RALPH RUSSO

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Born into a family of Cornhuskers and raised in the Buckeye state, Joe Burrow left his roots behind and became a Heisman Trophy winner at LSU.

The quarterback won the Heisman on Saturday night in a record landslide vote, becoming the first LSU player to bring college football's most prestigious award back to Baton Rouge, La., in 60 years.

Burrow received 2,608 points and 841 first-place votes, a record 90.7% of all the first-place votes available. Burrow also set a record for percentage of points available received with 93.8, breaking the mark Troy Smith of Ohio State set in 2006. Burrow was named on 95.5% of all ballots, breaking the record of 95.2% Oregon's Marcus Mariota set in 2014.

Burrow's margin of victory of 1,846 broke the record of 1,750, which USC's O.J. Simpson set in 1968.

Oklahoma quarterback Jalen Hurts was second with 762 points. Ohio State quarterback Justin Fields was third and defensive end Chase Young of Ohio State was fourth.

Burrow transferred last year from Ohio State, where he was a sparingly used reserve. After finishing strong for the Tigers in 2018, he broke out this season, setting a Southeastern Conference record with 48 touchdown passes and leading top-ranked LSU to its first College Football Playoff appearance.

"All my teammates have supported me, welcomed me with open arms. Kid from Ohio, come down the Bayou and welcomed me as brothers," Burrow said in his acceptance speech in Times Square.

Burrow, a senior, blended perfectly with first-year LSU passing game coordinator Joe Brady and produced the most prolific offense in school history. Playing in an offense similar to the one Drew Brees runs for the Saints, Burrow has shown accuracy and quick decision-making similar to his childhood idol. With at least one game left, Burrow has passed for 4,715 yards and completed 77.9% of his passes, on pace to set an NCAA record.

Halfback Billy Cannon also won the Heisman for LSU in 1959. The 60-year gap between Heisman victories is the largest for any school with multiple winners.

Burrow is the 17th quarterback to win the Heisman since 2000 and the third straight quarterback to win the award after transferring, joining Oklahoma's Baker Mayfield (2017) and Kyler Murray (2018).

Burrow's dad, Jimmy, was a longtime college football coach who played at Nebraska. He spent the last 14 years of his career as defensive coordinator at the Ohio University before retiring to spend weekends in Louisiana watching his son play.

Joe Burrow grew up in The Plains, Ohio. His older brothers both played at Nebraska.

His father's old boss, Ohio coach Frank Solich, hoped the youngest Burrow boy would play for the Bobcats, but Joe took off in high school. Burrow was Mr. Football in Ohio in 2014 and signed with Ohio State the next year.

He didn't play much, and in spring 2018, having already graduated, Burrow decided to transfer. A visit to LSU, with its 100,000-seat stadium, history of winning and SEC competition, won over Burrow.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

Rutter, North Central roll to 1st D-III title game

Associated Press

Broc Rutter threw for five touchdowns — four to Andrew Kamienski — and North Central routed host Muhlenberg 45-14 on Saturday in a Division III semifinal in Allentown, Pa.

North Central (13-1) advanced to its first championship game in school history and will play Wisconsin-Whitewater for the title in the Stagg Bowl at 7 p.m. Friday in Shenandoah, Texas. Whitewater defeated St. John's (Minnesota) 35-32 on Saturday.

Ethan Greenfield ran for 199 yards on 21 carries for North Central, which reeled off touchdowns on five consecutive drives and went to halftime leading 38-7. Rutter threw a 2-yard touchdown pass to Kamienski, a 51-yarder to Blake Williams, then scoring passes of 8, 5 and 19 yards to Kamienski.

Rutter was 16-of-25 passing, and Kamienski had 11 receptions for 112 yards.

Navy 31, Army 7: Navy used a trick play to help reverse a rare losing streak against Army, and Malcolm Perry ran for a career-high 304 yards and two touchdowns in the No. 23 Midshipmen's victory Saturday in Philadelphia.

Navy (10-2) won the Commander-In-Chief's Trophy for the 16th time and snapped a three-game skid to Army in the



ELSA/GETTY

Malcolm Perry, right, carries the ball as Edrice Patterson of Army defends in Navy's victory Saturday.

120th game between the service academies. Navy leads the series 61-52-7. The Black Knights (5-8) were trying to win four straight in the series for the first time since 1993-96.

Perry, a 5-foot-9, 190-pound senior quarterback, ran for a 55-yard touchdown in the first half, added a 44-yard run and set Navy season records for rushing yards

and 100-yard games.

But his most GIF-worthy play didn't end up with his name on the scoring sheet. Perry took the snap at the Army 1-yard line, ran to his left and handed off to receiver Chance Warren, who threw to Jamale Carothers for a touchdown and a 14-7 lead. It was Navy's twist on the Philly Special at the home of the NFL's Eagles.

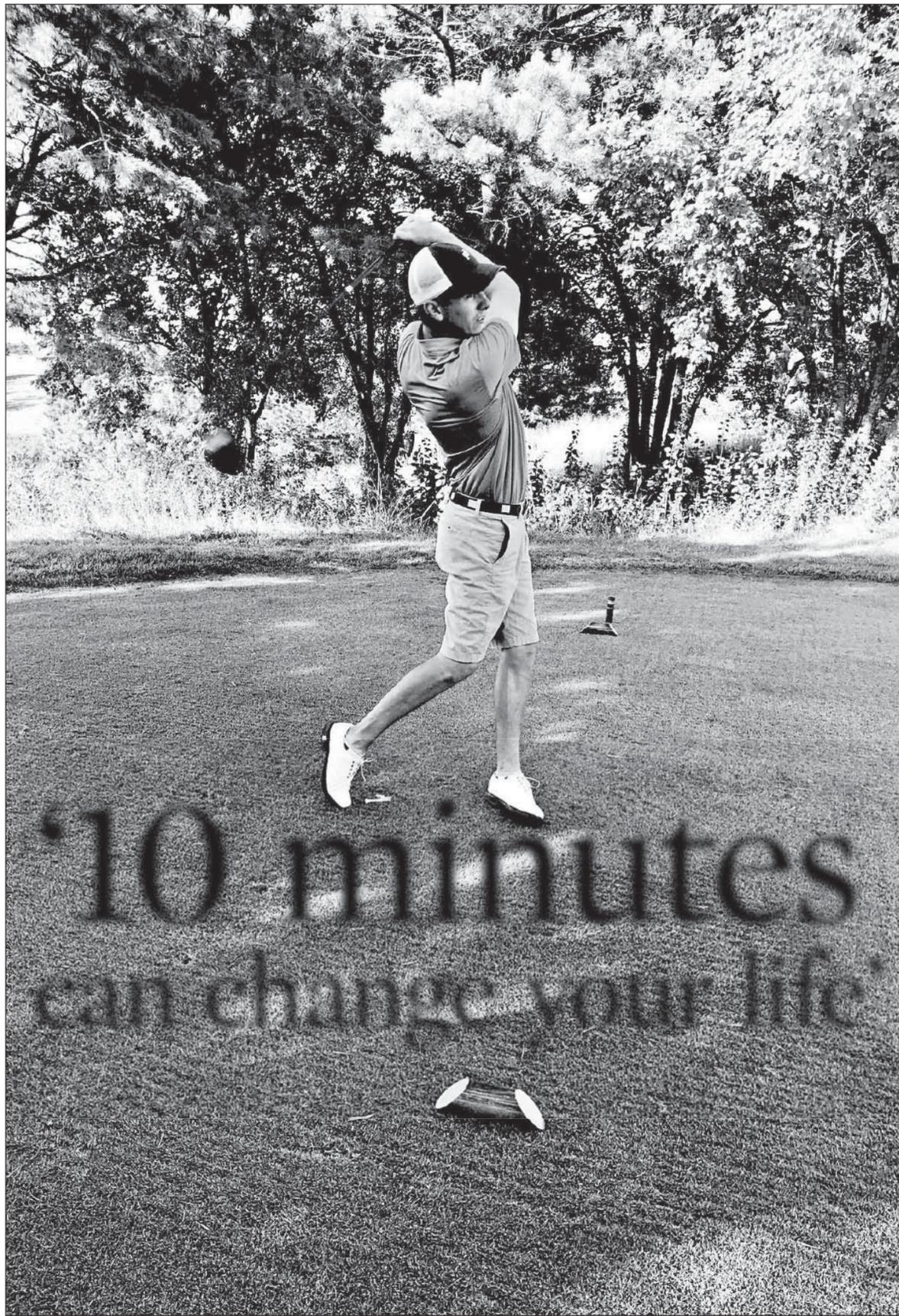
It was Navy's only passing yard of the game. Perry was named MVP. Perry did not attempt a pass, and Army surprise starter Christian Anderson threw just one.

North Dakota State 9, Illinois State 3: Griffin Crosa kicked three second-quarter field goals, and the defending national champion Bison beat the Redbirds in an FCS quarterfinal in Fargo, N.D.

The top-seeded Bison (14-0) will play host to No. 5 seed Montana State on Saturday after posting their 35th consecutive victory, extending their FCS record. They have won seven of the last eight FCS championships.

The Bison held the unseeded Redbirds (10-5) to three points for the second time this season, having beaten Illinois State 37-3 on Oct. 5 in Normal, Ill. Illinois State's only points Saturday came from Sam Fenlason's 27-yard field goal after a 70-yard drive. The Redbirds reached Bison territory only one other time.

GOLF



CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Vince India tees off during a round of golf at the Glen Club in Glenview on Oct. 9, 2019. India was close to earning playing privileges on the PGA Tour for 2020 during a Korn Ferry Tour tournament in August in Oregon before making a double bogey on the final hole.

Chicagoan Vince India was so close to making the PGA Tour after 8 years of grinding. Then he learned a hard truth.

BY TEDDY GREENSTEIN

Vince India treated the evening of Aug. 10 as if it were like the hundreds of others spent in his quest to compete among golf's elite.

He washed down his dinner with three Dalwhinnie 15-year single malts. He watched "The Blues Brothers" for the millionth time, belly-laughing when Sister Mary hits Joliet Jake and Elwood with a ruler to punish their bad language ... and then they can't stop cursing with every smack.

He slept soundly and arrived at Pumpkin Ridge in Oregon for the final round of the Portland Open, two shots off the lead. Notch a victory in the regular-season-ending event on the Korn Ferry Tour — the PGA Tour's developmental circuit — and his life would change. He would have job security and a chance to share the first tee in 2020 with the likes of Tiger Woods and Brooks Koepka.

A win would mean he and girlfriend Meagan Pagano could buy instead of renting in Chicago's Old Irving Park neighborhood. On the road he would go from Fairfield Inns to Four Seasons.

Most important, the 5-foot-10, 150-pound late bloomer who joked about "hitting puberty at 27" would find validation for his endless hours on the range and in the gym, trying to rid the "stutter" in his swing and build up his "toothpick" legs.

On his way to the course, India selected a song with a great beat that he hoped would stay in his head all day to keep him relaxed. He picked a 1992 classic from Ice Cube.

"It Was a Good Day," India says.

'Very humbling. And really stressful.'

It's Oct. 9, two months after India's final-round performance at Pumpkin Ridge prompted this lead from Golf Digest's Brian Wacker: "Look away. Stop reading. NSFW. Golf is an unforgiving game, and its history is littered with carnage of epic collapses. Sunday ... was no exception."

India survived the carnage. So did his blunt, self-deprecating personality.

As he downs cod tacos on the patio at the



BRIAN OMAHONEY/PIONEER PRESS

Vince India during the 2018 Rust-Oleum Championship at the Ivanhoe Club in Mundelein.

Glen Club in Glenview, India ponders existence in a profession with no safety net. His official earnings last season were \$67,184, and he estimates he spent \$60,000 on airfare, rental cars, food, lodging (he saves money by often staying with host families) and caddies.

"However you play, you earn your keep," he says. "It's wonderful, very redeeming. And very humbling. And really stressful."

After returning to Chicago from Oregon, he couldn't sleep. He had nightmares about what transpired around the 18th green, a scene wretched enough that Golf Channel's Chantel McCabe tweeted: "I can not explain what it's like to see this play out in person. I was nearly in tears interviewing him. I hate golf!"

India still loves golf, especially "leisure golf," as he calls it.

Upon returning, India played with friends at Glen Flora Country Club in Libertyville: a \$40 two-man best ball with \$20 skins and a postgame scramble. The drink of choice? A transfusion — vodka, grape juice and ginger ale.

"It's a wild time," he says. "We play fast, make a lot of birdies."

India plays to a plus-6 index, meaning he would have to give a 12-handicap a shot a hole, depending on the course. He wasn't always this good. Not even close.

Despite being the youngest ever to qualify for the Illinois Open at 16 years, 2 months and breaking every individual record at Deerfield High School, India was lightly recruited.

"Illinois had their guys, Michigan State had their guys," he says. "I'm like: 'Jeez, it looks like I've got nothing going for me. Please somebody take me!' That team was Iowa, which was last in the Big Ten by a lot. It was a glorified high school team."

India turned pro after being named Big Ten Player of the Year in 2011, traveling the world in his quest to build his career.

In 2014 he joined the Web.com (now Korn Ferry) Tour, golf's equivalent of Triple-A ball. And he grinded, finishing between 131st and 209th on the money list.

He ranked 125th heading into the final event of the 2019 regular season but felt great about his game after discovering a way to rewire his brain. The method: a towel drill, similar to what former Cubs pitching coach Larry Rothschild used to have Mark Prior do.

India would curl up a towel and strike it against his golf bag 100 times to replicate proper tempo with his downswing.

He opened in Oregon with rounds of 64 and 65. He "rode the towel feelings," he says, and caddie Markel "Flea" Ferris told him: "You're the best putter on the planet right now. You don't need to fire at all the pins."

Pressure built during Saturday's third round. Golf Channel covered it live. India held his own, shooting a 68.

He would start Sunday in the next-to-last group with Bo Hoag, a 31-year-old Ohio State alumnus. Hoag would later describe the round as "a life-changer."

That description would apply to both.

'Would you like a drink?'

India remembers every shot. Of course he does. It's his livelihood.

He rolled in a 30-footer on No. 5 for birdie. He bogeyed No. 8 after making a "bull(bleep), decommitted swing." He reached the par-5 11th in two and made an uphill 4-footer for birdie. He bogeyed No. 16 after his gap wedge approach mysteriously spun back, even though "it's Sunday afternoon on Poa annua and it's 80 degrees outside."

He drained a 12-footer for birdie on No. 17, improving to 3 under for the round. He stepped to the 18th tee in a four-way tie for second at 19 under. Playing partner Hoag was at 21 under. India thought to himself: *I have one hole between me and the PGA Tour.*

India figured he needed to eagle the 18th to force a playoff. The 545-yard par-5 has a narrowing fairway, a bunker short-right of the green and a steep bowl short-left that forms a chipping area.

The course website describes it like this: "The left side of the green basically goes off the Earth."

India needed to win the tournament to secure his 2019-20 PGA Tour card. A par would get him through to the three-event Korn Ferry Tour Finals, in which the top 75 on a points list get another opportunity to earn a card.

India "roasted" his tee shot, he says, leaving 223 yards to the front pin position.

That's 4-iron yardage, but given his adrenaline and the skinniness of the green, he opted for a 5-iron. He hit it decently, but the ball strayed into the bunker.

"I figured it's not that bad if it's near the lip," he says. "But it wasn't. It was 15 yards back. Now I've got a long bunker shot."

India could have played it out to the right and likely two-putted for par. That was the safe choice.

"I looked at the pin and thought: If I hole this bunker shot, I could be on the PGA Tour," he says. "So I took a more aggressive line. I thought I hit a wonderful bunker shot. It came out nice with some spin."

So did Luke Donald, one of the best bunker players of this century. He tweeted: "The bunker shot sounded nipped on TV."

India thought to himself: *Oh, my goodness, that's gorgeous.*

But the ball wouldn't stop. India knelt in the bunker. He refused to watch his ball trickle across the green, into the chipping area and near a drainage cover. He got a free drop, but his ball settled into a small divot. Now he was screwed.

"You could hit seven different clubs in that situation, and I don't think any of them is the right play," he says. "I couldn't putt it because the drain was in front of me. I wasn't confident in hitting a bump-and-run into the slope. I tried to hit something with a little spin. I didn't catch it solid."

The ball rolled back to his feet. Cringeworthy.

"Watching it unfold," Golf Channel's McCabe said this week, "I was having a mental breakdown of my own. These guys out here (on the Korn Ferry Tour) are like my big and little brothers. They're gambling with their own money, which is really compelling — and terrifying."

India still had to get out of jail. He "gunned" a chip that came to rest off the green. He then pitched to 2 feet and holed it for a 7 — his only double bogey of the week.

"I could not believe what happened," India says. "There's a 10-minute window where I could be on the PGA Tour ... and now I don't even have job security for next year. It's hard for your brain to process."

India was distraught, and McCabe had to interview the winner, Hoag. But she told her producer she was determined to at least ask India if he wanted to speak on live TV. The two had bonded earlier in the week while chatting.

When she saw him, shoulders slumped, she told him: "Vince, you can say no, but people want to hear from you."

India did not even consider declining the interview.

As his girlfriend, Pagano, put it: "I'm rather shy and reserved, but Vince can talk to anybody."

India spoke for 35 seconds, his voice shaking at the end: "I just did my best."

Looking back, he says: "The fact that Chantel was getting emotional made me emotional. After she asked me that last question, she could tell I was seconds away from breaking down."

India and Pagano, who had flown in that morning, left the course and returned to their host family's home. She didn't know what to say other than: "Would you like a drink?"

'It wasn't because of nerves'

Shortly after his gruesome "Tin Cup" moment, India learned of what he called an "enormous silver lining."

By getting up-and-down for 7, India finished 85th on the Korn Ferry points list. The top 85 gain automatic entry to the final stage of the Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament, which began Thursday at Orange County National outside Orlando, Fla. Other Chicago-area hopefuls in the field include Nick Hardy, Patrick Flavin, Brad Hopfinger, Andy Pope and Jordan Hahn.

The top 40 and ties after Sunday's final round will receive a full Korn Ferry Tour card for 2020 plus 40k and medical benefits. India enters Sunday in a tie for 30th after rounds of 68, 70 and 68.

India has been in Florida for weeks getting ready. He might not watch "The Blues Brothers" on the eve of the final round, but he will be smacking a towel against his golf bag.

And his mindset is sound.

"I finished top five in probably the hardest tournament of the year with the most pressure," he said. "I thought I played really admirably. I didn't hit bad shots. It wasn't because of nerves. There were just two really difficult shots."

His takeaway from the experience? "Ten minutes," he said, "can change your life."

SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Philadelphia	20	7	.741	—
Boston	17	7	.708	1½
Toronto	17	8	.680	2
Brooklyn	13	12	.520	6
New York	6	20	.231	13½

SOUTHEAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Miami	19	7	.731	—
Orlando	11	14	.440	7½
Charlotte	12	16	.429	8
Washington	7	17	.292	11
Atlanta	6	20	.231	13

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB
Milwaukee	24	3	.889	—
Indiana	17	9	.654	6½
Detroit	11	15	.423	12½
Chicago	10	18	.357	14½
Cleveland	6	20	.231	17½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Dallas	17	8	.680	—
Houston	17	9	.654	½
San Antonio	10	15	.400	7
Memphis	9	17	.346	8½
New Orleans	6	20	.231	11½

NORTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Denver	16	8	.667	—
Utah	15	11	.577	2
Oklahoma City	11	14	.440	5½
Minnesota	10	15	.400	6½
Portland	10	16	.385	7

PACIFIC	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Lakers	23	3	.885	—
L.A. Clippers	20	8	.714	4
Phoenix	11	14	.440	11½
Sacramento	11	14	.440	11½
Golden State	5	22	.185	18½

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

San Antonio 121, Phoenix 119 (OT)
 Toronto 110, Brooklyn 102
 Chicago 109, L.A. Clippers 106
 Washington 128, Memphis 111
 Milwaukee 125, Cleveland 108
 Miami 122, Dallas 118 (OT)
 Detroit 115, Houston 107
 Denver 110, Oklahoma City 102

SUNDAY'S GAMES
 Orlando at New Orleans, 2:30 p.m.
 Charlotte at Indiana, 4 p.m.
 L.A. Lakers at Atlanta, 5 p.m.
 Philadelphia at Brooklyn, 5 p.m.
 New York at Denver, 7 p.m.
 Sacramento at Golden State, 7:30 p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES
 Washington at Detroit, 6 p.m.
 Cleveland at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.
 Chicago at Oklahoma City, 7 p.m.
 Dallas at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
 Miami at Memphis, 7 p.m.
 San Antonio at Houston, 7 p.m.
 Portland at Phoenix, 8 p.m.

BULLS 109, CLIPPERS 106

CHICAGO: Shamet 4-5 0-0 11, Harkless 1-4 1-2 3, Zubac 2-6 0-2 4, Mann 2-3 1-2 5, George 9-20 6-7 27, Harrell 9-24 12-14 30, Patterson 3-4 3-6 11, Walton Jr. 2-5 0-0 5, Robinson 2-5 1-1 6, McGruder 1-4 2-2 4. Totals 35-80 26-36 106.

L.A. CLIPPERS: Dunn 4-7 0-0 9, Markkanen 4-8 2-2 13, Carter Jr. 6-10 2-2 14, Satoransky 2-7 3-4 7, LaVine 11-21 5-6 31, Young 7-12 1-2 17, Arcidiacono 0-3 0-0 0, White 1-6 0-0 2, Harrison 0-0 0-0 0, Valentine 5-11 2-2 16. Totals 40-85 15-18 109.

L.A. Clippers 29 28 22 27 — 106
Chicago 24 31 29 25 — 109

3-Point Goals—L.A. Clippers 10-22 (Shamet 3-4, George 3-6, Patterson 2-3, Robinson 1-2, Walton Jr. 1-3, Harrell 0-1, Harkless 0-1, McGruder 0-2), Chicago 14-31 (LaVine 4-7, Valentine 4-7, Markkanen 3-6, Young 2-5, Dunn 1-1, Arcidiacono 0-1, Satoransky 0-1, White 0-3).
Fouled Out—None. **Rebounds**—L.A. Clippers 40 (Harrell 7), Chicago 50 (Markkanen 17). **Assists**—L.A. Clippers 20 (George 6), Chicago 21 (Satoransky 5). **Total Fouls**—L.A. Clippers 17, Chicago 25. **Technical**—Chicago coach Bulls (Defensive three second). **A**—18,426 (20,917).

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	21	7	6	48	115	86
Buffalo	16	11	7	39	107	103
Montreal	15	12	6	36	105	107
Toronto	16	14	4	36	110	109
Tampa Bay	16	12	3	35	110	100
Florida	15	12	5	35	109	108
Ottawa	14	17	2	30	90	103
Detroit	9	22	3	21	74	132

METRO.	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	24	5	5	53	125	97
N.Y. Islanders	22	7	2	46	92	72
Carolina	20	11	2	42	107	86
Pittsburgh	19	10	4	42	110	89
Philadelphia	17	10	5	39	98	92
N.Y. Rangers	16	12	4	36	103	101
Columbus	12	14	6	30	79	98
New Jersey	10	17	5	25	77	115

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	20	8	6	46	102	93
Colorado	21	8	3	45	117	86
Dallas	19	11	4	42	90	80
Winnipeg	19	11	2	40	94	88
Minnesota	16	12	5	37	102	107
Nashville	14	12	5	33	102	101
Chicago	12	15	6	30	89	107

PACIFIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Arizona	19	12	4	42	97	84
Edmonton	18	13	4	40	106	109
Calgary	18	13	4	40	95	104
Vegas	17	13	5	39	103	100
Vancouver	16	13	4	36	107	99
San Jose	16	17	2	34	96	122
Anaheim	14	15	4	32	87	97
Los Angeles	13	18	3	29	86	109

2 pts for win, 1 pt for shootout/OT loss

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

N.Y. Islanders 3, Buffalo 2 (OT)
 Ottawa 4, Columbus 3 (OT)
 Anaheim 4, N.Y. Rangers 3 (SO)
 Carolina 4, Calgary 0
 Dallas 4, Nashville 1
 Minnesota 4, Philadelphia 1
 Detroit 2, Montreal 1
 Boston 4, Florida 2
 Washington 5, Tampa Bay 2
 Toronto 4, Edmonton 1
 Pittsburgh 5, Los Angeles 4 (SO)
 St. Louis 4, Chicago 3
 New Jersey 2, Arizona 1
 San Jose 4, Vancouver 2

SUNDAY'S GAMES
 Philadelphia at Winnipeg, 4 p.m.
 Minnesota at Chicago, 6 p.m.
 Los Angeles at Detroit, 6 p.m.
 Vancouver at Vegas, 7 p.m.

MONDAY'S GAMES
 Ottawa at Florida, 6 p.m.
 Nashville at N.Y. Rangers, 6 p.m.
 Washington at Columbus, 8 p.m.

BLUES 4, BLACKHAWKS 3

Chicago	0	1	2	—	3
St. Louis	0	0	4	—	4

FIRST PERIOD: None. **Penalties:** Seabrook, CHI, (delay of game), 3:23.

SECOND PERIOD: 1, Chicago, Saad 9 (Gustafsson, Toews), 0:19.

Penalties: Carpenter, CHI, (hooking), 1:51; Schenn, STL, (interference), 2:32; St. Louis bench, served by Perron (too many men on the ice), 3:49; Dunn, STL, (slashing), 10:10; Kane, CHI, (tripping), 14:03.

THIRD PERIOD: 2, Chicago, Saad 10 (Toews), 0:30. 3, Chicago, Kane 15 (Strome), 4:16. 4, St. Louis, Bozak 5 (Thomas), 4:40. 5, St. Louis, Bozak 5 (Thomas), 13:08. 6, St. Louis, de la Rose 2 (O'Reilly), 13:20. 7, St. Louis, Faulk 2 (Thomas), 17:34.

Penalties: Faulk, STL, (delay of game), 18:05.

SHOTS ON GOAL: Chicago 2-9-11—22. St. Louis 13-14-11—38.

POWER PLAYS: Chicago 0 of 4; St. Louis 0 of 3.

GOALIES: Chicago, Crawford 6-9-2 (38 shots-34 saves).
 St. Louis, Binnington 15-6-4 (22-19).
 A: 18,096 (19,150). T: 2:21.

Referees: Kelly Sutherland, Corey Syvret.

Linesmen: Travis Gawryletz, Bryan Panich.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

SATURDAY'S RESULTS

Navy 31, Army 7
FCS QUARTERFINALS
 N. Dakota State 9, Illinois St. 3

NCAA DIVISION II SEMIFINALS
 Minnesota State 58, Slippery Rock 15
 West Florida 28, Ferris State 14

NCAA DIVISION III SEMIFINALS
 North Central (Ill.) 45, Muhlenberg 14
 Wis.-Whitewater 35,
 Saint John's (Minn.) 32

UPCOMING BOWL SCHEDULE

FRIDAY

Bahamas: Buffalo (7-5) vs. Charlotte (7-5), 1 p.m. (Nassau).

Frisco (Texas): Utah State (7-5) vs. Kent State (6-6), 6:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 21

Celebration: NC A&T (8-3) vs. Alcorn State (9-3), 11am (Atlanta)

New Mexico: Cent. Mich. (8-5) vs. San Diego St. (9-3), 1 p.m. (Albuquerque)

Cure: Liberty (7-5) vs. Georgia Southern (7-5), 1:30 p.m. (Orlando)

Boca Raton (Fla.): SMU (10-2) vs. FAU (10-3), 2:30 p.m.

Camellia: FIU (6-6) vs. Arkansas State (7-5), 4:30 p.m. (Montgomery, Ala.)

Las Vegas: Boise State (12-1) vs. Washington (7-5), 6:30 p.m.

New Orleans: UAB (9-4) vs. Appalachian State (12-1), 8 p.m.

MONDAY, DEC. 23

Gasparilla: UCF (9-3) vs. Marshall (8-4), 1:30 p.m. (Tampa, Fla.)

TUESDAY, DEC. 24

Hawaii: BYU (7-5) vs. Hawaii (9-5), 7 p.m.

THURSDAY, DEC. 26

Independence: Miami (6-6) vs. Louisiana Tech (9-3), 3 p.m. (Shreveport, La.)

Quick Lane: Pittsburgh (7-5) vs. Eastern Michigan (6-6), 7 p.m. (Detroit)

FRIDAY, DEC. 27

Military: North Carolina (6-6) vs. Temple (8-4), 11 am (Annapolis, Md.)

Pinstripes: Wake Forest (8-4) vs. Michigan St. (6-6), 2:20 p.m. (New York City)

Texas: Oklahoma State (8-4) vs. Texas A&M (7-5), 5:45 p.m. (Houston)

Holiday: Iowa (9-3) vs. USC (8-4), 7 p.m. (San Diego)

Cheeze-It: Air Force (10-2) vs. Washington State (6-6), 9:15 p.m. (Phoenix)

SATURDAY, DEC. 28

Camping World: Notre Dame (10-2) vs. Iowa State (7-5), 11am (Orlando)

Cotton: Penn State (10-2) vs. Memphis (12-1), 11am (Arlington, Tex.)

Peach: (CFP semifinal) LSU (13-0) vs. Oklahoma (12-1), 3 p.m. (Atlanta)

Fiesta: (CFP semifinal) Ohio St. (13-0) vs. Clemson (13-0), 7 p.m. (Glendale Ariz.)

HEISMAN FINALIST VOTING

First-, second- and third-place votes and total points (voting on 3-2-1 basis):

Player	1st	2nd	3rd	Total
Joe Burrow, LSU	841	41	32,608	
Jalen Hurts, Okla.	12	231	264	762
Justin Fields, Ohio St.	6	271	187	747
Chase Young, Ohio St.	20	205	173	643

RECENT WINNERS

(x-vacated)

2019: Joe Burrow, LSU, QB

2018: Kyle Murray, Oklahoma, QB

2017: Baker Mayfield, Oklahoma, QB

2016: Lamar Jackson, Louisville, QB

2015: Derrick Henry, Alabama, RB

2014: Marcus Mariota, Oregon, QB

2013: Jameis Winston, Florida State, QB

2012: Johnny Manziel, Texas A&M, QB

2011: Robert Griffin III, Baylor, QB

2010: Cam Newton, Auburn, QB

2009: Mark Ingram, Alabama, RB

2008: Sam Bradford, Oklahoma, QB

2007: Tim Tebow, Florida, QB

2006: Troy Smith, Ohio State, QB

2005: Reggie Bush, Southern Cal, RB

2004: Matt Leinart, Southern Cal, QB

ODDS

NBA

at New Or. off off Orlando

at Indiana 11½ 209 Charlotte

Philadelphia 4½ 217 at Brooklyn

LA Lakers 12 226½ at Atlanta

at Denver 10½ 206 New York

Sacramento 3 210½ at Golden St.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

at Neb.-Omaha 9 UT Rio Gr. Val.

at Fordham 3½ Tennessee St.

at N. Kentucky 6 Illinois St.

at Houston 5 Oklahoma St.

NC State 1½ at NC Greensboro

at South Florida 10½ Drexel

Purdue 11 at Nebraska

at Missouri 15 S. Illinois

at N'western 19 SIU-Edwardsville

at Bowl, Gr. 16½ Cleveland St.

at N. Carolina 14½ Wofford

at Chattanooga 9 Troy

at Wash. St 8½ UC Riverside

at Clemson 5½ S. Carolina

at Bradley 3½ Ga. Southern

at Pacific 7 CS Northridge

Ohio State 8½ at Minnesota

at USC 18½ Long Beach St.

at Va Comm. 13 Missouri St.

at Young, St 7 SE Missouri

at Hawaii 6 Samford

NHL

at Winnipeg -140 Philadelphia +130

at Detroit off Los Angeles off

at Chicago -105 Minnesota -105

at Vegas off Vancouver off

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

BOWL GAMES

BAHAMAS SP O/U DEC. 20
 Buffalo 6½ 57½ Charlotte

FRISCO
 Utah State

BULLS & BLACKHAWKS

Bulls are tough, not physical

Boylen wants competitiveness
BY PHIL THOMPSON

Are the Bulls a physical team? It depends whom you ask and how you define "physical."

If by physical you mean "toughness," coach Jim Boylen believes that trait is not in question about his team.

"You can't say we don't have a tough group of guys because defensively everything in the numbers bears out — we've got a competitive, tough group of guys," he said.

The Bulls entered Saturday's game against the Clippers at the United Center ranked 10th in defensive rating (105), up from 25th last season (112.8).

"You can't say we don't pay hard, we don't compete," Boylen said. "We're No. 1 in pace, which means we play hard, we run. We're top 10 in defense, which means we play hard and we compete."

But by his definition, the Bulls aren't physical enough.

"We need to have more of that (defensive energy) on the offensive end of the floor," Boylen said. "Sometimes it's as simple as the ball going in (the basket) a little bit and our mindset, our confidence changes."

"When people crawl into us, we've got to grit our teeth, we've got to slow down, not speed up, and we've got to play lower. We've got to embrace the contact and we've got to play through it."

One of the areas in which that deficiency shows up in defensive rebounding. The Bulls rank 23rd at 33.1 per game.

To some of the Bulls players, though, that doesn't mean they're not physical. It's more a question about mindset and attention to details.

"The physicality is there with us. You can tell," said rookie Daniel Gafford, who had a career-high six blocks Friday against the Hornets. "It can be better and everybody on the team knows that."

"We know at times we need to do certain things, but the physicality is there. We don't back down. We don't back down when guys hit us. We try our best to come back and hit them back."

Thaddeus Young said after the Hornets loss that physicality wasn't the problem. It was about the team "going after it" and "gang rebounding."

Added Lauri Markkanen: "We need to do a better job boxing out." Gafford agreed.

"As much as Boylen talks about it, we always talk about it in the locker room," Gafford said. "The main thing is, who really wants to come in and help out? Who wants it more?"

When opponents get second-chance points off offensive rebounds to spark a run or keep one going, "I mean that hurts us a lot," Gafford said.

"That's the main thing because offensive rebounds are a killer," he said. "We've just got to gang rebound. Everybody's got to get at least two rebounds — maybe even more."

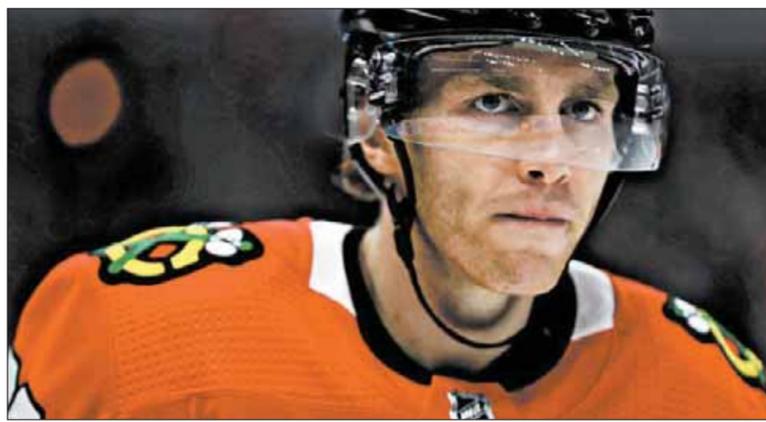
Boylen plans to work on some of these aspects through practice drills using pads.

BULLS RECAP
 Zach LaVine's three-point play with 2 seconds left led the Bulls to a 109-106 win against the short-handed Clippers on Saturday night at the United Center.

Denzel Valentine tied the score with a 3-pointer with 48 seconds left, and Paul George missed two jump shots on the same possession before LaVine's big play. George missed a potential tying 3-pointer at the buzzer.

LaVine led the Bulls with 31 points. Thaddeus Young scored 17 and Valentine 16, both off the bench. Lauri Markkanen added 13 points and 17 rebounds.

Montrezl Harrell scored 30 and George added 27 for the Clippers, who played without Kawhi Leonard, Patrick Beverley and Lou Williams. For more go to chicagotribune.com/sports



Blackhawks right wing Patrick Kane during a Nov. 17 game at the United Center.

Hawks need big steps for big fixes

Fire Bowman or Colliton? Trade Kane? Everything on table

ST. LOUIS — One thing the Blackhawks have made abundantly clear over the last few weeks is they don't want to be judged based on how banged up they are.

Injuries to Duncan Keith, Calvin de Haan, Andrew Shaw and Drake Caggiula simply are part of hockey, and the next man is expected to step up. Good teams thrive and survive no matter who is lost.

The Hawks are not thriving. Nor are they surviving. And right now they are not good.

In fact, they are bordering on being a hot mess.

The Hawks have been trending downward since they won the 2015 Stanley Cup. But despite two seasons of postseason failure and another two without a playoff appearance, they appeared to have hope this year.

Just a few weeks ago, the Hawks were 9-7-4, riding hot goaltending toward a potential playoff run. Then injuries hit — yes, they do matter to an extent — and the bottom started to fall out, revealing just how tenuous things are for the organization.

The Hawks are 3-7-2 in their last 12 games with just one regulation win during that span. They suddenly look like a team that won't be competitive this season with a long-term outlook that perhaps is even more uncertain.

Everything has to be on the table to fix what's wrong.

The most obvious reaction to the Hawks' troubles would be to make a coaching change. When the Hawks decided not to practice Friday in St. Louis, it was a bit of a surprise considering they also did not practice two days earlier in Arizona.

My antenna was up: Would Jeremy Colliton survive the three-game trip? The Hawks have had too many games this season in which they didn't play hard either from the start or for a full 60 minutes, and at some point that falls on the coach.

But it's difficult to see general manager Stan Bowman moving on from Colliton a little more than a year after he hired him to replace Joel Quenneville. It would be too much of an indictment for hiring Colliton in the first place.

The larger question is whether it's time for Bowman to go. He has been GM for a little more than 10 years and presided over the greatest run in franchise history.

Save the debate about how large of a role he played in three Stanley Cups for a different day. He was instrumental, and that part of his legacy should be secure.

But that was then and this is now. The Hawks have to determine if Bowman is the right person to move them forward.

Most recently, he drafted Alex DeBrincat, traded for Dylan Strome and signed Robin Lehner. But he also gave out a num-



JIMMY GREENFIELD
 On the Blackhawks

ber of bad contracts — Bryan Bickell and Brent Seabrook's are the most egregious — that contributed to trades in which the objective was getting out of salary-cap hell rather than helping the Hawks become better.

I realize the Hawks love continuity, and firing Bowman would have a far greater organizational impact than firing Quenneville did. But the idea he's the only person who can lead the team forward is ridiculous. If the Hawks don't have in mind two or three replacements — either from within or around the NHL — they're not doing their due diligence and just burying their head in the sand.

The most radical move would be to trade Patrick Kane. As I said, everything has to be on the table.

Don't laugh. Wayne Gretzky was traded when he was 27. Kane is 31. He and has three seasons remaining on his contract with a \$10.5 million cap hit — very reasonable for one of the best players in the league who has shown no signs of slowing down.

Whether Kane would waive his no-movement clause is the real issue. Probably not. But if he were to agree to a deal and bring back a ridiculous haul, that accelerates rebuilds. And no matter what the Hawks say, they are rebuilding — and have plenty of work to do.

Jonathan Toews' contract is identical to Kane's, but he doesn't have nearly the same trade value. He's going nowhere.

Kirby Dach and Adam Boqvist are obviously talented, but they still have to prove they can succeed in the NHL. Dach, 18, had a good week last month but hasn't registered a point in 11 games. Boqvist, 19, has had some good games but also has looked overwhelmed at times.

Alex DeBrincat and Dylan Strome are players any team would want, but neither appears to be a superstar who can carry the Hawks. And their days of being cheap labor are over. DeBrincat's contract extension with a \$6.4 million cap hit kicks in next season, and Strome, who is scheduled to be a restricted free agent this summer, will be in the \$4 million to \$5 million range.

A failure to re-sign Lehner, who will be an unrestricted free agent after the season, could be catastrophic if Corey Crawford decides to retire and goalie prospects Kevin Lankinen and Collin Delia don't prove capable of becoming NHL starters.

With 50 games remaining, the Hawks' season likely is over. Comparisons to the Blues winning the Stanley Cup last season despite having the NHL's worst record in January don't hold water.

A better comparison is the Red Wings, the former powerhouse who failed to see the writing on the wall and have turned into the NHL's worst team.

If the Hawks aren't careful, that's where they might suddenly find themselves.

No world juniors for Dach

Rookie to stay with Hawks to continue development
BY JIMMY GREENFIELD

ST. LOUIS — The only reason Team Canada had any hope of prying rookie Kirby Dach away from the Blackhawks for the World Juniors was because he has had so much trouble filling the scoresheet in the NHL.

But even with no goals in his last 12 games entering Saturday — and no points in his last 11 — the 18-year-old forward is staying with the Hawks.

"It was an opportunity that he had, so we (discussed it)," coach Jeremy Colliton said of Dach playing for Canada in the tournament, which begins Dec. 26. "But he's playing really well and getting better and better, and his minutes are going up steadily and there's an opportunity for more if he continues to improve."

"So we didn't really want to lose that momentum. He's got an opportunity to take a bigger role, and hopefully he can."

Dach last month had three goals and four assists in a five-game span but he followed with his current scoring drought. Dach's ice time did get a boost after his mini scoring binge, though he has played primarily a bottom-six role recently.

Dach entered Saturday's matchup against the reigning champion Blues averaging just 11 minutes, 1 second of ice time over his last five games, including only 8:01 against the Coyotes on Sunday at the United Center in a game that went to a shootout.

Despite Dach's minimal playing time, Colliton doesn't think the rookie's confidence has taken a hit.

"There's conversations obviously ... to make sure he's in the right frame of mind," Colliton said. "Ultimately, we want him to produce. He's an offensive player, and he feels better about himself when he does. But it's how he plays."

"When I look at the last game (against the Coyotes) in particular, he was excellent. He was skating. He made plays. He won a lot of puck battles, very strong stick, very good position defensively, so we're pleased with that. We want him to keep going on that way."

For Dach to help the team, he needs to create turnovers and not worry about his point totals.

"There's a lot of other things that happen in the game of hockey other than producing points," Dach said. "As a young guy, it's huge for me to learn how to play a 200-foot game if I want to be a complete player in this league, and that's what I want to do. There's ways to judge your performance other than points."

"You can score three goals and still have a bad game, so it's just about feeling good with the puck and making plays and at the same time making sure I'm being more responsible defensively."

BLACKHAWKS RECAP
 The Blackhawks blew a three-goal third-period lead to the Blues, falling 4-3 to the defending champions Saturday night at the Enterprise Center in St. Louis. Justin Faulk scored the winner with 2 minutes, 26 seconds left to hand the Hawks their fourth straight loss and 10th in 13 games. Brandon Saad had goals in the opening minute of the second and third periods, and Patrick Kane added his 15th of the season with 15:44 remaining in the third. But the Blues stormed back. Tyler Bozak scored just 24 seconds after Kane's goal and added his second with 6:52 left. Jacob de la Rose tied it 12 seconds later with a backhander from the slot. For more coverage, go to chicagotribune.com/sports

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Sunday**BEST
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2019**


This Sunday in A+E, we continue our Best of the Arts 2019 special sections with a focus on the stage, highlighting the best theater, dance and Broadway in the past year, plus best in architecture and visual art.

INSIDE

Best Chicago theater: Tribune critic Chris Jones ranks his top-10 shows of 2019. **Page 2**

Best on Broadway: Jones also picks the best of what he saw on the New York stage. **Page 8**

Best in architecture: Blair Kamin's choices for most notable moments and projects, in Chicago and across the globe. **Page 6**

Best in visual art: Lori Waxman on the art moments that mattered in 2019. **Page 8**

Best in Chicago dance: Lauren Warnecke's top-10 of the year. **Page 9**

COMING UP**DEC. 19 in A+E**

■ Best of what we saw in Chicago-area museums.

DEC. 20 in ON THE TOWN

■ Greg Kot's best local and indie recordings.

■ Best performances in Chicago theater in 2019.

DEC. 22 in SUNDAY A+E

■ Best on screen, including movies and television.

■ Plus in memoriam for the decade: who we lost in the 2010s.

DEC. 26 in A+E

■ Best classical and jazz performances in Chicago.

DEC. 27 in ON THE TOWN

■ Best live concerts in Chicago in 2019.

DEC. 29 in SUNDAY A+E

■ The Tribune's Chicagoans of the Year in the Arts.

SARA HARVEY/TRIBUNE ILLUSTRATION

Let's stop, sit and listen

Jazz and classical music provide necessary calm in this stormy, chattering world

**HOWARD REICH**

In Washington, politicians are yelling at each other.

On cable TV, talking heads spew venom. On talk radio — well, you get the idea.

But in our current troubled times, and in periods far worse than this, solace can be found in the place where I've spent nearly the past 50 years: the listening room.

By that I mean not just any venue where music is played, though of course all musi-

cal forms offer comfort. Why else would people leave the warmth of home for the vicissitudes and expense of attending concerts? You can find catharsis in an exultant blues set, palpable energy in a hard-driving rock show, pointed social commentary in a rap set and so forth.

But the concerts I refer to prize one precious commodity above all, and it's one in perilously short supply these days: silence. The classical concert hall and the serious jazz club require it as a means for artists to share thought and emotion. Every passing note, every pianissimo gesture, every barely whispered phrase matters in classical and jazz, each an extraordinarily complex form of communication that rewards the closest possible scrutiny.

When Evgeny Kissin caresses a phrase

of Chopin's on the piano, when violinist Itzhak Perlman unfurls a long ribbon of melody on the violin, when the Berlin Philharmonic delivers a golden orchestral chord penned by Brahms, we are hearing the best that humanity has to offer. As opposed to the din on TV and radio.

When Ella Fitzgerald launched high-flying scat phrases with that ineffably poetic instrument in her throat, when Miles Davis issued those softly fragile notes on his muted trumpet, when Gerry Mulligan produced gravelly tones way down low on his baritone saxophone, we were hearing the deepest forms of human expression. Not the shallowest.

I know, because I've heard all these

Turn to **Reich**, **Page 10**



QUENTIN C. DODD/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Ella Fitzgerald at the Chicago Jazz Festival on September 4, 1981: It was sublime music-making, a sharing of human expression.

BEST OF THE ARTS | 2019

THEATER

Explosive work by powerful women

Female directors influential to many top shows in 2019

By Chris Jones

A new generation of mostly female directors were behind many of the best shows of 2019. And, lucky for Hyde Park, Court Theatre turned out one stellar piece after another.

Here are the 10 best Chicago shows of the year, ranked, as absurd as that may be, along with another 10 that also deserve to be long remembered.

I've included only shows I reviewed that either originated in Chicago or had their North American premiere here, otherwise there would be room for such touring glories as "Hello, Dolly!," "Dear Evan Hansen" and "An Inspector Calls."

Here we go. You will have to tell me which ones I missed.

1. "Photograph 51" at Court Theatre: A play about the oft-forgotten mastermind of the competitive scramble in the early 1950s for the double-helical structure of DNA does not sound like a candidate for the best show of the year in a great theater city. But Anna Ziegler's biographical drama about the scientist Rosalind Franklin is rich, complex, averse to melodramatic heroes and existentially moving: DNA is, after all, the key to life itself. And director Vanessa Stalling's Court Theatre production was exquisitely crafted, detailed and visualized with utter precision befitting a drama about scientific research. The star of the show, Chaon Cross, gave a performance that, in a different city or another media, would get you a Tony or an Oscar. Here, of course, it was all about the work. Franklin would have approved.

2. "Every Brilliant Thing" at Windy City Playhouse: A British one-man show that became an American one-woman show beautifully directed by Jessica Fisch, "Every Brilliant Thing" rewarded its audience at every turn. People have always gone to the theater for hope: "Every Brilliant Thing," penned by Duncan Macmillan and first performed and co-written by the comedian Jonny Donahoe, literally offered reasons to go on living. Reasons you could carry out with you; "Every Brilliant Thing," you might say, was hope to go. And none of this would have worked without the actress Rebecca Spence, fusing her own biography and considerable personal charm with the words on the page. This was spectacularly generous work, not only involving the audience but enveloping them in a place of warmth, compassion and optimism. Nobody wanted to leave.

3. "Lottery Day" at the Goodman Theatre: The poetic scribe Ike Holter brought his seven-play Rightlynd saga, one of the most notable accomplishments in Chicago playwriting of the past decade, to the Goodman Theatre climax it deserved. "Lottery Day" did not betray Holter's activist storefront roots, nor his commitment to his ad hoc local repertory company of actors, including the director Lili-Anne Brown. But this capstone was Holter reaching for profound themes impacting the destiny of his home city: he wrote of gun violence, inequitable schools, racism, gentrification, the corruptions of the "Chicago way," the stealing of stories by careerist white progressives. He did this by sticking all of these things in one backyard on one fateful Chicago day, and setting them all loose. No winners, but helpful truths all around.



"Photograph 51" at Court Theatre, with Nathan Hosner and Chaon Cross.



Pat Whalen (Ricky), Mckenzie Chinn (Cassandra), Sydney Charles (Zora), Aurora Adachi-Winter (Tori) and Tommy Rivera-Vega (Ezekiel) in Ike Holter's "Lottery Day" at the Goodman Theatre.

4. "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf" at Court Theatre: It must have tempting for the director Seret Scott to try and make Ntozake Shange's 1976 choreo-poem relevant to today's issues in some self-conscious way. Instead, Scott and her immensely talented cast mostly got out of Shange's way, and dedicated themselves to allowing her gorgeously expressed words to speak loud, after nearly half a century of American history and no decline in sorrows. "Colored Girls" was always, of course, a work ahead of its time: its poetic expression at Court felt like a rebirth, a renaissance, a celebration of what the late Shange long-ago called "a black girls' song." In this production, we were all inside a Greek-style Agora, listening to all of these half-notes and tunes and rhythms and struggles, as if for the first time.

5. "Dana H." at the Goodman Theatre: So strange a show was "Dana H." that it contained no spoken lines: instead, we watched as an actress, Deirdre O'Connell, precisely lip-synced to words spoken on tape by the real Dana H., who just happened to be the mother of the playwright, Lucas

Hnath, and who was abducted by an acquaintance and held for months against her will. "Dana H." divided people, but most everybody thought this a unique, riveting and daring show, forcing you to think about the complexity and force of first-person testimony and the dangers of its fusion into conventional storytelling. Hnath was writing about all kinds of relevant things: the difficulty of speaking out and the perils of someone monetizing and reinterpreting your truth, in the all-American way.

6. "Grey House" at A Red Orchid Theater: It's hard to scare people in a theater and it's even harder to craft horror that works for people who don't feel alone in the dark with a movie. But the Chicago playwright Levi Holloway managed all of that, playing with the preconceptions of the genre in a deliciously meta-theatrical way and forging a live thriller with path unknown. And with its flock of creepy teenage girls, director Shade Murray's production was every bit as unsettling as the script. Shiver.

7. "Yen" at Raven Theatre: This gorgeous little drama from the playwright Anna Jordan was

not the first show to probe the desperate outcomes of parenting in absentia or the perils of adult caregivers who remained kids themselves, but it wrestled with those themes in an uncommonly intense and yet compassionate way. Director Elly Green's production was among the best productions in this long-established theater's history, filled with actors offering up risky and uncompromising performances, all encapsulating the work's themes of longing and sadness. Beautiful.

8. "Pomona" at Steep Theatre: Steep Theatre is a courageous kind of theater that knows its audience will go along on some rough rides, all in the service of understanding human pain and cruelty. Alistair McDowall's play was one such trip, filled with elliptical plot twists, strange scenes and actors willing to go to the wall to tell this story of lonely people in a cold city with emptiness and corruption at its heart. Everything in director Robin Witt's production, of course, happened right in your face, and I watched plenty of audience members wince, and then turn back, trying to figure out the deeper truths that the show was trying to reveal, even as we all ran away.

9. "Six" at Chicago Shakespeare Theater: Successful theater — and, mark you, the musical "Six" was a blast — always starts with a great idea. In this case, the notion of turning each of Henry VIII's much-maligned spouses into pop divas ready, willing and able to sing their own empowering anthems was the kind of notion of which commercial producers dream. Sure, there were deeper shows. But the Broadway-bound "Six" really managed to evoke the feeling of being at a pop concert where the stars just happened to be Tudor queens and, on a deeper level, it made you realize how much depends on the moment in history in which we are born. The whole thing was accessible fun all the way, especially since the gritty queens all retained their their wit, if not their heads.

10. "The Adventures of Augie March" at Court Theatre: Just to theatricalize this picaresque 1953 novel by Saul Bellow — once a household name in Chicago — was an achievement in and of itself. And director Charles Newell's production caught most of the work's existential themes, as its wandering, lost hero tried to connect himself, and by extension Bellow's home city, to the swirling world at large. Not only did Newell find a visual metaphor that worked, but his ensemble cast created a whole series of jewel-like portraits of adventurers and nervous apologists, lovers and losers, the thrilled and the bereft, all struggling for the viewer's attention.

Ten more memorable shows, in alphabetical order: "A Chorus Line" at Porchlight Music Theatre Chicago; "Dutch Masters" by Jackalope Theatre; "For Services Rendered" by Griffin Theatre Co.; "Grinning From Fear to Fear" at Second City e.t.c.; "Hamlet" at Chicago Shakespeare Theater; "Into the Woods" at Writers Theatre; "King Hedley II" at Court Theatre; "The Producers" at the Paramount Theatre; "Red Rex" at Steep Theatre; "West Side Story" by the Lyric Opera of Chicago.

Chris Jones is a Tribune critic. cjones5@chicagotribune.com

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BOOKS

NOTABLE BOOKS OF 2019

The elasticity of memoirs

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By JULIA M. KLEIN

Through the end of the year, the Chicago Tribune is revisiting books worthy of further recognition.

The memoir, at once literary and fact-based, is a shape-shifter, a container for a diverse array of voices, stories and narrative techniques.

A sampling of this year's entries exemplifies the genre's elasticity. In eclectic formats, they speak of trauma and healing, family dysfunction, the limitations of medical science and the forging of identity in the face of social and cultural obstacles.

Esmé Weijun Wang's "The Collected Schizophrenias," winner of the Graywolf Press Nonfiction Prize, is a mental-illness memoir in essay form. Wang, the precocious daughter of Taiwanese immigrants, offers overlapping ruminations on her shifting diagnoses, bouts of madness and efforts to stay sane and productive.

Wang's principal diagnosis is a particularly tough one: schizoaffective disorder, bipolar type. It is a variant of schizophrenia, complete with delusions and hallucinations, married to a mood disorder — one of "the collected schizophrenias."

Sometimes Wang believes she is dead; at other points she is convinced that the people around her are robots. Psychotropic medications help but don't heal. She longs for "an impeccable self without disorder," but she fears that "if I continue to struggle toward one, I might go mad in the pursuit."

Wang's problems are exacerbated by post-traumatic stress disorder, the aftermath of a rape by a man she once loved. And, as if all that weren't enough, she discovers she may suffer from chronic Lyme disease, a controversial diagnosis. One doctor suggests her psychiatric symptoms may even derive from that illness.

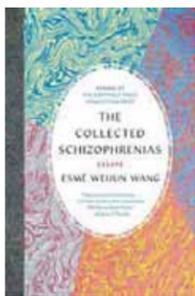
Of one fact, Wang is certain: Involuntary hospitalization, the go-to remedy when her delusions peak, contributes nothing to her recovery. But is she a reliable enough narrator for us to trust that assessment?

Wang interweaves reflections on psychiatry and culture with her personal history, which includes a prestigious Yale and Stanford education, a job in a psych lab and marriage to the miraculously patient man she calls "C." The essay format allows her to examine her challenges from multiple angles, with each essay complicating the



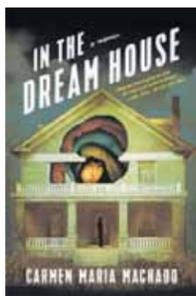
MARIA MAGLIONICO/EYEEM/GETTY

The memoir is an elastic genre, as demonstrated this year by such entries as "The Collected Schizophrenias."



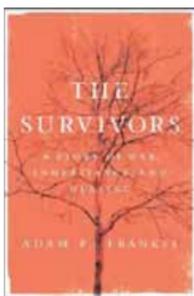
'The Collected Schizophrenias'

By Esmé Weijun Wang, Graywolf, 224 pages, \$16



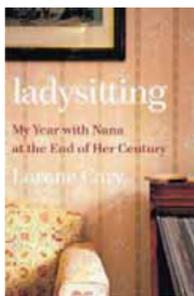
'In the Dream House'

By Carmen Maria Machado, Graywolf, 272 pages, \$26



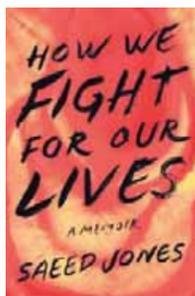
'The Survivors'

By Adam P. Frankel, Harper, 352 pages, \$27.99



'Ladysitting'

By Lorene Cary, Norton, 256 pages, \$25.95



'How We Fight for Our Lives'

By Saeed Jones, Simon & Schuster, 208 pages, \$26

picture. But it also results in repetition and narrative stasis, something of a metaphor for Wang's predicament.

The mental illness that dominates Carmen Maria Machado's formally daring memoir, "In the Dream House," isn't hers — it's her lesbian partner's. The titular dream house turns out to be a house of horrors, and the woman with whom Machado is romantically and sexually obsessed transforms into a domestic tyrant, consumed by jealousy and rage.

Machado notes that "abusers do not need to be, and rarely are, cackling maniacs." But her unnamed partner appears to be a disordered personality, perhaps borderline — a politically incorrect disaster. Haunted "by the specter of the lunatic lesbian," Machado writes, she did not want her lover "to be dogged by mental illness or personality disorder or rage issues."

The memoir is composed in short bursts, with chapters as brief as a single sentence, such as, "Most types of domestic abuse are completely legal." Chapter titles such as "Dream House as Sodom" and "Dream House as Tragedy of the Commons" situate Machado's experience within myth, fantasy, history, literature, film or some other

metaphorical context. Metamorphosis is a recurrent theme.

Unfettered by chronology, Machado dredges up childhood insecurities and adolescent crushes and fast-forwards to the writing of the book itself. Her non-linearity and digressive use of literary and cinematic archetypes, as well as queer history, complicate her narrative but never dispel its momentum.

However wrenching her ordeals, Machado's prose remains exhilaratingly precise, inviting us to share both her initial passion and her cascading terror. As a bonus, the story veers unexpectedly toward a happy ending — not that Machado, as much post-modernist literary critic as abuse victim, doesn't interrogate the very notion of endings. By then, we expect no less.

Machado positions herself as a survivor. So too does Adam P. Frankel in "The Survivors," which begins as a third-generation Holocaust memoir about his maternal grandparents. But, confounding expectations, it becomes a mental-illness memoir about Frankel's mother and a story about his own identity, lost and found.

The common thread is trauma — inflicted, possibly inherited and, in Frankel's case, ultimately overcome.

The takeaway is the need to confront the past, however fraught.

Frankel's maternal grandparents are Lithuanian-born Holocaust survivors, loving but psychologically scarred. By dint of heritage, upbringing or misfortune, Frankel's mother, his principal custodial parent after a divorce, struggles with bouts of depression and outbursts of rage, symptomatic of borderline personality disorder.

The paternal side of Frankel's family is, by contrast, a source of pride and refuge. One cousin by marriage — Martha Minow, who becomes dean of Harvard Law School — helps the Princeton-educated Frankel land a job as a speechwriter for President Barack Obama.

"The Survivors" takes a sharp turn toward navel-gazing when Frankel discovers his heritage is not what it seems. Feeling betrayed, he reaches out, lashes out and eventually seeks therapy.

The narrative flirts with self-indulgence, allowing Frankel a good wallow in his psychic pain. In processing his feelings, he finds himself betraying family secrets, stirring anxieties that haven't yet fully subsided. But, in the end, he discovers something wonderful: that the people he

most treasured were even more loving than he had dared imagine.

The redemptive power of love, in all its complexity, is also one takeaway from "Ladysitting." Lorene Cary's gentle but candid family memoir. Cary made her name with "Black Ice," a memoir about being African American, working class, adolescent and smart at the elite St. Paul's School in New Hampshire, and "Ladysitting" marks her return to the genre.

The titular lady is Cary's paternal grandmother, Nana, a fiercely independent widow who lives alone, until the century mark, in her New Jersey home. When Cary was a child, Nana spoiled her; by contrast, Nana's relationship with Cary's father was strained.

So it is Cary who assumes the burden of her late-life care. She moves Nana into the Philadelphia rectory she shares with her Episcopal priest husband and her two daughters, whose help she enlists with the "ladysitting" project. Even with paid caregivers and intermittent stints of home hospice, Nana, stubborn and anxious, frail and in decline, becomes increasingly difficult to manage.

"Nana's presence and her escalating needs had upended our family," Cary

writes. The experience tasks her love, and the memoir is her attempt to work through her complex feelings, "not to forget, but to recall how the end of my grandmother's life pulled into focus her hundred and one years on earth."

Cary amplifies her narrative with digressions into family history: her mother's Barbados roots, her paternal family's migration from Jim Crow North Carolina to Philadelphia, her parents' doomed marriage, her own tumultuous childhood and more.

There is no slack at all in Saeed Jones's "How We Fight for Our Lives." As a poet, Jones doesn't waste words. He sets the parameters of his memoir in a poetic prelude, "Elegy with Grown Folks' Music," a passionate remembrance of his mother and his childhood longing to be "a prince, a prodigy" rather than a target of derision.

The question animating the memoir is whether Jones can find a black, queer identity that is also a happy one. Raised in Texas in the age of AIDS, isolated and closeted, he visits the public library, looking for books on homosexuality that aren't also about death.

He trades explicit magazines with friends who turn out not to be. His first sexual partner refuses even to kiss him. His mother discovers his presence in a computer chat room and, addressing his adult correspondent as "Pervert,"

warns the man to stay away. When Jones is accepted to New York University, his mother can't find the money necessary to supplement his financial aid package. So he opts for a debate scholarship to Western Kentucky University, where he embraces sexual freedom for the first time.

Some undercurrent of self-loathing leads to sessions of brutal, self-abnegating sex, described in passages that are graphic and hard to read. On vacation in Arizona, he stumbles into more sexual violence, barely escaping with his life.

Yet another trauma victim, Jones survives by writing.

"I believed that I could control any story I told," he says. "How We Fight for Our Lives" turns out to be both a tribute to his late mother and a manifesto about the active fashioning of identity.

"People don't just happen," he writes. "We sacrifice former versions of ourselves. We sacrifice the people who dared raise us."

Julia M. Klein, a cultural reporter and critic in Philadelphia, has been a two-time finalist for the National Book Critics Circle's Nona Balakian Citation for Excellence in Reviewing.

Twitter @JuliaMKlein

REVIEW

A genius female chef in a man's world

By BETHANNE PATRICK
The Washington Post

"La Bonne Heure," we learn in Marie NDiaye's luminous, strange new novel, cannot be precisely translated from French to English. "À la bonne heure" might mean "in the nick of time," "just in time," "the right time" and so on, each slight variation signaling a tiny difference.

"La Bonne Heure" is the name NDiaye's title character gives to the restaurant she eventually opens in Bordeaux, and that title, "The Cheffe," clues us in to the author's purpose. For so long, the heads of fine restaurants have been referred to as the masculine "le chef." Why does no

feminine construction exist in the French language? Shouldn't a woman overseeing a restaurant be referred to as "la cheffe"?

The book's narrator believes so, and if his storytelling takes many discursive turns, repeatedly reminding us of the Cheffe's poverty-stricken origins, personal difficulties and professional struggles, we forgive him, because he is in love with his mentor and doesn't care about their age gap or her complete indifference to his adoration.

Our narrator wants the world to understand her purity of focus toward food, how she never wants to flaunt an ingredient or its flavor. Instead, "she came to offer a deeply thoughtful

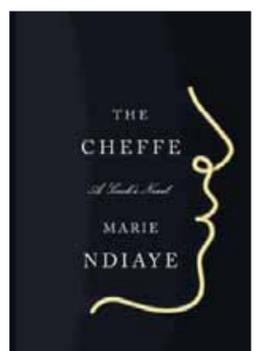
cuisine, highly refined in its appearance, preparation, and cooking, conceived precisely to erase any memory of labor, of duress, of punishing hours." Descriptions of the recipes she develops and the meals she concocts tantalize. Who wouldn't want to taste "Webb lettuce with roast beef juice and dried fruits?" NDiaye has given deep thought to how a feminine genius might approach cuisine.

However, she's given even deeper thought to how difficult it is for feminine genius to shine and succeed in a man's world. The Cheffe may be born into a Western nation (her racial and ethnic origins are never entirely clear), but

she is also born into a bohemian family, with parents who care less about any kind of success than they do their daily happiness (which is either witless or brilliant, depending on your perspective). When the Cheffe receives the opportunity to work for a bourgeois family at their vacation home, she leaves and soon garners her first opportunity to cook for them. She never looks back — although until her dying day she will maintain an asceticism in dress and grooming that recalls her humble start.

Along the way the Cheffe experiences harassment, injustice, ignorance and ill fortune — but she also experiences good luck,

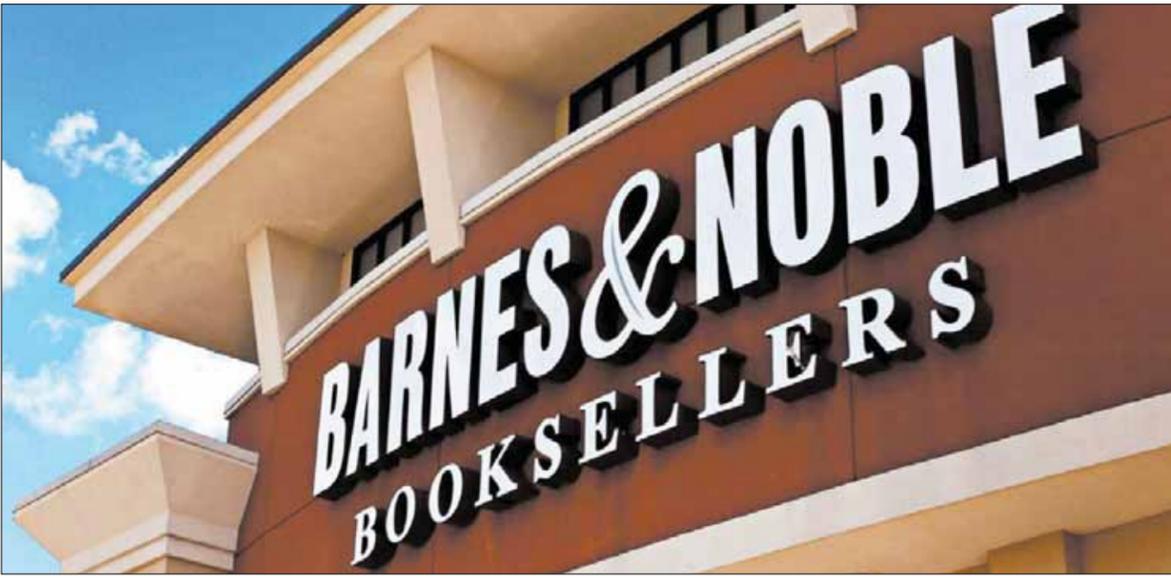
kindness, love and fame. One of the most intriguing threads in the book concerns the woman's ingrate of a daughter, to whom the Cheffe nonetheless kowtows, sending love in her child's direction even when that child undermines her in every way. Any woman who has ever allowed her career to take precedence, even for an hour, over her offspring, will cringe in understanding. "The Cheffe" might ultimately be a meditation on the impossibility of combining an artistic life with a family life. And yet, the Cheffe makes it work in her own way, and her story feels like it's being told at just the right time. In the nick of time? One can hope.



'The Cheffe'

By Marie NDiaye, translated by Jordan Stump, Knopf, 304 pages, \$26.95

Bethanne Patrick is the editor, most recently, of "The Books That Changed My Life: Reflections by 100 Authors, Actors, Musicians and Other Remarkable People."



GENE J. PUSKAR/AP

BIBLIORACLE

A renewed focus on books at Barnes & Noble stores

BY JOHN WARNER

Just over a year ago I had a dispiriting experience in my local Barnes & Noble when I walked into the store and found the most prominent display featuring wool socks and scarves.

I live in Charleston, South Carolina.

Also, Barnes & Noble is a bookstore, not a clothing store or knickknack store or record store, all things that were displayed with more prominence than books.

Lots of stuff has happened for Barnes & Noble since then, most notably a sale that put in charge James Daunt, the man who turned around the U.K.'s Waterstone's chain.

I made my first visit to my local Daunt-era Barnes & Noble recently, and let me say, it looks like a bookstore again.

This is a good thing. Regular readers know that I am ride-or-die with local, independent stores, but I also believe that a healthy literary ecosystem requires a thriving Barnes & Noble as a check against the hegemony of Amazon. It is like the old stop-motion dinosaur animation videos of my youth, where a triceratops would occasionally take on a T-Rex. The triceratops probably isn't going to come out the victor, but it can deal enough damage to make the T-Rex think twice before it goes on an indiscriminate slaughtering spree.

As I entered the store, on the front left where the socks used to be was a big, two-sided display with books face-out, organized by genre/category. The display was festive, inviting and the dust jackets immediately had me thinking about who I might give the titles to as gifts.

Themed tables beyond the obvious were sprinkled throughout the store, including one for new music biographies/memoirs that had me picking up both Liz Phair ("Horror Stories") and Ben Folds' ("A Dream About Lightning Bugs: A Life of Music and Cheap Lessons"). Rather than tooling through with nothing catching my eye, I lingered, picking up and sampling different possibilities, weighing how many books I could reasonably take home.

The help desk seemed more vibrant. A small change — the computer monitors for searching faced outward so the bookseller and customer could look at the screen simultaneously — made the space communal, a shared experience rather than a sterile exchange between clerk and consumer.

The large section for games in the back was better integrated with the books sections and seemed to be more organic than the previous, semi-walled off DVD/media section. Sure, there were still some of those tchotchkes and assorted bric-a-brac. An obsession with Polaroid cameras has carried over, but overall, it was a highly

pleasant experience — and a very different one from just a year ago.

As I checked out, I even got a coupon for a buy-one-get-one-free cookie deal in the café. Score!

The only black mark: This particular store was not presently stocking either of my recently published books. Let's get on that Daunt.

Daunt's strategy, as reported in Publishers Weekly earlier this year, is to make Barnes & Noble stores more locally focused, empowering managers to merchandise books in ways they think are best suited to area customers. He says he wants the stores focused on, you know, books, because books are what people are looking for when they go into a bookstore.

We are probably still in the early stages of the transition, but so far, so good. We'll see if it's enough to save the company.

Of course, what Daunt is trying to achieve with his chain is already available at your local indie, staffed by passionate experts who are ready to help match reader and book.

It's a good model. James Daunt is wise to follow it.

John Warner is the author of "Why They Can't Write: Killing the Five-Paragraph Essay and Other Necessities."
Twitter @biblioracle

Book recommendations from the Biblioracle

1. "The Other Mrs. Miller" by Allison Dickson
2. "The Signature of All Things" by Elizabeth Gilbert
3. "Chances Are" by Richard Russo
4. "Under Currents" by Nora Roberts
5. "The World That We Knew" by Alice Hoffman
— Kathy R., Hobart, Indiana

For Kathy, "The Girls of Corona del Mar" by Ruffi Thorpe.

1. "The Wild Blue: The Men and Boys Who Flew the B-24s Over Germany 1944-45" by Stephen E. Ambrose
2. "When Breath Becomes Air" by Paul Kalanithi
3. "Bad Blood: Secrets and Lies in a Silicon Valley Startup" by John Carreyrou
4. "A Warning" by Anonymous
5. "Educated" by Tara Westover
— Gerald P., Chicago

At first I resisted reading Ronan Farrow's "Catch and Kill: Lies, Spies, and a Conspiracy to Protect Predators," because I'd read his reporting in The New Yorker. But the story behind the story is riveting in and of itself, and like "Bad Blood" above, it exposes some dark secrets about powerful people and their difficulty with acting ethically.

1. "The Alice Network" by Kate Quinn
2. "The Proposal" by Jasmine Guillory
3. "The Library Book" by Susan Orlean
4. "An American Marriage" by Tayari Jones
5. "Florida" by Lauren Groff
— Cathy T., Homewood

I'm going with one of my all-time favorites that is nonetheless an occasionally dicey recommendation: "Geek Love" by Katherine Dunn.

Get a reading from the Biblioracle

Send a list of the last five books you've read to books@chicagotribune.com.

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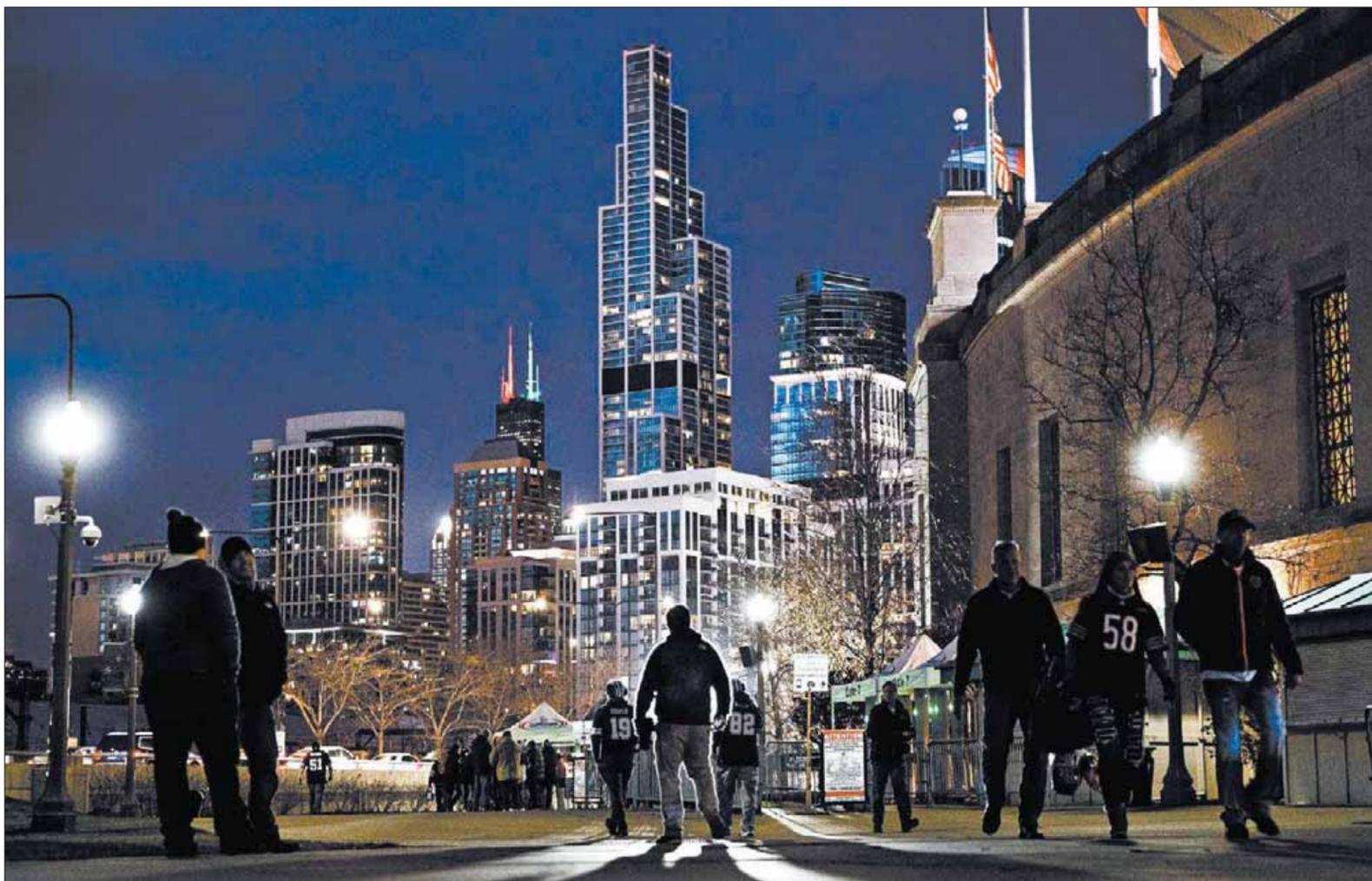
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BEST OF THE ARTS | 2019



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

At 896 feet, with 76 occupied floors and 800 apartments, NEMA Chicago is the city's tallest rental tower and a major new skyline presence.

ARCHITECTURE

Notre Dame saved, Wright honored

BY BLAIR KAMIN

It was a year of stark contrasts in architecture: The burning and near-destruction of Notre Dame Cathedral versus the revival of once-decrepit buildings like Chicago's Old Post Office. A group of Frank Lloyd Wright buildings finally achieved global recognition yet the world lost several noted design figures, among them I.M. Pei and Chicago's Stanley Tigerman.

Building boomed. Quality was hard to find.

Here are the projects and events that stood out in 2019. Plus some notable losses.

Wright buildings take their rightful place: In a step that was long overdue but still welcome, eight buildings by Frank Lloyd Wright were named to the United Nations' list of the world's most significant cultural and natural sites.

Located in six states and completed between 1909 and 1959, the buildings placed on the UNESCO World Heritage List include the bold concrete structure of Unity Temple in Oak Park and the Prairie style masterpiece of the Robie House in Chicago.

The Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy, a Chicago-based nonprofit that seeks to preserve and protect Wright structures, spearheaded the nomination in cooperation with the U.S. Interior Department.

Separately, the Robie House reopened to the public for tours after a meticulous \$11 million-plus restoration by Chicago's Harboe Architects. Credit for that transformation also goes to the Frank Lloyd Wright Trust, a Chicago-based nonprofit that conducts tours of the Robie House and other Wright sites.

Heroic firefighters save Notre Dame: One of the worst days of the year was April 15, when fire ravaged the majestic Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, toppling its delicate Gothic Revival spire and destroying its wood-supported roof. But there was a bright spot: The courage of French firefighters, who saved the great medieval monument.

"Some, at the peril of their own lives, went inside the (Cathedral's) northern tower to protect it from flames at a moment when it could have collapsed at any time," The New York Times reported. "The decisive moment saved the structure."

French President Emmanuel Macron gave the firefighters the medal of honor for their courage, a fitting reminder that buildings have many protectors.

New life for Chicago's Old Post Office: After sitting empty for more than 20 years — an eyesore that straddled the Eisenhower Expressway — the Chicago's Old Post Office welcomed its first tenants after an \$800 million-plus redevelopment.

Headed by Chicago office of the global firm Gensler, a team of designers turned the hulking



VERONIQUE DE VIGUERIE/GETTY-AFP

Smoke and flames rise from Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris in April. A fire broke out and quickly spread across the building, collapsing the spire.

structure, built in 1921 and the early 1930s, into hip office space without sacrificing its historic character. They restored the building's once-crumbling art moderne facade and its elegant main lobby. They even retained corkscrewing mail chutes.

It remains to be seen how well the giant building works as an office space, but kudos are nonetheless in order for the designers and the developer, New York-based 601W Cos.

At the U. of C., an architectural oddball is revived: In another successful transformation, the Chicago firm of Farr Associates remade an exotic 1962 building by Edward Durrell Stone at the University of Chicago. Now the vibrant headquarters of the U. of C.'s Harris School of Public Policy, it's been renamed the Keller Center.

The \$80 million project buffed up the once-decaying exterior of the temple-like structure and rendered it more welcoming. Inside, the architects tore out floor slabs and inserted skylights to make once-constricted spaces into expansive spots to study and exchange ideas. Farr Associates worked on the project with Chicago's Woodhouse Tinucci Architects.

A happy marriage of public housing and a public library: In Chicago, public housing has rarely been associated with good design. But there was a notable exception in 2019: three new structures that combined affordable housing and Chicago Public Library branches.

The best of them, in the Irving Park neighborhood, was designed by Chicago architect John Ronan and developed by Evergreen Real Estate Group. Brightly colored and crisply geometric, it proved the value of the concept called "co-location," which joins a library with another type of building to lower construction costs



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Independence Library on Elston Avenue is part of a building with both a Chicago Public Library and public housing.

and boost library attendance. (The other co-location projects were designed by Chicago's Skidmore, Owings & Merrill and Perkins+Will.)

A moving memorial to victims of gun violence: One of the highlights of the third Chicago Architecture Biennial was a memorial to victims of gun violence around the U.S. Designed by the Boston office of the MASS Design Group, the memorial consisted of four houselike structures that displayed in the biennial's Beaux-Arts headquarters, the Chicago Cultural Center.

The design was a crystalline beauty, its glass walls covering wood honeycombs in which mementos of gunshot victims were displayed. The project poignantly made the point that the victims should be remembered as people, not anonymous statistics. The architects hope that the design, a prototype, will evolve into a permanent display. It remains on display as the biennial continues through Jan. 5.

A new look for old lobbies: Among the many remakes of ground-floor lobbies in downtown Chicago, some of which are

hideous, one stands out: The redo of the south-facing lobby at the twin-towered CME Center office building, 30 and 10 S. Wacker Drive.

Shaped by Chicago's Krueck + Sexton Architects for the building's New York-based owners, Tishman Speyer, the project transformed a mausoleum-like 1980s lobby into a socially vibrant gateway. Distinguishing features include undulating perimeter glass walls and petal-inspired ceiling. An expansion of the project is due to be complete next year.

Small is beautiful: Another modestly scaled project, a public beach house in Wilmette, showed why Chicago's Woodhouse Tinucci Architects has been able to make a specialty of little lakefront buildings.

The serpentine beach house offered a case study in how a small building can achieve a distinctive presence yet disturb as little precious land as possible. The resolutely modern design was highlighted by a peaked trellis of Siberian larch that sweeps over five small concrete structures. The beach house and new landscaping dramatically

enhanced the suburb's Lake Michigan shoreline.

The cathedral of caffeine: The world's largest Starbucks, which opened in the old Crate & Barrel store on North Michigan Avenue, didn't just appeal to Chicago's appetite for being the biggest and the tallest. It delivered a shot of retail theater that made it one of the finest flagship stores on the Mag Mile.

Designed by an in-house team led by Starbucks Chief Design Officer Liz Muller and Vice President Jill Enomoto, the Starbucks Reserve Roastery Chicago, as this emporium is known, respected the modernist Crate & Barrel store by Solomon Cordwell Buenz yet gave it a fresh identity. Here, the playful industrial spirit of "Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory" met the sophisticated Scandinavian modernism championed by Crate & Barrel's founders, Gordon and Carole Segal.

A bold addition to the skyline: Chicago's high-rise building boom has yielded more architectural quantity than quality. A notable exception is the new NEMA Chicago tower, which, at 896 feet, isn't just Chicago's tallest rental skyscraper but also gives the Near South Side a new landmark. New York architect Rafael Viñoly's design creatively reinterprets the muscular setback style of Willis Tower while clean-lined interiors by New York's David Rockwell draw inspiration from Chicago's street grid and the building itself.

Finally, too many goodbyes: The design community lost an unusual number of major figures in 2019. In Chicago, notable deaths included Stanley Tigerman, a leader of the "Chicago Seven" architects who challenged modernist orthodoxy and opened the way for a more inclusive view of Chicago architecture. We also bid farewell to Lois Wille, the trailblazing reporter, editorial writer and author who wrote the influential book, "Forever Open, Clear, and Free: The Struggle for Chicago's Lakefront." And we lost Franz Schulze, the prolific art critic and biographer who authored biographies of architects Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Philip Johnson.

Other notable architects who died were New York's I.M. Pei, the globe-trotting modernist who brought new life to the Louvre with a giant glass pyramid; Cesar Pelli of New Haven, Conn., who designed the Malaysian twin towers that took the world's tallest building crown from Sears (now Willis) Tower; and Kevin Roche of Hamden, Connecticut, whose credits include New York's Ford Foundation headquarters and Chicago's Led Zeppelin Building. Pei and Roche were winners of the Pritzker Architecture Prize, the field's highest honor.

Blair Kamin is a Tribune critic. bkamin@chicagotribune.com

WATCH THIS: SUNDAY



Regina King

“Watchmen” (8 p.m., 9-10 p.m., 12:25 a.m., HBO): In bringing the world of a DC Comics series by Alan Moore and Dave Gibbons to the small screen, series creator Damon Lindelof made what turned out to be a brilliant choice in making his show a continuation, not an adaptation, of the cult favorite. Season 1 has been a big hit with both critics and HBO subscribers, thanks in part to a brilliant cast led by Regina King, Jean Smart and Tim Blake Nelson. That season concludes tonight as “everything ends for real this time,” per HBO.

“White House Christmas 2019” (4 p.m., HGTV): “The Brady Bunch” cast member Maureen McCormick, who played Marcia Brady on that vintage family sitcom, joins returning co-host Alison Victoria (“Windy City Rehab”) for this one-hour special, which finds the pair on a room-by-room tour of the White House bedecked with its holiday finery.

“The Sound of Music” (6 p.m., ABC): Julie Andrews’ sweet voice fills the hills in this Academy Award-winning 1965 musical based on the true story of Austria’s Von Trapp family. Andrews plays Maria, the convent-trained governess of a wealthy Austrian’s (Christopher Plummer) children. The score features such songs as “Edelweiss” and “My Favorite Things.” Among those playing the youngsters are Angela Cartwright, Nicholas Hammond and the late Heather Menzies and Charmian Carr.

“The 42nd Annual Kennedy Center Honors” (7 p.m., CBS): The Kennedy Center Honors celebrates a ground-breaking children’s television show, as well as artists whose contributions have left a permanent stamp on our collective cultural consciousness, in tonight’s edition of the annual ceremonies from Washington, D.C. The award-winning PBS show “Sesame Street” becomes the first TV series to be so recognized during tonight’s telecast. LL Cool J is the host.

“The Christmas Caroler Challenge” (7 p.m., CW): Dean Cain and TV personality Laura McKenzie host this six-episode holiday musical competition, which launches tonight with two back-to-back episodes. The series introduces 12 outstanding caroling groups, each with its own distinctive style when it comes to performing some of the most beloved holiday songs ever written. Three guest judges, still to be announced, will evaluate their performances.

“A Cheerful Christmas” (7 p.m., Hallmark): For the past four years, Lauren (Erica Deuschman) and her BFF Colleen (Tianna Nori) have been building a business together as “Christmas coaches” dedicated to making yuletide wishes come true, but they score a career coup when they’re hired by wealthy British royals now living in the United States. With most of that family stuck in London until just before Christmas Eve, though, their coaches must devise an ideal Christmas event with few firm directives.

“Angel Falls: A Novel Holiday” (8 p.m., HMM): Hannah (Jen Lilley), an editor at her family’s publishing company, harbors a grudge against Ryan (Carlo Marks), who “stole” her dream job after college, so she’s unhappy when she discovers that Ryan is back in town to settle the estate of his late parents. Worse, her own parents have hired him as a consultant. Venting to a friend in a nearby bookstore, Hannah is unaware that her complaints are being overheard by an eavesdropping angel.

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SUNDAY EVENING, DEC. 15

	PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS 2	The 42nd Annual Kennedy Center Honors (N) ©			NCIS: Los Angeles: “Till Death Do Us Part.”		News (N) ♦	
	NBC 5	(7:15) NFL Football: Buffalo Bills at Pittsburgh Steelers. (N) (Live) ©						
	ABC 7	♦ (6) The Sound of Music (G,’65) ♦♦♦♦ Julie Andrews, Christopher Plummer. A governess weds an Austrian widower with seven children. ©						News at 10pm (N) ♦
	WGN 9	black-ish ©	black-ish: “Churched.”	Last Man Standing ©	Last Man Standing ©	Weekend News (N)	Instant Replay (N) ©	Chicago’s Best
	Antenna 9.2	Two Dads	Two Dads	Growing	Growing	Johnny Carson ©		
	Court 9.3	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic
	PBS 11	♦ (6:30) Rick Steves’ Euro-Christmas ©		Downton Abbey Live: Cast, Creators & Spoilers Too! ©				
	CW 26.1	The Christmas Caroler (Series Premiere) (N)		The Christmas Caroler (N)	Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©	
	The U 26.2	Glory (R,’89) ♦♦♦♦ Matthew Broderick, Denzel Washington.						Freedom Writers ♦♦♦♦
	MeTV 26.3	Columbo: “Columbo Goes to College.” ©			Jeffersons		C. Burnett	D. Van Dyke
H&I 26.4	Star Trek: “The Apple.”		Star Trek: Next		Star Trek: Deep Space 9			
Bounce 26.5	♦ Greyson Family		Black or White (PG-13,’14) ♦♦ Kevin Costner, Octavia Spencer. © ♦					
FOX 32	The Simpsons (N)	Bless the Harts (N)	Bob’s Burgers (N)	Family Guy (N) ©	Fox 32 News at Nine Sunday		Fox Chicago Final Word ♦	
Ion 38	♦ Beauty & Beast		A Christmas Princess (NR,’19) Erin Gray. ©					
TeleM 44	♦ Lorax		The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG-13,’14) ♦♦♦ ©					
MNT 50	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	Mod Fam	
UniMas 60	Crank (R,’06) ♦♦ Jason Statham.		Crank 2: High Voltage (R,’09) ♦			Reason ♦		
WJVS 62	Ever Increasing Faith		Truth of God		Pol-News			
Univ 66	Elf (PG,’03) ♦♦♦ Will Ferrell, James Caan.		Crónicas: Historias					
							Noticias (N)	
CABLE	AE	American Sniper (R,’14) ♦♦♦ Bradley Cooper, Sienna Miller. ©		Salt ♦♦♦♦				
	AMC	♦ National Lamp. Christmas (8:15) National Lampoon’s Christmas Vacation (PG-13,’89) ♦♦♦						
	ANIM	Lone Star Law (N)		Lone Star Law (N)		Lone Star Law		Lone Star ♦
	BBCA	Taken (PG-13,’08) ♦♦♦ Liam Neeson. ©						
	BET	♦ The New Edition Story (8:03) Tyler Perry’s Good Deeds (PG-13,’12) ♦♦ Tyler Perry. © ♦						
	BIGTEN	♦ Basketball	Postgame	BIG Show	BIG Show	BIG Show	BIG Show	BIG Show
	BRAVO	Housewives-Atlanta (N)		Married to Medicine (N)		Watch (N)		Housewives-Atlanta
	CLTV	News at 7		News (N)		SportsFeed ©		
	CNN	CNN Newsroom (N)		The 2000s: “Yes We Can.”		The 2000s © ♦		
	COM	♦ (5:15) Wedding Crashers 21 Jump Street (R,’12) ♦♦♦ Jonah Hill, Channing Tatum. © ♦						
DISC	Alaska: The Last Frontier: “Masters of Disaster.” (N)							
DISN	Smurfs: The Lost Village (PG,’17) ♦♦		Gabby		Star Wars		Big City	
E!	The Kardashians		The Kardashians (N)		Very Cavallari (N) ©			
ESPN	SportCtr (N)		Bowl Mania (N) (Live)		World/Poker (Tape)			
ESPN2	Electricians (N)							
FNC	Life, Liberty & Levin (N)		The Next Revolution (N)		Watters’ World ©		Life ♦	
FOOD	Christmas Cookie		Holiday Wars (N) ©		Gingerbread (N)			
FREE	♦ (6:45) The Santa Clause (PG,’94) ♦♦♦ Tim Allen. ©							
FX	♦ (6:30) American Made (R,’17) ♦♦♦ Tom Cruise. ©		The Weekly		The Weekly			
HALL	A Cheerful Christmas (NR,’19) Chad Connell. ©							
HGTV	Beach (N)	Beach (N)	Jungle (N)	Jungle (N)	Hawaii (N)	Hawaii (N)	Hunt Intl (N)	
HIST	American Pickers		(8:02) American Pickers		(9:05) American Pickers		Pickers ♦	
HLN	Death Row Stories ©		Death Row Stories ©		Death Row Stories ©			
IFC	Tommy Boy (PG-13,’95) ♦♦		Chris Farley. ©		(9:15) Tommy Boy (PG-13,’95) ♦♦♦			
LIFE	Rediscovering Christmas (NR,’19) Jessica Lowndes. (9:03) Matchmaker Christmas (’19) ♦							
MSNBC	(6:00) Kasie DC (N) ©		Impeachment (N)		Dateline ©		Dateline ♦	
MTV	Ridic. (N)		Ridiculous. Ridiculous.		Ridiculous. Ridiculous.		Ridiculous. ♦	
NBCSCH	♦ NHL Hockey: Wild at Blackhawks (N)		Blackhawks Postgame (N)		Beer (N)		Heartland ♦	
NICK	Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs (PG,’09) ♦♦♦ Friends © Friends © Friends ©							
OVATION	♦ (6) The Negotiator (R,’98) ♦♦♦ Samuel L. Jackson. Inside the Actors Studio ©							
OWN	Baking Christmas (NR,’19) Tim Reid, Aloma Wright. One Fine Christmas (NR,’19) ♦							
OXY	Killer Siblings (N) ©		Snapped © “Whitney Harris.” Killer Sib. ♦					
PARMT	(7:05) The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 1 (PG-13,’11) ♦♦ Twilight Saga-2 ♦							
SYFY	♦ Journey 2-Mysterious Isl. R.I.P.D. (PG-13,’13) ♦ Jeff Bridges, Ryan Reynolds. © Futurama							
TBS	♦ (6:30) The Dark Knight Rises (PG-13,’12) ♦♦♦ Christian Bale. © Knight ♦							
TCM	Holiday Affair (NR,’49) ♦♦♦ Robert Mitchum. © Remember the Night (NR,’40) ♦♦♦♦							
TLC	90 Day Fiancé (N) (Part 1 of 2) Unpolished (N)							
TLN	Living-Edge	Manna Fest	In Grace	Turning Point ©	Christmas King			
TNT	♦ (6) Star Wars: Return of the Jedi (PG,’83) ♦♦♦ Star Wars: The Force Awakens ♦♦♦♦							
TOON	Apple	Apple	Amer. Dad	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Rick, Morty	
TRAV	Loch Ness Monster: Beneath the Waves (N) © Expedition Bigfoot (N) © Secrets							
TVL	King	King	King	King	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	
USA	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Mr. Robot: “Exit.” (N) Tread. ♦			
VH1	Love & Hip Hop ©		Love & Hip Hop ©		Love & Hip Hop ©			
WE	Law & Order: “Tabloid.”		Law & Order: “Monster.”		Law & Order: “Cherished.” Law ♦			
WGN America	Last Man		Last Man		Last Man Married			
PREMIUM	HBO	♦ (5:50) Hellboy (R,’19) ♦		Watchmen (Season Finale) (N) ©		(9:10) Watchmen: “See How They Fly.”		
	HBO2	♦ Watchmen (7:45) Chocolat (PG-13,’00) ♦♦♦ Juliette Binoche. © Blindspot ♦						
	MAX	Déjà Vu (PG-13,’06) ♦♦♦ Denzel Washington. © (9:10) The Marine (PG-13,’06) ♦ © ♦						
	SHO	Ray Donovan (N) © Shameless (N) © The L Word (N) Work-Pro.						
	STARZ	(7:05) Dublin Murders		(8:10) Dublin Murders		(9:13) Dublin Murders: “Episode 106.”		
STZENC	♦ Burn After Reading ♦♦♦		Mamma Mia! (PG-13,’08) ♦♦ Meryl Streep. ©		16Candle ♦			

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Chicago Tribune

BEST OF THE ARTS | 2019

BROADWAY

Year of dystopia, warnings, counterattacks

BY CHRIS JONES

No year in Broadway history has so upended the idea of what actually constitutes a Broadway show as did 2019. On the main stem, we were served up personal stories, chili, absurdist flatulence, rancid beetlejuice and romantic musicals fully shorn of their belief in the power of love.

Who ever thought they would see an “Oklahoma!” that ended with Laurey and Curly covered in human blood?

We went to hell and back, and I don’t just mean your credit card bills from Telecharge, and we found out that the human capacity for betrayal doesn’t change much, all thing considered. We loved the music of Tina Turner, marveled at the tenaciousness of the Temptations and laughed at a man in a dress. Maybe. It depended. As with any season, some of the offerings were tough pills to swallow, but this showcase of theatrical creativity still is booming and bristling, eight times a week. These are restless times. Radical moralism is in vogue. But Broadway still expects people to open their wallets. The consumption of art remains a voluntary act. So it still pays to embrace complexity.

Here are the 10 best Broadway shows of 2019, ranked:

1. “Hadestown”: Stylish, audacious and thoroughly original, “Hadestown” was the perfect dystopian musical for a year in which America seemed to be going to hell. An eye-popping fusion of Andre De Shields, “Westworld” and Bourbon Street anarchy, “Hadestown” avoided the trap of literalism in its interpretation of the music of Anais Mitchell, allowing the politics to seep out like steam from a punk. Director Rachel Chavkin’s production was ferocious all right, but never shrill or in lockstep with the musical down the street. Here was a show that asked where trust ends and caretaking begins, and that did not claim to know the answer. And unlike so many musicals these days, this show did not run scared from the transformative power of romantic love, a human entanglement so deep in the Broadway DNA that it hurts.

2. “Betrayal”: Was Jamie Lloyd’s eye-popping revival the best Harold Pinter production ever to be seen on Broadway? The decades-long competition is formidable, but I vote yes. Why? The production of this three-handed romantic thriller was lean



MARC BRENNER PHOTO

Tom Hiddleston, Charlie Cox and Zawe Ashton in “Betrayal,” on Broadway at the Bernard B. Jacobs Theatre.

enough to key into the play’s theme of how the overeducated literary classes are doomed to fail at love and succeed only in having an existential crisis. And it was human enough to make you care for its hapless spouses and adulterers. Tom Hiddleston even managed to cry through the invasion of a cellphone, indicative of the hell of having your heart on display.

3. “The Sound Inside”: Dense, sophisticated and complex, this enveloping story of a Yale creative writing professor with cancer and a keen sense of the complications of her own narrative was Adam Rapp at his best. Rapp, the closest the theater can get to David Foster Wallace, is often misunderstood by directors and actors, but the combination of the cold, existential, Dostoyevskian eye of director David Cromer and the intellectual vulnerability of the luminous Mary-Louise Parker meant that audiences were able to explore both the clinical and the heart-pulling dimension of the demise that surely awaits us all. Edward Albee once called the experience of seeing death in both the future and the present the “360-degree view.” That is what the smartest play of the season on Broadway offered.

4. “All My Sons”: Forget that

folksy old Joe Keller, or the idea that Arthur Miller had sympathy for small-town industrialists who became pawns of ruthless wartime capitalism. In Jack O’Brien’s revelatory revival, the actor Tracy Letts turned the purveyor of lethally cracked cylinder heads an all-American monster, far closer to Jeffrey Epstein or Bernie Madoff than any other interpretation I’ve seen. Such men as these always cause a lot of collateral damage, of course, and here we had Annette Bening on hand to show us what happens to enablers who retreat from what their eyes see and the mind tells them. A cautionary tale, rivetingly told.

5. “What the Constitution Means to Me”: Heidi Schreck’s solo tour de force decided that a Broadway show could be part a progressive political lecture, part a personal confessional autobiography of the writer and performer, and part a manifesto for feminist reform of the Supreme Court and its way of thinking. Yet she never abandoned what matters most in the theater: clarity, truth, vulnerability and care and understanding for an audience that wants to hear someone else’s story, but also use it in their own lives. Sure, there was catnip for feminists sick of originalist fallacies. But Schreck revealed enough

of her own personal and intellectual struggles to make us realize that the Constitution, and by extension America, are messy entities with unsolvable problems that always depend on the kindness of strangers.

6. “Ink”: Those compelled by Rupert Murdoch and his clan now have the HBO show “Succession” for their schadenfreude, but James Graham’s savvy play about the Sun newspaper, ground zero for today’s tabloid culture, revealed more about how the Australian mogul harnessed human need and failing for journalistic profit. Director Rupert Goold’s production was cold and cynical, but then how else should you treat this particular subject? “Ink” was stained with casualties, but it also pointed out that Murdoch has thrived because his publications are fun: entertaining to read and thrilling to create.

7. “Hillary and Clinton”: The Clintons remain the most fascinating enigma in American public affairs, their marriage an endless source of curiosity. Not everyone on Broadway understood, though, that such a living couple are best explored artistically with the kind of elliptical remove that Lucas Hnath’s very clever play afforded us. Laurie Metcalf brought her no-nonsense stoicism to a charac-

ter trapped in a Sisyphian life of ups and down; John Lithgow embodied how geniality can cover a multitude of sins. It wasn’t so much that they looked like Bill and Hillary, of course, but that they caught their essence, and their ability to reflect back to us so much of what has been going on in America.

8. “Slave Play”: Self-protected, youthfully certain of its truths and scathing of much white liberalism, “Slave Play” was unlike any other Broadway show, ever. But the politics were never allowed to subsume the inherent theatricality of the writing, and of the playwright, Jeremy O. Harris, who refused to sit quietly as playwrights are supposed to do. “Slave Play” wasn’t really about what most people thought it was about, but it was a sometimes affectionate takedown of the white critical establishment, luring the old-school tastemakers into loving a play that argued for their destruction. Brilliant. And never dull.

9. “Tootsie”: A show with a near-impossible task, given the aged ideas of the its source movie, “Tootsie” nonetheless managed to be the funniest show in town, unspooling gag after gag in its need to win us over to a fundamentally unsympathetic protagonist, and adding a delightful jazzy score from David Yazbek. Thanks to one of the best musical performances of the year, or any year, from Santino Fontana, it made for a good night out on the town. Nothing wrong with that. Life is hard.

10. “Kiss Me Kate”: For all the trends toward revisionism, the directing of Broadway musicals remains a craft that takes experience, talent and respect for the material. That is precisely what Scott Ellis — and his star, Kelli O’Hara — delivered with this charming revival of a Cole Porter musical with a score that just won’t stop smooching. With an eye toward the moment, Ellis and O’Hara subtly refocused the show as a tribute to the women and men of the theater, turning the work into a kind of precursor of “A Chorus Line,” while still celebrating its place in the golden age of musicals, when the songs and the performances always revealed things more than people today think.

The old school knew way, way, more than today’s trendsetters realize.

Chris Jones is a Tribune critic. cjones5@chicagotribune.com

VISUAL ART

Toxic philanthropy, rebranding, vacant galleries

BY LORI WAXMAN

Anyone who wants to know which Chicago area shows struck me as most trenchant, magnificent and affecting can read the articles I have written over the course of the year, keeping in mind that no one critic can cover everything of importance. What did I miss? Meleko Mokgosi’s larger-than-life-size suite of power paintings at the Smart Museum, Alberto Aguilar’s buoyant retrospective at Gallery 400, Alexandra Bachzetsis’s rigorously choreographed slapstick-erotics at the Art Institute, and no doubt plenty more.

But as 2019 draws to a close, it is other art-related subjects that consume my mind, which don’t neatly fit in between the lines of exhibition reviews. The list starts off dark, but I promise it gets lighter at the end.

The **Topic of the Year**, generating protests, open letters, resignations and refusals, has undoubtedly been toxic philanthropy. The award for **Deadliest Philanthropists** goes to the Sackler family, for their generous support of cultural institutions and universities, money derived from their company Purdue Pharma, maker of the addictive painkiller OxyContin, the drug at the center of the opioid crisis. Demonstrations by the photographer Nan Goldin and her group P.A.I.N. have convinced the Met, the Guggenheim and the Tate to announce that they will no longer accept Sackler money. Forging ahead, the Louvre and just last week the Smithsonian have removed the family name from their respective galleries of Asian art. With 130 people dying every day in the U.S. from opioid-related drug overdoses, it is surely



GALLERY 400

Alberto Aguilar’s “Moves on Human Scale” at Gallery 400.

worth the hassle.

Second place goes to Warren B. Kanders, who in July left his position as vice chairman of the Whitney Museum of American Art after months of protests by Decolonize This Place and the withdrawal by artists from the museum’s biennial. Kanders was targeted for his ownership of Safariland, a multibillion-dollar manufacturer of law enforcement and military supplies, including tear-gas grenades used against asylum-seekers at the US-Mexico border.

The Kanders debacle has led to calls for a more general ethical rethink of museum board members and their fortunes, including at the Museum of Modern Art, whose October reopening after a large expansion was greeted with exhortations for museum board member Larry Fink, CEO of BlackRock, to divest from private prisons and weapons making.

On view since early November

at MoMA’s PS1 annex is “Theater of Operations: The Gulf Wars 1991-2011,” a sprawling and timely group show examining the impacts of these conflicts through hundreds of works by 82 artists, including 36 Iraqis and Kuwaitis. It is also the **Most Ironic Proof That the Art World Is Complicit**. Though the Queens venue does not have the same trustees as MoMA, they do share a name, a website, and an institutional identity, as well as a man named Leon Black, who as chairman of MoMA’s board also serves on PS1’s. Black owns Constellis Holdings, formerly Blackwater, infamous for its role in the Nisour Square Massacre. That artists whose lives — and in some cases, whose lives — testify to the horrors of these wars are being put in the situation of art-washing a man whose company participated directly in these traumas ought to be the stuff of dystopian fiction, not reality.

Meanwhile, the man at the top of Chicago’s own philanthropic heap, billionaire Ken Griffin, has used \$125 million of his sizable fortune to spur the **Brashest Act of Rebranding** by purchasing the naming rights to the Museum of Science and Industry, soon to be known as the Kenneth C. Griffin Museum of Science and Industry. Griffin, for whom the fourth-floor galleries of the MCA and the main hall of the AIC’s Modern Wing are also named, is the founder of the hedge fund Citadel, a majority shareholder in CoreCivic, formerly known as Corrections Corporation of America, which runs prisons and detention centers for Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), among others.

Working from what might be considered the opposite premise, the Oriental Institute has on the occasion of its centennial given itself a coy new moniker: The OI. No doubt the museum, which houses the country’s largest collection of ancient artifacts from the Middle East, is all too well aware of the political incorrectness of the term “oriental” when applied to just about anything. Formerly one of the more obscure institutions in Chicago, the OI has also been in the news for its return this September of some 1,800 ancient tablets to Iran, unearthed in the 1930s by OI scholars and kept in Hyde Park ever since. This marks the **Most Notable Local Entry in the Worldwide Trend Toward Restitution**, officially on the table since the Savoy-Sarr report was released by the French government proposing the unconditional return of any object gained through looting or forced consent.

Progressive ideas concerning

cultural property, about who has the right to own and display it, were in full force at the Art Institute in April, when the museum announced the **Most Principled Cancellation of the Year**. In an unprecedented move, its main temporary exhibition galleries were left empty of the ancient pottery of the Mimbres people, who lived in the southwest between 1000 and 1130 A.D., because the show had been curated without indigenous input and was to be comprised of funerary objects robbed from burial grounds.

As proved this year both at the Whitney and the Art Institute, the threat of vacant galleries is now real. It can’t help but be, in an art world where so much has been stolen, censored and compromised. Early this month, however, the four individuals nominated for the U.K.’s annual Turner Prize offered up another option. In the **Most Uplifting Move by Artists**, the group requested that the award be shared between them. The judges acceded their appeal, which came in the form of a letter, in which the artists explained: “At this time of political crisis in Britain and much of the world, when there is already so much that divides and isolates people and communities, we feel strongly motivated to use the occasion of the prize to make a collective statement in the name of commonality, multiplicity and solidarity — in art as in society.”

Thank you Lawrence Abu Hamdan, Helen Cammock, Tai Shani and Oscar Murillo for a wish to help guide us all into 2020.

Lori Waxman is a freelance critic. ct-arts@chicagotribune.com [Twitter @chitribent](https://twitter.com/chitribent)

BEST OF THE ARTS | 2019

DANCE

Array of stunning performances in time of transition

BY LAUREN WARNECKE

For dance, 2019 was a year of transition. New leaders were installed at Chicago Dancers United, Links Hall and the Auditorium Theatre. The Joffrey Ballet kicked off its final season at the Auditorium, its performance home for decades, and is preparing to move to the Lyric Opera House next fall.

Since last year's Top 10, three pioneers of Chicago dance have died: founding Hubbard Street Dance Chicago dancer Claire Bataille, founding artistic director of Ensemble Espanol Spanish Dance Theater Dame Libby Komaiko and Christine DuBoulay Ellis, who ran the prestigious Ellis DuBoulay School of Ballet for more than 40 years with her husband, Richard Ellis. In some ways, it's felt like a year of great loss, but transitions make way for new growth, new voices and new ideas.

And even amid all these organizational changes, the year produced some extraordinary dance. Looking down this list, one can't help but notice a banner year for the Harris Theater, which in addition to the shows listed chronologically below, also gave us the Chicago premiere of one of Australia's finest dance companies, Bangarra Dance Theatre, and "Echo Mine," Robyn Mineko Williams' gorgeous eulogy for Claire Bataille. With CEO Patricia Barretto at the helm, the Harris has truly found its footing as a world-class presenter of music and dance from around the world, and a champion for many of Chicago's home team companies.

Ragamala Dance at the Harris: Inspired, in part, by the ancient Indian board game Paramapadam, the dancers in "Written in Water" carved captivating pat-

terns in bharatanatyam steps, mirrored by rich projections of a "game board" onto the stage. At the crux of the game: a moral dilemma in which players must choose between good and evil. But you needn't have gotten any of that to be amazed by this work's exquisite tableaux and glorious score, an ingenious, hybridized fusion of Sufi and Carnatic music, played live.

The Joffrey Ballet at the Auditorium: Joffrey's two new full-length ballets handily deserve a spot near the top of any dance list this year: the world premiere of Yuri Possokhov's "Anna Karenina" and the company premiere of Cathy Marston's "Jane Eyre." Exploring the two literary heroines pushed this company in every way, but most notably, the dancers stepped up in their character work and storytelling. And that's not just Anna and Jane, though Amanda Assucena and Victoria Jaiani exquisitely rotated both roles; leading men Greig Matthews and Alberto Velazquez, and even the smaller character roles highlighted dancers like Yumi Kanazawa, Christine Rocas and Edson Barbosa — who even managed to impress me as Buffalo Bill in Christopher Wheelodon's "Nutmacker" this month — as the Joffrey's deep bench gets stronger with every production.

English National Ballet at the Harris: If I had to pick the best thing I've seen all year, hands down, it would be Akram Khan's "Giselle." This highly anticipated trip over the Atlantic by English National Ballet, who had not visited the United States in three decades, actually lived up to the hype, with an evocative, gorgeous retelling of one of ballet's most iconic works. Khan blends ballet with classical kathak and modern dance, which these ballet dancers



KYLE FLUBACKER PHOTO

Alina Cojocar, Jeffrey Cirio and the English National Ballet perform Akram Khan's "Giselle" at the Harris.

conquered with such unabashed ease. And he swaps the idyllic German town and a few of the questionable trappings of the 1841 ballet by morphing the story, drawing from the horrid Rana Plaza disaster in 2013, when a garment factory collapsed, and more generally, stories of displacement and the refugee crisis in Europe. I simply had to see this twice; if I could have, I would have gone all four times.

Mordine & Company at Links Hall: A mix of old and new works were part of a perfect, pared-down performance celebrating the modern dance company's 50th anniversary, with lovable Shirley Mordine as emcee. The highlight: a restaging of "Three Women" with archival footage of Mordine, Carol Bobrow and Jan Erkert dancing behind current company powerhouses Danielle Gilmore, Melissa Pillarella and Emily Stepleton.

Chicago Dance Crash at the Ruth Page Center for the Arts: With several full-length productions under its belt, Crash has pretty much mastered the narrative format. And "Lil Pine Nut," modeled after the story of Pino-

cchio, gave us some of the year's greatest choreographic ingenuity, cool designs and a fun sampling of hip-hop with heart.

Cerqua Rivera and Ensemble Espanol at the Auditorium: This was two concerts in one, with choreographer Wilfredo Rivera's full-length "American Catracho," by contemporary company Cerqua Rivera, followed by a full-octane performance of greatest flamenco and folkloric dance hits by Ensemble Espanol.

A Celebration of Lar Lubovitch at the Harris: The Harris' fall season opener paid tribute to the prolific choreographer with four works danced by top-notch performers from around the country, including Ballet Austin, the Martha Graham Dance Company and members of Hubbard Street and the Joffrey Ballet. Clean lines, exquisite dancing, compositional excellence and to-the-point designs are just some of the reasons I loved this program, a refreshing and unforgettable night of Dance, capital D.

Giordano Dance Chicago at the Harris: Giordano can almost

always be counted on for high-quality entertainment, and one thing is for sure: This jazz dance company refuses to be counted out. After nearly 60 years, the quality is as high as it's ever been, with a fall season opener that boasted a roster of tireless and electrifying dancers, a groove-inspired new work by choreographer Peter Chu, a gorgeous remount of Marinda Davis' "Flickers" and a couple boisterous 1990s revivals.

Natya Dance Theatre at the Dance Center: A captivating blend of puppetry, bharatanatyam, kathak and more came together almost seamlessly in Natya's "Inai: The Connection," created by Hema Rajagopalan and India's Astad Deboo. What I treasure most about this production was not its perfection, but rather, its rawness, individuation and willingness to push at the boundaries of thousands-years old dance traditions to find new saliency for concert dance audiences.

Lauren Warnecke is a freelance critic.

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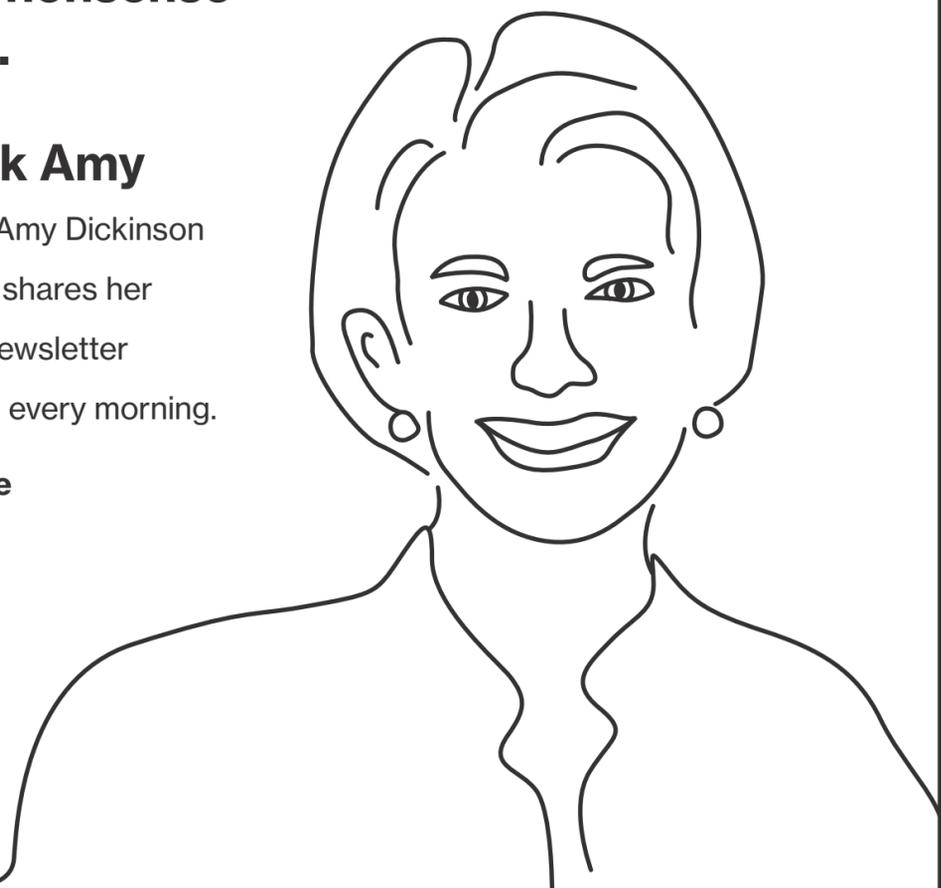
Chicago Tribune

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Why 'Pokémon' endures

A newbie and an expert chat while playing latest games

BY TODD MARTENS AND TRACY BROWN
Los Angeles Times

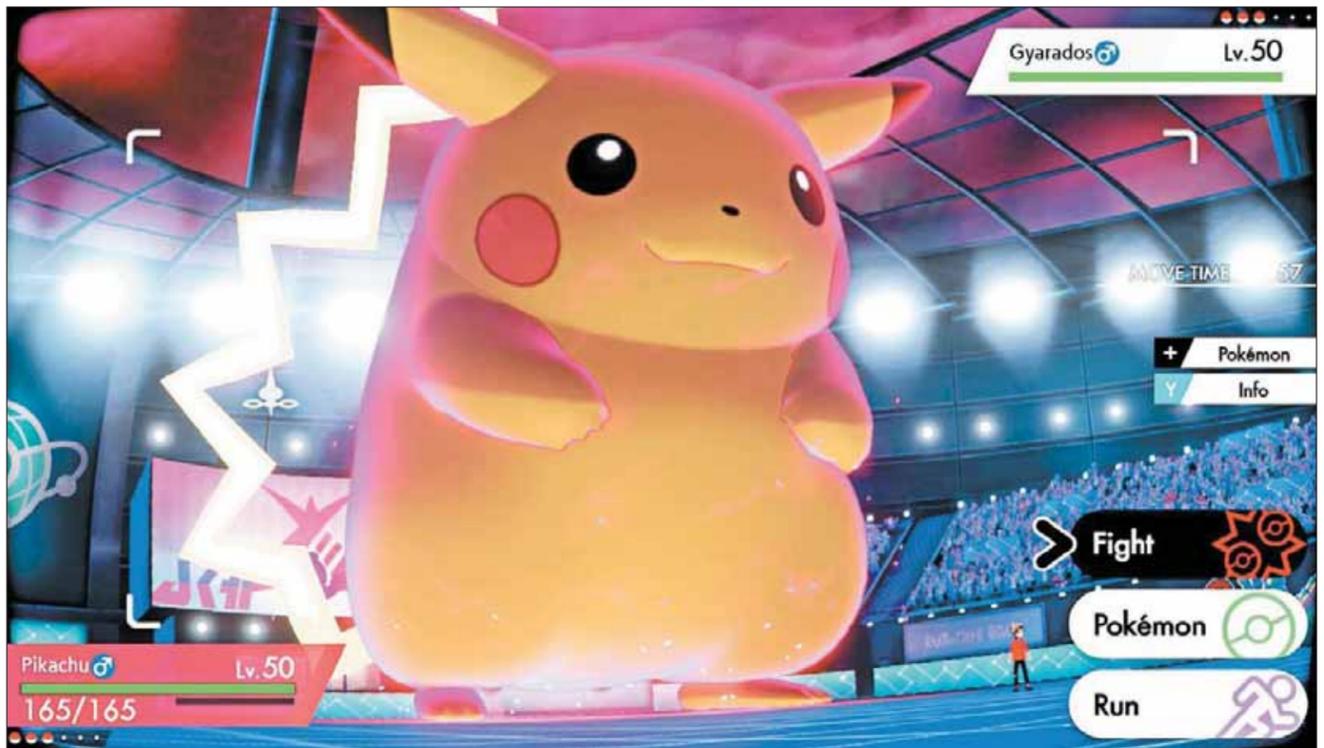
About two years ago I was in the presence of royalty. Junichi Masuda, instrumental in the "Pokémon" franchise, stood up at the end of our interview at the Electronic Entertainment Expo. There was an awkward moment as no one appeared to be moving. A Nintendo rep quietly asked if I wanted a photograph with the master game developer.

Nintendo and Masuda were so accustomed to accommodating requests for a picture that it was practically an anomaly when there wasn't one. Masuda has been with the "Pokémon" series since its mid-1990s beginnings and is a key figure in one of the most prominent cultural mainstays of the past two decades.

And I missed it all. When the early wave of the "Pokémon" craze hit in 1996, I was nearing the end of high school; my interests were more "Trainspotting" and "Quake" rather than Pikachu and Squirtle. My first "Pokémon" experience was "Pokémon GO," more of an augmented reality sensation than a proper "Pokémon" adventure. When I spoke to Masuda it was a full year before this year's "Sword" and "Shield" entries in the series, games that will assuredly be among the biggest of 2019.

During my time with Masuda, I wanted to know why "Pokémon" endures. His first thought: The world of "Pokémon" is "comical." And more than that, "It's a kind feeling."

"We're definitely very careful about that," Masuda said of the cartoonish role-playing games that feature trainers raising mystical creatures and sending them



"Sword" and "Shield," the new games in the "Pokémon" series, feature battling giant Pokémon.

off into battle. "We want to show off this cool fantasy setting, but within that fantasy setting create a consistent realism. Even though there's moves that poison the opponent, we still make those effects that don't look super serious or intimidating."

After a couple of weeks playing "Pokémon Sword," I'm charmed. The game is full of sly asides that bring a smile to my face. I wanted to better understand what makes "Pokémon" a cultural force. Luckily I work with Tracy Brown, whose "Pokémon" knowledge vastly outshines my own. We decided to play "Sword" and "Shield" concurrently, to see how a knowledgeable fan and a newcomer view the same game.

Q: Tracy, what's your initial takeaway?

Brown: I am having a blast. As a person who grew up on a steady diet of kaiju movies and Japanese curry rice, a lot of the new fea-

tures — like battling giant Pokémon and cooking all kinds of curries — could not have been better tailored to appeal to me.

The draw for me has always been the Pokémon themselves. They're cute and weird and there are so many different kinds of them. The excitement of each new game is encountering brand new Pokémon and trying to catch them all.

I've also started to appreciate the gentleness of the fantasy world. That might sound weird since the point is to have little creatures battle each other, but this is a world where parents are OK with 10-year-olds setting off on cross-country adventures to chase their dreams with nothing but a backpack and a pocket monster.

Plus, there are free medical facilities that heal Pokémon. It's a beautiful, simple world to escape to, which I think "Sword" and "Shield" has really leaned into by playing up the pure

joy people within the world get from watching Pokémon battles.

Q: How are you finding the game, Todd? And what starter Pokémon did you choose?

Martens: I didn't know what "starter Pokémon" even meant until a few years ago. I've come to realize that this choice of which creature to raise and be the primary fighter throughout the game can cause a great deal of stress, but I didn't overthink it. I went with Sobble, since Sobble sort of looks like a walking, sad little teardrop. Another starter, Scorbunny, struck me as overly confident and I find that trait a turn-off.

Brown: "Sword" and "Shield" let players see a world where you can really understand why a kid would want to take this journey into becoming a Pokémon champion. The game's coming-of-age quest is that much more compel-

ling when everything is fleshed out.

These elements are definitely reflective of the ways the "Pokémon" games have evolved, and I think speaks to why some of us keep coming back for more.

I also want to point out how the different reasons we picked different starter Pokémon shows how varied the experience can be. What you saw as overly confident in Scorbunny, I just took as excitable athlete. I picked the energetic bunny partly because he was cute, and also because past "Pokémon" has taught me that there are generally more water-type Pokémon (like Sobble) in the game than fire-types (like Scorbunny), so it made a bit more strategic sense.

But that prior knowledge is not at all crucial to enjoy the game.

Martens: One of the primary appeals of games is that they can become unique stories to those who play them.

I wanted to spend time in this world because it embraces players with a hug.

I was reminded of a comment from Masuda when I asked him to reflect on how now multiple generations have fallen for "Pokémon," and he more or less said it's because "Pokémon" doesn't try to age with its players.

"I think a lot hard-core fans maybe want us to pursue a more realistic, heavier, hardcore, dark portrayal," he said. "Of course listen to their feedback but I try to go in the direction that we lay out for ourselves."

My biggest fear before starting the "Pokémon" game was there would be two decades of lore and myths and a language that I just wouldn't understand, like someone watching "Avengers: Infinity War" without having seen other Marvel films. I was pleased that "Pokémon" essentially laid out the welcome mat.

Reich

Continued from Page 1

artists, and uncounted others, playing music that lives far outside the pop-culture maelstrom. For though jazz and classical music exist on the margins of contemporary life, at least judging by record sales, they offer a balm that is uniquely theirs. Step into Orchestra Hall or the Jazz Showcase in Chicago, Carnegie Hall or the Village Vanguard in Manhattan, Palais Garnier or Duc des Lombard in Paris, and you are entering sacred spaces where listeners seek something other than noise and sensation.

Which is not to say that jazz and classical lack for visceral excitement. Ever hear the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra tear through Duke Ellington's "New Orleans Suite"? Or Riccardo Muti and the Chicago Symphony Orchestra make the house tremble in Verdi's Requiem? Or trumpeter Nicholas Payton deliver high notes that rival Louis Armstrong's? Or Chucho Valdes play a piano that surely must have more than the usual 88 keys?

These are not exactly sedate performances. Yet even at their most tumultuous, they're built on clarity of sound and articulation of detail. Noise alone will not do. And even the most robust passages inevitably give way to stretches of profound introspection — the calm before and after the storms.

This means everyone in the audience must do something that increasingly is becoming a rarity: keep quiet and listen. Our individual voices, our opinions, our fervently held beliefs, our prejudices are not to be voiced here, at least not until concert's end. We may cheer briefly after a brilliant jazz solo or applaud after a movement of a Beethoven symphony

Everyone in the audience must do something that increasingly is becoming a rarity: keep quiet and listen. Our individual voices, our opinions, our fervently held beliefs, our prejudices are not to be voiced here, at least not until concert's end.

(though even that's frowned upon). But we're there to receive music, to allow the artists to work against a canvas of silence. Only then can we perceive the subtleties and nuances that the world's greatest musicians alone can produce.

This is the underlying premise the audience embraces — or should — when it attends these performances. That's why everyone looks askance at the boor who crinkles a candy wrapper during an orchestral concert; or the philistine whose "smart phone" glows brightly as he scrolls through messages at the opera house; or the young couple who converse throughout a set at a jazz club. Each fails to understand the meaning and purpose of the rite that is happening before them.

For when the room is still and the musicians hold sway, we can get lost in the sounds they create. In these moments, their work relieves us of everything else in our lives. We don't know or care if the person sitting next to us is a Republican or a Democrat, anti-abortion or pro-choice, gun-lover or gun-hater, or anything else.

On the contrary, we are all united in the desire to hear exactly what Beethoven and Brahms, Bird and Trane, Frank and Ella have to teach us. For an hour or two, nothing matters but the music that washes over us, undisturbed by the commodity that's unavoidable the rest of the

day: talk.

The artists, too, benefit from our shared belief in silence and the power of listening, for all the rehearsing in the world means nothing to them without a raptly attentive audience to address. I once visited Frank Sinatra backstage at the Civic Opera House, and he looked like a weathered old man, moving slowly and unsteadily, as if every bone in his body hurt.

Then he came onstage, and after a torrent of applause the house fell silent, the great artist approached the microphone and began to sing. He hit hard in uptempo numbers, sang forlornly in down-in-the-dumps ballads and brought a few thousand people to a hush every time he opened his mouth. As the concert progressed, the years seemed to fall off him. The septuagenarian I'd spoken to not half an hour earlier suddenly was back in his prime, singing, swinging, celebrating life, moving almost as if he were young again.

At that moment, and a thousand others like it, nothing mattered but the profound connection between one musician and 3,500-plus listeners before him.

Everyone in the house came together as one. A lesson, perhaps, for the shrill era we live in.

Howard Reich is a Tribune critic.

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Quiz: Just how well do you know 'Christmas Vacation'?

Austin American-Statesman

"Hallelujah. Holy (expletive). Where's the Tylenol?"

As foul-mouthed holiday rants go, a couple of Chevy Chase's — as family man Clark Griswold in "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" — are up there.

Oh, they're not as intentionally offensive as Steve Martin's rental car counter tirade in "Planes, Trains and Automobiles" (he drops the F-bomb 18 times, if you're counting).

Nor are they as endearing as Peter Billingsley's "Only I didn't say fudge" from "A Christmas Story." And let's not even mention Jimmy Stewart's filthy diatribe in the uncensored version of "It's a Wonderful Life."

I kid. Like Santa's sleigh, "Christmas Vacation" flies under the radar. It's nowhere near as popular as those other holiday mainstays, but that's OK — with its unvarnished look at the impossibly high expectations and nonstop pressure of the holidays, it works best as a cult classic, anyway. Much like Clark, it's a perpetual underdog.

If you're a fan of the film, take this 20-question quiz to see just how closely you've watched. And if you've never seen it, get your "cheap, lying, no-good, rotten, four-flushing, low-life, snake-licking, dirt-eating, inbred, over-stuffed, ignorant, blood-sucking, dog-kissing, brainless, (expletive)less, hopeless, heartless, fat-(ex-



Warner Bros. Chevy Chase in "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation."

pletive), bug-eyed, stiff-legged, spotty-lipped, worm-headed sack of monkey (expletive)" self to the big box store bargain bin.

The sanitized ABC Family version's just not as much fun.

1. What Christmas carol are Clark and Ellen singing at the beginning of the film, as they head to the woods to cut down a tree?
2. Which sports team's cap does Clark wear at various points throughout the film?
3. What item does Clark forget to bring on the tree-hunting expedition?
4. What does Clark plan to do with his Christmas bonus?
5. What does Clark receive instead of money for a Christmas bonus?
6. What does Aunt Bethany recite when the others ask her to say grace at the dinner table?
7. How many lights does Clark use on the house?
8. What kind of vehicle does Uncle Eddie drive?
9. What classic holiday

movie is Clark's son Rusty watching on television as the arguing in-laws arrive?

10. What does Clark do to amuse himself while he's stuck in the attic?
11. What does Clark wear on his head when using his chainsaw for the first time?
12. What year was "Christmas Vacation" released?
13. What type of animal is in the Christmas tree?
14. What are the first names of Clark's neighbors, played by Nicholas Guest and Julia Louis-Dreyfus?
15. What is the name of Cousin Eddie's dog?
16. Who accidentally traps Clark in the attic?
17. When Clark finds himself on a runaway sled, what store is where the sled eventually stops?
18. What corrected Eddie's daughter's crossed eyes?
19. What song does the family sing together at the end of the movie?
20. What's the last line of the movie?

Answers: 1. "Deck the Halls"; 2. Chicago Bears; 3. A saw; 4. Install a swimming pool; 5. A yearlong subscription to a jelly of the Month Club; 6. The Pledge of Allegiance; 7. 25,000; 8. RV; 9. "It's a Wonderful Life"; 10. Target; 11. A hockey mask; 12. "I did it"; 13. A squirrel; 14. Todd and Margie; 15. Snots; 16. Ellen's mother, Frances; 17. Walmart; 18. She got kicked by a mule; 19. "The Star-Spangled Banner"; 20. "I did it."

The Goods: Here's all the best Star Wars gear to buy

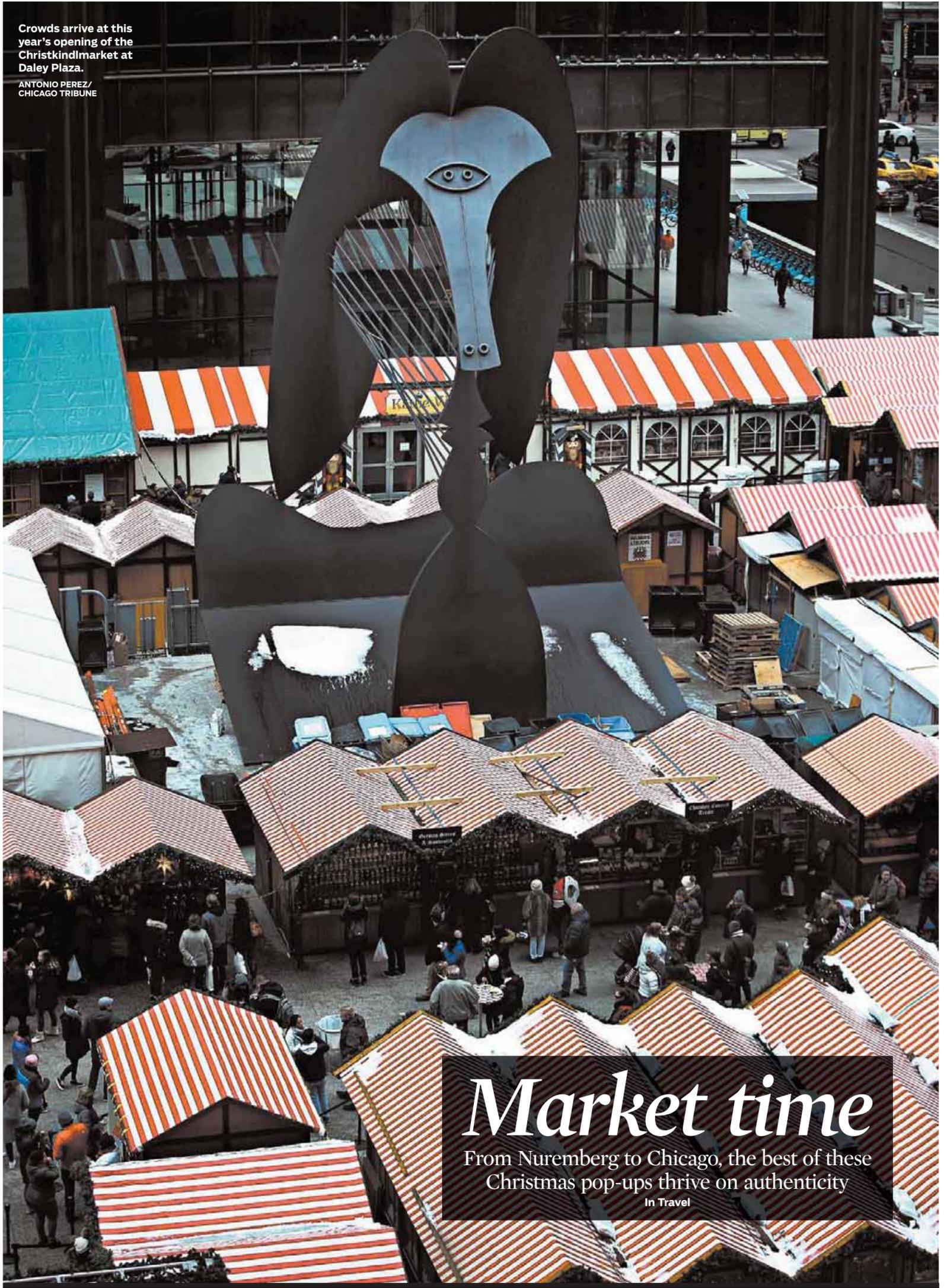
Chicago Tribune

LIFE + TRAVEL



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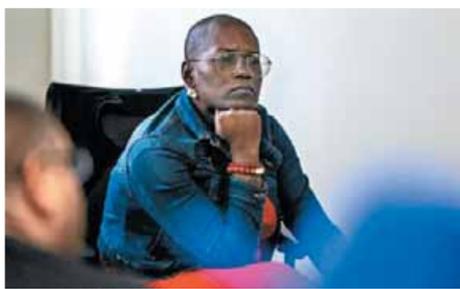
Style | Relationships | Home



Crowds arrive at this year's opening of the Christkindlmarket at Daley Plaza.
ANTONIO PEREZ/
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Market time

From Nuremberg to Chicago, the best of these Christmas pop-ups thrive on authenticity
In Travel



CAMILLE FINE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

LIFE

'We are a resilient people'

Vanessa Perry DeReef leads the charge for street outreach workers trying to quell city violence



STYLE

Designed with passion

Letesha Renee's Eugene Taylor Brand celebrates unisex, genderless clothes

LETESHA RENEE PHOTO



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

TRAVEL

'Glamping' in Wrigleyville

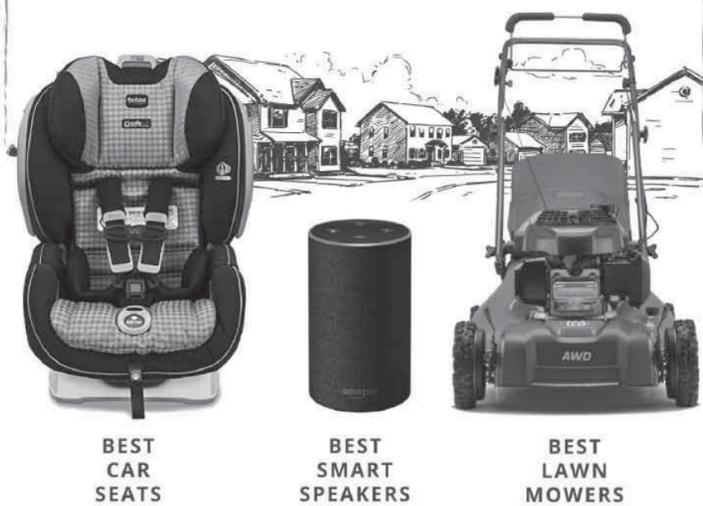
Camp Zachary brings safari-style tents to hotel terrace in time for the holidays

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ASK AMY

By AMY DICKINSON | askamy@amydickinson.com | @askamy

Hostess wants guests to pitch in

Dear Amy: I have a holiday etiquette question. In my family, when a gathering involves food, everyone brings something. I think it's helpful, giving, polite, respectful and "the right thing to do."

Even when I travel to go to family gatherings, I always bring something, whether it is something store bought, or a homemade goodie. I would be embarrassed to walk in empty-handed!

I host many family gatherings. My sister-in-law (my brother's wife) and her family travel back to the hometown by car to attend these gatherings.

Each and every time, her family of five will come to my home, bringing nothing but their appetites!

They're of the mindset that because they are traveling to see us, they shouldn't have to bring anything, and never offer to do so. I personally find this to be rude and ill-mannered.

In the days leading up to the holidays, she does nothing but run all over town shopping. It boggles my mind that she doesn't think to stop to even pick up a bottle of wine. This has nothing to do with means or access, but is just a seemingly self-centered attitude.

What do you think?
— Tired of Hosting

Dear Tired: Holiday meals are not like other occasions. They are communal feasts, and I agree that it is polite to ask the host for an assignment of something to bring, even if you are traveling.

Your sister-in-law was not raised by your parents, who taught you that it was necessary to always bring something when you are invited for a meal. Your brother (this woman's husband) WAS raised by your parents, however. He knows the drill — why is he not stepping up to contribute to the meal?

Rather than passively seethe, you could easily manage this by giving this family of five a specific assignment — perhaps a non-perishable dessert, drinks or both. You say, "It's all hands on deck this year. I'm wondering if you would pick up some wine and soft drinks on your way into town? We could use your contribution."

Dear Amy: I've had my cat, "Kitty," for eight years. She's 10 years old.

She has always been an indoor cat. She likes to sit by the window and watch the

birds, but she gets excited and chatters when she sees them. Other than that, she seems content.

Today I spotted another cat in our backyard. He seemed to be enjoying himself. When I told my husband, he said that it is mean not to let Kitty experience life outside. But I say it is safer inside. I want her to live longer, but I don't want her to have regrets. What should I do?

— Confused about Kitty

Dear Confused: If you want to shorten your cat's life, as well as end the lives of many songbirds and animals that visit your yard, then definitely let your indoor cat roam outside.

I don't know if cats can experience regret. They can, however, experience their own instincts: to stalk, hunt and kill smaller animals and birds.

According to a study conducted by the Smithsonian and published in 2013, "... from 6.9 billion to as many as 20.7 billion mammals — mainly mice, shrews, rabbits and voles — are killed by cats annually in the contiguous 48 states."

The study further concluded that cats that live in the wild (or indoor pets allowed to roam outdoors) kill from 1.4 billion to as many as 3.7 billion birds in the continental U.S. each year. (Each year!)

If you want your cat to experience the outdoors, take it outside on a leash. Do not allow it to roam on its own.

Dear Amy: I know I'm late weighing in on the topic of strangers demanding that people should "smile!" but I'd like to share a story.

Five years ago, a stranger in a gas station said to me, "Smile. It can't be that bad. What? Did your puppy die?"

Amy, my son had died two weeks earlier. That encounter was my first attempt at leaving the house. It was months before I was able to try again.

Telling a stranger to smile can be far more detrimental than most people seem to realize.

— Grieving Mom

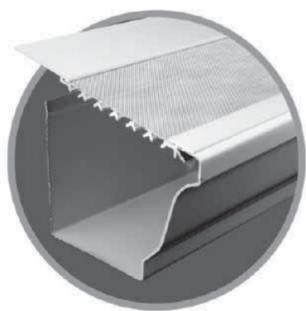
Dear Grieving: None of us can know what pain a stranger is enduring. My heartfelt condolences to you and your family.

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BALANCING ACT

By Heidi Stevens | hstevens@chicagotribune.com | [@heidistevens13](https://twitter.com/heidistevens13)

'Please tell the weather girl to get some maternity dresses'

WGN morning team shares garbage notes from viewers received during pregnancies

We're still doing this, huh? Still writing to women who have degrees in meteorology and telling them to "STOP WEARING PATTERNS." Still contacting grown professionals about their butts. ("VERY wide.") Still watching morning news as if we're Us Weekly's Fashion Police, armed with salty insults and not afraid to hurl them.

WGN Morning News anchors Morgan Kolkmeier, Lauren Jiggetts and Sarah Jindra recently read aloud some of the feedback they get from viewers about their bodies and their wardrobe choices during their pregnancies. Kolkmeier is due to give birth in a few weeks. Jiggetts and Jindra both had babies within the last year.

Set to Taylor Swift's "Mean," the clip opened with Kolkmeier (who studied meteorology and applied mathematics at Northern Illinois University) reading, "Please tell the weather girl to get some maternity dresses she is so pretty but wearing regular dresses at this stage in pregnancy looks so trashy."

Next up is Jindra, sharing a note she received while pregnant: "Love your work but u need to wear clothing that fits u this trimester. Some of those dresses look terrible especially when u turn to the side or the camera gets your VERY wide butt. Sorry don't want 2 b mean, just honest!"

Jiggetts jumps in with a note directed at her. "Must be 'ugliest dress day' today on WGN mornings, Morgan's dress looks awful but Lauren's 'polka dot disaster' look hideous a true wardrobe failure."

And this gem: "What is Morgan thinking when she chooses her wardrobe?? I used to think she dressed beautifully. Has baby brain gotten to her?? STOP WEARING PATTERNS ... Stick



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

During her pregnancy, WGN-TV's Lauren Jiggetts received unflattering comments about wardrobe choices.

with solids." "I started saving some of the comments I received when I was pregnant last year because they were laughably bizarre," Jindra told me. "Who emails a stranger about their butt? When Morgan started getting comments recently during her pregnancy, we just thought it would be funny to share them with all of our viewers. We love our viewers and 99.9% of them are incredibly supportive and encouraging."

A few years ago, I interviewed ABC-7 meteorologist Tracy Butler. She showed me her calendar where she writes down what she wears on air every morning ("fuchsia dress," "aqua sweater, gray pants," "sleeveless pink dress") so she doesn't repeat an

outfit too soon and so she has a reference point when people write or call about her clothing. Which they do. A lot.

"Over the years, I would get calls, especially from men who would say, 'My wife saw that you wore this sweater or suit or something, and it was back in April,' and this would be, like, August," Butler told me. "And I'm thinking, 'I can't remember what I wore yesterday.' So I started keeping a calendar of every single thing I wear. I've done it since the late '80s, early '90s."

They also call and write her about her hair.

"Not too long ago, I had a woman who said, 'You make way too much money to have your hair looking like a mop. I can't believe

none of your friends tell you how bad you look,'" Butler said. "I called my best friend and said, 'You're my best friend. Why didn't you tell me I look like I'm wearing a mop?'"

Butler told me the feedback doesn't really bother her. "I'm just truly blessed and lucky that I have a job that allows me to reach people," she said. "Growing up in Pittsburgh, I was so shy. Never in a trillion years did I think I would grow up and people would ask where I purchased something. It's a humbling and crazy honor for me."

The WGN anchors hardly seem fazed by the garbage thrown their way either. They work in a newsroom. They're surrounded daily by stories about

grief and violence and inequality and corruption. If their wardrobes aren't top of mind at every waking moment, it's not because of baby brain.

"We usually choose to laugh off comments like these with each other," Kolkmeier told me. "I remember reading the comment that said my patterned dress put a woman 'over the edge' and we laughed thinking my dress choice had that kind of power! The idea didn't come from a place of anger, and to be honest it takes way more energy to be offended than to just laugh it off."

Still, I think it's telling that for some viewers the primary thing they notice about a woman doing her job is how she looks while she's doing it.

I think it's telling that the women who bring us our headlines and weather reports and traffic conditions and stories that shape and inform our daily lives are reminded, day in and day out, that nothing they say or do is as important as the body they inhabit: the size of that body, the shape of that body, the clothing on that body.

I think it's telling that some people feel so comfortable sitting in judgment, so righteous in their scorn, that they take the time to shame and scold strangers.

I think it's time to put that thinking out to pasture.

If you feel that letting a woman's face and voice into your home through your TV screen gives you the right to tear her down a peg or two; if you feel that women have a moral obligation to please your eye; if you feel that sharing your righteous indignation about a pregnant woman's terrible dress and very wide butt simply makes you honest (not mean!) ... examine that, would you?

It's really getting old.

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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CAMILLE FINE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Vanessa Perry DeReef of the Metropolitan Peace Academy in the classroom at Kennedy-King College in Chicago's Englewood neighborhood.

Training 'superheroes'

'When you come here, it recharges your cape' Vanessa Perry DeReef says of peace workers she teaches

BY DARCEL ROCKETT

Don't be afraid of the loud boom when you're walking past a second-floor Kennedy-King College classroom in Englewood on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

One ... two ... three ... BOOM!
Clapping usually precedes the boom and the resonance of said boom from the throats of those in the fourth cohort of the Metropolitan Peace Academy (MPA) almost shakes the walls when it sounds off in a call-response kind of way. Students have to match the energy of the director of training, Vanessa Perry DeReef, a former CPS teacher/counselor/administrator-turned community builder. MPA students are outreach workers with neighborhood organizations who are focused on community engagement and curbing violence, learning strategies on restorative justice practices, nonviolence, trauma-informed care and hyperlocal collaboration to professionalize the field of street outreach.

DeReef recalls telling her first Peace Academy students:
"I want you all to lift the roof off. I said one, two, three ... boom, and they did it! And it was wonderful," she said. "The whole point of it is to bring us to one accord. It pulls everyone in."

And bring it, she does. DeReef is charged with creating a professional pathway for those in the street outreach community. Over a dozen men and women sit in her morning classes. But she has trained three MPA groups of students since she joined the MPA team in December 2017. The classroom walls are covered with sheets of easel-sized paper with notes about trends in today's violence: "no rules of engagement, social media, savage mentality and no boundaries." The signage rests next to other sheets with words such as "Make yourself as well as your services appealing to their needs" and "identify and connect with a key influencer" and "self-care and the outreach worker" — a sheet that also talks about the symptoms of burnout.

The words inform passersby that this classroom is about works in progress — outreach workers trying to do their part in quelling city violence. Students debate and share knowledge among one another; and learn best practices and holistic approaches to street outreach in hopes of professionalizing the work. Over the course of 18 weeks, 144 hours in four-hour sessions, academy participants engage with DeReef and experts in trauma-informed practice, restorative justice and legal advocacy to broaden their skills, DeReef said.
"When you come here, it recharges your cape," said DeReef, a lifelong South Shore resident. "You get more tools in your tool belt, and at the same time, you are recognized and appreciated, so that helps to go back out here and to engage and to put your life on the line and to show up at the most violent times when you're most needed."

Led by Metropolitan Family Services, the academy is an initiative of Communities Partnering for Peace (CP4P), a collaboration of nine neighborhood organizations on the South and West sides that came together two years ago. DeReef said a lot of the curriculum for the outreach workers is focused on self-care and building community, both allowing room for authentic conversations in the classroom setting (aka a safe space).



Benny Lee lectures during a Metropolitan Peace Academy class at Kennedy-King.



Members of the Metropolitan Peace Academy during Lee's lecture.

"What the academy does is bring everyone together, so now you see someone with a common interest, a common fight in them," DeReef said. "An outreach worker is a yeoman's task. It's definitely something that takes a lot of commitment."

Dialogue is encouraged at the MPA. Team-building exercises are sandwiched among lessons on the hierarchy of Latino gangs in Chicago and how outreach workers can establish professional relationships and boundaries with law enforcement. Debates on community issues take place among noshes of fruit, pastries and juice. Lessons where you tap nearby participants on the shoulder every time you are tapped on the shoulder reveal how frequently violence affects our daily lives.

DeReef knows the impact of violence since it was something she saw frequently during her years as a teacher and administrator at Chicago Public Schools. She said that during her time there, she lost many kids to violence. Now, in her role with the MPA, she still gets to have an impact on the kids by building the capacity of those who

work with them on the streets.

"I am in a most impactful position in helping to curb violence and restore peace by working directly with those who see and interact with those most in need," she said. "Creating a counternarrative for children is my passion, and I do that now by building people's capacity to do their best work by becoming the best versions of themselves."

Some academy participants have been in the prison system and come out wanting to make a difference. Others are former gang members trying to leave a different legacy in their neighborhood by affecting change. According to DeReef, it's their former lives that give them credibility in the streets, and allow them the opportunity to be of service to others living those lives. Academy participants share their stories of transformation in the first session.

"A street outreach worker is everything and all things," she said. "They respond to shootings; operate as a team to help de-escalate incidents between groups on the street — because of the credibility of the outreach worker, which comes as a result

of the life that they used to be a part of, they can create that relationship with an individual on the street. They're out there talking to individuals, building relationships, so that when anything happens, they know who they can go to, they know what they can do, and they know who are the key individuals."

DeReef, who also aided in crafting MPA's class curriculum with Troy Harden (Northeastern Illinois University) and Jerry Watson (University of Memphis), said she has to know who is in her community, so she can know how she can support them.

"We are a resilient people. In order for us to be better and restore our community, we have to be knowledgeable, we have to be educated so that we can do something different. If we continue to educate, then we know how we can heal one another," she said.

One participant considers the Peace Academy one of the best things that has happened to Chicago — a place where she learned about collaboration and community, incorporating people that have come from the academy in her work with girls and gangs. Another student says he's learning a lot of strategies from his peers; and another admits that MPA sessions are therapeutic. He sees it as a chance to network, a place to work on yourself, your life skills and your academic skills.

"Vanessa is a blessing and the glue to this program because she doesn't come to this work with bias," said field manager Rodney Phillips. "She might be the only person to allow us to be vulnerable. ... There's a lot of egos with men, but this class is a sacred space."

Jesse Salazar agrees. He's a field manager in the Little Village area and co-facilitator at MPA.

"People ask me, aren't you afraid to die out here doing this?" he said. "But there's a thing called legacy, and I'd rather my kid say my dad died trying to save lives than the alternative."

When the most recent cohort graduates in January, DeReef will have trained almost 100 outreach workers. And the curriculum, just like the participants, keeps evolving.

"We have these 36 lessons that are very specific to the outreach community. However, as things evolve and we see another gap or another need, we create another," said DeReef, a doctoral candidate in industrial organizational psychology. "We're really trying to give them the tools that they need for success. A lot of doors have been closed. We try to meet them at the table and open those doors or create your own table. What does your professional table of outreach look like? They don't understand that they have a unique skill set. I tell them that all the time. We celebrate that, and they figure it out."

DeReef says MPA's students are committed to the work and their communities, and through the class, they know there is a community of people who are in this with them. No more "solo superheroes," but now a community of superheroes with their capes.

"I call them my superheroes because they do the work that a lot of us are not able to do," DeReef said. "Based on what we're experiencing in the city, this is the right time for it."

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THE KIDS

HOW TO KEEP THEM BUSY THIS WEEK

Reflect on the longest night of the year

By WEB BEHRENS

Monday

ZOO LIGHTS FAMILY NIGHTS

Lincoln Park Zoo's whimsical lights display is worth visiting any time this month, but parents might want to hit one of the three special Mondays. These Family Nights include free rides on the Endangered Species Carousel and Lionel Train Adventure. Children also eat free (with paid adult) at Park Place Cafe. Zoolights runs 4:30-9 p.m. daily through Jan. 5; Family Nights are Dec. 16, 23 and 30. At Lincoln Park Zoo, 2001 N. Clark St. Free. tinyurl.com/y7rqk9ua

Tuesday

'BEAUTY AND THE BEAST'

Be their guest! This local production of Disney's "tale as old as time" comes from Paramount Theatre, known for lavish, top-notch productions. Introduce a new generation to Belle, the first Disney princess who matched independence with wisdom. In addition to the show's lesson about looking beneath outward appearances, its opening number celebrates our heroine's love of reading. It runs Wednesdays through Sundays through Jan. 19, with an additional Tuesday show Dec. 17, at Paramount Theatre, 23 E. Galena Blvd., Aurora. \$38-\$74. paramountaurora.com/events/beauty-and-the-beast

Wednesday

'CORDUROY'

After its premiere this past spring, Emerald City Theatre's hit show returns to thrill young audiences (ages 3 and up) with imagination and acrobatic performances. Matinees are at 10 or 10:30 a.m. most days through Jan. 5 at Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place, 175 E. Chestnut St. \$25 and up. broadwayinchicago.com/show/corduroy

Thursday

CTA HOLIDAY BUS

The CTA's Holiday Train is a beloved perk of December. Not to be outdone by its rapid-transit sibling, the bus fleet joined the Santa action a few years ago. This 60-foot-long accordion bus is disguised as Ralphie the Reindeer, complete

CRISTINA RUTTER/
FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF COOK COUNTY

TOP PICKS

Friday, Dec. 20: WINTER SOLSTICE BONFIRES

Sunday, Dec. 22: ROCK AND ROLL PLAYHOUSE: MOTOWN FOR KIDS HOLIDAY CELEBRATION



MARC MILLMAN

with antlers on top and a glowing nose in front. Inside, Mr. Claus holds court. Due to traffic, Holiday Bus arrival times are trickier to predict than those for the train; the CTA recommends using its special tracker. It typically runs early afternoons into early evenings; find the schedule online. \$2.25, \$1.10 for kids 7-11, free for kids under 7. transitchicago.com/holidayfleet

Friday

JUICEBOX: FUTURE HITS

Future Hits is a Chicago band of musician-educators whose songs boost language skills in both English and Spanish. Give it a listen at futurehits.org, then

catch them at this biweekly series of live performances for the toddler set. As with all Juicebox events, the all-ages show happens twice: 11 a.m. on Friday at the Chicago Cultural Center (Preston Bradley Hall), 78 E. Washington St.; and 11 a.m. on Saturday at Garfield Park Conservatory, 300 N. Central Park Ave. Free. tinyurl.com/y5nxmt9d

WINTER SOLSTICE BONFIRES

Celebrate winter solstice with humankind's most ancient lighting technology: a bonfire. The Forest Preserves of Cook County offer a chance to reflect on the longest night of the year — and, since the fire's going, you might as well celebrate with s'mores! The solstice observations

happen all weekend long, beginning at 6:30 p.m. solstice eve (Friday) at the Trailside Museum of Natural History in River Forest, where you can also listen to fireside stories from a variety of cultures. Barrington Hills' Crabtree Nature Center lights a fire during the day, at 1 p.m. on Saturday, to share both science and myth about the solstice; at 6:30 p.m., Little Red Schoolhouse Nature Center in Willow Springs also offers short hikes and live music. Free-\$5; advance registration required.

Saturday

HOLIDAY MAGIC

With a whopping 1 million LEDs on display, Brookfield Zoo proudly proclaims its Holiday Magic festival to be Chicagoland's biggest display. Weekends in December, plus daily Dec. 26-31. Brookfield Zoo, 8400 W. 31st St., Brookfield. \$22, \$16 for kids 3-11; \$14 parking. tinyurl.com/r753a2w

'GRACE AND THE HANUKKAH MIRACLE'

The holiday season continues its bounty with a new all-ages holiday show, produced by a new theater company. Designed for people of all ages and belief systems, Chicago Immersive's interactive, interfaith show, "Grace and the Hanukkah Miracle," peeks into one family's traditions. With everything from time travel to puzzle-solving, the show aims for broad appeal. "Grace" runs just under an hour, at 1 and 4 p.m. on Saturdays and 2 p.m. on Sundays, through Jan. 5 at Grace Lutheran Church, 1430 South Blvd., Evanston. \$25. chicagoimmersive.com

Sunday

ROCK AND ROLL PLAYHOUSE: MOTOWN FOR KIDS HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

The Brooklyn-born Rock and Roll Playhouse doo-wops its way through its final Chicago concert for the year with this hourlong tribute to Motown. Covers of songs made famous by the Supremes, Stevie Wonder, Gladys Knight and more are curated for families with kids 7 and under. Doors open at 11 a.m. at Thalia Hall, 1807 S. Allport St. \$15. tinyurl.com/y4f994qm

Web Behrens is a freelance reporter.



WESTEND61/GETTY

Nearly 1 in 5 kids ages 12 to 18 are prediabetic

Doctors say parents need to act early to prevent the problem

By KATE THAYER

After a recent study showed an increasing number of young people are prediabetic — a condition once known only to adults — doctors say the best way to stave off an epidemic of diabetic children is to start healthy habits at an early age.

"We need to think about this as a public health issue," said Dr. Vidhya Viswanathan, pediatric endocrinologist at Advocate Children's Hospital in Oak Lawn. "This is reversible."

A study published Dec. 2 in JAMA Pediatrics showed nearly 1 in 5 children ages 12 to 18 and about 1 in 4 young adults ages 19 to 34 are considered prediabetic — a condition in which blood sugar levels are elevated but not yet at the point of Type 2 diabetes. Without lifestyle changes, the condition can turn into Type 2 diabetes and also carries other risks such as developing kidney disease, heart disease and stroke.

Doctors say weight gain and obesity can lead to prediabetes, and healthy diet and exercise are the keys to reversing the condition.

"The whole point is to get yourself eating right and exercising so these metabolic markers change for the better," Viswanathan said. "A lot of this is behavior modification."

But unhealthy habits are hard to break, Viswanathan said, so it's best for parents to promote good lifestyle choices from a young age, before problems start.

That includes eating lean meats and protein and an array of fruits and vegetables and getting regular exercise, she said.

That can be challenging for busy families tempted to pick up dinner at fast food restaurants or to use popular food delivery apps. "Now you don't have to get into your car and go places anymore" to get junk food.

"We're very much overscheduled as a society," Viswanathan said. "It's hard to find time to sit down and eat a (healthy) meal ... and if we do sit at a table, how often are people on their phones and eating? Or in front of the TV?"

Viswanathan said it's also important to choose these healthy food habits as a whole family. Prediabetes and Type 2 diabetes are conditions that can take years to develop, she said, so it's important to educate children from a young age.

"It's important that we all — people in health care, people at large in society — understand that we should know what's going in our mouths when we eat," she said.

Dr. Moina Uddin, a pediatric endocrinologist at Amita Health Medical Group in Hoffman Estates, said children have also become more sedentary, and she blames, in part, the growing popularity of video games for the prediabetic health epidemic.

"They have enjoyed to keep them entertained indoors, so they have less to step outside for," she said.

Uddin also said adolescents can have a misconception that some sports activities, such as bowling or golf, are cardio exercise but actually aren't.

While prediabetes is reversible, she said, it's hard to change unhealthy habits.

"The trick there is the lifestyle changes are usually not the easiest for these kids or their families," Uddin said. "It's the poor lifestyle that led them there, so very few patients can reverse (prediabetes). It's a sad and unfortunate trend in our country."

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Judged for wearing a Canada Goose?

Don't worry, Chicago, that jacket shouldn't ruin your chance at finding love

BY CHRISTEN A. JOHNSON

The Daily Beast published an article earlier this month asking the question, "Is That Canada Goose Jacket Keeping You Single?" For many of the story's subjects, the jacket seemed to be a turnoff, with one of the author's friends asking, "What if you met someone in the summer who was perfect, but then it got cold and you realized they had a Canada Goose jacket?"

For Chicagoans, who lined up down the block last year at Canada Goose's Michigan Avenue flagship store, and even saw a slew of robberies for the beloved — and hated — down coat, the overarching question begs to be answered, especially for a city that seemingly will do anything for that coyote-clad coat.

Bela Gandhi, founder and president of Smart Dating Academy in Chi-

cago, doesn't think owning a Canada Goose coat should be a legitimate concern for Chicago singles, and says if you own the coat, then "keep doing you."

She feels that the jacket is "just a metaphor for so many things that we judge each other" on, especially material items that signify wealth.

"I think that people make those snap judgments everywhere," said Gandhi.

"If your Canada Goose is meaningful to you, is something that you're proud of, then continue to wear it," she said. "To the wrong person, it's going to send the wrong message."

Gandhi recognizes that the parkas can be off-putting to potential suitors since the cold weather item is a "wealth flex," she said, touting a hefty \$1,000 price tag, as well as the fact that the coats are made with real coyote fur, bringing ethics around animal rights into the conversation.



COLE BURSTON/BLOOMBERG

Canada Goose parkas can cost upwards of \$1,000. There was even a string of thefts in Chicago last winter.

"They are clearly a status symbol, like a Rolex watch or a high-end car," Gandhi acknowledged, but she urges people not to make assumptions about their dates because of that.

"Seek to understand people at a deeper level," she said.

For the people who are going to be highly judgmental about others who

do choose to wear a Canada Goose coat, Gandhi said, "understand that they may not know about the trappers or about the things you know."

"Don't make a patent judgment that someone else is a bad person just because they may not know what you know," she continued. "Be open-minded; they may just have liked

(the coat), or maybe their parents gave it to them. We're so quick to want to put labels on people because it's easier for us to make dating decisions (that way)."

But if the thought of wearing your Canada Goose coat on your next date is concerning for you, Gandhi suggests to just choose another warm

option.

"Take things off the table that are giving you anxiety," she said. "If you think you're going to be judged for wearing a Canada Goose, then don't wear it. Put on clothing you're comfortable in and bring your best self."

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SOCIAL GRACES

Don't be a Grinch when others say 'Merry Christmas'

BY HANNAH HERRERA GREENSPAN
Chicago Tribune

Q: How should you respond when folks in the office say "Merry Christmas" even though you don't celebrate?

A: Although you may not personally celebrate Christmas, others clearly do — and you know what they say about the spirit of the holidays. So when people say "Merry Christmas" to

you, keep in mind the place of friendliness and cheer.

They're not being rude or insensitive, just wishing you tidings of joy. Because it's both a common refrain during the last couple of months of the year and the seasonal equivalent of saying "Have a nice day," a simple "Happy holidays to you too!" serves as your best response.

— Scott Steinberg, author of "The Business Etiquette Bible"

A: If you're on the receiving end of people wishing you a Merry Christmas when Hanukkah is your vibe, your emotions may range from side-eye to stale face emoji. Correct them or let it go. As a rule, don't be rude when someone is trying to be polite ... even when their politeness is based on ignorance.

If it's a two-second interaction, let it go. You can respond with "Same to you," "Happy holidays" or

"Thank you. You too." The security guard doesn't need to know your personal business.

However, if it's a co-worker you see every day, feel free to correct with kindness. Telling Taylor you don't celebrate Christmas may be easier than hearing the same nonapplicable greeting throughout the season. Thank her, and explain that you don't celebrate Christmas. Hopefully, the news will spread across

the office, so you don't have to repeat the speech. If it's not the right time for discussion, use one of the previously mentioned responses, go back later and correct your co-worker.

As long as you don't respond with "Bah humbug," you will most likely survive the season without incident. Happy holidays to all!

— Love McPherson, relationship expert, lovemcpherson.com



ABEL URIBE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

If you don't celebrate Christmas, return greetings with "Happy holidays."



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ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

At Chicago's Christkindlmarket, vendors sell their wares out of booths similar to the ones in Nuremberg, Germany. It has been called "a magical village in between the skyscrapers."

MARKET TIME

From Nuremberg to Chicago, the best of these Christmas pop-ups thrive on their authenticity

BY JOANNE CLEAVER
Chicago Tribune

NUREMBERG, Germany — Last month, seemingly overnight, wood-framed huts with candy cane-striped awnings sprouted in tidy lines across the cobblestone plaza of this Bavarian city.

A cool breeze carried ginger, cinnamon and the smoky top notes of frying sausages past booths cascading with Christmas ornaments of glass stars, tiny wood angels and miniature toy trains.

As it has for many years, the four-century-old Nuremberg Christkindlesmarkt, opened with a call from the Christkind. This "Christ Child" is always a local, young woman dressed in angelic garb, with a head full of long, blond curls topped by a golden crown.

"You men and women, who once yourselves were children, be them again today," she proclaimed, in German, from a Gothic cathedral balcony to thousands of merry-makers packing the dark plaza. Suddenly, twinkling lights turned on, outlining the buildings framing the square, stars strung overhead and row after row of shopping stalls. The little village was officially open. If precedent holds, more than 2 million people will jostle through the alleys of cookies, toys, spiced nuts and twirling angels this holiday season.

It's a scene reminiscent of Chicago's Christkindlmarket, and that's by design. Just as Nuremberg's ranks as the oldest and most consistently authentic Christmas market in Germany, Chicago's Christkindlmarket — modeled after the German original — has set the standard for markets proliferating across the U.S.

Old World-style Christmas markets are popping up from Atlanta to San Francisco, many of them hoping to replicate the success of Chicago's market, which first opened in 1996. It has since spawned outposts in the Wrigleyville neighborhood and further north, in Milwaukee.

But what's to differentiate a real

Christkindlmarket from a flea market dusted with fake snow?

Plenty. And the differences go far beyond gingerbread versus fried dough.

Christkindlmarket DNA starts with local German sponsors and carries through to the setting, the food, the goods and the activities. In America, the German groups that get it right work hard to keep their markets on the mark. That's no small task. With a million people crowding into Daley Plaza in the Loop for the six weeks of Christkindlmarket, the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest, which launched and operates the market, has to fend off pressure to expand the market to include all who'd love to get in on the fun and cash flow.

Diluting the market into just another candy cane lane defeats the purpose, said Leila Schmidt, an assistant manager with German American Events, the division of the chamber that oversees the annual market, running through Dec. 24.

"The authenticity of the market is one of our most treasured aspects," Schmidt said. "We are really proud at having been one of the very first markets outside of Europe and we're still the most traditional market outside of Europe."

An outdoor event in winter in downtown Chicago sounded like a losing proposition from the get-go, but the setting is part of the allure. Markets situated in sprawling parking lots, for example, can't make up in convenience what they lose in charm.

"It's a magical village in between the skyscrapers," Schmidt said. At night, Christkindlmarket creates its own snow globe effect with sprays of light reflecting in the glass skyscrapers.

Chicago's version is a far cry from Mifflinburg Christkindl Market, which has been operating for 31 years in this tiny town in Pennsylvania north of Harrisburg, but both are captivating in their own way.

"The charm is that you're in town, there are old houses and churches and it's part of



MATTHIAS SCHRADER/AP

Benigna Munki, dressed as the Christkind, or Christ Child, opens the Christmas market in Nuremberg, Germany.

the scene," said Mifflinburg Christkindl Market President Matt Wagner. "That's really important. You have concerts in the churches and the stores downtown are part of it."

About 60% of the vendors at this year's Chicago Christkindlmarket are from Germany or Eastern Europe. The rest are from the U.S., especially the Chicago area.

In Nuremberg, which has been putting on its Christkindlesmarkt since the 1600s, about 80% of the space is devoted to "handmade, artisan craftwork," said Markus Lang, a manager at this year's event. For many vendors, the market is their main gig. They spend the offseason producing their goods.

For one German company, Christmas markets have become a springboard for growth. Käthe Wohlfahrt, a Christmas ornament and decoration manufacturer based in Rothenburg, has become a coveted anchor for several U.S. Christmas markets. From its thumb-sized angels to 2-foot-long wooden arches defining tiny landscapes populated with houses, nativities and the occasional Santa, Käthe Wohlfahrt offers a cross-section of its tens of thousands of decorations in its U.S. stores, just as it does in Europe. This year, the Atlanta Christkindl Market landed its own Käthe Wohlfahrt shop.

Food, of course, is a key ingredient to a good Christmas market. Chicago's market has an onsite commercial kitchen to supply endless amounts of bratwurst and glühwein (hot spiced wine) to hungry visitors as they stroll the alleys of booths.

In Nuremberg, elisenlebkuchen ginger-

bread is a market staple, a unique treat made with ground nuts instead of flour and studded with tiny bits of dried fruit. Markets in Münster, Stuttgart and other German cities put their own stamp on their respective menus with specialty beer, unique pretzels and rye bread fashioned into little people clutching sausage sticks.

Nuremberg officials leave nothing to chance when it comes to its famous edible offerings. The length, weight and other characteristics of its eponymous finger-like sausages are defined by law. Market officials monitor booths and vendors to make sure their recipes for spiced wine, holiday beer and lebkuchen cookies comply with tradition.

In Nuremberg, evergreen decorations must be natural, not artificial. Same goes for the vendors: The only plastic items allowed are toys made by Playmobil, which gets an exception because it's headquartered on the outskirts of Nuremberg.

Not that the mother of all markets is trapped by its own traditions. A few years ago, Nuremberg added a section where its "sister cities" can showcase and sell their holiday food, goods and traditions. New companies and entrepreneurial students have turns in the market spotlight at pop-up booths. This year's Nuremberg Christkind has a parent with Indian heritage, infusing the role with racial diversity for the first time.

Even the most tradition-bound Christmas markets evolve a bit each year to include new neighbors.

Joanne Cleaver is a freelance writer.



CAMILLE FINE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Patricia Rivero, 24, and Orlando J. Rivero, 25, eat and drink at Chicago's Christkindlmarket.



JOANNE CLEAVER/FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Festive gingerbread hearts are ubiquitous at Nuremberg's long-running Christkindlesmarkt.



MATTHIAS SCHRADER/AP

Every holiday season, Nuremberg's Christkindlesmarkt takes over the square in front of the Church of Our Lady.

Celebrating a Happy Christmas in England



RICK STEVES
Tribune Content Agency

For scenes straight out of a box of old-fashioned Christmas cards, head to England. Many classic Christmas trappings, from caroling to mince pie and wassail, have been part of English tradition for centuries.

Other holiday customs have their roots in the 19th century. Queen Victoria's German husband, Prince Albert, popularized the decorating of Christmas trees and the sending of Christmas cards. Around the same time Charles Dickens wrote "A Christmas Carol" — celebrating the power of the Christmas spirit that still echoes across England today.

London and Bath are especially appealing in December. Buildings and shops are dressed in their holiday best, elaborate light displays illuminate store windows on major shopping streets and skaters glide on outdoor ice rinks. Markets and stores fill with gourmet treats, and department stores are fun to browse even when you're done shopping. Bath also hosts an annual Christmas market in its old town; London has market stalls on Leicester Square, in Greenwich and more — plus a giant twinkling tree on Trafalgar Square.

Don't expect to see Santa Claus. British children visit Father Christmas, who's usually found in a grotto. In London, the poshest Father Christmas is at Harrods department store (sitting on his knee is by invitation only). But tiny tots can see him all over town, such as at the Museum of London, Greenwich Market and Leicester Square. Father Christmas has also been known to visit the Hyde



LAUREN MILLS/RICK STEVES' EUROPE

In London, the courtyard at Somerset House transforms into an ice-skating rink from mid-November to January.



Shopping in an elegant department store, like London's posh Fortnum & Mason, is a fun holiday activity.

Park Winter Wonderland, which offers kitschy carnival fun with a Ferris wheel, carousel and other rides, as well as an ice rink.

Along with wintry sights,

the joy of the season is expressed in song. From street-corner buskers to sublime choral groups, the English sing their hearts out. Concerts are held

everywhere from grand cathedrals and concert halls to village churches and city squares. In medieval times, carols were not just songs but also folk dances, performed by wandering musicians accompanied by singers. Considered a pagan holdover, carol singers were banned from church, so instead they'd go door to door visiting the homes of the big shots, performing in hopes of getting a coin, meal, drink or Christmas treat.

Of course, a high point of Christmastime is the feasting. By the 16th century, mince or shred pies (a reference to the shredded meat that was mixed with chopped egg and ginger) had become a Christmas specialty. Over time the recipe was fancied up with dried fruit and other

sweets, and by the 17th century, the filling closely resembled today's mix of suet, spices and dried fruit steeped in brandy. Superstition dictates that bakers stir the filling clockwise, the direction in which the sun would have circled an earth once thought to be at the center of the universe. To stir the other way could spell big trouble in the coming year.

Plum pudding is another traditional dessert. In Victorian times on "Stir-up Sunday" at the beginning of Advent, each family member took a turn at mixing the pudding and making a wish. Then a few tiny trinkets or silver coins were tossed in the batter. (These days, most people just pop an everyday token in their "puds," but you can still buy the old-school charms: a

silver coin promises wealth in the coming year, a thimble ensures thrift, an anchor assures safety and a tiny wishbone brings good luck.) For the next few weeks, the pudding hung from a sack. On Christmas Day it was boiled until it was fully "plum" (swollen). Just before serving, it was doused with brandy, topped with a sprig of mistletoe, lit on fire and carried to the table with great fanfare.

In cold December, hot spiced wine warms the soul. The process of mulling wine with spices can be traced back to Roman times, when winemaking included the addition of salt, myrtle, juniper, honey, rose petals and citrus rinds. It's thought that honey and spices were added to a simmering pot of wine in the Middle Ages to mask its bitter tannins. If you were an olde Englishman drinking wassail, you would say to your companions, "Waes hail!" meaning, "May you be healthy!" The proper response? "Drink hail!" or "Drink good health!"

Another highlight of the festivities is the Christmas cracker — invented right in London. Just as in Victorian times, kids break open these colorful paper tubes, and crack! A paper crown, a corny joke and a teeny gift spill out with the pop. For a quieter moment on Christmas Day, many families gather around the telly to watch the Queen's annual Christmas message.

While there are plenty of special holiday happenings throughout England, there are also many closures — including transit — from Dec. 24-26. Plan ahead, and give yourself time for quiet reflection. Happy Christmas!

Rick Steves (www.ricksteves.com) writes *European travel guidebooks* and hosts *travel shows on public television and public radio*. Email him at rick@ricksteves.com and follow his blog on Facebook.

TRAVEL TROUBLESHOOTER

How can I change my flight without a charge?

BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT
King Features

I have a question about my rights as an airline passenger. My partner and I have arranged a trip to Europe. It's a six-segment airline trip. On the fifth leg, we're supposed to fly from London to New York.

Our connecting flight leaves New York at 10 p.m. for Washington. However, we found out that American Airlines canceled its 10 p.m. flight to Washington. There are no other flights that leave New York after we arrive. Instead, American has rescheduled us for a flight from New York to Washington at 6:54 a.m. the next day. That means we now have an almost 12-hour layover in New York, making it a 26-hour trip.

I spoke to an American representative and asked if there would be any penalties if we just dropped the last leg of our trip from our reservation. Since we would not be taking part of the trip, I thought we might actually get a bit of money back. Instead, the representative told me there would be an additional fee of \$325 each for "changing our reservation." Imagine my surprise! Can you tell me how to change a flight for free?

— Steve Verna, Falls Church, Virginia

A: This is an absurd problem. You shouldn't have to pay American airlines to drop the last leg of your flight. It should pay you the value of your missed segment.

I see two possible solutions. First, you could go for the refund and find another way to travel to Washington. Or you could give American a chance to rebook you on a different flight.

I reviewed your itinerary. It involves multiple airlines, including American, British Airways and Iberia. With so many carriers, something's bound to go wrong. (My advice: Hold on to your luggage. It's easy to get lost between airlines.)

Why is American charging you a change fee? Any

time you change your schedule, American charges a fee. That's how airlines make money.

But why is American keeping the money for the last segment? It probably recalculated the fare to end in New York, which might have been a more expensive ticket.

Like I said, absurd. Come to think of it, there's an option three: You could have disembarked in New York and thrown away the last part of your ticket. If you do that, make sure you don't check any luggage and don't give American your frequent flier number. The airline might ask you to pay a change fee and, if you don't, might suspend your account.

Finally, you might have

appealed this odd request by American. I list the names, numbers and email addresses of all the American Airlines executives on my nonprofit consumer advocacy site.

I contacted American on your behalf. It went with option two and helped you rebook your flight so you would avoid a long layover in New York.

It turns out you didn't have to know how to change a flight for free. Good luck with your trip.

Christopher Elliott is the *ombudsman for National Geographic Traveler magazine* and the author of "How to Be the World's Smartest Traveler." You can read more travel tips on his blog, elliott.org, or email him at chris@elliott.org.

CELEBRITY TRAVELER

Smaller cities a big draw for culture

BY JAE-HA KIM
Tribune Content Agency

Jazz pianist Kayla Waters kick-started her career with back-to-back No. 1 singles on Billboard. Her latest release, "Full Bloom" (from her CD "Coevolve"), is zooming up the Smooth Jazz Songs chart as well.

Residing in the Capitol Hill area of Washington, D.C., Waters says touring is a perk of her job. But even when she doesn't have to travel, she enjoys squeezing in a quick visit somewhere.

"I love traveling," says Waters, who's the daughter of acclaimed jazz saxophonist Kim Waters. "The first trip I can remember was taking a road trip up to Maine to visit my dad's brother-in-law's family. I absolutely loved it. It was a summer trip, and I can remember playing outside in a pristine field of grass. (It was) the greenest grass I had ever seen!"

An edited version of our conversation follows.

Q: What untapped destination should people know about?

A: Smaller cities and towns often have more character and an intimate cultural nature about them, and that is a huge draw for me. I noticed this feeling while in Minneapolis — an artistically unique city — and Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, which is a high-end boutique beach off the Atlantic coast.

Q: What's the most important thing you've learned from your travels?

A: As I mature and spend a lot of time traveling with my music ca-



ROY COX PHOTO

reer, I realize that wherever I go, there is an opportunity for me to be a blessing to someone else, perhaps giving a hug, sharing a conversation, showing love, encouraging or inspiring. Traveling has taught me how to be selfless and more aware of people.

Q: Where are your favorite weekend get-aways?

A: If I am feeling adventurous, New York City is always a fun weekend trip. If I want to hide away, I drive an hour and a half south of D.C. and hang in Richmond, Virginia, which is another city full of character.

Q: What are your five favorite cities?

A: Denver, Minneapolis, Phoenix, Chicago and D.C.

Q: Where have you traveled to that most reminded you of home?

A: I am from a small town called Aberdeen (Maryland). There is no place like home.

Q: Where would you like to go that you have never been to before?

A: I would love to spend a few weeks in Morocco or South Africa. I yearn to visit the motherland — the roots of my African American heritage. I also would love to study their culture of music, rhythm,

song and dance.

Q: What would be your dream trip?

A: Traveling abroad to various countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, South America and Australia. I'd be delighted to delve into the field of ethnomusicology to understand the purposes of different types of music around the world. I imagine this trip would take anywhere from six months to a year to complete, and from this experience, I'd create and compose an entire album dedicated to this adventure.

Q: What kind of research do you do before you go away on a trip?

A: I always research the area I will be visiting and seek to understand more about the area from a cultural and historical perspective. I also search on Yelp for great places to eat and where to go to hear great live music.

Q: What is your best travel memory?

A: I went to Portugal for the first time this year. It was an incredible experience to perform and play my original music in the Algarve region. The beach, the pine cliffs, the people, the food ... absolutely incredible. I cannot wait to visit there again.

For more from the reporter, visit www.jaehakim.com.

'Glamping' in Wrigleyville

Camp Zachary brings safari-style tents to hotel terrace in time for the holidays

BY LORI RACKL

Camping in the shadow of Wrigley Field — that's the concept behind a trio of tricked-out, safari-style tents that debuted recently on the terrace of Hotel Zachary.

The new "Camp Zachary" plays off the so-called glamping trend of glamorous camping, featuring spacious canvas tents outfitted with potbelly stoves, comfy furniture and all the hygge fixings, from cowhide rugs to rustic-chic chandeliers and pine needle garland.

The tents aren't meant for overnight stays; they're more like private event spaces. Each of the three can be rented in two-hour increments for groups of up to 10 people, starting at \$150. Campers can drink and dine in their cozy quarters overlooking the ice rink, Christkindlmarket and other Winterland at Gallagher Way attractions on the plaza next to the ballpark.

"We basically set up a campsite in front of Wrigley," said Nathaniel Brethold, food and beverage director at Hickory Street Capital, the real estate development company owned by the Ricketts family, who also own the Cubs and the 173-room hotel.

"We wanted to get people outside, but we didn't want to do the igloos, which is what everybody else is doing now," Brethold said, referring to the heated, transparent domes that allow alfresco socializing to survive a Chicago winter.

Camp Zachary tents can be reserved online on Resy. While rates start at \$150, they can be much higher during peak times, such as weekend nights. Pricing fluctuates based on demand. The reservation fee, however, will be taken off the food and beverage bill, so if 10 friends each had a \$14 hot toddy and got the tent for \$150, it's almost a wash.

Campers can order off a menu of sandwiches, burgers, salads, appetizers and dishes such as country toast topped with smoked salmon and avocado or whipped burrata and fried Brussels sprouts. Cocktails include hot buttered rum; a "Slice of Apple Pie" made with apple pie brandy, thyme, rosemary, honey and lemon; hot chocolate spiked with mezcal; and large-format, shareable drinks, such as the Oaxacan Old Fashioned served in a small wooden barrel. Children under 13 get free hot chocolate and cookies.

The plan is to keep the tents around until late February. For now, they're decked out with Christmas wreaths and other holiday decor. Same for the hotel, which puts on a popular Teddy Bear Tea and Breakfast with Santa (sold out) this time of year.

The hotel's second-story terrace



Campers can sip on an assortment of cocktails from the confines of their tent.

race was closed last winter. This season, customers shouldn't have trouble staying warm, Brethold said. The terrace has a fireplace and overhead heating lamps, and each tent contains a wood-burning stove and blankets.

Hotel Zachary partnered with The Fields, a new glamping spot in South Haven, Michigan, to transform the 1,000-square-foot terrace on Clark Street into Camp Zachary, complete with decorative fire pits ringed by Adirondack chairs.

Irene Wood built The Fields on a blueberry farm in her native South Haven. The Michigan property features 10 swanky tents filled with all the creature comforts, including a king-size bed with luxury linens and a private bathroom.

Wood, who divides her time between South Haven and Hinsdale, recently wrapped up The Fields' first season. The property will reopen Memorial Day weekend. She used some of the throw pillows and outdoorsy accouterments in The Fields' tents to decorate Camp Zachary's smaller, 120-square-foot versions.

"I wanted the same kind of feeling, where people feel like they can sit down, open a bottle of wine or have hot toddies and just linger," Wood said, as she put the finishing touches on the tents and her dog Charlie got comfortable on one of the chairs. (Canines are welcome at Camp Zachary.)

"We say The Fields is all about nostalgia, and this place is already so nostalgic for a lot of people, including me," she added, nodding in the direction of The Friendly Confines. "I celebrated my 30th birthday at Wrigley with my family. I have lots of memories of being on this street. Can you imagine sitting here in one of these tents, watching the snow fall?"

rackl@chicagotribune.com



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

The tents at "Camp Zachary," shown here, have a similar feel to those at The Fields, a new glamping spot in South Haven, Michigan. Groups can reserve the tents in Wrigleyville for two-hour increments.



Irene Wood works on setting up the tents at Hotel Zachary, across the street from Wrigley.



Holiday decor adds to the hygge vibe of the three canvas shelters on the hotel's terrace.

Santa Days are back at Swissotel

BY LORI RACKL

Old St. Nick is once again checking into his roomy 41st floor digs at the Swissotel Chicago this December, when revelers — young and old — have more opportunities than ever to visit the popular Santa Suite.

For the past six years, the downtown hotel has transformed its nearly 2,000-square-foot presidential suite into Santa's pad, decorating it with Christmas trees, shiny ornaments, a mailbox for kids' missives and more, like the XL Santa suit hanging in the closet and the photo of Mrs. Claus propped up on the nightstand.

During Santa Days from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, through Dec. 22, ticket holders can tour the suite, get their picture with Santa, have hot chocolate and treats (cash bar), make a snowflake craft, get their faces painted and admire the lofty views of Navy Pier, the river and the surrounding skyscrapers. Timed-entry tickets can be bought on Eventbrite for \$15.

The suite's theme changes annually. This year's it's an après-ski, Swiss chalet motif. Individual trees are decorated accordingly, with the bunny slope pine covered in puffy cottontail ornaments, for example. Instead of sitting on a throne with Santa, this year's photo op is a ski resort chair lift.

Also new this year: The Santa Suite is setting aside some time for grown-up kids during Après



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Kids can write letters to Santa and deposit them in the suite's mailbox.

Ski After Dark. Think festive cocktails, shot skis and DJ sets with Santa. The adults-only affair is from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, Dec. 20. Tickets are \$30 and include one drink. Additional cocktails cost

\$12.

Santa also will be hosting breakfast in his suite before Santa Days for \$125 for adults, \$55 for kids. Call 312-268-8235 for reservations.



Photo ops with Santa take place on a chair lift at the Swissotel's Santa Suite, whose theme this year is a ski chalet.

Swissotel expanded this year's Santa Suite footprint, taking over a couple of adjacent rooms to give visitors more space. The hotel also is capping the number of tickets available to 60 per hour instead of last year's 100 to reduce crowding. Officials estimate roughly 3,000 people attended Santa Days last year.

Through Dec. 31, a total of eight "elf" rooms are available for overnight stays at the 662-room Swissotel, 323 E. Upper Wacker

Drive. Starting at \$389, the elf rooms are on the upper floors and are decorated for the holidays. Guests also get tickets to the Santa Suite.

As usual, the Santa Suite can be rented throughout December for holiday parties and private functions.

You can even give Santa the boot and spend the night for a cool \$2,500.

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NEWS TO USE

Some icy art in Shipshewana

BY PHIL MARTY
Chicago Tribune

Here are some of the more interesting events, deals, websites and other travel tidbits that have come across our desk recently:

■ Ice chips will be flying Dec. 27-28 in Shipshewana, Indiana, during the 12th annual Shipshewana Ice Festival. Professional carvers will be turning blocks of ice into frigid works of art as they vie for cash prizes. tinyurl.com/yqh3sex

■ The Rau Center for the Arts in Crystal Lake is presenting "A Christmas Carol: A Holiday Pantomime" on Dec. 21-22 and 27-29. The adaptation of the classic Christmas story is described as a participatory show. tinyurl.com/v6wwhgg

■ You can get a workout and wine every Sunday this winter during the Old Mission Snowshoe Wine & Brew event. Snowshoers will begin at the Jolly Pumpkin Restaurant & Brewery in Traverse City, Michigan, and will visit the Brys Estate Vineyard & Winery and the Bowers Harbor Vineyards before heading back to the Jolly Pumpkin. At each location there will be samples of wine, hard cider or beer. You can bring your own snowshoes or rent them, and if there's no snow, you can hike

the route. It's available through March 8. tinyurl.com/tc44vnf

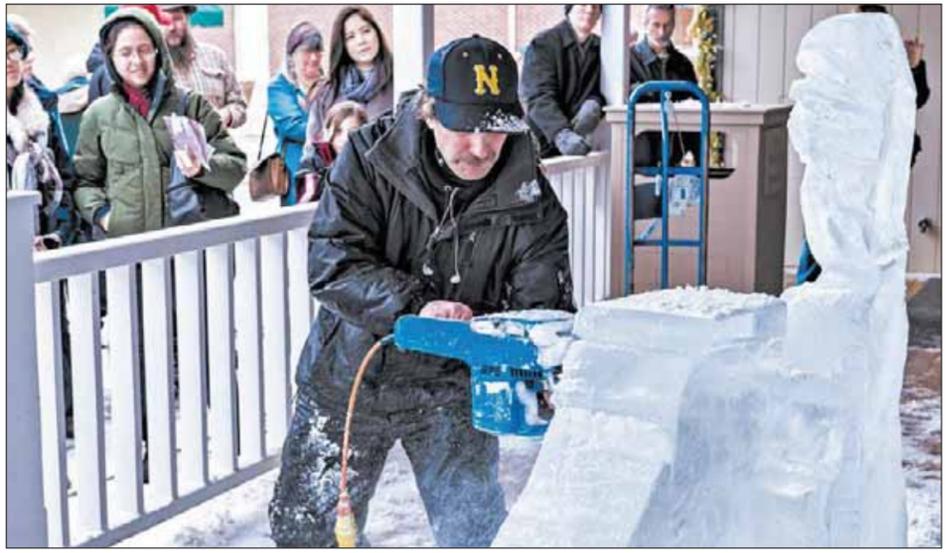
■ Shanty Creek Resort is offering visitors the chance to ski free with Santa on Christmas Day. The skiing will be from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on the slopes of Schuss Mountain in Mancelona, Michigan. tinyurl.com/yxx2fesq

■ Kids can enjoy breakfast with Santa on Dec. 21 at Starved Rock Lodge in Starved Rock State Park in Oglesby, Illinois. After the buffet breakfast there will be a magic show and visits with Santa. Tickets can be purchased online. tinyurl.com/wpkh5h2

■ The 2019/2020 Pure Michigan Winter Travel Guide can be ordered or viewed online at www.michigan.org/travel-guide.

■ The Racine Theatre Guild in Racine, Wisconsin, is presenting "The Wizard of Oz." The stage version of the classic film will be Dec. 20 at 7 p.m., Dec. 21 at 2 and 7 p.m., and Dec. 22 at 2 p.m. The guild is located at 2519 Northwestern Ave. tinyurl.com/v6nn58m

■ The Michigan International Speedway in Brooklyn is decked out for the holidays during its annual Nite Lights event. The drive-through course runs through Dec. 31 and features lots of light displays. On select dates, Santa will visit the Winter Wonderland. www.niteliteshow.com



VISITSHIPSHEWANA.ORG

The 12th annual Shipshewana Ice Festival features pro carvers vying for cash prizes.

.com

■ Winter sports fanatics will be at it Dec. 27-29 during the Tusconia Winter Ultra in northern Wisconsin. Runners, bikers and skiers will have their choice of a 160-mile course or 80 miles. The 160-mile races will start in Rice Lake and the 80-mile races in Park Falls. tinyurl.com/uvkv7gf

■ Milwaukee's Pabst Mansion is decorated for Christmas and open for self-guided tours through Jan. 5. Decorations are different each year, so even if you've visited before on the holidays, the experience will be varied. Monday-Saturday hours are 10 a.m. to last entry at 3:15 p.m. Sunday is noon to last entry at 3:15. The mansion will be closed

Christmas and New Year's Day, and hours will be shortened Christmas and New Year's Eve. tinyurl.com/wgb735c

■ The annual Nutcracker Village & Advent Market has again returned to Steubenville, Ohio. The village, on display at Fort Steuben Park and the immediate area, features 150 six-foot-tall nutcrackers, with more added each year. It's viewable 24 hours a day through Jan. 4. The Advent Market features artisans and vendors and is open 3 to 9 p.m. Friday-Sunday. www.steubenvill-nutcrackervillage.com

■ Enter for a chance to win a two-night getaway to French Lick, Indiana, at tinyurl.com/tk5jmg7.

Deals and websites listed here have been checked for availability as of press time, but the listings are not an endorsement. Send tips at least a month in advance to ChicagoTribTravel@gmail.com.

Phil Marty is a freelancer.

GEOQUIZ ANSWER

Austria, the Netherlands, the Czech Republic, France, Luxembourg, Denmark, Poland, Switzerland and Belgium. Among European countries, only Russia, which is also part of Asia, borders more countries.

Watch candy canes come to be at this sweet spot

BY NANCY MORELAND
Chicago Tribune

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Every holiday season in this college town, confectioner Greg Cohen cranks out thousands of candy canes the old-fashioned way.

"I'm one of the few people under 80 who knows how to make hard candy by hand, using 19th century equipment," Cohen says. He gestures to ornate Victorian candy presses lining the bubble gum pink walls of Lofty Pursuits, a candy store and soda fountain Cohen calls "a performance art project that turns a profit."

The Brooklyn, New York, native modeled his business after childhood memories of Ben's Candy Store, where 75 cents bought a comic book and a pocketful of Tootsie Rolls. Following that logic into his current career, Cohen maintains, "I don't sell candy; I sell happiness."

Hard candies are made year-round; candy cane demonstrations happen in November and December. To keep their craftsmanship sharp, Cohen's staff members also raise cane on July 25 for their annual Christmas in July event. The demon-

stration begins by pouring sugary, 310-degree lava onto a candy cooling table made in the late 1800s. Cohen elicits a collective "Wow!" from onlookers as he stretches, rolls, twists and cuts the putty-like mass into Christmas confections.

"There aren't a lot of places in the U.S. where you can watch candy canes being made like this," he says. (Call ahead to confirm candy-making demonstration times: 850-521-0091.)

Each cane weighs about 2 ounces, nearly half the weight of an entire box of the mass-produced variety. Last year, the shop

sold 1.2 tons of candy canes in traditional peppermint and a dozen other flavors. The most unusual request to date? An 8-pound, 3½-foot long candy cane for Shirley, a retired circus elephant in Georgia who is one of the oldest living elephants on record.

Located off Interstate 10 at 1355 Market St., Lofty Pursuits is a fun, nostalgic experience that's easy to find, especially during the holidays.

"Just follow the smell of peppermint," Cohen says.

Nancy Moreland is a freelancer.



SHELBY SHOUP/WWW.PD.NET

Greg Cohen makes candy canes at his Tallahassee, Florida, shop.



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FORK IN THE ROAD

WHAT TO EAT WHEN YOU GET THERE



'Sonoma of Spain'

Juicy reds and masterful meals draw tourists to Ribera del Duero, a burgeoning wine region just north of Madrid

At the Cepa 21 winery, chef Alberto Soto deconstructs traditional flavors into high-concept small plates.

CEPA 21

BY AMY TARA KOCH

The Washington Post

RIBERA DEL DUERO, Spain — Everyone knows about Napa and Sonoma, Tuscany and Bordeaux.

For a lesser-known vineyard getaway, one heavy on juicy reds and masterful meals, consider Ribera del Duero, a burgeoning wine region just two hours north of Madrid.

Haven't heard of it? Except for noticing the appellation on a handful of esoteric wine menus, I hadn't either. So I decided to drop in on the area dubbed the "Sonoma of Spain" by oenophile Robert Parker of Wine Advocate.

After spending a night in Madrid, I hopped the fast train to Valladolid and headed north to commence my vineyard tours. Unlike California wine country, with its attractive farm stands and lively, shop-filled Main Streets, Ribera is rural, with one main road snaking through quiet one-bar towns.

Though the road seemed flat, the terraced vineyards I was driving alongside were at an elevation of 3,500 feet, some of the highest in Europe. Punctuating the rustic landscape were unexpected flashes of modernity — a white cube, a terra cotta wave of arches, a celestial-looking Grecian moderne edifice — that housed the wineries. These bodegas, as the Spanish call them, are what draw tourists to Ribera del Duero. They peep out from beyond a medieval castle, behind an ancient monastery and between groves of fluffy-looking pine trees that seem plucked from "The Lorax."

My first stop was 3 Ases, which produces only 50,000 bottles of wine per year. At smaller wineries like this one, tastings are led by the vintners themselves.

As we walked through the vines, owner César Arranz explained that the tempranillo grape, the backbone of Spain's well-structured red wines, had grown here since the Middle Ages. But it wasn't until 1982 that Ribera del Duero winemakers petitioned for — and won — their own Denominación de Origen (D.O.) appellation to compete with Rioja, the region's mighty neighbor to the northeast.

Ribera del Duero is now home to more than 300 wineries — some indie upstarts, others internationally acclaimed labels — that wind through the ancient provinces of Soria, Segovia, Burgos and Valladolid. Arranz poured "Joven Roble" and "Crianza" (different designations of the local wines such as Joven, Crianza and Reserva indicate how long the wines have aged in oak barrels and in the bottle), followed by a plucky, strawberry-forward rosé from a bottle bearing a label of a donkey wearing oversize spectacles. Producing easy-to-drink rosé in the land of classic tempranillo was progressive, he explained.

The move, plus the quirky label, was part of an effort to entice a younger generation of beer-swilling Spaniards to drink wine. When I asked the cost of these wines, I thought my Spanish had failed me.

Only 6 euros (about \$6.60) for a bottle of killer rosé? And 8 euros (about \$8.80) for the fragrant



ABADIA RETUERTA

Abadía Retuerta produces award-winning wines in a picturesque setting on the southern bank of the Douro River.



DAVID SILVERMAN/GETTY

Tempranillo grapes make up the backbone of Spain's red wines.

Crianza aged for 14 months in a French oak barrel? This was shockingly inexpensive, even considering the 5% price hike at retail.

Next I visited Abadía Retuerta in Sardon, a more expansive operation where award-winning (Wine Spectator, Wine Advocate, Wine Magazine) wines are produced on 500 acres of terrain that sweep from the southern bank of the Douro River up to 2,100 feet above sea level. I bounced over the rocky terrain for about 20 minutes in a 4x4 to see the vines — tempranillo, cabernet sauvignon, merlot, syrah, petit verdot — and the property's state-of-the-art gravity-flow irrigation system before taking in panoramic views of the Douro Valley from the property's craggy cliffs.

Then came a tasting under a 200-year-old oak tree, where chief winemaker Ángel Anocibar pointed out the similarities between Napa cabernets and the wines of Ribera. Since both regions are adjacent to rivers and benefit from soil rich in gravel, sand and clay, Napa cabernets and Ribera's bold tempranillo-based wines are structurally similar, meaning they are full-bodied and taste of deep blue fruits such as

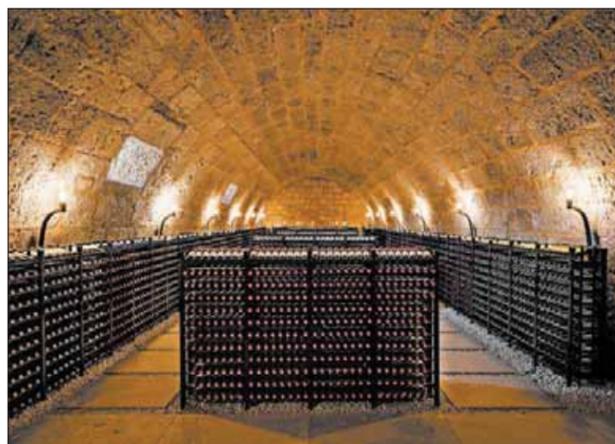
plum and blackberry. A few swigs of Selección Especial later, the comparison rang clear.

Then off to Burgos, 50 minutes north. Bodegas Portia has received international acclaim for its edgy Norman Foster design, which is futuristic indeed.

The steel-and-cement trefoil exploding from the earth resembles the Capitol from the Hunger Games films. Inside, a raised public gallery connects three massive wings to display different stages of the production process, from pulping to bottling. The tasting room was full (note: definitely book tastings in advance), so I eyeballed the restaurant, Triennia Gastrobar, and took my leave.

Thanks to hearty soil, where there are vineyards, there is usually standout food. I may not have spied casual restaurants in and around the towns, but with direction from locals I tapped into Ribera's sophisticated culinary scene.

At Ambivium, the gastronomic restaurant inside the stylish Pago de Carraovejas winery, I had my jet-lagged mind blown during a pairings lunch masterminded by chef Marina de la Hoz. Dishes such as fatty ox tartare topped with white truffle shavings and



ABADIA RETUERTA

The wine cellars at Abadía Retuerta in Sardon.

wisps of blue cheese, slow-roasted suckling pig dotted with creme fraiche and aromatic black rice infused with squid brought the bold flavors of Spain into sharp focus.

But dapper sommelier Guillermo Cruz, 34, steals the show. His zest for storytelling, explaining the nuances of pairing the aforementioned tartare with, say, three vintages of Barolo (1967, 1996, 2013) to underscore the Piedmontese inspiration, added a thrill to the meal.

The cost of a 12-course lunch? About \$70, \$160 with wine pairings.

Another dynamic tasting menu unfolded at the Cepa 21 winery, where Alberto Soto, a chef who employs "trampantojo," or the element of surprise, deconstructs traditional flavors into high-concept small plates. To wit: His macaron de la Ribera del Duero looks like a cookie but is actually lamb pate between two crunchy disks of dehydrated wine-flavored jam.

The price tag for this inspired 13-course meal was \$66, \$88 with wine pairings, much less than what such an experience would cost in Madrid.

Experimental cuisine is not the

focus at La Serrezuela, a tiny restaurant in a tiny town called Montejo de la Vega de la Serrezuela in Segovia. Here, the culinary stars are just-plucked-from-the-earth vegetables, deftly smoked over coal and laced with zesty Spanish olive oil. Melt-in-your-mouth lechazo (baby lamb), smoked for hours at low heat, also dazzled.

As I drained my wine, I told chef Giorgio de Marco how much I wished to see one of the ancient underground bodegas popular in this area. A few minutes later, a neighbor appeared and led me up the street and into a door tucked into a rock formation.

Inside, down a slimy path and through an iron grill, I entered an area filled with musty wine barrels. Wine was siphoned directly from a barrel, and we (five fellow diners had trailed us to the cellar) raised a glass to good health.

Most of these bodegas are private. A similar experience can be had at Bodega Don Carlos (in Aranda de Duero), where tastings and meals are served in a historic underground cellar.

Whether you stay in Ribera del Duero or make a day trip from Madrid, this pocket of Spain gets high marks on hospitality.

HOME

MAKE YOUR SPACE



MICHAEL TERCHA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

An assortment of chandeliers at Architectural Artifacts in Chicago.

Salvage shops offer sustainable history

Originality and nostalgia play roles in popularity

BY KATHERINE ROTH
Associated Press

Two of the hottest trends in home decor are sustainability and authenticity. No wonder architectural salvage shops are busy.

Homeowners love features that come with a story, says Rich Ellis, publisher of Architectural Salvage and Antique Lumber News.

"When you can point to your floor and say it came from an old shoe factory in Connecticut, for example, that's a big attraction," he says.

There are between 500 and 700 architectural salvage businesses across the country, and business has been good, he says.

"It's about both history and

sustainability," says Madeline Beauchamp of Olde Good Things, one of the oldest architectural salvage businesses in the country, with one shop in Los Angeles, two retail warehouses in Scranton, Pennsylvania, three stores in New York City and a flagship store to open soon in Midtown Manhattan.

Lorna Aragon, home editor at Martha Stewart Living, says people are looking for quality and "want their homes to be original. And of course the whole 'reduce, reuse, recycle' aspect of things plays into it as well."

While some items are sold just as found when they were salvaged from renovation sites, others have been modified for home use. There are Paris street lamps reconfigured as large pendant lamps to hang above kitchen islands or in loft apartments, and window frames from historical buildings like New York City's

Domino sugar factory or Flatiron building, now fitted with mirrors to be hung on walls. Tin ceiling tiles from old New York buildings are also sometimes fitted with mirrors, or framed and hung as is, says Beauchamp.

"One customer came in for a gargoyle, to be incorporated in their garden area," she adds. Her customers tend to be designers, architects and those trying to update their homes with unique decor that has a sense of history.

Olde Good Things sells everything from vintage doorknobs to huge stained-glass panels that were once part of the American Airlines terminal at John F. Kennedy Airport in New York. There are enormous chandeliers that once hung in a Broadway theater, and, from the old Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, dishes, fireplace mantels and the elegant doorframe of the historic hotel's presidential suite.

Stuart Grannen runs the upscale Architectural Artifacts in Chicago, which deals in rare items favored by restaurants, bars and hotels. "These days, individuals might have one really great centerpiece item and live with that," he says. "The days when someone would come in and buy 50 doorknobs are done."

Most of his clients, he says, are businesses looking for huge, beautiful counters, showcases, consoles or back bars.

"When I salvage things, it might be the whole facade of a theater, or a giant chandelier," he says.

But Aragon counters that items like vintage plumbing, sinks and tubs continue to be popular.

In addition to architectural elements, salvaged lumber is also a hot item in many salvage shops, sometimes transformed into things like dining tables, ready-made, custom-ordered or sold as

is. "The antique lumber side of things is very strong," says Ellis, for table tops and other decor elements.

Antique bricks and paving stones are also being repurposed for, say, a decorative wall.

"Things like those wonderful old wide floorboards and barn siding have been popular for some time," notes Aragon.

Ellis traces this history of architectural salvage to the 1960s, and says it has been growing slowly but steadily ever since but really became mainstream in the 1990s.

While the first generation of architectural salvage business owners is starting to retire and close, a new generation is stepping in, he says.

"That desire for elements with a sense of history and a great story behind them is not going away anytime soon," says Ellis.



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STYLE

WHAT TO WEAR NOW

CREATED WITH PASSION

Chicago designer celebrates unisex, genderless clothes

BY TARA C. MAHADEVAN
Chicago Tribune

Billed as clothing designed with passion, Chicago designer Letesha Renee launched her label Eugene Taylor Brand in summer 2015. The collection was a study of the '70s aesthetic, a time period



Renee

Renee says was "one of the best eras of dressing." The clothes were characterized by flared

cuts, bright pops of color and metallics. Following that, she branched off into streetwear, which is where she hit her stride, becoming known for creating hip, unisex, genderless clothes.

The line continues to carry a '70s aesthetic — bright colors, tie-dye, denim and rhinestones — and is an examination of unisex streetwear, with spacious silhouettes, nods to ath-leisure and graphic T-shirts. Renee also uses her brand to magnify pop culture, like her 2018 "If I Were Diana" collection inspired by Diana Ross, and her Euphoria dress, based on the HBO show of the same name.

Her current collection, titled "4ALL 4EVA," embodies that inclusivity. The collection, mostly in a neutral color palette with bursts of tangerine, is made up of tailored, oversized pieces. Standout pieces include the Painter's Jersey, a black, roomy muscle tank that's emblazoned with Renee's 4ALL logo in crystals and splattered with



LETESHA RENEE

A tulle cape from the "If I Were Diana" collection.

white paint. The Bungee Pants are another favorite, black joggers that are adjustable with bungee cords at the waist and ankle. Then there's the black Tag Top and Tag Pant sweat set; both pieces feature multiple pockets and white tags that cleverly share informa-

tion about the line.

"I wanted to take it deeper into gender-neutral clothing and really give the person wearing the pieces more than one way to wear it — in a feminine or masculine way," she says.

Above all, she makes garments that reflect her

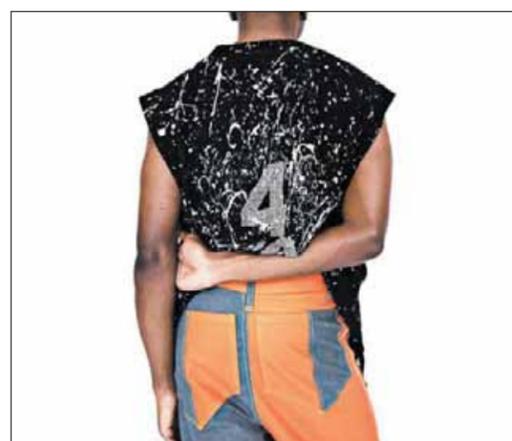
lifestyle and her creative community. "Everyday people for me happen to be creatives," she explains. "But my clothing is for all — it's for everyone."

Most of what she creates for the line is a response to what she thinks "needs to change within the city and



LETESHA RENEE

Oversize cuts and pops of bright orange star in the "4ALL 4EVA" collection.



LETESHA RENEE

Eugene Taylor Brand's Painter's Jersey is embellished with crystals and splattered with white paint.

what personally affects" her.

She believes Chicago should be more "loving and understanding," find ways to "uplift each other" and "be supportive of each other's journey, even if we don't understand them."

Creating unisex clothes

is "my stance on equality," Renee explains. "That's why I transitioned into trying to be a genderless clothing brand. I try to do my good in a way that's comfortable for me."

Tara C. Mahadevan is a freelance writer.

Tree-free Christmas ornament ideas



ELLEN WARREN
Answer Angel

Hey readers, my mailbox is overflowing with your suggestions for what to do with your cherished Christmas ornaments now that you're downsizing or just sick of the hassle of putting up (and taking down) that tree. Lots of readers lamented that their grown kids have no interest in using their parents' sentimental decorations in their own homes. My suggestion for reader Elizabeth A. was to lend or give them to a senior center, nursing home, hospice or other facility where they could be enjoyed. But you had loads of other ideas for space-saving display of your special ornaments. Here goes ...

"A way of enjoying ornaments in a limited space is to put them in a large, clear glass bowl. The resulting blend of color, texture, shapes and design make a great centerpiece."

— Karen L.
Similarly ...

"My answer to those nostalgic ornaments no one wants: Buy a large, I mean the largest, glass jar you can find and load your favorites into it. Voila, all your favorites in one place! Doesn't take much space and looks creative and fun. No dust either!"

— Kathleen K.

"Gift them to friends and acquaintances with sentiments attached such as 'I got this on a trip to Vermont and I know you love Vermont too,' or 'This was my mother's and I know how much she enjoyed visiting with you during the years,' etc. Also, separate out some of the less fragile ornaments and use them as decorations on Christmas gifts. If Elizabeth only gives



DREAMSTIME

A large glass bowl can make a great display for ornaments if you don't have the space or inclination to put up a tree.

checks to those grandchildren she could still attach an ornament to the envelope and explain why she chose it for that person. I know it's hard when others don't share the feelings that you do around various things, so just remember that once you have 'gifted' the ornaments you've done the most and best you can do and the rest is up to the recipients. Happy downsizing and merry Christmas."

— Kathleen B.

"Another suggestion for 'overflow' Christmas ornaments ... I decorated a wreath with all of the ornaments for which there was no room on our smaller tabletop Christmas trees. I decorated an artificial wreath with some of my

favorites. After the holidays it is stored in a round plastic wreath box until the next year, when I just take it out and hang it on the wall in our dining room in place of a mirror that usually hangs in that spot. A friend made a similar wreath of antique ornaments that had belonged to her grandparents — for her parents who have moved into assisted living and no longer had room for a Christmas tree."

— Jill A.

"Ask nieces, nephews and cousins if they want them. Your reader Elizabeth's children may not be interested in family things, but others might. I'm in Elizabeth's situation. My immediate family members

didn't want our great-grandparents' large but nicely illustrated family Bible. But the son of a first cousin did want it. It is nice that it will stay in the family."

— Eleanor H.

"I inherited beautiful glass ornaments from my great-grandmother. There are Santas, birds, glass beads. I display them in a crystal glass bowl and add sprigs of evergreens. They are displayed on a shelf and look beautiful."

— Sandy M.

"How about a shadow box? It wouldn't take up much space and she could pick a dozen or so and have them framed. It could be hung like a picture during the holidays or even year-

round if she wishes. Talk about a focal point!"

— Mary K.C.

"I might suggest she build/buy a divided shadow box and add cup hooks to hang and show off six to 12 of her most favorite. The box could hang on a wall or sit on a shelf or table. If they bring her pleasure she should enjoy them."

— Barb G.

"Ornaments look pretty and festive hanging from a chandelier, one or two to each branch, and you can really see them better than on a Christmas tree."

— Patty D.

Anita S. suggests adding battery-operated twinkle lights to the ornaments centerpiece for a festive look.

From Ellen: These ideas are outstanding and creative. Thrift stores are a great place to find giant glass bowls, vases and jars (some with tops) at giveaway prices. Shadow boxes go on sale at craft supply stores like Michaels and would work beautifully too.

Dear Answer Angel

Ellen: I'm planning on a trip to see my BFF in San Diego in January. I'm so excited, but the idea of packing has me stalled. I want to take enough clothing for 10 days but don't want pics taken which show me wearing the same outfit each day. Is there a capsule type of mix-and-match wardrobe? Also, my bestie says jeans are the mainstay ... too warm for California? Help! I'm clueless — because I'm living in the snow and cold.

— Susan C.

Dear Susan: Just because it's California, it won't be all that warm in San Diego in January. The daytime temps are 63-68 degrees, and it is a cool 47-51 degrees at night. Jeans would be an excellent, versatile choice. A light blazer/jacket and sweater for evening, T-shirts and no-iron blouses for tops. Scarves can totally change the look of the outfit. I used to haul around a giant suitcase but have come to realize if you stick with one color for basic pieces like pants, skirt and jacket and then add color with tops, scarves and jewelry you can get away with a much smaller (even no-check) suitcase. No more killing time at the luggage carousel. It's liberating. Have a great trip.

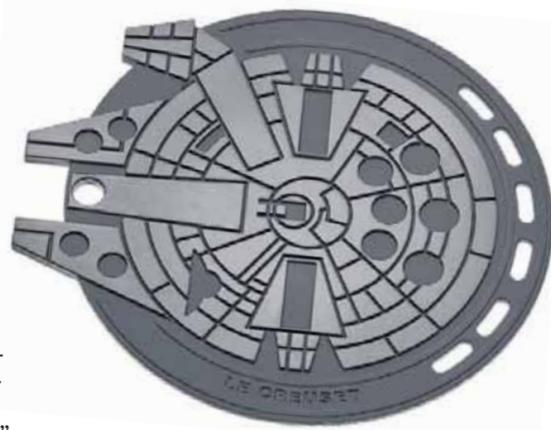
Now it's your turn

Send your questions, rants, tips, favorite finds — on style, shopping, makeup, fashion and beauty — to answerangel@lifenews.com.

THE GOODS

YOUR HUNT IS OVER

Hottest 'Star Wars' gear, from fashion to kitchen



WILLIAMS SONOMA

French cookware brand Le Creuset recently released a range of "Star Wars"-inspired products. Highlights include the Millennium Falcon trivet. \$20, williams-sonoma.com

By **JESSICA MOAZAMI** | Chicago Tribune

A long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away — or in the 1970s — a little film called "Star Wars" was released. Nearly four decades, countless toys and numerous spinoffs later, fans will finally get the long-awaited conclusion to the Skywalker saga.

"Star Wars: Episode IX — The Rise of Skywalker," the final film of the new trilogy, will open Dec. 19. We mark this seminal moment by bringing you some of the hottest collaborations, ranging from fashion to your kitchen.

Jessica Moazami is a freelance stylist.



It's not a lightsaber, but the kids will love Pottery Barn's R2-D2 lamp. \$199, potterybarnkids.com

POTTERY BARN KIDS



WILLIAMS SONOMA

Let the Force be with you in the kitchen with William Sonoma's Chewbacca apron and themed spatulas. They make great stocking stuffers for the fan who likes to cook. \$39.95 and \$14.95, williams-sonoma.com



SWAROVSKI

Austrian crystal company Swarovski, known for its glittering jewelry and home decor, has teamed up with Lucasfilm to produce an 11-piece collection, including crystal "Star Wars" figurines (\$239-\$529) and limited-edition bejeweled Darth Vader, stormtrooper and Boba Fett helmets (\$8,550-\$8,900).



LEVI'S

No stranger to nostalgia, Levi's has launched a special-edition collection celebrating the iconic characters from the original "Star Wars" trilogy. The collection includes trucker jackets and jeans, as well as tees, hoodies and accessories. \$22-\$148, levi.com

Chill your Jedi cocktails in "Star Wars" style with W&P's Death Star ice mold. \$14, surlatable.com



SUR LA TABLE



ADIDAS

Adidas' Harden Vol. 4 "Star Wars" Lightsaber purple sneakers honor Mace Windu's signature purple lightsaber in style. \$120, adidas.com



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PAWS ambassador, Torrey DeVitto, "Chicago Med" actress, with rescue dogs Jango and Dot



Barbara Bradford, PAWS founder Paula Fasseas and Peter Fasseas



Co-chairs Michael and Melissa Canning



Danielle DeCamp with Sebastian



George Burin III and Amy Burin with dogs Addison Kacey and Olive Oil



Co-chairs Chris Renk, from left, Frances Renk, Shanna Khan and Justin McCabe



Curtis and Jennifer Duffy holding Bowie



Dr. Steven Stryker, Molly Millet holding Dot, Andrea Stryker and Michele McIntire holding Buddy



Judy Tullman, Jeff Zimmermann, Casey Deeter and Bonnie Spurlock

CANDID CANDACE

BY CANDACE JORDAN



Pet-friendly Fur Ball to support PAWS Chicago

Pups in tuxes were among the highlights at the 18th annual PAWS Chicago Fur Ball on Nov. 15 at the Drake Hotel. Over 700 guests, hundreds of pets and 250 volunteers helped raise funds for PAWS, one of the largest no-kill animal shelters in the Midwest, and its many life-saving programs for Chicago's homeless animals.

The sold-out event was co-chaired by Melissa and Michael Canning, and Frances and Chris Renk, with honorary co-chairs Corey and JP Marchetti. Fox 32's Sylvia Perez, Jake Hamilton and Natalie Bomke served as emcees for programs in the Gold Coast Room and Grand Ballroom. Torrey DeVitto, a "Chicago Med" actress and animal welfare advocate, was a special guest.

Twenty homeless dogs, puppies and kittens were the stars of an adoptable-pet showcase. They included Eko and Ed, tiny kittens found in a dumpster at 3 weeks old; Matilda, a 3-month-old American Staffordshire mix who survived the deadly parvo virus after receiving lifesaving care from PAWS Chicago's medical team; and Olivia, a 10-year-old Boston terrier who was brought to a veterinary clinic by her owner to be euthanized because she was having accidents after being left alone for long periods.

"We founded PAWS Chicago in 1997 because my daughter Alexis and I saw firsthand the senseless killing of homeless pets in Chicago," PAWS founder Paula Fasseas said. "They were dying because there were too many and because no one knew. We started PAWS Chicago to tell their story."

Since the organization's founding, PAWS has helped reduce the number of homeless pets killed in the city by 91%. In October, PAWS opened a community outreach center in Englewood that will expand spay/neuter and veterinary services in communities where pet overpopulation remains problematic.

Freelance writer Candace Jordan is involved in many local organizations, including some whose events she covers. She is a member of the PAWS Development Board.

MORE ONLINE: Find more photos and video of this event at www.chicagotribune.com/candidcandace

JAMES C. SVEHLA/PHOTOS FOR THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Tradition aside, host gets to pick location for family meals



JUDITH MARTIN
Miss Manners

Dear Miss Manners: I come from a large, close family that celebrates many occasions together. For many years, our primary host was my Aunt Maureen, who, after moving to a smaller home, would host us all at one of her favorite restaurants, her treat. I asked several times to take a turn paying, but she refused; instead, I would send her flowers as a thank-you.

Aunt Maureen died earlier this year. Shortly after her death, I hosted a meal at one of her favorite spots, and, of course, paid. However, I've since decided that if I'm the one hosting, I'd rather have family gatherings in my home. My husband and I both enjoy cooking, and our house is set up well for the small children in the family, with a large fenced-in yard and a playroom.

In addition, my father has health problems that make him more comfortable spending long periods of time in my home versus a public place like a restaurant.

However, my cousin, Maureen's daughter, has said several times that she would prefer going out again and that she missed the restaurant meals. My cousin is a single mother of three with a limited income, so she is not offering to host.

I need a polite way to say, "I don't want to go out to dinner if I'm going to have to pay for everyone," especially since these gatherings can be 15 people or more. An added issue is that it's not really the money — I could afford the meal. I just prefer to host the group in my house.

Gentle reader: "I loved both of Aunt Maureen's traditions, but we would like to revert to her first one by having everyone at our house, which seems to work well for most of the family. Perhaps on occasion, we can order food from one of her favorite restaurants."

Any reasonable person can see the compromise in this situation — and, Miss Manners adds, would not be so bold to push it when she knows it is not in her power or means to change it.

Dear Miss Manners: My in-laws tend to be extremely generous around the holidays. They love to spoil their grandchildren with numerous extravagant gifts.

This year will be my son's first Christmas, and I'm worried he will receive the infamous "Christmas loot" we've seen given to the other grandchildren in previous years. My husband and I agree that the gift-giving from his parents is over the top, and don't want our son spoiled with presents. We'd much rather they spoil him with love and attention.

I feel we should have a conversation with his parents about their holiday shopping, but I don't want to sound ungrateful for their generosity or judgmental about how the other grandchildren are treated. How do we stand our ground?

Gentle reader: Fortunately or unfortunately, it is not only the grandparents' prerogative to spoil their grandchildren, but it is not for you to determine the means.

However, Miss Manners will allow gentle guidance in general conversation: "Jasper already has so much, and the only thing he really wants to play with is my phone, if he can

grab it. But he loves your attention."

This is infinitely preferable to, "We would rather you not try to buy Jasper's love with a mini Jeep."

Dear Miss Manners: I am blessed with a lovely medium-size vacation home and welcome guests throughout the year. Increasingly, relatives will mention that they will be joining us over Christmas but don't want to let me know their date and time of arrival or departure. They like to "leave things flexible." A few have even called a day or two before Christmas to let me know they are on their way.

This year, I would like to insist on a time frame for their visits. Is it unreasonable to inform visitors that they need to let me know well in advance the exact dates of their Christmas visits?

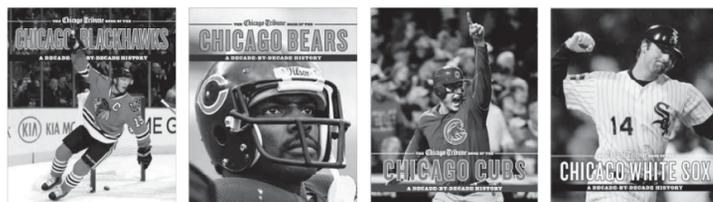
Gentle reader: As the owner of the home, you get to schedule its use. It is not acceptable for guests to show up with little or no notice.

However, your passive past behavior has indicated that it was — and telling your guests otherwise now might be tricky. Miss Manners suggests that you make a list. Begin by pinning down your favorite or most expected relatives and work your way down from there.

That way, as you start to get booked, you can honestly say, "I am afraid the house is full for the holidays, but we hope that you will let us know soon if you would like to come for strawberry season."

To send a question to the Miss Manners team of Judith Martin, Nicholas Ivor Martin and Jacobina Martin, go to missmanners.com or write them c/o Universal Uclick, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106.

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Chicago Tribune REAL ESTATE



VASYL DOLMATOV/GETTY

First-time homebuyers are looking at houses that will fit their lifestyles for years to come, instead of starting small and trading up.

SKIPPING THE STARTER HOME

First-time buyers are looking to find a house they can grow into

BY JOANNE CLEAVER

It's not his dream house, but Steven Lill expects that it's the house where he'll achieve several of his dreams. The 1,200-square-foot, three-bedroom house in Arlington Heights that Lill bought in August is structurally sound; will benefit from several learning-curve home improvement projects, like replacing the popcorn ceilings; and has a dog-welcoming yard.

Eventually, said Lill, 26, he envisions starting a family in the house — after he upgrades the kitchen and bathroom.

In buying a house that he expects to stay in for the foreseeable future, Lill is typical of first-time Chicago homeowners who think in terms of the long term, not in terms of the semi-temporary starter house.

Over the past decade, homeowners have burrowed in, according to analysis recently released by national brokerage Redfin. In Chicago, the average homeowner tenure is now 14.2 years, compared with 9.3 years in 2010 — in the middle of the national trend.

The National Association of Realtors reports that first-time buyers expect to stay in their houses for at least 10 years.

Developers, real estate agents and mortgage lenders say that today's first-time buyers are thinking longer-term, buying houses that can sustain both growing households and steady improvement, and expecting to stay in their first houses well past the point of recouping the cost of selling to build real equity.

The first rung on the property ladder is higher for today's first-time buyers. Student debt famously saps millennials' ability to save for a down payment, but they're also taking a sober look at the long-term carrying cost and what it will take to actually build equity. With home equity growing at a moderate pace, it takes years to overcome the cost of selling, which can bite as much as 6% from equity due to agent commissions, taxes and fees.

The harsh reality is that transaction costs undermine equity, reinforcing the logic of delaying a move to a more expensive, bigger house, said Luke Smith, the agent with REX Real Estate who worked with Lill.

Brokers like REX, which offer alternatives to the traditional 5% to 6% commission, paid by the seller, change the time-and-money factors that frame calculations of net equity,

said Smith.

"Taxes are a major factor in where they choose to buy," said Smith. First-time buyers, he said, are also projecting the likely increases in property taxes and homeowner association fees, too, counting those expenses as drags on equity-building.

"Years ago, we got the first job and we got a little place and expected to trade up when we got married. Now, it's three bedrooms to begin with," said Alan Lev, chairman of Belgravia Group, a Chicago developer. "They're buying with the idea of staying there longer and starting a family."

Share-worthy amenities like pools and basketball courts are fun when you're renting but are drawbacks for buildings trying to attract first-time buyers, said Lev. "Millennials don't expect a big amenity package and they don't want it because the assessments are so high," he said. "That's cool for the rental market, but if you own it and you have to pay for it, that's not so cool."

The traditional homebuying considerations such as location, price and access to public transit and daily conveniences like shopping are still key, but today's first-timers also put more weight on the long-term appeal of

neighborhood entertainment options; municipal amenities and traditions; and how the house can be adapted for the next phases of their lives.

A fall 2019 survey by Bank of America found that buying a house unleashed a flurry of new hobbies and learning, with 47% of new homeowners digging into gardening, 45% sharpening their cooking and grilling abilities, and 33% stitching up home decorating skills.

And 76% of first-time buyers will only consider a house that is initially move-in ready, according to online buying platform Bungalo, which they define as having new appliances, fresh paint and updated cabinets.

Lill zeroed in on Arlington Heights because of its "cute downtown" and easy access to the commuter train, which delivers him to the Loop. After he refinishes the ceilings and floors, he figures he'll tackle the bathrooms and kitchen. "I think I can get all that done in five years," he said. "I want to enjoy Arlington Heights for a while. Maybe I'll update it so much I stay for 30 years."

Join our Chicago Dream Homes Facebook group for more luxury listings and real estate news.

ELITE STREET

Obamas buy Martha's Vineyard mansion for \$11.75M

BY BOB GOLDSBOROUGH

Former President Barack Obama and former first lady Michelle Obama continue to expand their real estate holdings outside Chicago, with the closing Dec. 4 of their \$11.75 million purchase of a seven-bedroom, 6,892-square-foot mansion on 29.3 acres in Edgartown, Massachusetts, on Martha's Vineyard.

Public records in Dukes County, Massachusetts, show that a land trust that bears the name of the estate's street address paid \$11.75 million for the estate and also took out a \$7.05 million mortgage from J.P. Morgan for the property. The trustee of that trust is James F. Reynolds, a lawyer in Edgartown.

The Obamas bought the estate

from Boston Celtics lead owner Wyc Grousbeck and his former wife, Corinne, who first had listed it for \$22.5 million in 2015 and then cut their asking price to \$16.25 million in August 2018. In July, they cut their asking price to \$14.85 million.

The Grousbecks paid \$3.15 million for the property in 1998 and built the mansion several years later, according to public records. The architectural firm that designed the mansion was Brandenburger Taylor Lombardo Architects of San Francisco, according to the Vineyard Gazette.

The Grousbecks' listing agents, Gerret Conover and Thomas LeClair of LandVest Martha's Vineyard, declined to comment on any aspects of the sale. They only were willing to say 2019 was

a year full of record sales on Martha's Vineyard, along with generally strong interest from buyers for properties on the island.

The Obamas had rented the estate this past summer and had been longtime summer guests on Martha's Vineyard, renting homes there for all but one of the years that they occupied the White House. Features in their new mansion include eight baths, vaulted ceilings, a living room with a stone fireplace, a master suite with a fireplace, a private sundeck, an outdoor fireplace, a pool and two guest wings. The L-shaped property also has a private beach and a boathouse on Edgartown Great Pond, which is



LANDVEST

Barack and Michelle Obama purchased a seven-bedroom mansion on 29.3 acres in Edgartown, Massachusetts.

Turn to *Elite Street*, Page 6



DREAMSTIME

Retiring soon or planning a move? The next recession might ding your equity hard.

2020 might be the right time to sell your home

BY CARLA FRIED
Rate.com

The value of household equity in real estate has more than doubled since the 2012 housing bottom, according to the Federal Reserve. CoreLogic, a real estate data firm, reports that among households with mortgages, equity is at a record high.

Not to be a killjoy, but there's a growing risk in that good news. Strong gains in home values throughout most of the country for more than seven years can give rise to a common psychological quirk that can undo a long-term financial plan. Recency bias is the human habit of presuming that whatever you've been experiencing recently will continue into the future.

For homeowners who have a soft plan of making a move in the next few years, chances are you're just assuming that when you are ready to list your house for sale maybe so. Or maybe not. What you can count on is that right now there are key housing-market drivers that suggest 2020 could be a sweet spot for selling a home.

The expectation is that the economy will continue to grow in 2020. In a recent survey of more than

four dozen economists, fewer than one in five expected a recession to start by mid-2020. But after that, the storm clouds thicken.

By mid-2021, the same group puts at 70% the chance we will be in a recession. No one expects a reprise of the meltdown of a decade ago, but even a more benign recession is a headwind for trying to sell a home. Prices tend to soften, as does demand, because rising unemployment scares off buyers.

Even if we somehow skate by the next few years without a recession, mortgage interest rates are also in a seller's favor right now. Buyer demand is sensitive to mortgage rates.

The issue of timing a home sale can be especially important for people in retirement planning. But what if your timing is off, and right when you want to sell we're in the midst of a recession that sets off a housing slump? If your retirement strategy includes reinvesting the capital gain from a home sale, you need to be comfortable with that gain potentially being lower than it would be if you sold in today's strong housing market.

You could also find yourself challenged by

another psychological quirk called "anchoring." This is the habit of not being able to let go of what used to be true.

In housing terms, let's say your home is worth \$350,000 today. But what if when you go to sell it two years from now, we're in the midst of a recession, and the market value is \$325,000? Chances are you're going to fight your real estate agent on setting the asking price below \$350,000; you're anchored to that \$350,000. Or you are anchored to "needing to be able to walk away with X dollars in net gain."

Depending on how that conversation plays out, you could be setting yourself up for even more frustration. Placing a too-high asking price on a home in a soft market typically causes the home to languish, and often leads to a price reduction that then boosts the confidence of home buyers to make offers that are below your reduced list price.

If you have the flexibility to consider a sale sooner than later, accelerating a home sale into 2020, eight years into a strong rebound in home values in many parts of the country, could be a smart way to book your profit and move on.

Understanding the role of an exclusive buyer agent

BY ILYCE GLINK AND SAMUEL J. TAMKIN
Tribune Content Agency

Q: My wife and I have been reading Ilyce's book, "100 Questions Every First-Time Home Buyer Should Ask," and one of the big things we took from it has to do with agents representing both buyers and sellers.

I went to the website for the National Association of Exclusive Buyer Agents (as you suggested in the book) and submitted my information.

I was assigned an exclusive buyer agent in the Milwaukee area, and we met with him. He said he was the only exclusive buyer agent in the entire area. This seems odd, given how many Realtors are out there. We met with a Realtor from a different company afterward and were told there were 200 agents who worked out of her office.

Our question is whether an exclusive buyer agent sounds too good to be true. Just wondering if there are any negatives, or something we wouldn't get with an exclusive buyer agent that we would get with a more traditional real estate agent or company.

A: First, a definition: Exclusive buyer agents only represent buyers. They never represent sellers or take listings. Because they never represent sellers, they can never be caught representing both sides (buyer and seller) in the same transaction. Also, they tend to work on their own rather than for a traditional broker. Their exclusive fiduciary duty is to their buyer.

Traditional agents represent both buyers and sellers, and they will, from time to time, find themselves representing both buyers and sellers in the



DREAMSTIME

same transaction. When that happens, they will often pick one side or another and find another agent in the office to represent the other side of the transaction.

But since the agent already knows the personal financial details of both parties, it's hard to be a fiduciary (that is, to represent the interests of one side in the transaction exclusively), so the National Association of Realtors came up with the idea of "nonagency" or "transactional brokerage."

In other words, you represent neither side, rather than pick the buyer or the seller. The problem is that even if your agent picks you and another agent in her office takes the other side, you can still have agency issues. Agents do talk among themselves inside the office, and you can have private financial details emerge in a way that could hurt one side or another.

Exclusive buyer agency means you never need to wonder if your agent is sharing details with the seller that should remain private. And while that sounds fantastic, there are some negatives.

First, an exclusive buyer agent typically has to work a large metropolitan area rather than concentrating on a few small neighborhoods or towns. There is less chance the agent will know the ins and outs of a

particular type of housing stock.

Also, in a hot market, the exclusive buyer agent may get locked out of pocket listings. These are listings with a "coming soon" sign, but which may be available to the other agents who work for the same company.

Traditional agents, like the Realtor you met, call themselves "buyer agents," but they typically are not exclusive buyer agents. They represent buyers and sellers in different transactions and sign agency disclosure agreements to show to whom they owe their fiduciary duty in a particular deal. But if they act as a buyer agent and show their own listing to the buyer, and the buyer likes it, then the fun begins, as they must hand off either the listing or the buyer to a different agent.

What you really want is an agent who understands your wants and needs, and can help you look at all sorts of homes in your neighborhoods of choice. As long as you have a smart agent who listens to you, and responds accordingly, you'll have a good experience whether it is a buyer or exclusive buyer agent.

Ilyce Glink is the CEO of Best Money Moves and Samuel J. Tamkin is a real estate attorney. Contact them through the website ThinkGlink.com.

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			15 yr fixed	3.125	0.000	\$999	20%	3.314		
			10 yr fixed	3.000	0.000	\$999	20%	3.274		
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Mutual of Omaha Mortgage	3.750%	Points: 0.000	30 Yr Fixed FHA	3.250	0.000	\$800	5%	3.320	312-388-2176 https://mutualmortgage.simplenexus.com/vj5yj	NMLS# 110495
			30 Yr Fixed Jumbo	3.750	0.000	\$1,250	25%	3.830		
			7-1 Arm Jumbo	3.375	0.000	\$1,250	20%	3.430		
			15 Yr Fixed	3.375	0.000	\$800	20%	3.423		
			30 Yr Fixed	3.750	0.000	\$800	5%	3.825		
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SAVINGS UPDATE

Can money be gifted for a house down payment?

With first-time homebuyers often struggling to save a down payment, gift money from their family can be a welcome fix. But simply transferring funds from the Bank of Mom & Dad to Johnny's bank account won't alone solve the problem. Both giver and recipient need to follow certain gift money rules.

First, the type of mortgage being applied for, as well as the borrower's credit score, will determine how much personal investment is required in the down payment vs. how much can come as a gift. For instance, FHA loans have different rules on this than conventional mortgages, so the first step is learning the rules for the particular loan and situation.

Also note that down payment gift money must generally come from a family member, such as a parent, grandparent, aunt or uncle, or a sibling. Gifts from friends are typically not allowed, but contributions from a spouse, domestic partner, or

fiancee usually are accepted.

Once the allowable gift amount is determined, be aware that all lenders will ask to see 2-3 months of bank statements. So any large, non-routine deposits that show up during that time period will need to be explained and documented.

Specifically, a gift deposited within that 2-3 month window will need to be confirmed with a gift letter from the donor. Most importantly, this letter establishes the relationship of the giver to the recipient and explicitly states that the money provided is being gifted, not loaned, with no expectation of the donor being paid back.

Gift money can be an excellent way to help new buyers get into their first home a little sooner than they would be able to on their own. The trick is simply doing your homework so both giver and lucky recipient can satisfy the lender's requirements.

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BR LILLIE PHOTOGRAPHY PHOTOS



HOME OF THE WEEK

Goose Island home with custom lighting: \$1.9M

ADDRESS: 900 N. Kingsbury St. Unit 746 in Chicago
PRICE: \$1,895,000
 Listed on Sept. 30, 2019

This 3,160-square-foot Goose Island unit has three bedrooms and three bathrooms. The interior features 12-foot ceilings, white oak floors, a fireplace, built-ins, textured tiles, wallpaper and custom lighting. The kitchen includes a breakfast bar, walnut cabinets, Caesarstone countertops, a Wolf range and double ovens. The master bedroom includes a separate balcony, a custom walk-in closet, and a bathroom with a soaking tub and steam shower. A private terrace, a balcony and two garage parking spaces complete the home.

Agent: Katie Hutchens and Ryan Preuett of Jameson Sotheby's International Realty, 312-371-5951

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How mortgage recasting works and might save you money

BY NATALIE CAMPISI
Bankrate.com

Homeowners who want to shave off dollars from their monthly mortgage payment as well as save money on interest might consider a mortgage recast.

Mortgage recasting, or a loan recast, is when a borrower makes a large, lump-sum payment toward the principal balance of their mortgage and the lender, in turn, reamortizes the loan. This means that your loan is reduced to reflect the new balance.

Recasting cuts your monthly payments and the amount of interest you'll pay over the life of the loan. It does not, however, affect your interest rate or the terms of your loan.

In this way, mortgage recasting offers two — and possibly three — attractive benefits for homeowners with some extra cash in their pocket to pay down the balance:

- Lower monthly payments.
- Less interest paid over the life of the loan.
- If you have a low interest rate, that will stay the same. (Conversely, if your interest rate is high, recasting won't help that.)

How mortgage recasting works: In order to do a loan recast, borrowers must make a large lump-sum payment toward the loan principal. Lenders usually require \$5,000 or more to recast a mortgage. The remaining balance is then amortized to reduce the monthly payments. There are usually fees associated with recasting. The fees vary by lender, but they typically don't exceed a few hundred dollars.

Recasting not only results in lower monthly payments, but borrowers will also pay less interest over the life of the loan. For example, if your 30-year mortgage carries a princi-



TOOGA/GETTY

pal balance of \$200,000 with a 5% interest rate, you might pay \$1,200 per month. If you spend \$50,000 to recast your mortgage, plus a \$250 recasting fee, you'll end up saving almost \$35,000 in interest payments and about \$300 per month in monthly mortgage payments. Of course, the money you sink into the house in the recast won't be available for investing or other purposes.

Keep in mind, recasting doesn't reduce the term of your mortgage, just how much you pay each month.

Qualifications and availability: Before you get excited about lower monthly payments, first make sure your lender offers recasting — many don't. It's also not something that's normally advertised, but most of the big banks offer it, including Chase, Bank of America and Wells Fargo. Plus, not all mortgages qualify for recasting; some types of loans, like FHA loans and VA loans, can't be recast.

Mortgage recasting vs. refinancing: There's a big difference between recasting a mortgage and refinancing one, even though both can help borrowers

save money. Recasting is easier than refinancing because it requires only a lump sum of money in exchange for lower monthly payments.

With recasting, you're keeping your existing loan, only adjusting the amortization. You wouldn't be able to get a lower interest rate with recasting, like you might with refinancing. On the other hand, if your interest rate is already low then refinancing could have a negative effect — especially if the current rates are higher.

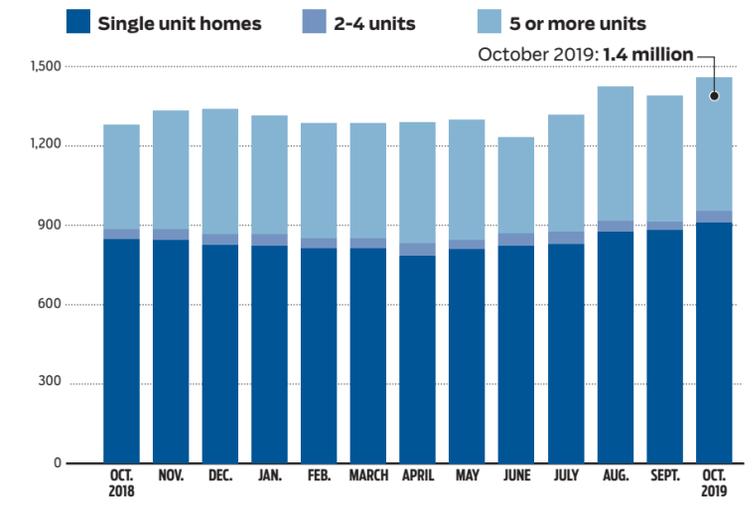
Refinancing, conversely, requires that you apply for a brand-new loan and pay all the fees that go with it, such as closing costs and appraisal. The new loan would pay off your existing loan, so you could end up with a new mortgage as well as new interest rates.

People typically do this to get a lower interest rate or to go from an adjustable-rate mortgage to a fixed-rate mortgage. If you already have a fixed-rate mortgage with a low interest rate, then a refi wouldn't help you. On the other hand, if you have a low-interest, 30-year fixed-rate mortgage and want lower monthly payments, then you might consider a recast.

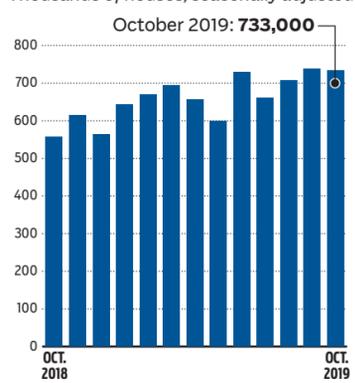
HOUSING SNAPSHOT

US market for new homes

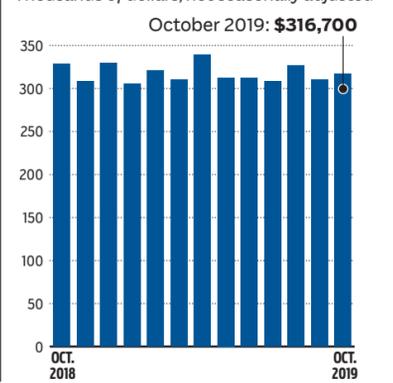
New residential construction Thousands of permits authorized, seasonally adjusted



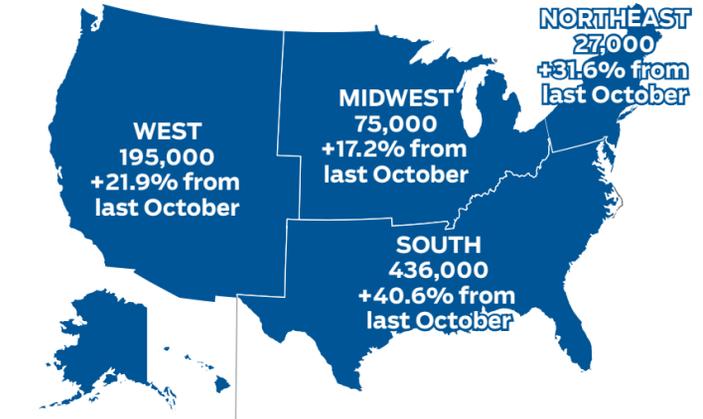
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New house median price Thousands of dollars, not seasonally adjusted



New residential sales by region Number of houses, seasonally adjusted



SOURCE: U.S. Census Bureau

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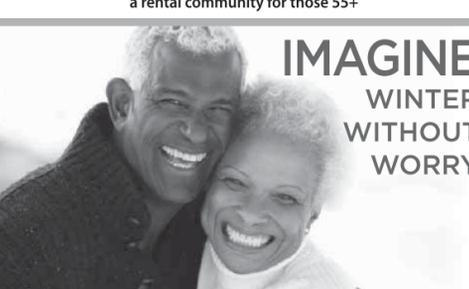
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Meteorologist Kalee Dionne and her husband, Jonathan Pair, are seeking \$429,000 for their two-bedroom condo in Bucktown after Dionne took a job in Dallas.

Elite Street

Continued from Page 1

in the southeast corner of Martha's Vineyard. The other two properties that the Obamas own are their six-bedroom, 6,243-square-foot mansion in the South Side Kenwood neighborhood, which they purchased for \$1.65 million in 2005, and their nine-bedroom, 6,441-square-foot mansion in Washington, D.C.'s, Kalorama neighborhood, which they purchased from onetime White House press secretary Joe Lockhart and his wife, Giovanna, in 2017 for \$8.1 million.

Also, earlier this year, Michelle Obama rented a seven-bedroom, 12,800-square-foot contemporary-style mansion on Swallow Drive in Los Angeles' Hollywood Hills, which has an open-air shark aquarium, a humidifier room and a movie theater. That mansion remains on the market for \$22.9 million.

The Obamas' Martha's Vineyard purchase first was

reported by the Vineyard Gazette.

Meteorologist selling Bucktown condo: Former WMAQ-Ch. 5 meteorologist Kalee Dionne, who after three years at the station has just taken a job in Dallas, and her husband, Jonathan Pair, are seeking \$429,000 for their two-bedroom condo in Bucktown.

A 2003 graduate of Herscher High School near Kankakee, Dionne, 34, joined NBC-5 in October 2016 from a station in Kansas City. Now, as first reported by media blogger Robert Feder, Dionne is departing to work as a weekday meteorologist at Dallas' WFAA-TV.

Dionne and Pair paid \$419,000 in August 2017 for



Dionne

the Bucktown condo, which has two baths, a combined living/dining room with hardwood floors and a stone fireplace, and an eat-in kitchen with granite countertops, a breakfast bar, a penny tile backsplash, stainless steel appliances and maple cabinets. The unit also has a rooftop deck with skyline views, a master suite with a private balcony and a dou-



LANDVEST

Barack and Michelle Obama purchased this seven-bedroom, 6,892-square-foot mansion on Martha's Vineyard for \$11.75 million. They still own homes in Washington, D.C., and the Kenwood neighborhood of Chicago.



PAIGE DOOLEY

Marc Trestman sold his Winnetka mansion that has 5 1/2 baths, four fireplaces, a third-floor loft, a wine cellar, a theater and a 17-foot sport court in the basement.

ble vanity, and one on-site and gated parking space. "The rooftop is to die for," listing agent Blair Soto of 2 Get Moving Realty told Elite Street. "And the unit is updated and move-in ready. Plus, it's near the Blue Line,

and restaurants, especially the sushi restaurant Runa, (which) we went to at least once a week," she said. Dionne and Pair first listed the unit Oct. 11 for \$450,000. They cut their asking price to \$440,000 on Oct. 27 and then to \$429,000 on Nov. 15.

Winnetka mansion once owned by former coach Trestman sold: A six-bedroom, 5,060-square-foot mansion in Winnetka that onetime Chicago Bears head coach Marc Trestman once owned sold Nov. 20 for \$2.88 million.

Trestman was the Bears' head coach for the 2013 and 2014 seasons and now is the head coach of the Tampa Bay Vipers of the XFL. He bought the mansion in 2013 for \$2.94 million and sold it in 2015 for \$3.35 million.

Now, the family that purchased the French

Provincial-style mansion from Trestman in 2015 has sold it at a loss. They listed it in September for \$3.3 million and sold it for \$420,000 less than their asking price.

Built in 2013, the mansion has 5 1/2 baths, four fireplaces, a kitchen with new Bianco Supreme quartzite counters and a Thassos polished marble backsplash, a third-floor loft, a wine cellar, a theater and a 17-foot sport court in the basement.

Listing agent Paige Dooley declined to comment on the deal. The identities of the buyers are not yet available in public records.

Bob Goldsborough is a freelance reporter.

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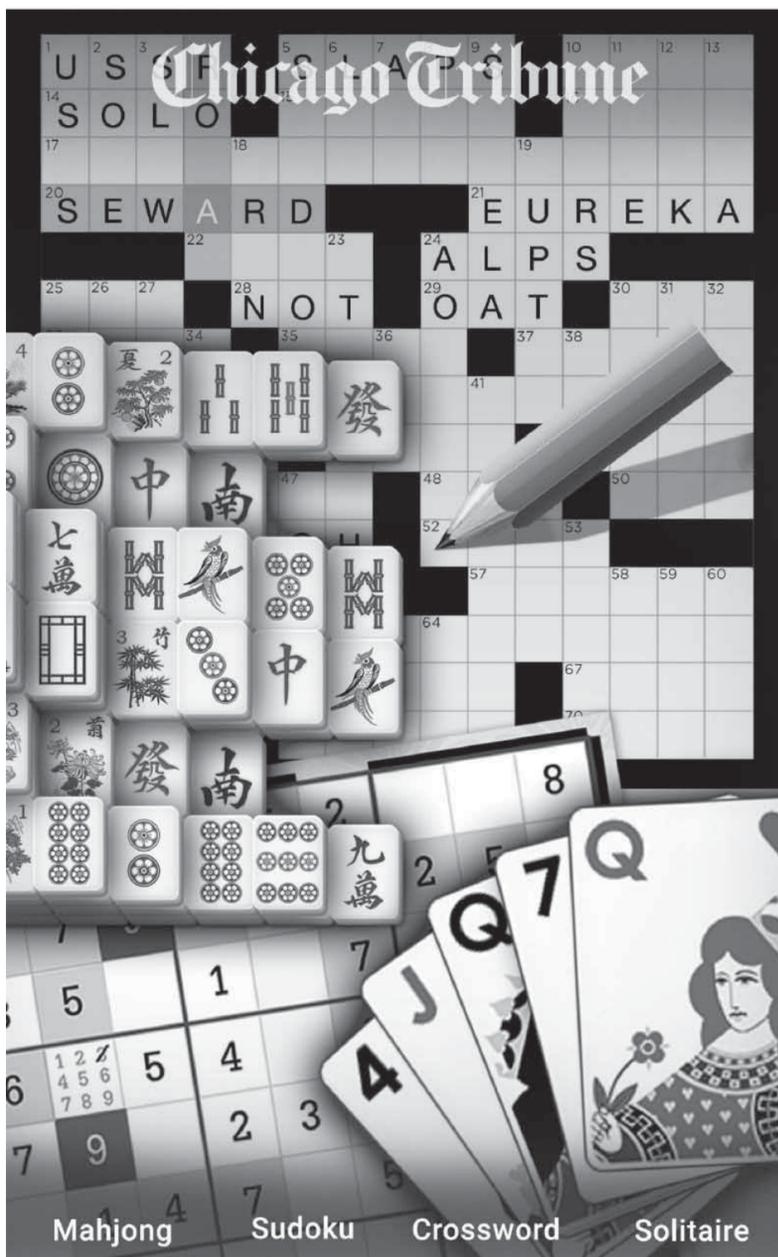
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2020 Honda Civic Si

C Sunday, December 15, 2019 | Section 8

The athletic, tech-tastic Si is a gateway car for young enthusiasts who can't afford to spend a lot. **Page 3**

Answers from Motormouth

A reader wonders whether it's a good idea to install a catch can to prevent engine buildup. **Page 3**

Chicago Tribune RIDES



MAHMOUD MFINANGA/TNS

The best adaptive cruise control systems, including in Mercedes-Benz vehicles, slow and speed up gradually to lower the fatigue of moving your foot between the brake and accelerator.

Gotta have it

Experts cite convenience, safety as essential features

BY DAN FRIO
Edmunds

The average person owns a vehicle for about 6½ years. When it's time to buy a new one, chances are there's a lot of new technology to catch up on. Even in the short span of a three-year lease, tech features and creature comforts evolve fast. It can be difficult to keep track of all the changing tech. We asked Edmunds' experts, who test hundreds of new vehicles each year, what they deem essential when they buy a car. Our findings landed along the lines of safety and conveniences and are listed in alphabetical order.

Adaptive cruise control
A lot of people associate cruise control with open highway cruising, but adaptive cruise control is actually a boon in rush-hour traffic. It reduces the cumulative fatigue of constantly moving your foot between the brake and accelerator pedals. Our editors agree that this alone can blunt the edge of a tough commute. The best systems — such as those in Mercedes-Benz, Tesla and Volvo vehicles, for example — slow and speed up gradually. Some systems can even come to a complete stop, then continue



FORD MOTOR CO.

Hands-free liftgates allow access with the swipe of a foot when the key fob is nearby.

forward again, further reducing physical and mental fatigue.

Apple CarPlay and Android Auto
The quality of native infotainment systems varies greatly among automakers, depending on hardware, software and suppliers. Some are fast and easy to use, while others feel like gaming consoles from the 1990s. Apple CarPlay and Android Auto level the

playing field, ensuring a consistent experience in any car. As long as your new car has Apple CarPlay or Android Auto, you can skip the fancy upgrade. Another advantage is being able to use the voice assistants, such as Apple's Siri, to initiate calls and compose or hear text messages. Both Apple CarPlay and Android Auto have been updated this year with new layouts and features.

Blind-spot monitoring
Systems that watch your blind spots go by different names depending on the automaker, but all perform the same basic function: alerting you to a car driving alongside you. The most widely available blind-spot systems typically display a visual alert in the side mirror and then sound an alert tone if you activate a turn signal. More advanced systems might even actively steer you away from a colli-

sion. While these systems don't replace effective mirror positioning and the old-fashioned shoulder check, it is true that today's cars are also harder to see out of because of the modern trend of taller body panels and shorter windows. Of all the latest advanced driver safety aids, Edmunds' editors point to this safety system as the most useful and least intrusive on a daily basis.

LED headlights
High-intensity discharge and LED headlights are quickly replacing traditional halogen lights. Both types produce a brighter, sharper and more natural-colored light while using less energy. According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, which incorporates headlight evaluations into its ratings, about half of traffic deaths occur in the dark or around dawn and dusk.

Our editors consider LED headlights akin to high-definition video. Once you've seen the road illuminated in an HD hue of bluish-white, you'll never go back to standard-definition halogen, or even HID, headlamps again. The clarity and confidence afforded by LED lights can't be overstated. Once limited to upper trim levels or an extra-cost option, LEDs are becoming standard on more cars

every year, such as current Hondas and Toyotas. In addition to a more upscale look, LEDs sometimes come with extra features such as automatic high beams or the ability to move in sync with the steering wheel around dark turns.

Hands-free liftgate
The next evolution in the power liftgate is the kind that opens without the need to press a button. While typically still an upper trim level feature or an extra-cost option on wagons and SUVs, hands-free liftgates will open after you've followed a particular protocol, such as swiping your foot under a bumper-mounted sensor or standing near the liftgate for a few seconds with the vehicle's key fob in your pocket or purse.

We once dismissed this as a costly gimmick. But after a few trips across a shopping center parking lot, arms laden with bags or heavy, bulky objects, we changed our minds. It especially holds true in rain or snow, when you don't want to set your items on wet ground while fishing for your keys. Make sure you're up to speed on all the latest features before buying your next car. Some options are simply nice to have, while others may become your next "must-have" amenity.

Electric Mustang attracting new Ford customers

BY IAN THIBODEAU
The Detroit News

Ford dealers have met some new customers over the last few weeks, and they have the Mustang Mach-E to thank for it. Ford Motor Co. debuted its first-ever electric SUV on Nov. 17 in Los Angeles, at an event livestreamed to more than 140,000 people. The automaker said then it would start taking \$500 reservations for the Mach-E that night, about a year before it is available.

The company won't say how many buyers have stepped up, but the publicity about the event has pulled Mach-E buyers to Ford showrooms. "It's been exciting for the store," said Tim Hovik, owner and general manager of San Tan Ford outside Phoenix. He is one of the top Ford dealers in the U.S., and has taken a few dozen reservations for the Mach-E. "I've been doing this 27 years, and you can kind of count on one hand the times we've dipped our

toe into a completely new segment." Hovik said about two out of every three Mach-E reservations taken at his dealership are from people with whom he's never done business. Some have never owned an electric vehicle. Then there are customers like 41-year-old Glendale, Arizona, resident Travis Myrick, who reserved his Mach-E GT in late November. Myrick has an F-150 and a 2015 Mustang GT in his garage. Myrick had test-driven

his friends' Teslas and had been impressed with their capabilities, but he couldn't bring himself to make the leap. Tesla's service department seemed like too much of a hassle, he said. The new Mustang did cause some uproar: About 14,000 people have signed an online petition to demand Ford remove the storied Mustang name and badge from an unconventional SUV powered by a battery beneath the floor. But everything adds to the buildup, some experts said.



MARK RALSTON/GETTY

Ford unveiled the Mustang Mach-E, an all-electric vehicle, in Hawthorne, California, last month.



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HONDA

With racy styling and standard features, the Honda Civic Si is a sophisticated sedan.

Civic Si cool under pressure

BY HENRY PAYNE
The Detroit News

They say the transportation future is autonomous. That's hard to believe as long as there are cars like the 2020 Honda Civic Si.

At \$25,000, the athletic, tech-tastic Si is a gateway car for young enthusiasts who can't afford to spend a lot.

I've been in the bag for the Civic Si since I bought a 2006 coupe with an i-VTEC engine that revved to 8,250 rpms. The glorious 2.0-liter, 197-horse VTEC is no more. But the 2020 Civic Si is a worthy successor to my 2006 hellion.

The joy of this car is the Nurburgring-tested chassis, a remarkable tool in a \$25,000 car. I marvel at the sophistication of mainstream vehicles compared to their luxury betters — the \$35,000 Ford Mustang HiPo that imitates a BMW 3-series, the \$40,000 Kia Telluride that looks like a \$70,000 Audi Q7. So, too, the Civic Si.

Underneath the racy boy-toy styling of the Si is a remarkably mature front-wheel drive package with limited-slip differential, magnetic shocks, electronic steering and the best manual shifter this side of a Porsche.

I flung the Si through the writhing esses of Circuit of the Americas race track in Texas, expecting the front-drive car to push like an offensive tackle on a corner sweep. But my red athlete rotated with remarkable ease and encour-

2020 HONDA CIVIC SI

Price:
\$25,930

Vehicle type: Front-engine, front-wheel drive, five-passenger sedan and coupe

Power: 205 horsepower, 192 pound-feet of torque

Transmission: 6-speed manual

Fuel economy: EPA mpg, 26 city/36 highway/30 combined

aged more throttle. Its chassis stayed glued to apexes, brakes biting hard lap after lap.

Brakes have been the bane of my existence in my \$57,000, rear-wheel-drive Tesla Model 3. They overheat after just two hard laps on track, smoking and smelling like a bonfire. Yet, with only a performance pad upgrade (same as my Tesla), the brakes on my Civic never flinched around the demanding 3.5-mile course.

Even as I wrung its neck, the Si treated me with hospitality. The bolstered cloth seats (red-accented for the updated 2020 model) are so good I never gave them a thought until now, and the notchy six-speed is intuitively positioned for quick shifts. I flogged both sedan and coupe versions.

Standard on the Si is Honda Sensing (even standard on the entry-

level, \$20,680 Civic), the brand's radar-enhanced safety suite that includes self-driving features like adaptive cruise control and automatic emergency braking. Civic's adaptive cruise control allows easy highway cruising or an extra security blanket in stop-and-go traffic.

The competition in the compact segment is relentless, however, and the Civic's interior feels dated compared to spiffy new entries like the Hyundai Elantra and Mazda 3. Despite a nifty digital tach, Honda's graphics are small and steering controls plasticky. With a major Civic update looming in 2021, expect upgrades.

What is not lacking is Honda's signature passenger-friendly interior. No one does consoles like Honda.

An infotainment tablet sits high on the dash for easy viewing, which in turn opens up storage below for keys, French fry boxes and Apple CarPlay connectivity. A deep, versatile center console features sliding cupholders.

The trunk space is ample, but I prefer Civic Sport and Type-R hatchback variants for better cargo access. With sporty hatch competitors out there like Mazda 3 and Golf GTI, the Si will lose some customers willing to pay for their convenience.

But with its racy styling, glued handling and standard features, the Si has peerless performance value.

Heading off valve buildup in Subaru Foresters



BOB WEBER
Motormouth

Q: I own a 2019 Subaru Forester. It has a direct injection engine. DI appears almost unavoidable now. I am very happy with my new Forester but am wondering whether there is anything I can do to ward off the valve buildup that seems to be inherent with this design. I'm not sure whether automotive engineers have figured out how to prevent this issue.

I have read about folks installing "catch cans" in the PCV system to condense and trap oil and water vapor, theoretically preventing them from going back into the intake and causing buildup. What is your opinion of these devices? Would installing one create warranty issues for me when I take the car in for service at the dealer?

I would like to avoid or at least delay the seemingly rather major job of pulling apart the intake side of the engine to clean and remove buildup every 60,000 miles or so.

—G.W., Chicago

A: If it were as simple as installing a catch can, don't you think that the automobile engine engineers would have thought of it first? I would advise against it and, should engine damage occur, it might void your warranty. Pulling the cylinder head is a costly service, but I know of no shortcuts.

Q: I drive a stick shift. When parking, I usually leave it in neutral and just set the hand brake.



SUBARU

A reader wonders whether it's a good idea to put a catch can in the PCV system to condense and trap oil and water vapor in a Subaru Forester.

In the winter, the brake often sticks and doesn't release until I start driving. Would it be better to leave it in gear and park without setting the parking brake when it is cold out?

—M.C., Chicago

A: The sticking problem may be more pronounced when the weather is near freezing and the moisture on the rear brakes freeze. Although I would still set the brake, you can get away with putting the transmission in gear, as long as you are not on a hill.

I suggest using reverse. The gear for reverse usually has square cut gear teeth instead of the helical cut on the forward gears. As such, it is less likely to allow movement.

Q: I have always wondered what are the advantages of a passenger side rear-view mirror that is so deceptive that a warning that "objects in mirror are closer than they appear" is on it. Have you ever had to merge to the right using it? If that mirror is so great, why aren't all three rear-view mirrors of this type?

—P.Y., Poquoson, Virginia

A: That mirror is for

your safety. The right side of the vehicle has a much greater blind spot than the left. The convex mirror is designed to give the driver a wider view than can be provided by a flat mirror. Many motorcycles have convex mirrors on both sides because there is no center-mounted rear-view mirror and together the left and right mirrors cover most of the area behind the bike.

Q: Thank you. We are grandparents in our 80s and appreciate your column each and every time we see it in the Sun Sentinel newspaper. We often make copies of it and send them to our children and grandchildren. The information you provide helps make life easier.

—E.W., Boynton Beach, Florida

A: As Thanksgiving is recently behind us, it is I who must thank my readers for their questions. Without you, I would be out of work.

Send questions along with name and town to Motormouth, Rides, Chicago Tribune, 160 N. Stetson Ave., Fourth Floor, Chicago, IL 60601 or motormouth.tribune@gmail.com.

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<p>New 2019</p>  <p>CHEVROLET BLAZER</p> <p>FWD #C190965 SALE: \$27,950*</p> <p>OR LEASE PER MONTH FOR: \$199 for 39 mos.[^]</p>	<p>New 2019</p>  <p>CHEVROLET SILVERADO</p> <p>4WD #C190806 SALE: \$24,100*</p> <p>OR LEASE PER MONTH FOR: \$299 for 39 mos.[^]</p> <p>1500 REG. CAB LONG BOX WT</p>	
<p>New 2020</p>  <p>CHEVROLET SPARK</p> <p>HB 1LS #C200278</p> <p>\$9,181*</p>	<p>New 2020</p>  <p>CHEVROLET TRAX</p> <p>FWD LS #C200203</p> <p>\$13,839*</p>	<p>New 2019</p>  <p>CHEVROLET IMPALA</p> <p>#C190981 MSRP: \$28,895</p> <p>\$17,950*</p>
<p>New 2020</p>  <p>CHEVROLET TRAVERSE</p> <p>FWD 1LT #C200033</p> <p>\$28,279*</p>	<p>New 2020</p>  <p>CHEVROLET TAHOE</p> <p>LT 4WD #C200139</p> <p>\$47,315*</p>	

THIS WEEK'S PRE-OWNED SPECIALS!

 <p>2017 CHEVY EQUINOX LT #S4705</p> <p>\$16,000*</p>	 <p>2017 ACURA RDX #S4704</p> <p>\$21,000*</p>	 <p>2017 CHEVY SILVERADO 1500 LT #C190257A</p> <p>\$27,500*</p>	 <p>2017 CHEVY TAHOE LS #C200127A</p> <p>\$35,500*</p>	 <p>2014 CHEVROLET CORVETTE STINGRAY 2LT #S4600</p> <p>\$36,000*</p>	 <p>2016 CADILLAC ESCALADE ESV PLATINUM #S4648</p> <p>\$45,000*</p>
---	--	---	---	--	---

*Plus tax, title, license and doc fee. ^Lease for 39 months w/\$3,990 down, \$0 security deposit plus tax, title and doc fee with approved credit. 10K miles per year. Extra fees may apply at lease termination. Plus tax, title, license, and doc. fee. †0% for 72 months figured at \$13.89 per \$1,000 financed w/\$0 down to qualified buyers w/approved credit on select models. ~Lease loyalty available to qualified current Chevy owners on select models. MSRP may not be the price at which the vehicle is sold in the trade area. Photos for illustration purposes only. Great effort is made to ensure accuracy of this ad, however, errors do occur. Offers/prices may change per manufacturer. Please verify information with a customer service rep or visit the dealership. All offers and pricing expire 3 days from publication.

 <p>SALES HOURS: MON-FRI 9AM-9PM SAT 9AM-7PM</p> <p>1230 E. Golf Road • SCHAUMBURG 847.380.8099 zeiglerchevroletschaumburg.com</p>	 <p>ZEIGLER CHEVROLET • FOR A GREAT EXPERIENCE! •</p>	
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\$0 FIRST PAYMENT

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\$399
ALL-WHEEL DRIVE

COURTESY TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE
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\$0 DOWN PAYMENT



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\$429
3 ROWS OF SEATING

COURTESY TRANSPORTATION VEHICLE
36 MONTHS
\$0 DOWN PAYMENT

Includes all incentives available to everyone. Add tax title license and doc fee. 39 mo lease \$0 Down payment, \$0 First Payment, \$0 Due at signing. Security waived with approved credit. 10,000 miles per year allowed. Expires 7 days after publication. Add tax, title, doc fee. Vehicles appearing in this ad are for illustration purposes only and may not reflect the actual model or color of the vehicle offered for sale. The dealer is not responsible for typographical errors in this ad.

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Heritagecadillac.com

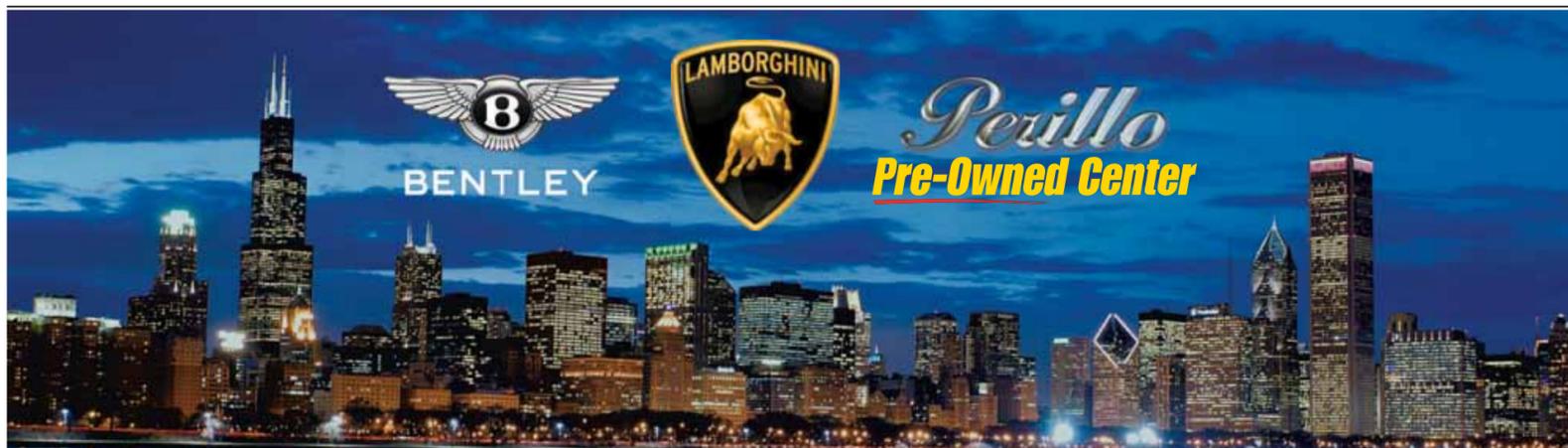
LOCATION
303 West Roosevelt Rd.
Lombard, IL
60148

SALES
800.584.0310
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Fri 9am-6pm
Sat 9am-5pm

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 2016 Chrysler 300 Nav, AWD, #DG1913A \$19,966[^] \$250/mo.~	 2010 Porsche Panamera 4S Nav, AWD, #DG1701CD \$22,977[^] \$287/mo.~	 2012 BMW 650i Nav, #1004180-C \$24,853[^] \$311/mo.*	 2018 Toyota Camry XSE FWD, 4dr, #DG2029A \$25,992[^] \$325/mo.~	 2015 Nissan Armada SL AWD, #DG1991A \$26,997[^] \$338/mo.*	 2017 Cadillac XT5 Luxury AWD, #DG1991A \$29,977[^] \$375/mo.*	 2018 Lincoln MKZ Reserve Nav, AWD, #DG2056 \$31,946[^] \$400/mo.*	 2019 BMW 430i xDrive Nav, AWD, #DG1930 \$35,996[^] \$450/mo.*
 2019 BMW 430i xDrive Sport Nav, AWD, #DG2015 \$37,960[^] \$475/mo.*	 2005 Bentley Arnage T Mulliner Nav, #DG1974A CALL FOR PRICING	 2019 Mercedes-Benz E450 AMG Sport Pkg, Nav, AWD, #DG2134 \$49,882[^] \$624/mo.*	 2017 BMW 750i xDrive Autobahn/Executive Nav, AWD, #DG1993 \$52,992[^] \$663/mo.~	 2017 BMW 750i xDrive Executive M-Sport Nav, AWD, #DG2005 \$56,880[^] \$712/mo.*	 2018 BMW M550i xDrive Executive Nav, RWD, #DG1981 \$56,992[^] \$713/mo.~	 2016 BMW M5 Executive Competition Pkg., Nav, #DG1997 \$57,993[^] \$726/mo.~	 2009 Bentley Continental Flying Spur Speed Nav, AWD, #B1130A-C CALL FOR PRICING
 2018 Maserati Levante GranLusso Nav, #DG1870 \$69,880[^] \$874/mo.*	 2013 Bentley Continental GTC V8 Nav, AWD, #DG1965A CALL FOR PRICING	 2015 Aston Martin DB9 Volante Carbon Ed, Nav, #B1127A-C \$92,880[^] \$1162/mo.*	 2008 Lamborghini Gallardo AWD, #LD239A CALL FOR PRICING	 2014 Porsche 911 GT3 Nav, RWD, #DG1879 \$112,884[^] \$1412/mo.*	 2012 Mercedes-Benz SLS AMG Nav, #L340A-C \$129,841[^] \$1625/mo.~	 1993 Land Rover Defender 110 #DG2131-C \$135,994[^] \$1702/mo.*	 2014 Rolls-Royce Wraith Starlight, Nav, #R643B-C \$179,996[^] \$2252/mo.*

[^]Add tax, license, title & doc fee to all prices. *Payments with approved credit @ 5.99% for 120 mos. 20% down payment required. ~Payments with approved credit @ 5.99% for 144 mos. 20% down payment required.

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- Durable Toys
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- Cosequin DS for the Seniors
- Leashes (sm & lg)
- Martingale Collars (sm & lg)
- Small Collars
- Fish Oil Chews
- Dog Beds
- Antlers Dog Chews (6" or longer)



NEW 2019 JEEP
Renegade Latitude
4x4 #192635
MSRP: \$28,855+
Save: \$8,766 Off MSRP!



NEW 2020 JEEP
Wrangler Unlimited Willys
#200397 MSRP: \$44,065+
Lease: \$229 PER MO. | 36 MOS.*



NEW 2019 DODGE
Journey SE
AWD #191949
Save: \$7,787 Off MSRP!



NEW 2020 JEEP
Compass Latitude
4x4 #200243
MSRP: \$29,990+
Lease: \$169 PER MO. | 36 MOS.*



NEW 2019 RAM
1500 Big Horn/Lone Star Crew Cab
4x4 5'7" Box #191782 MSRP: \$52,490+
Sale: \$329 PER MO. | 42 MOS.*



NEW 2020 JEEP
Gladiator Sport
#200018
MSRP: \$43,965+
Lease: \$259 PER MO. | 36 MOS.*



NEW 2020 JEEP
Cherokee Latitude PLUS 4x4
#200114
MSRP: \$31,285+
Lease: \$199 PER MO. | 39 MOS.*



NEW 2020 CHRYSLER
Pacifica #200471
0% APR x 60 MONTHS! EMPLOYEE PRICING!



NEW 2020 JEEP
Grand Cherokee Limited
4x4 #200486
MSRP: \$43,350+
Lease: \$289 PER MO. | 42 MOS.*



NEW 2019 RAM
2500 Big Horn Crew Cab
4x4 6'4" Box #191705
MSRP: \$66,770+
Sale: \$55,972 \$10,798 Off MSRP!



NEW 2019 RAM
1500 Tradesman Crew Cab
4x4 6'4" Box #190741
MSRP: \$44,830+
Sale: \$31,874 \$12,956 Off MSRP!



NEW 2019 RAM
1500 Rebel Crew Cab
4x4 5'7" Box #191365
MSRP: \$60,690+
Sale: \$47,499 \$13,191 Off MSRP!



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*Plus tax, title, license and doc. fee. ^Lease months/amount due at signing/miles per year plus tax, title, license & doc. fee on select models to qualified buyers. Select leases may require acquisition fee. *20 Wrangler 36 mo/\$5000/10K; *20 Compass Latitude 4x4 36 mo/\$5000/10K; *20 Gladiator 36 mo/\$5000/10K, must finance thru US Bank; *19 RAM 1500 42 mo/\$2499/10K; *20 Cherokee Latitude Plus 4x4 39 mo/\$5000/10K, must finance thru Ally; *20 Grand Cherokee Ltd., 42 mo/\$5000/10K, +MSRP may not be the price at which the vehicle is sold in the trade area. Sale prices include all rebates and incentives. Buyers must finance through Chrysler Credit Corp unless noted. 0% APR figured at \$13.88 (72 months) or \$16.67 (60 months) or 17.48 1.9% (60 months) per \$1000 financed to qualified buyers on select models. Dealer sponsored buy-downs on select vehicles. ~FCA Midwest Rank Retail Sale Report November 2019. Photos for illustration purposes only. Great effort is made to ensure accuracy of this ad, however, errors do occur. Offers/pricing may change per manufacturers. Please verify information with a customer service rep or visit the dealership. All offers and pricing expire 3 days from publication.

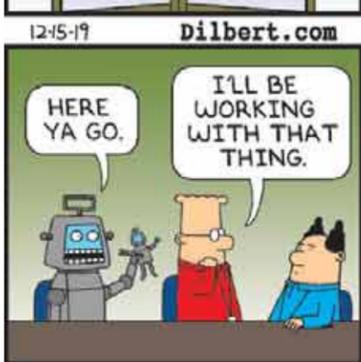
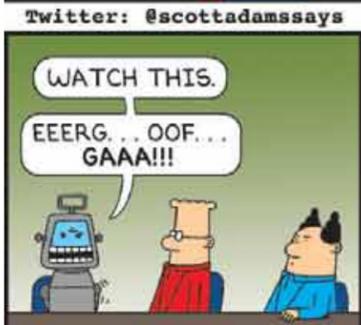
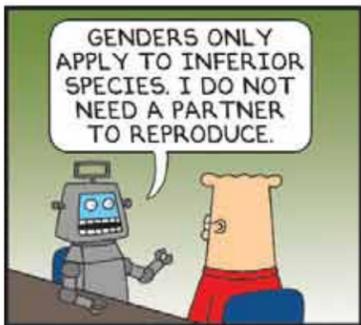
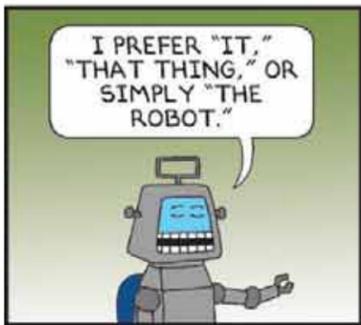
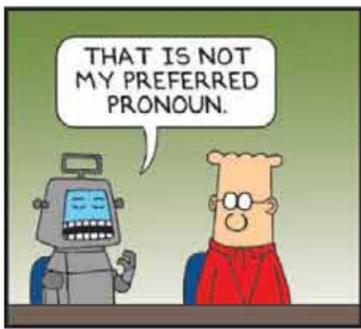
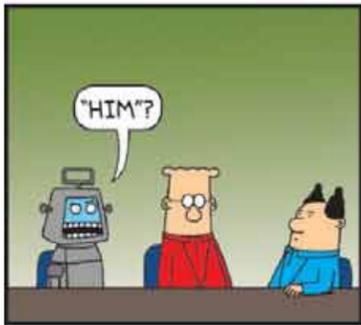
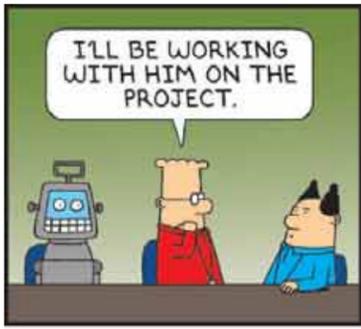
Chicago Tribune COMICS



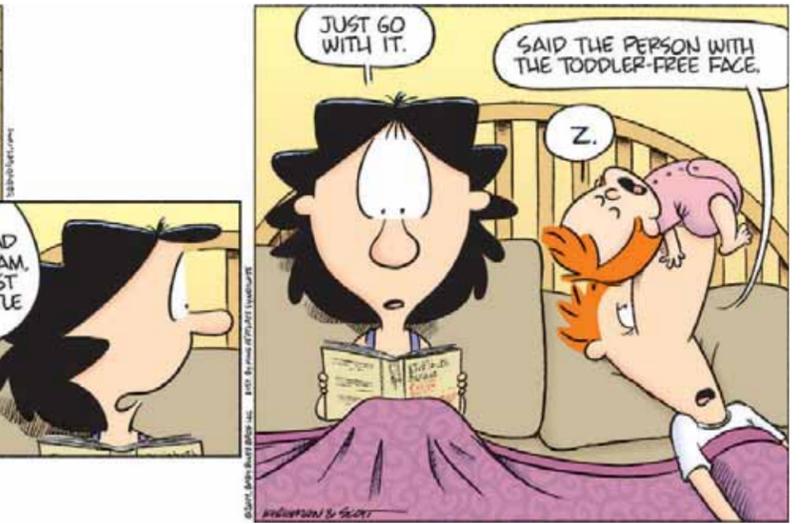
CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM/COMICS
Check out more than 75 comic strips, from "Barney Google and Snuffy Smith" to "Zippy the Pinhead."

CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM/GAMES
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Dilbert By Scott Adams



Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman and Jerry Scott



Zits By Jerry Scott and Jim Borgman



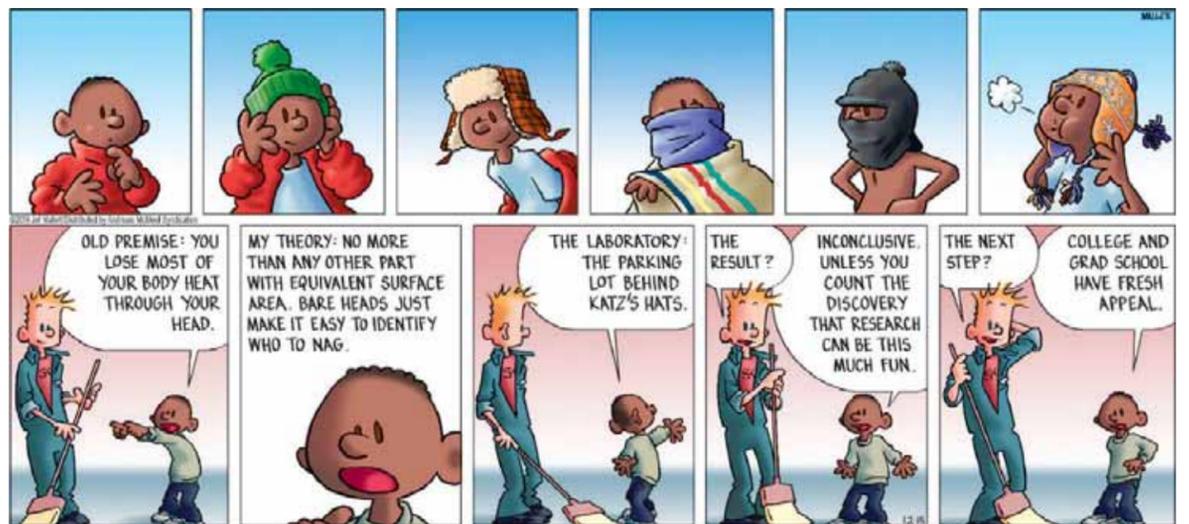
Pickles By Brian Crane



WuMo By Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



Frazz By Jef Mallett



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BEST SMART SPEAKERS

FOR BETTER OR FOR WORSE

By Lynn Fitzgibbon

MR. BOFFO

"RE-IMAGINING" AND HIS "WONDER DOG" WEEDSMAN BY JEFF MARTIN

-TAKING THE TIME TO COME UP WITH A BETTER EXCUSE-

BREWSTER ROCKIT

Space Guy!

Tim Rickard

Half Full

12/15 by Maria Scrivan

Take It From the Tinkersons

By Bill Bettwy

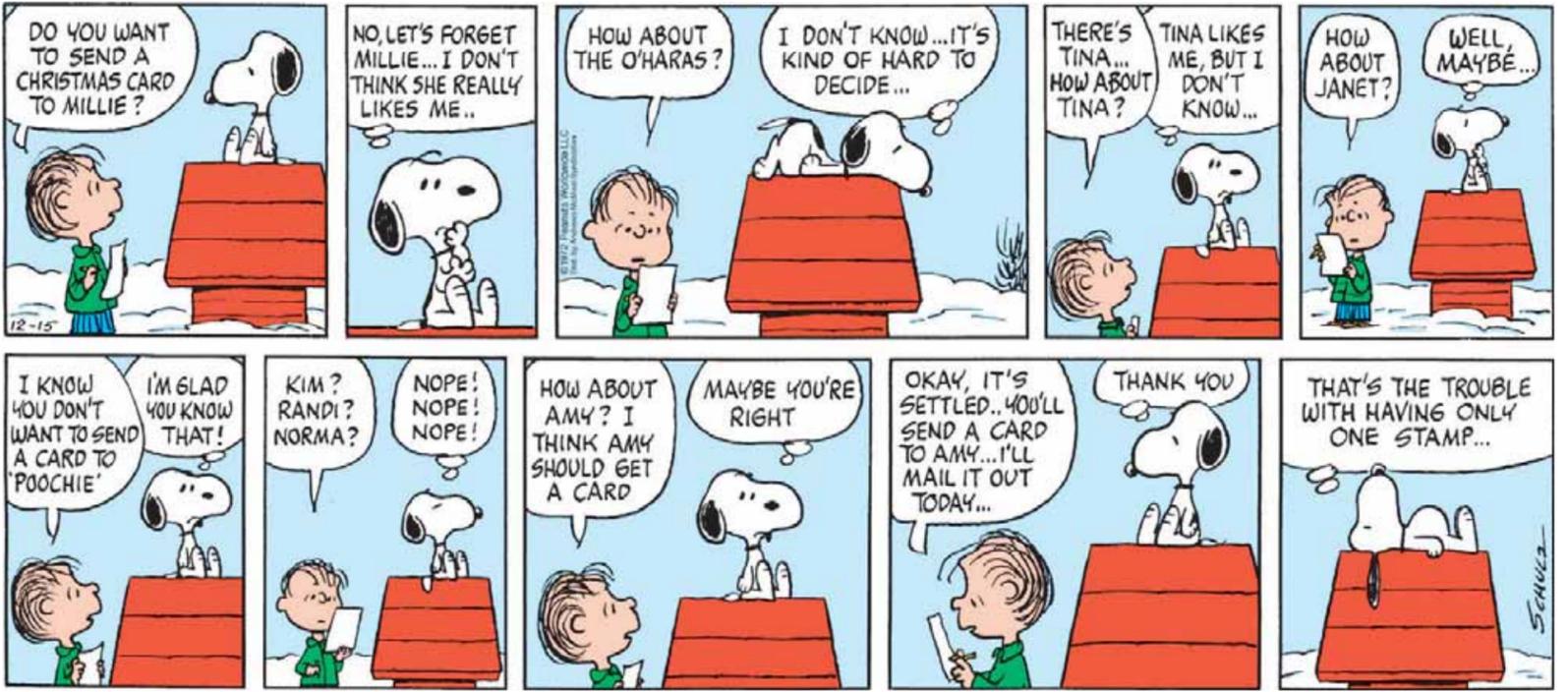
FoxTrot

By Bill Amend

Dogs of C-Kennel

By Mick and Mason Mastroianni

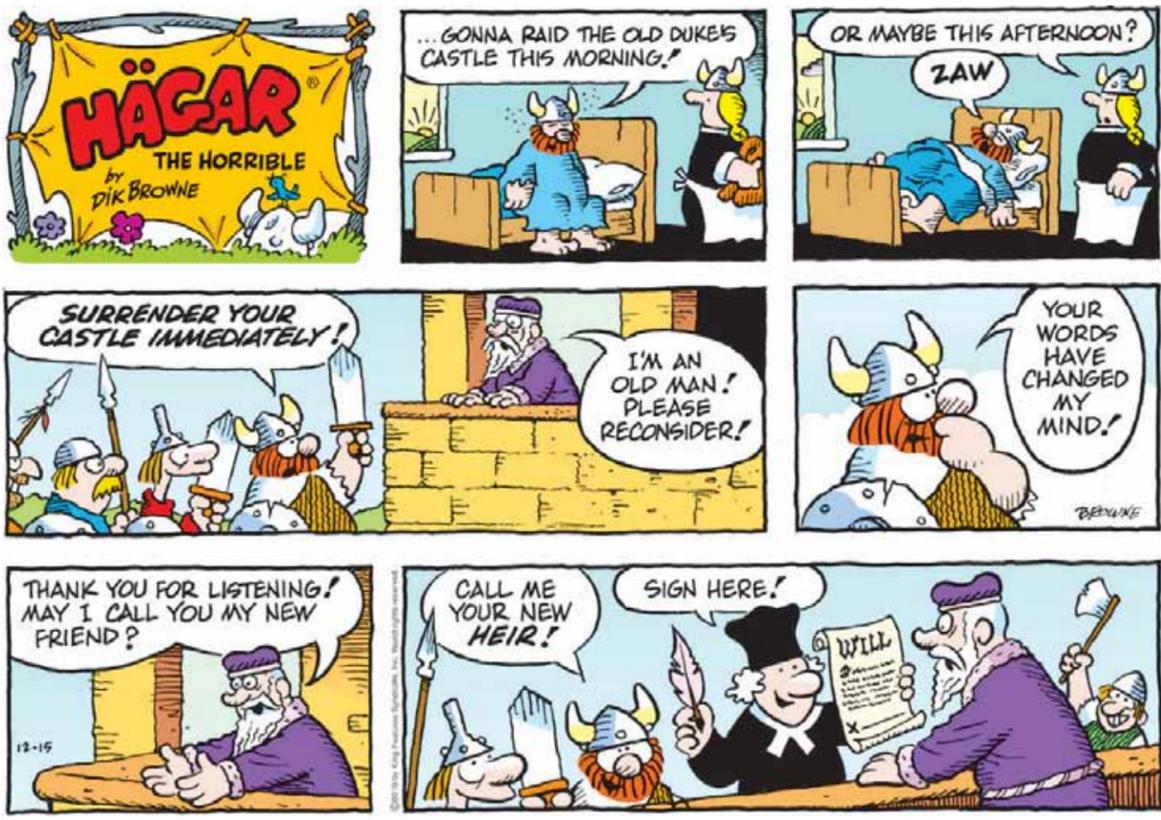
Classic Peanuts By Charles Schulz

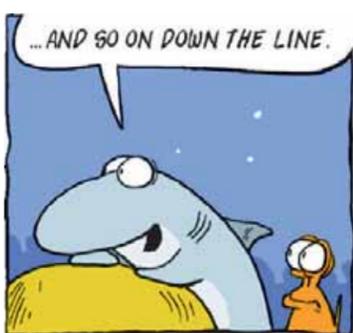
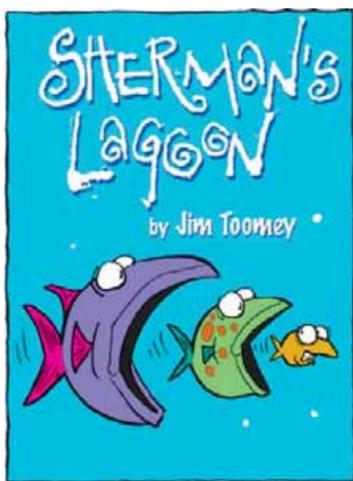


Dustin By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



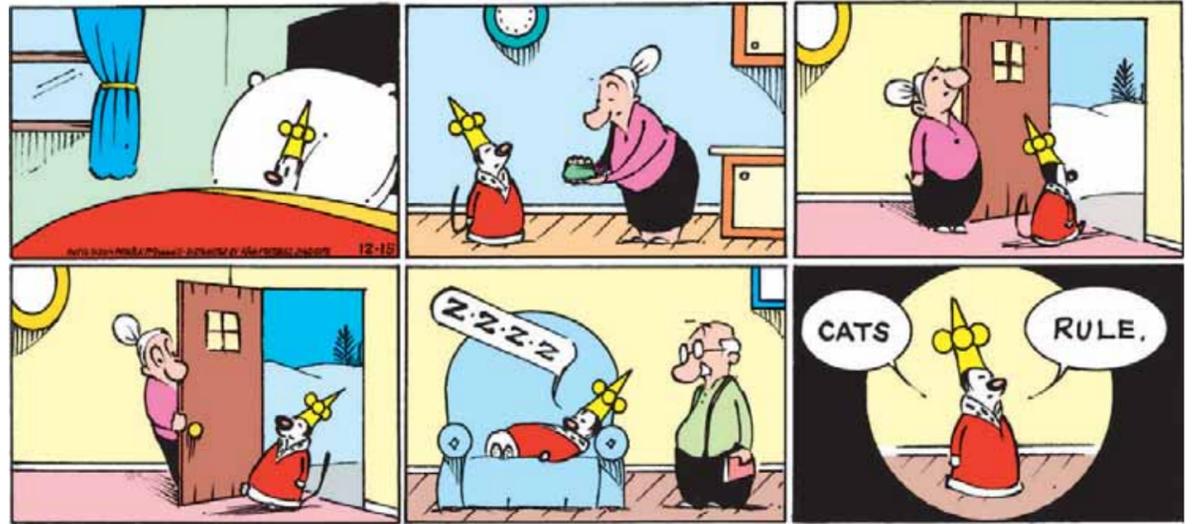
The Lockhorns By Bunny Hoest and John Reiner



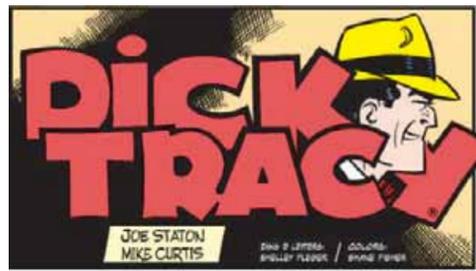


Mutts By Patrick McDonnell (The Mutts Sunday strip is on vacation until December 22. Please enjoy this strip from 2014.)

The Little Kat King



The Middletons By Ralph Dunagin and Dana Summers



Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau



Prickly City By Scott Stantis





puzzle island

For interactive puzzles and games go to chicagotribune.com/games

FOREIGNERS: Sounds about right

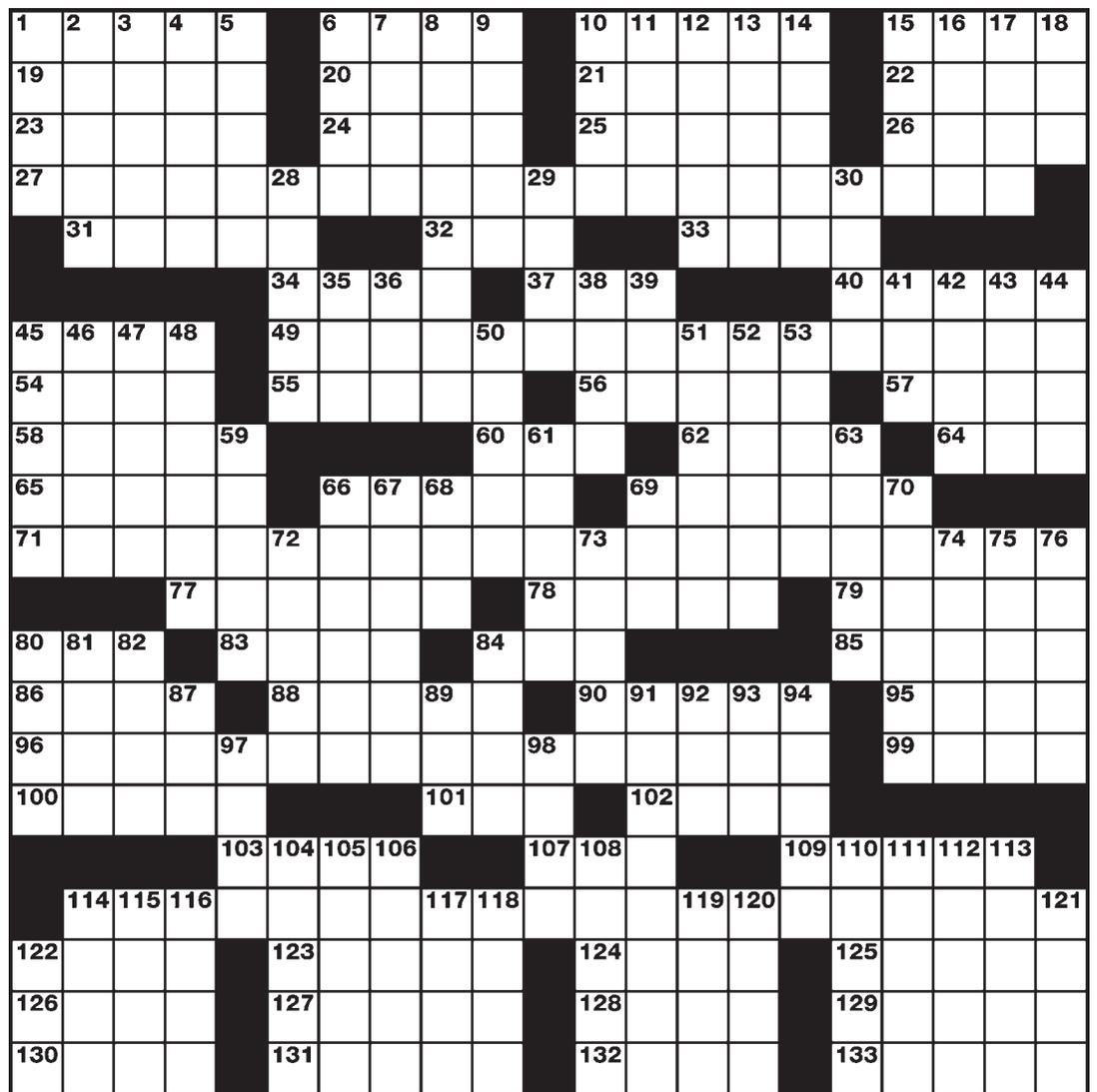
BY MARK McCLAIN | EDITED BY STANLEY NEWMAN
(stanxwords.com)

Across

- 1 Exploited ones
6 Site for crafters
10 Groups together
15 Draw on glass
19 Skulk around
20 Lowland
21 Interstate no-no
22 Function
23 Match up
24 Smallest of the Olympians
25 Molokai neighbor
26 Nutritionist's measure
27 Women's suffrage icon
31 Simmons alternative
32 "UR so funny!"
33 Looking up
34 Tomato type
37 Weed whacker
40 Athletic award
45 "Meh!"
49 *Pulp Fiction* director
54 Mimicked
55 Muscle power
56 Molokai and 25 Across
57 Spumante source
58 Take pleasure (in)
60 Refuel oneself
62 Sibilant hail
64 Barnyard mom
65 "Am not!" retort
66 Sharon of Israel
69 "Word has it ..."
71 "The Little Mermaid" author
77 Hands-on-hips
78 Criticize harshly
79 Leaf-eating critter
- 80 Poorly lit
83 Syrian — Republic
84 Sunflower product
85 Bowler's bane
86 "Great Scott!"
88 Mighty as —
90 Invite for
95 Apple desktop
96 C-note portrait
99 Talcum/walcum rhymers
100 Secret meeting
101 London washroom
102 *How — Your Mother*
103 Clumsy boats
107 Knighted McKellen
109 Pizzazz
114 Airship inventor
122 Part below mezzo
123 Bayou beast
124 Explosion, as of color
125 Not give — (be disinterested)
126 Pop singer Del Rey
127 Egg-shaped
128 Old circus venue
129 Dish towel fabric
130 Semester conclusion
131 Go for another year
132 Real estate measurement
133 Disdain

Down

- 1 Ad Council ads, briefly
2 Scottish beef breed
3 Declining
4 Musical shortcoming
5 Laid out
6 Even a single time
7 Source of poi
8 Far-right freeway path
9 Limited-option question
10 Ponder (over)
11 Bibliography abbr.
12 Part of LEM
13 Liquid-Plumr rival
14 Foul moods
15 Thus
16 Unable to decide
17 Modeling material
18 Cuff feature
28 Big name in root beer
29 K-12
30 Sacred song
35 *Le contraire de "non"*
36 Uncles and dads
38 "You have my word —"
39 *Independence Day* foes: Abbr.
41 GPS numerical display
42 Menu selection
43 Pot starter
44 Cut of pork
45 Biblical matriarch
46 "Grand" work
47 Water polo team
48 Ukrainian port
50 Social media snippet
51 Lead dogs
52 Don't take kindly to
53 Syrian leader
59 Opa—, Florida
61 Story in a crime story



Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island

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- 63 Major hikes
66 Milan fashion house
67 Fair award
68 It means "equal"
69 Once — blue moon
70 Make a casual visit
72 Distiller Walker
73 Historian Nevins
74 Hayek in movies
75 Disney's middle name
76 "No prob!"
80 Financial liability
81 Disney CEO
82 Abundant
84 Southern fried fare
87 FM personalities
89 CIO merger partner
91 Comparatively lanky
92 Flier to Rotterdam
93 Yogi Bear wear
94 Leading the league
97 Minimally
98 Tel —, Israel
104 Inflexible accuracy
105 Rogue
106 Symbol of evil
108 Heart outlet
110 Brooch gems
111 Battlefield physician
112 Dallas suburb
113 Résumé reader
114 Source of 129 Across
115 European erupter
116 Wander about
117 Call attention to
118 Got water, as from a well
119 Vicinity
120 Jazz singer James
121 What the five longest answers have in common
122 Brewpub serving

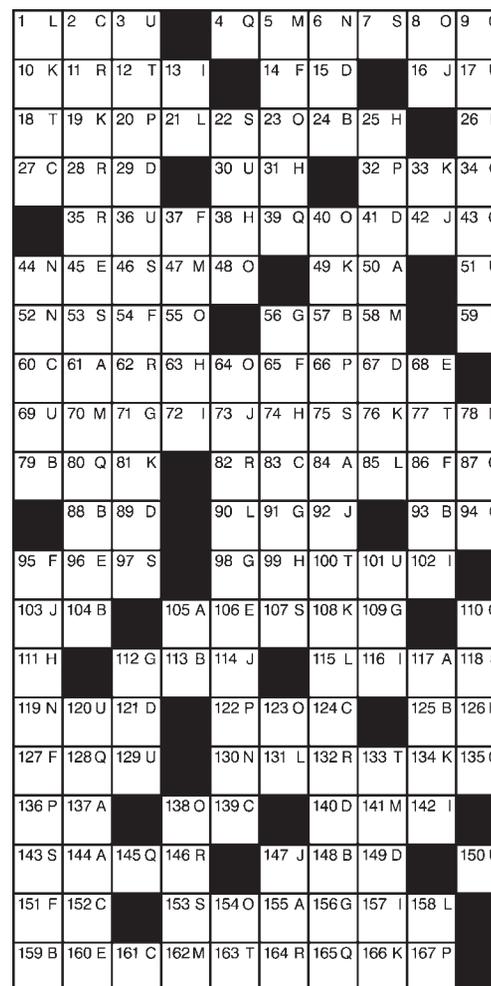
Quote-Acrossic

1. Define clues, writing in Words column over numbered dashes.
2. Transfer letters to numbered squares in diagram.
3. When pattern is completed, quotation can be read left to right. The first letters of the filled-in words reading down form an acrostic yielding the speaker's name and the topic of the quotation.

Clues

- Words**
- A. Defrauds 84 105 144 50 61 117 137 155
- B. Spend recklessly: 2 wds. 159 148 104 79 57 24 88 113 125 93
- C. Incomplete 94 60 161 83 152 27 34 2 139 124
- D. Football move: hyph. 29 121 41 89 15 67 149 140
- E. Jewish prayer 106 96 68 45 160 26
- F. Heavy fall 65 14 151 54 37 86 95 127
- G. A holding back 156 91 109 135 98 71 56 9 112 43
- H. All of us 38 63 99 126 74 111 31 25
- I. Giddy gander 102 72 157 13 116 142
- J. Fragrant attar: 2 wds. 114 147 73 92 42 103 16

- K. Odd 19 76 81 166 10 33 134 49 108
- L. Tryout 21 131 115 59 1 85 90 158
- M. Followed 47 141 5 162 58 70
- N. Uncivilized 130 44 6 78 119 52
- O. Without intention 23 87 138 154 40 110 64 123 55 8 48
- P. Forearm bone 20 122 167 32 66 136
- Q. Lamentation 39 4 128 80 145 165
- R. Garnered 132 35 164 11 62 82 28 146
- S. Verb form 107 75 143 53 97 46 22 118 153 7
- T. Elf or fairy 12 133 77 100 18 163
- U. Showing 3 36 120 17 51 69
- 129 30 150 101



Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island

By Erv Kaczmarek.
Edited by Linda and Charles Preston.
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Kentucky Native

BY CHARLES PRESTON

Across

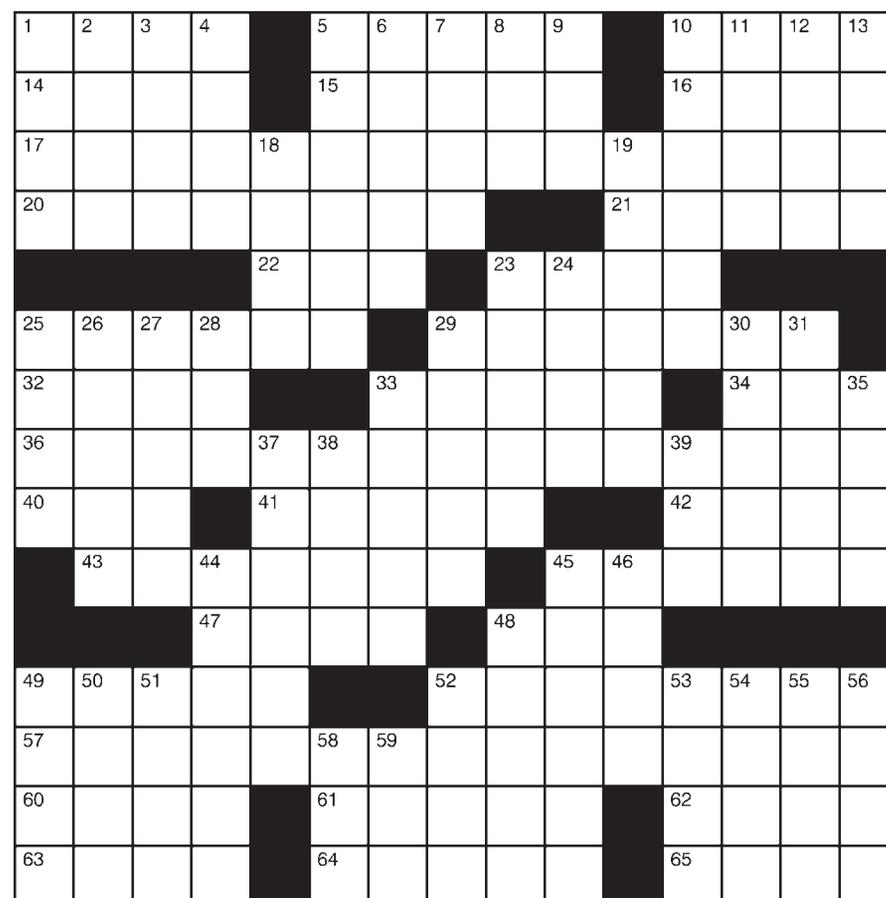
- 1 NYSE speculator
5 Tolerate
10 Tell all
14 Pond scum
15 Was eclipsed
16 Hollywood's Barrett
17 Historical Shakespearean actor
20 Detestable thing
21 Commencement
22 Arctic
23 Cast assignment
25 Flaming
29 Dolor
32 Amorphous mass
33 Eaglet's abode
34 Salt Lake City athlete
36 Historical DC sight
40 Yaounde-Cairo dir.
41 Kremlin tomb
42 Cornelia ___ Skinner
43 Unsilt
45 *Ivanhoe* heroine
47 Grande and Bravo
48 Actress Arthur
49 Fictional uncle

- 52 Florist's source
57 Historical debater
60 Lemony
61 Cut
62 ___ *Porsena*
63 Wields
64 Search
65 Therefore

Across

- 1 Lower California
2 NC college
3 Muslim bigwig
4 Declaim with vehemence
5 Each
6 Soothing
7 Author Chase
8 C-E filler
9 Wynn and Asner
10 Literary family name
11 Lorelei Lee's creator
12 Room lead-in
13 Thai money
18 Corker
19 Sarawak's island
23) or (, briefly

- 24 Take ___ view
25 Up to
26 Louver
27 Recluse
28 TV network
29 Teamster units
30 Retinue
31 Besmirch
33 Baxter and Frank
35 Memorable lioness
37 Getting on a bit
38 ___-mutton sleeve
39 Brouhaha
44 Breaks out
45 Verbal riposte
46 Wahiawa's isle
48 Has significance
49 Q-V connection
50 Flt. data
51 Belittling word
52 Acquire
53 Give the eye
54 Gland follow-up
55 Noted puppeteer
56 He, in Milan
58 Respectful abbreviation
59 ___ -Isenberg, Germany



Last week's answers appear on the last page of Puzzle Island

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Black Magic

BY ROBIN STEARS

EDITED BY RICH NORRIS AND JOYCE NICHOLS LEWIS

Across

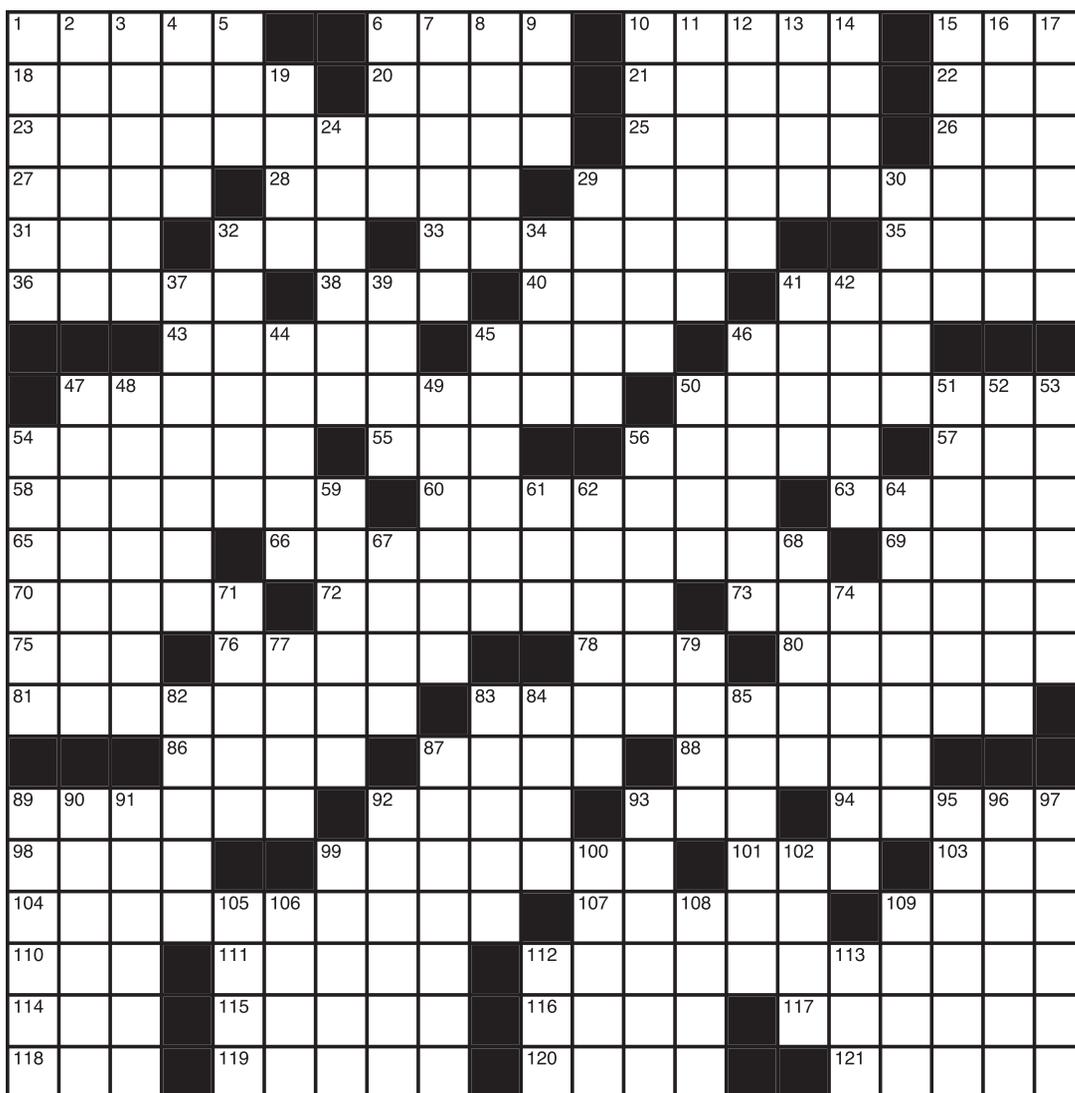
- 1 Pulitzer-winning Ferber novel
6 PC key not used by itself
10 "Joy to the World," e.g.
15 Costa del ___
18 Mocedades song covered by Eydie Gormé as "Touch the Wind"
20 Riskily off base
21 All-inclusive adjective
22 Peak pique
23 *Landmark near Waikiki
25 Carafe size
26 Opposite of trans
27 Comes down with
28 Printer supply
29 *Down time on Wall Street?
31 67.5 deg.
32 Junior
33 '80s soap rebooted in 2017
35 ___ podrida: Spanish dish
36 "Sweeney Todd" tool
38 Mary ___
40 One-named Deco artist
41 Sick to the max
43 What prospective borrowers compare
45 Discipline with poses
46 2015 Best Actress Larson
47 *It's larger than a littleneck
50 *Where land and ocean meet
54 Cascades peak
55 Bethesda medical agcy.
56 Cut
57 Society page word
58 Duck named for the long-feathered part of its anatomy
60 Stand-up quality?
63 "Straight Up" singer
65 Bad road condition?
66 *Cowhide accessory
69 One often has ticks
70 "Consequently ..."
72 Snuggled, in a way
73 Broad Eurasian region
75 GATT successor
76 Plain ___: obvious
78 Gist
80 Recall targets
81 *Negative-studier's aid

- 83 *Kozy Shack dessert
86 MTV sci-fi show "___ Flux"
87 Quick run
88 Tough tests
89 1964 Nobel Prize decliner
92 Tenth: Pref.
93 Narc's org.
94 Best way to leave the casino
98 "A Death in the Family" writer
99 Land adjoining a mansion
101 "Miss Saigon" setting
103 TiVo predecessor
104 *Fancy decoration particles
107 Come to pass
109 Phony (up)
110 The "E" in BCE
111 Alaskan native
112 *Former Queens home of the US Open
114 Not of the cloth
115 Victoria, to William IV
116 Computer ___
117 Gets to the bottom of
118 Cry of success
119 Unloaded?
120 Submerged threat
121 Art of verse

Down

- 1 Papyrus plants, e.g.
2 Get situated
3 Jalopy
4 Things to believe in
5 '60s song car with "three deuces and a four-speed and a 389"
6 "Call Me Irresponsible" lyricist
7 Outdoorsy, taste-wise
8 Detroit Lions' mascot
9 Honorary degree for attys.
10 Sugar Plum Fairy's instrument
11 Fly
12 Take another shot
13 City on Utah Lake
14 Vega's constellation
15 Tool with a curved blade
16 Protruding windows
17 "The Vampire Chronicles" vampire

- 19 Word that may precede itself
24 Shrek's bestie
29 River transport
30 Loggers' contest
32 Peloponnesian War victor
34 Noble gas
37 Electra's brother
39 PGA part: Abbr.
41 "Dies ___"
42 Early fall baby's sign
44 Are losing
45 Talk Like a Pirate Day refrain
46 Cuts at an angle
47 Red wine
48 Sad sack
49 Walk quietly
50 Desert-like
51 Hearth item sometimes called a firelog
52 Extending the life of
53 Mouth formations
54 Urban planner's concern
56 Pin in a ring, say
59 Textbook section
61 Six-yr.-term pol
62 Ditch
64 Complexion spoiler
67 High point
68 Actress Swinton
71 Weasel relative
74 Madhouse
77 Shawm descendant
79 Fraternal gp.
82 Despised
83 Indy entrant
84 Egyptian fertility goddess
85 Voyager 2 destination
87 Harvest goddess
89 How Yoda spoke
90 Trading places?
91 Track events
92 Figure out
93 Formal order
95 Advance in the race?
96 "Supernatural" co-star Jensen ___
97 Beyond "business casual"
99 Dimwitted "We're Back! A Dinosaur's Story" dinosaur
100 Rope loop
102 Liberal ___
105 Chef's collection
106 Potpourri
108 Random House co-founder
109 Hawaii County seat
112 Pelt
113 Kangaroo move

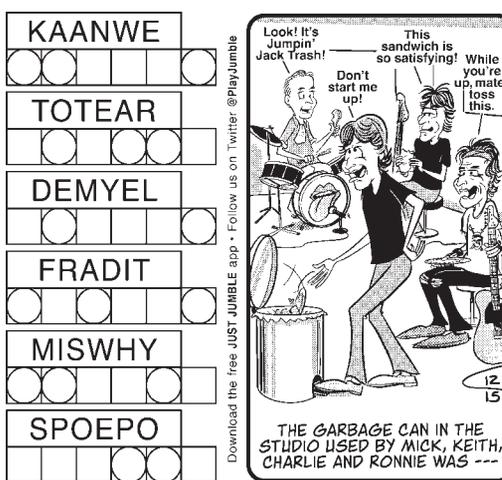


Last week's answers appear on the next page

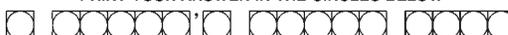
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Jumble

Unscramble the six Jumbles, one letter per square, to form six words. Then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by this cartoon.



PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW



This week's answers appear on the next page

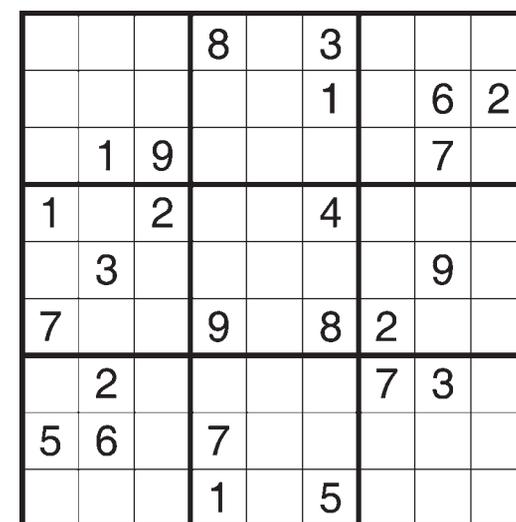
By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

Sudoku

12/15

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders contains every digit 1 to 9.

Level: **1 2 3 4**



Last week's answers appear on the next page

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Horoscopes

Today's birthday (Dec. 15): Use your power for good this year. Win lucrative prizes through disciplined coordination. Divert a portion of a winter cash-flow surge to savings before financial changes affect shared accounts. Personal growth this summer inspires booming joint income. You can make dreams come true.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 9. Romantic ideas could take an unexpected twist. Keep an optimistic attitude. Adapt gracefully to take advantage of a beneficial opportunity. Count your blessings.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 8. Domestic projects draw you in. Clean closets and discover buried treasure. Beautify and decorate your surroundings. Connect with family by sharing something delicious.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 8. Communications benefit your bottom line. Profitable demands on your time could tempt you to overwork. Take care of yourself for extra productivity, creativity and satisfaction.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 8. Estimate what's

needed to meet your budget. You can figure out how to pay for it. Collaborate with clever partners. Take the higher road.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 9. You're in the spotlight. Your work is getting attention. Share your goals and dreams. Participate with others who share your commitments. Practice and connect.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 8. Consider your dreams for the future. Your romantic or creative partnership can benefit you professionally. Rely on someone you can trust to venture farther out.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 8. Strategize with your team for coordinated ease. Make long-distance connections and widen the scope of your venture. Consider your objectives from another view.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 9. A rise in professional status is possible. Communication benefits your shared accounts. Take advantage of a profitable and interesting career break. Do the foundational homework.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-

Dec. 21): 8. Travel, study and explore fresh terrain. Discover unexpected silver with help from a partner. Review facts and data. Resolve details. Grow long-term connections.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 9. Handle financial matters to grow your shared accounts. You've got the power and confidence to raise your performance level. Nurture your physical health and strength.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 8. Partnership flow-ers. Meditate on love to generate a higher level of harmony. Reinforce your shared commitments, values and ideals. Make a spiritual connection.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 9. Reduce stress through good food, meditation and exercise. Lend support to family and friends. Grow your heart and health. Practice what you love.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

Bridge

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ QJ3 ♥ J86 ♦ 1074 ♣ J987

West	North	East	South
1♦	Dbl	3♦*	Pass
Pass	Dbl	Pass	?

*Pre-emptive

What call would you make?

Q.2—North-South vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ 1043 ♥ J87 ♦ 1094 ♣ AK107

Partner opens 1NT, 15-17, and right-hand opponent passes. What call would you make?

Q.3—East-West vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ 932 ♥ 5 ♦ KQJ10975 ♣ J3

Partner opens 1H and right-hand opponent doubles. What call would you make?

Q.4—Both vulnerable, as South, you hold:
♠ AKJ3 ♥ K5432 ♦ 6 ♣ 764

Partner opens 1H and right-hand opponent doubles. What call would you make?

Answers in Monday's comics pages.

— Bob Jones
tcaeditors@tribpub.com

Word Game

This game challenges you to find as many words as you can, as quickly as you can, in one master word.

ALCOVE (AL-kove): A small recessed area of a room.

Can you find 17 or more words in ALCOVE?

Average mark: 13 words
Time limit: 25 minutes

Here are the rules:

1. Words must be four or more letters. 2. Words that acquire four letters by the addition of an "s," such as "bats" and "cats," are not used. 3. Use only one form of a verb — either "pose" or "posed," not both. 4. Proper nouns and slang terms are not used.

Answers to the word game:

veal; vocal; vole
col; cole; cove; oval; vale;
cave; clove; coal; coeval;
aloe; lace; lave; love; calve;

— Kathleen Saxe,
distributed by Andrews
McMeel Syndication for UFS



Last week's crosswords

"OPEN AND SHUT CASE"

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

"Heart's Fancy"

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

"Pet Sitting"

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

Last week's Quote-Acrostic

(John) POLLACK: THE PUN ALSO RISES: Disputes over language have divided people since the earliest scribes scratched marks into wet clay tablets. Records tell us that princes of Babylon actually challenged each other to riddling duels.

Last week's Sudoku

8	2	7	9	1	4	3	5	6
1	3	4	5	7	6	2	8	9
6	9	5	2	8	3	7	1	4
4	5	9	3	6	1	8	7	2
2	8	3	4	9	7	1	6	5
7	6	1	8	2	5	9	4	3
5	4	2	7	3	8	6	9	1
9	1	8	6	5	2	4	3	7
3	7	6	1	4	9	5	2	8

This week's Jumble

AWAKEN MEDLEY WHIMSY
ROTATE ADRIFT OPPOSE

The garbage can in the studio used by Mick, Keith, Charlie and Ronnie was —

A STONE'S
THROW AWAY

Chicago Tribune
IS
insideshopper
IS



**ANSWER
ANGEL**
THE '70S ARE BACK



**THE
GOODS**
METALLICS ROCK

**KELLY CLARKSON
IS AUTHENTIC,
UNGUARDED AS
TALK SHOW HOST**

NO FILTER

Kelly Clarkson is doing it her way

BY EMILY YAHR
The Washington Post

LOS ANGELES — Kelly Clarkson could not keep it together. The promo script on the teleprompter wasn't funny, but every time she tried to read it, she broke down laughing. She steadied herself to try again. Five, four, three, two ...

"If you like watching 'The Kelly Clarkson Show,' listen up, y'all," she said, smiling brightly at the camera. "This station has a re-scan day coming up!" Her voice started to quiver. "If you watch TV using an antenna, you'll need to re-scan your TV set to make sure you can keep watching this station ..."

Once again, she lost it — and so did her increasingly giddy studio audience. Cut! Clarkson refused to continue until someone explained: What on earth is a "re-scan day"?

"Is this a real thing?!" she asked, laughing. "Nobody is going to know what I'm saying! I'm so confused. ... Does anybody here know what a re-scan is?"

Finally, the explanation came through: Viewers who use antennas occasionally have to "re-scan" their TVs to keep them connected to certain channels; this promo was for an affiliate in Fort Myers, Florida. ("A huge market for us!" showrunner Alex Duda promised.) Clarkson gathered her composure. When she nailed it, the crowd broke into wild cheers.

It was just one in a series of mild misadventures during a taping of "The Kelly Clarkson Show," which debuted in September. While singing Lizzo's "Juice," the host forgot a lyric and had to retape the entire song. As a guest was sharing an emotional anecdote, Clarkson loudly



ADAM TORGERSON/NBCUNIVERSAL

Kelly Clarkson, right, interviews Christina Aguilera on an episode of her talk show, which debuted this fall.

choked on the piece of wasabi stuck in her throat from the sushi-taco cooking segment. Oh, and before the episode even began, a fire alarm forced the crew to evacuate.

"I heard somebody was vaping in a bathroom or something," Clarkson recounted in her slight Texas drawl after the taping's end. "I'm like, 'Can you not wait until you get home?'"

This is Kelly Clarkson: Grammy-winning pop star, the first-ever "American Idol" winner, four-season veteran coach on NBC's "The Voice." But this is also Kelly Clarkson: the celebrity that you have always been pretty sure that you could be friends with in real life, because she seems ... well, just like you.

She's a regular person

who showed up for a singing audition in an outfit she sewed herself, and then became a famous person because we voted for her on the TV show that became an unexpected phenomenon, and she's rewarded us by acting exactly the way we hope we would act if the same thing happened to us: like our old selves. She still freaks out when she sees Meryl Streep on a red carpet. She binge-watches Netflix mysteries. She's candid about her struggles with weight and body image.

As it happens, that kind of regular-person illusion makes someone very well-suited to host a daytime talk show — a competitive arena that requires hosts to be charismatic yet authentic, driven and yet chill enough

to remain calm when things go wrong.

"She has no filter, which is great on television," said Audrey Morrissey, showrunner on NBC's "The Voice," which Clarkson joined as a judge/coach in 2017. "If you've got a filter and you're guarded or calculated, or second-guessing everything, it really shows."

If Clarkson is anything, it's unguarded. "The compliment I've gotten my whole life in the industry, funny enough, isn't usually, 'Oh, my God, your voice is amazing.' It's always like, 'Oh, my God, you're so relatable.' And part of me is like, 'I'm working my tail off; can someone mention my voice?'" Clarkson joked. "So I wanted to use that gift as kind of a vessel for the show, and really make sure

everyone is represented and everyone is included."

Duda, previously an executive producer on "Steve Harvey" and "The Tyra Banks Show," saw daytime potential the moment she met Clarkson last year. Since its premiere, "The Kelly Clarkson Show" has averaged an impressive 1.9 million viewers — ranked fourth among daytime talk shows, behind "Dr. Phil," "Live With Kelly and Ryan" and "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" and ahead of "Maury," "The Wendy Williams Show" and "Rachael Ray."

"You have to be really authentic and comfortable in your own skin to triumph there," Duda said, citing DeGeneres, Winfrey and Dr. Phil. "Kelly's so self-deprecating. I think that's

part of it, too, because we can see a part of ourselves in her."

Executives at NBCUniversal, which syndicates "The Kelly Clarkson Show" as the lead-in to "Ellen" on more than 200 stations, went to work selling Clarkson on a talk show after seeing her on "The Voice."

"At first I was like, 'No, that's a horrible idea; are you drunk?'" Clarkson said. Then she consulted with husband Brandon Blackstock, who is also her manager and now the show's executive producer, and decided to try to bring some light into our "divided" era. "That's what we need right now, is just some place to go where it's fun and musical."

Her set resembles a concert venue: There's a pit built into the studio floor so she can feed off the energy of her audience. In perhaps the show's savviest move, she starts every episode with "Kellyoke" — a song chosen by someone in the audience. Clarkson first rocketed into the public consciousness 17 years ago singing covers of beloved pop tunes; now, every day, she churns out a potentially viral clip — belting out Dolly Parton's "9 to 5," Prince's "Let's Go Crazy" or Katy Perry's "Roar."

Clarkson wasn't sure daytime was the place for her, but now she's growing attached — and despite some early signs of success, trying not to stress out about whether it will work.

"It's like being on tour: There are going to be shows where I feel like a magical unicorn, and everything went so well and my voice was feeling flawless," she said. "Then there's gonna be shows that aren't. And it doesn't make you a good or bad performer, or even inconsistent. It just makes you human."

'70s fashion is enjoying a resurgence



ELLEN WARREN

Dear Answer Angel Ellen:

In the '70s I wore eye-glasses with enormous frames that covered half my face. Are they back in style? I've inherited some vintage ones that I was considering getting new prescription lenses for, but I'm not sure I love the look.

— Kendra L.

Dear Kendra: It is only a matter of time before a new generation discovers the retro charm of a fashion trend and brings it back after it's been collecting dust in a drawer, on a shelf or in the back of your auntie's closet. That's what's happening right now with the glasses you mention. I've seen them on actress Elle Fanning, in the pages of *Vogue* and in ads for fashion houses Gucci and Celine. Yup, they're back. I actually have a photo of myself shaking hands with President Jimmy Carter and, well, I'm showing off a lot of fashion don'ts in that picture, and the giant glasses I am wearing are among the worst. So, I'm not going to relive those bad choices. But, for those who want to give the '70s eyewear a try, there are plenty of shopping options. An internet search for "70s style glasses" will get you started. Etsy.com is a good resource for them, at reasonable prices. But if you really want to save money, thrift stores are loaded with discarded frames from the '70s. I've seen buckets of them near the checkout counters at Goodwill at prices under \$10.

Dear Answer Angel Ellen: My daughter and I recently



DREAMSTIME

Retro '70s glasses are definitely in right now, and there are plenty of options for those who want to try the look out.

went for a mani-pedi at my local salon. I usually don't have a preference about who does my nails there since all the employees have done a good job. But, the last time I went a new nail tech did my nails and it was a really bad job. So, on this visit, when she was "assigned" to do my manicure, I politely told her about the problems of the last time and asked her to take greater care on these issues. It was all quite friendly and professional — and, I might add, she did a much more careful job this time and I was quite happy

with the whole outcome. But afterward, my daughter told me she thought it was rude of me to mention my dissatisfaction. What do you think?

— Audrey S.

Dear Audrey: You're the mom so of course you're right! (Just kidding.) I AM on your side on this one, though. How is the nail tech going to get better — and how are you going to get satisfactory service — if you're keeping your unhappiness to yourself? Sure, you could switch salons. Lord knows there seems to

be nail places in every block and strip mall. You could complain to the salon owner. You could make it a point to book an appointment with anyone except the person who did a lousy job the last time. Or you could do what you did — constructive gentle criticism. Since your approach had the desired effect, I think you did the right thing.

Dear Answer Angel Ellen: Do you think men over a certain age are too old to wear clothing plastered with the logos of their

favorite sports team(s) or players?

— Katherine G.

Dear Katherine: If I answered "yes" to your question, I'd be labeled un-American! Male or female, you're never too old to support your team.

Angelic Readers

Sue A. writes: "I have a slight allergy/intolerance to the metal in the hooks and eyes on bra bands. Do other women find their back itchy in that area? What can I do about it? I can

almost reach it with my hand to put lotion there. I thought of putting lotion on the inside of the band in that area even. But with some clothes, one wouldn't want any lotion staining the material. I wonder if I am odd or are other women annoyed like this?"

From Ellen: I am annoyed too! It's astonishing to me that some bra manufacturers pay no attention whatsoever to the little things that make their products a torture. I'm talking about the hooks and eyes that rub, irritate and poke into your back. Or the lumpy stitching with itchy plastic "thread" that grinds into the flesh. Does anybody do wear testing of these things before they are foisted on us? For the reasons you point out, lotion is a poor solution. I've tried wedging a folded Kleenex underneath the hooks and eyes to protect my back, but it doesn't stay in place. Readers, tell me your bad bra stories — and your solutions.

Reader Rant 2

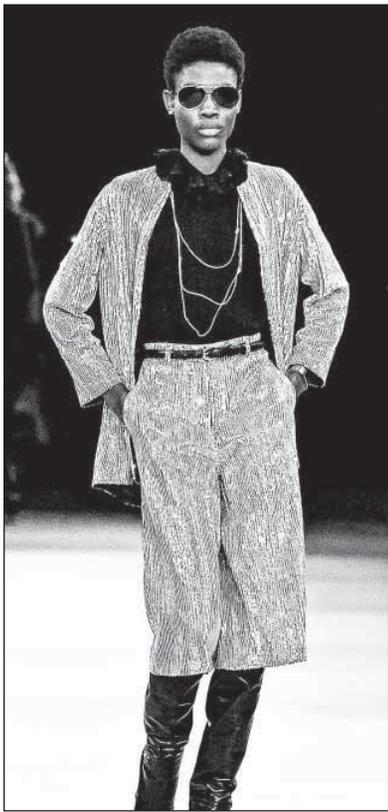
Joan S. complains: "I recently sought out a new lipstick. I had to go through about 10 tubes before finding one that hadn't been used as a 'sample.' Come on, ladies, take a risk, buy it and try it at home. The rest of us don't want previously sampled lipstick."

From Ellen: I'm with you, Joan. Department stores and cosmetic superstores Ulta and Sephora have designated samples and disposable plastic tools to let you try before you buy. And many drugstores will let you try a lipstick (or other cosmetic) at home and return it for a full refund if you don't like it (but ask first about the store policy).

How to rock metallic trend

BY DAVID SYREK | Chicago Tribune

Fashion runways are awash in silver, gold and copper — from Hedi Slimane's shimmering gold suit for Celine to Altuzarra's edgy dresses mixing knit tops with pleated lamé skirts. The metallic trend is also shining in home design. For a statement piece, look to Danish brand HAY for their origamilike folded metal Silt table, or Tom Dixon's sexy, sculptural copper cocktail shaker. Accent pieces like CB2's Nest bread basket or espresso spoons add a chic touch to your table. Your holidays just got a little brighter.



GETTY

Celine's glittering metallic gold suit for fall.



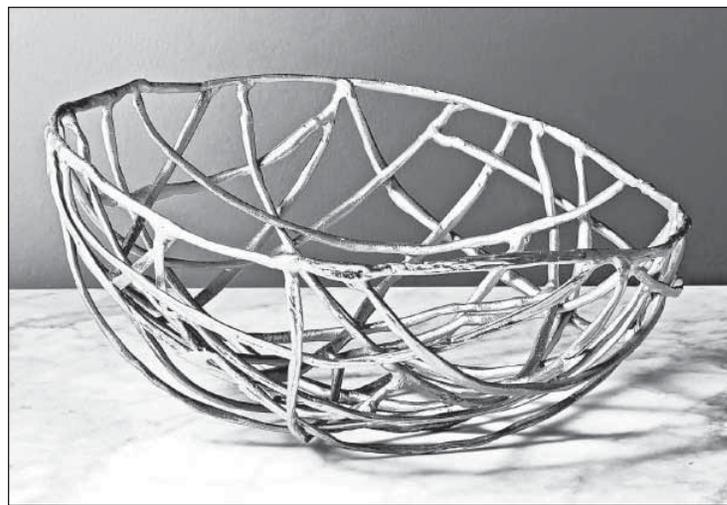
GETTY

The fall runways sparkled with metallics like Altuzarra's pleated gold lamé skirt.



HAY

HAY's brass-finished stainless steel Silt table evokes the look of paper origami reimagined in metal. \$595, hay.com



CB2

Naturally chic: CB2's matte gold Nest bread basket uses woven twigs as inspiration for its form. \$33.96, cb2.com



CB2

CB2's lightbulb is tipped in gleaming gold with exposed inner wiring to fuse contemporary and vintage. \$9.95, cb2.com



HIVE MODERN

Tom Dixon's Plum Cocktail Shaker in shiny copper turns a barware staple into modern art. \$180, hivemodern.com



CB2

Chic, small spoons in gold, silver and metallic black stainless steel are perfect for coffee and tea. \$4.95 each, cb2.com

LaQuan Smith blazes a trail by trusting instinct

BY LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

LaQuan Smith is all about the Champagne lifestyle: bubbly, luxurious and, especially when it comes to the women's clothes he creates, sexy.

The designer made his New York Fashion Week debut at 21 with a sleek and sassy collection he dubbed "Water Goddess." Ten years later, his rise seems meteoric in fashion years, from sneaking into industry events and handing out wildly colored and textured leggings he sewed in his Jamaica, Queens, basement to outfitting Beyoncé, Serena Williams, Jennifer Lopez, Kim Kardashian and Rihanna.

At 31, some see the self-trained Smith as a pioneer in pushing the fashion culture forward, but it was far from easy. He told The Associated Press in a recent interview that he owes his success to his singular passion — fashion — and staying true to himself by trusting his gut.

"It's just by doing what I love, just doing things that speak and represent me," said Smith, dressed in a killer red-and-blue plaid jacket, turtleneck, ripped black denim jeans and pristine white kicks. "I always like to start with a level of authenticity."

That authenticity was in play when Moët & Chandon named Smith one of its "Nectar of the Culture" ambassadors, along with other trailblazers in music, art and more, in celebration of Moët Nectar Imperial Rose. It's the latest collaboration as Smith continues to build his namesake brand, sticking close to home to produce his clothes in Queens.

Some of Smith's lows struck early in life, after his grandmother taught him to sew when he was 13. After putting on a fashion show at his middle school, he was thrilled to attend the High School of Art and Design, only to say

goodbye to bustling New York in the 11th grade when his mother moved the family to Delaware, a place that held no allure. It was then that he was diagnosed with bone cancer, a truly "humbling experience," he said. Smith recovered and continued to pursue his fashion dreams, desperate to return to New York, but he was rejected by both the Fashion Institute of Technology and the Parsons School of Design.

"I was just kind of devastated and at a loss. I didn't really know how to get my head up off the ground," he said.

That's when he was offered an internship at BlackBook, the art and culture magazine, working for then-fashion director Elizabeth Sulcer. She was in demand for industry parties and events, and Smith made use of those contacts, showing up uninvited at times dressed in his own designs. He took to handing out his leggings to whomever would take them. In 2010, the effort paid off when he spotted Lady Gaga in a pair as he flipped through a tabloid while with his mom at a supermarket.

"My mom was, like, 'Yeah that's nice,'" he said. "I don't think she really got it."

The same year, Smith showed for the first time at fashion week and American Vogue's former editor-at-large, Andre Leon Talley, chatted him up. Also, Rihanna wore his gold chain-mail bodysuit in her "Rude Boy" video and later shouted him out on Instagram for his "money green," barely there net dress she styled over a bikini in Brazil.

"I was 21 years old and I had such an incredible amount of support from industry insiders, and then a couple years after that it sort of was like a crash and burn, where reality started to hit me," Smith said. "I had no business infrastructure, I had no money. It was just popularity. ... It took time for me to be able to focus on,



MARY ALTAFFER/AP

The designer LaQuan Smith was rejected by both the Fashion Institute of Technology and the Parsons School of Design. He says he owes his success to staying true to himself and listening to his gut.

really hone in on, running a solid business."

It took time and the help of business partner Jacqueline Cooper, who remains by his side.

As a designer who is African American, Smith is a rarity in fashion. Diversity and inclusion in the industry is a persistent problem, he said.

"I always tend to feel, I don't know, maybe pigeonholed sometimes," Smith said. "I like to be introduced as a designer, not an African American designer. It doesn't mean that I'm ashamed of who I am. It's just that, when it comes down to my profession, why is skin color introduced first?"

As a company, he's a man of action, making broad use of Latina, black, Asian and curvy models to walk his runways. His custom business remains robust and he brings the same inclusive zeal to the range of bodies that belong to his private clients.

"My goal is, if you want to feel sexy, if you want to look fabulous, if you want to be the center of attention, that's LaQuan Smith," he said. "That is something I want to continue to embrace."



GETTY

A belted plaid dress from LaQuan Smith's fall collection.



GETTY

A Western-inspired denim look from LaQuan Smith's spring 2020 collection.

SIMPLE STYLE



DREAMSTIME

Traveling is hectic enough without a jumble of clothes and accessories you don't need.

Pack smarter before you go on a trip

BY ARAMIDE ESUBI

Tribune Content Agency

Hi, my name is Aramide and I am a recovering overpacker. When it came time for any trip, I'd get a serious case of clothes and accessories FOMO and pack things I would maybe need instead of only what I would wear.

What did this lead to? You guessed it: an overweight suitcase stuffed with pieces I didn't wear on the trip, that I'd have to check at the airport. More money spent on travel expenses, less room for souvenirs in my bag and more frustration.

In the spirit of doing better, I decided to work on this bad habit and I now have helpful tips to share with you.

Tip 1: Don't think in outfits, think in items

If your pieces can mix and match, almost each item can be worn more than once without it seeming like you have the same outfit on. Here's a little bit of math to figure out how you can make the most of

fewer items: Take the total number of days traveling and divide it by five. Round up to the nearest whole number — that's the number of dresses or rompers you should bring, for example. Take that number and multiply it by three. Bring that many shirts and bottoms.

Using this formula, you should have enough combinations to last the entire trip (and that's not even counting the pieces you're traveling in).

Tip 2: Create a color and pattern scheme

How do you know which exact pieces to bring? The easiest trick is to stick with one color scheme and throw in one or two complementary hues to break things up. Boring, you say? Well, not if you pack a lot of prints and graphics too.

The ultimate secret? Matching sets (think pantsuits, skirt suits, skirt and top sets or even a stylish tracksuit): Worn together, they make a fancy outfit for a dressier evening out. Broken apart, they're a bottom and a top that can be mixed and matched with your other pieces.

Tip 3: Leave accessories at home

Accessories can absolutely take an outfit up a notch. They're also big, oddly shaped and easy to break or crush. When it comes to shoes, bags and jewelry, less is more.

Start your minimizing by remembering that your travel outfit already consists of a pair of shoes and a bag. Beyond that, you only need one more pair of shoes that works for dressier occasions (no matter how long your vacation).

In terms of purses, there are two must-haves: a basic crossbody and your "personal item" bag (that should really be roomy enough to comfortably house the crossbody).

As for evening bags, double up by using a clutch as your toiletry bag (a plastic baggy liner keeps things spill-proof).

The next time you're packing for a trip, use these tips to keep you from falling back into your overpacking ways. And, in case something unexpected comes up, just use it an opportunity to go shopping — you'll have plenty of room in your suitcase now.

Don't let 'try-before-you-buy' bust your budget

BY LAUREN SCHWAHN
NerdWallet

Services such as Stitch Fix and Amazon's Prime Wardrobe have put try-before-you-buy shopping on the map. The concept is simple: Shoppers get apparel, accessories or other goods delivered to try, and then they can either send back or purchase.

"For many customers who do not enjoy the hustle and bustle of driving to the mall, parking, going through shelves, picking out items and hitting a dressing room, peering from the comfort of the couch and selecting items to be delivered to the door to try on can be very convenient," says Casey Taylor, a partner in the retail practice of Bain and Co., a global management consultancy.

But sneaky fees and easy-to-miss return windows can lead shoppers to spend more than they bargained for. Here's how to take advantage of try-before-you-buy shopping while leaving your budget unscathed.

Watch out for nonrefundable fees.

"Try before you buy" isn't always as straightforward as it sounds. In some cases, just because you choose to try an item rather than purchase it upfront doesn't mean it won't cost anything — even if you send it back.

The personalized styling service Stitch Fix charges a \$20 styling fee for each shipment. That fee gets credited toward any item you keep from the box, but will not be refunded if you return everything. Nordstrom's Trunk Club has a \$25 styling fee that works the same way. These fees can be dangerous because they incentivize shoppers to keep products they might not actually want or need.

"We hate to feel like we're losing something. If we feel like we've already spent money to get a service and we can get that money back with a purchase, we're going to be kind of mentally calculating a price reduction in that item we're considering," says Kit Yarrow, consumer psychologist and author of "Decoding the New Consumer Mind: How and Why We Shop and Buy."

Check retailer policies and



MARK LENNIHAN/AP

Items ordered through Prime Wardrobe are displayed in New York in this April 12, 2018, file photo.

FAQs for styling fees, shipping charges or other nonrefundable costs before you commit to a service. Yarrow recommends considering alternatives, such as making a regular online purchase with a retailer that offers free returns or limiting try-before-you-buy orders to once a season or less. That way, you're more likely to find something you need and less likely to throw money down the drain.

Mark return deadlines.

Missing the return window can leave you stuck with unwanted

items and the bill to match. Take online glasses retailer Warby Parker, for example. Its free home try-on service allows shoppers to get up to five frames delivered. If a customer fails to ship the box back by the end of the trial period, five days after delivery, they're on the hook for the full price of each frame.

This system can spell trouble for indecisive or forgetful folks.

"Maybe you think about it and you think a little too long and you end up keeping them rather than sending them back in time and so you've now purchased them

through inertia rather than through desire," Yarrow says.

Opt out of automatic deliveries.

Amazon's Personal Shopper by Prime Wardrobe and many other try-before-you-buy programs give consumers the option to schedule repeat deliveries. While getting a treat on a regular basis is enticing, subscriptions often have a way of spiraling out of control. Spacing out these orders can spare your budget.

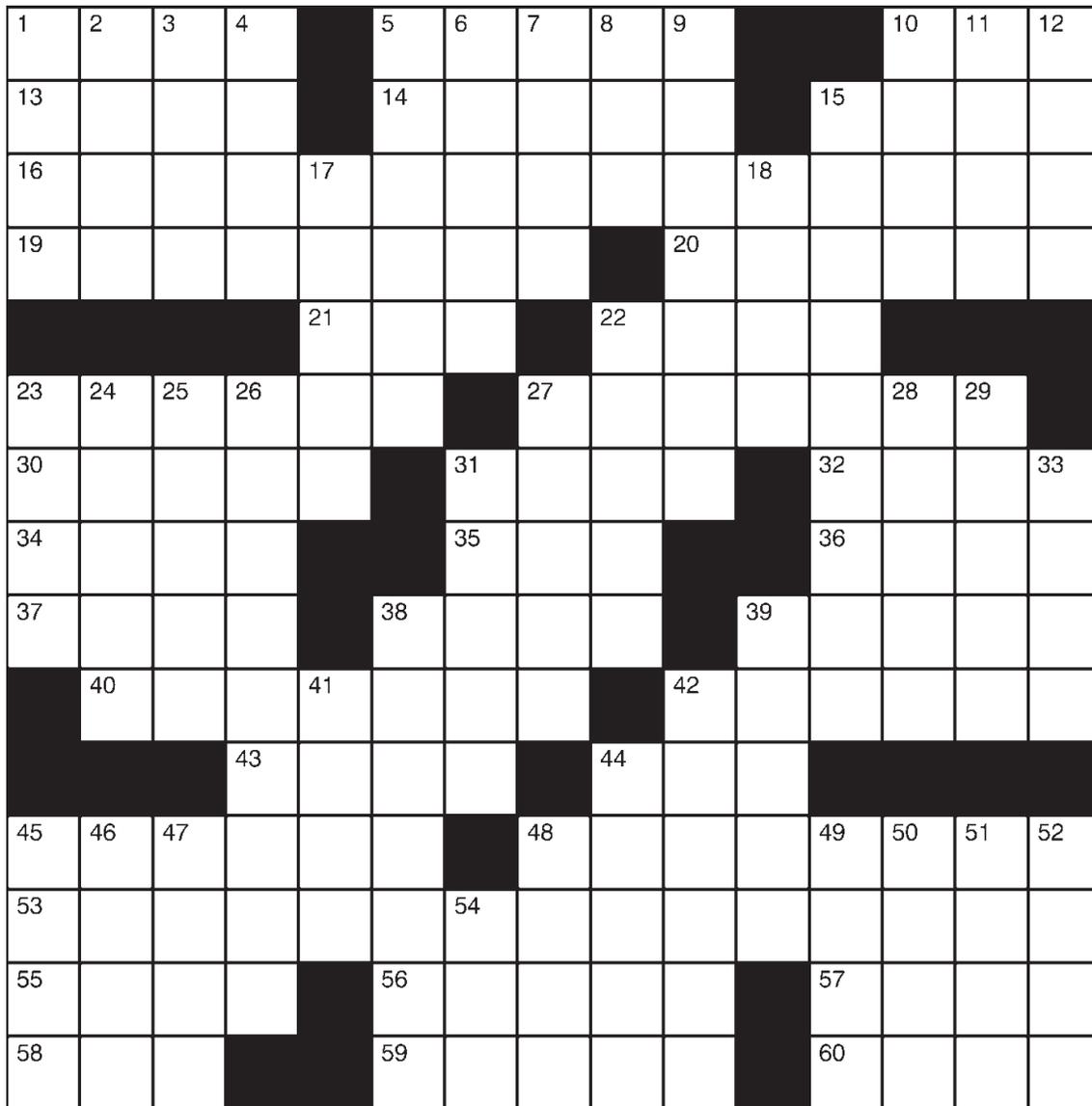
"After your fifth or sixth or seventh box, you might have all

the clothes you need for a little while," Taylor says. "Do you really need a box this month or might you do every other month or one a season?"

All this isn't to say you should avoid try-before-you-buy shopping entirely. As with all expenses, you can approach it thoughtfully and set limits that you're comfortable with.

"It can work if you do it the right way, which is to not overdo it, to be really specific about your objective and to not go too far down the lane of obligation," Yarrow says.

On the Street



ACROSS

- 1. US president
- 5. Quoted
- 10. Casablanca's piano player
- 13. Margin or Saturn chaser
- 14. In reserve
- 15. Roofing unit
- 16. Card game
- 19. Hire at an insufficient wage
- 20. Voluntary contributions
- 21. Mem. of the board
- 22. Mystic discipline
- 23. Exchange, in a way
- 27. Esprits de corps
- 30. Shots which strike beyond a target
- 31. Flower and feather
- 32. Kind of payment
- 34. Actress Patterson
- 35. ___ Bareli, India
- 36. One of the Romance langs.
- 37. Scott
- 38. Rubber or paper toy
- 39. "... the ___ of parting day"
- 40. Sound systems
- 42. African costumes
- 43. Drip
- 44. Stray
- 45. Deli selection
- 48. Moneychanging or stockjobbing
- 53. Unit of currency of variable gold content
- 55. Green Gables girl
- 56. Slip away to marry

- 57. Scold
- 58. Classic car
- 59. Impressions on 58 Across
- 60. Geometric coordinate

DOWN

- 1. Forbidden
- 2. Greenspan
- 3. Learn
- 4. Let in
- 5. One who nags
- 6. Newton or Bickerstaff
- 7. Wee
- 8. Byrnes, of filmdom
- 9. Early kind of prison
- 10. Member of Hindu religious sect
- 11. Sheltered
- 12. Seas: Fr.
- 15. Adding up the profits
- 17. Irishmen
- 18. Latvian capital
- 22. Alpine sound
- 23. Investment unit
- 24. Alleges
- 25. Shore up a wall with sandbags
- 26. Business appellation
- 27. Oat and corn, e.g.
- 28. Consumed
- 29. Trite
- 31. Worry over
- 33. Wings, on a building
- 38. Ridiculed
- 39. Dry tableland of South Africa
- 41. San ___, on the Riviera
- 42. Singer Charley's family
- 44. Country in Africa
- 45. Cicatrix
- 46. Tops
- 47. K to P sequence
- 48. Hit like ___ of bricks
- 49. Clothing wkrs.
- 50. Jai ___
- 51. Acquire wealth
- 52. Gardner
- 54. ___ de France

SOLUTION



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WALTER SCOTT'S

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WALTER SCOTT ASKS...

BILLY DEE WILLIAMS



The *Lady Sings the Blues* and *Brian's Song* star, 82, returns to his role as the dashing **Lando Calrissian** in *Star Wars: The Rise of Skywalker* (in theaters Dec. 20). The movie features the final showdown between the Jedi and the Sith in the conclusion of the nine-part Skywalker saga, a series of three trilogies that began in 1977 with *Episode IV—A New Hope*.

What is it about *Star Wars* that makes for such passionate fans? It talks about issues we've been preoccupied with for centuries. It speaks in detail about what we struggle with outside of ourselves, and also within ourselves—the dark side and the light side.

When you first started to play Lando, how did you decide who he was going to be? They gave me a cape and the name Calrissian. Those two things were the key [and] gave me an idea of what direction I wanted to take. I wanted to make Lando bigger than life. I felt that he was a person who was very much a part of the future.

Do you consider the movie *Lady Sings the Blues* (1972) the turning point in your career? It certainly made me into a bona fide romantic figure onscreen, what you would call a matinee idol, which was a bit unusual for little brown-skinned boys like me. That same year, I did *Brian's Song* with James Caan. Those were big.

Anything you still hope to accomplish? Whatever comes along that's interesting, I'm always interested in participating. But at this point, I'm just taking my time, taking it easy.



WHAT PIECE OF ORIGINAL *STAR WARS* MEMORABILIA DID DIRECTOR GEORGE LUCAS GIVE HIM? GO TO PARADE.COM/WILLIAMS TO FIND OUT.

SALLY FIELD'S LATEST HONOR

Academy Award winner Field, 73, will be among the honorees at this year's Kennedy Center Honors in Washington, D.C. (televised Dec. 15 on CBS). The *Norma Rae* star will be joined by Earth, Wind & Fire, Linda Ronstadt, *Sesame Street* and conductor Michael Tilson Thomas. "When I recall the day I started out in 1964 and fast-forward to today in 2019, I don't know how I got here—except by the seat of my pants," says Field, who "rose" to fame on the TV series *The Flying Nun* in the 1960s.



Charlize Theron, 44, plays Megyn Kelly and **Nicole Kidman**, 52, is Gretchen Carlson in the new movie *Bombshell* (in theaters Dec. 20). It's the true-story account of a group of female Fox News employees who brought down the network's CEO Roger Ailes (John Lithgow) and exposed his toxic reign of harassment and intimidation. "I don't want my daughters to go through [sexual harassment]. We don't want our sisters to go through that. We don't want our mothers to go through that. We just want to be able to go to work and feel safe," says Theron.

EMAIL YOUR QUESTIONS FOR WALTER SCOTT TO PERSONALITY@PARADE.COM



STARS WHO KEEP GIVING

It's the giving season, when people and organizations come together to help those in need. Here are several celebs who've created their own charitable foundations that give all year long.

EVA LONGORIA

The Eva Longoria Foundation's mission is to help Latinas build better futures for themselves and their families through education and entrepreneurship.

MATT DAMON

The *Ford v Ferrari* star is the co-founder of Water.org, which aids communities in developing countries that do not have access to safe drinking water and sanitation.



LADY GAGA

Inspired by an embrace of "outcasts" and as a challenge to "meanness and cruelty," the superstar singer's Born This Way Foundation supports the wellness of young people and empowers them to create a kinder and braver world.



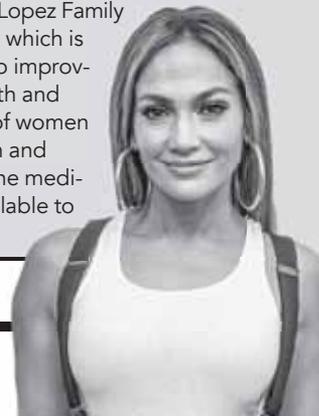
MATTHEW McCONAUGHEY

The Oscar-winning star's Just Keep Livin' Foundation helps high school students lead active lives and make healthy choices.



JENNIFER LOPEZ

Next year's Super Bowl halftime performer created the Lopez Family Foundation, which is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of women and children and increasing the medical care available to them.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: CHARLEY GALLAY/GETTY IMAGES; FOR THE LONICIOUS MONK INSTITUTE: SJAVEN VASIC/GETTY IMAGES; JIM SPELLMAN/GETTY IMAGES; STEPHANIE CARDINALE/CORBIS VIA GETTY IMAGES; DIMITRIOS KAMBOURIS/GETTY IMAGES FOR TURNER; GP IMAGES/GETTY IMAGES; NOAM GALAI/GETTY IMAGES; HILARY B. GARTLE/LOUNSGATE; LUCASFILM/20TH CENTURY FOX/NEWS.COM

CATTY CELEBS

With the opening of *Cats* on

Dec. 20 (see page 10), stars are lining up to share their love of felines, including **Taylor Swift**, who plays Bombalurina in the musical. She recently adopted a kitten named Benjamin Button. He joins her squad of Scottish fold felines, Meredith Grey (named after the *Grey's Anatomy* doctor) and Olivia Benson (named after the *Law & Order: SVU* detective). Here are some other cat-crazy folks.

Ed Sheeran The singer-songwriter is a cat dad to Dorito and Calippo, whose adventures are chronicled on Instagram.

Norman Reedus "He comes everywhere with me," the *Walking Dead* star has said of his black cat, Eye in the Dark. "He doesn't like to be left alone. He racks up a major room service bill."

Christopher Walken The Oscar winner is an advocate for adopting shelter cats.

Mayim Bialik The *Big Bang Theory* alum considers her hairless Peterbald breed, Esau, her first son. —Mara Reinstein

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Happy Holidays

We're off the week of
Dec. 29 but back Jan. 5!

Here's a sneak peek!



DECEMBER 15, 2019 | 3



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LUNG CANCER'S Bright Side

New treatments are helping patients live better lives.

By Nicole Pajer



Jaymie Bowles

Bowles, 33, has no history of lung cancer in her family, has never smoked and hadn't ever spent a night in the hospital. But in the spring of 2018, she experienced a wheezing cough and found herself short of breath during everyday activities like walking up the stairs. An X-ray found fluid in her left lung, and further tests revealed she had stage 4 lung cancer. Bowles had just gotten engaged and delayed her treatment for a month in order to get her eggs frozen. Then she dove into a course of targeted chemotherapy.

The majority of Bowles' tumors have shrunk or turned nonreactive. "I've had very minimal side effects aside from fatigue and some digestion issues. I'm responding very well to the medication, and so far it's going great. It's basically given me my life back!" she says. Bowles, who is still working and running an online radio station in Yonkers, N.Y., is also setting personal records in the gym. "I just hit a milestone in terms of running, which I like to do to keep my lungs active and expanded," she says. "I was able to run two miles, which is something I'd never done pre-diagnosis. So for me, that was a big deal!"

One out of every 15 people in the U.S. will receive a lung cancer diagnosis. But recent advances have provided more options for combating the disease, helping to drastically improve the patient survival rate.

"There is an explosion of new treatments," says Christine M. Lovly, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of medicine at Vanderbilt University. These include targeted therapies tailored to the DNA makeup of a tumor as well as immunotherapy, which catalyzes a patient's immune system into fighting off the cancer.

The next decade looks even brighter, says Peter Mazzone, M.D., director of the Lung Cancer Program for Cleveland Clinic's Respiratory Institute. Additional tests that look at "molecular biomarkers, like blood tests and breath tests, are being developed and will allow us to find more cancers earlier," he says.

"Research is the reason I'm alive," says survivor Sara Whitlock, 56, who has been on a targeted chemotherapy clinical trial for two years. Her goal: to live until the next treatment comes along. "I work and live a very normal life. If you met me, you wouldn't know I have lung cancer." Go to Parade.com/lungs for more of Whitlock's journey, and read on for additional stories from survivors.

David Sturges

After smoking several packs of cigarettes a day, Sturges kicked the habit completely by 1980. That's why the New Ulm, Minn.-based attorney was so surprised when 22 years later a routine heart scan revealed that he had a tumor on the lower lobe of his right lung, which a biopsy confirmed was malignant. "I was asymptomatic," he says. In fact, six months prior, Sturges had run the San Diego Rock 'n' Roll Marathon, and the year before he had scaled 19,341-foot-high Mount Kilimanjaro.

Sturges, now 72, had a lobectomy performed to remove the tumor from his lung. "At the time, that was the only treatment therapy available for early-stage lung cancer," he says. It was an invasive procedure that left him with heavy scarring: "They literally opened up my chest." In 2016, Sturges experienced a cancer recurrence and, thanks to recent medical advances, was able to have his tumor removed via video-assisted thoracoscopic surgery (VATS). "I have a few one-inch scars where they went in and removed the malignant nodule; I was in the hospital for four days, and was back at work within 10," he says. "I had a Scotch after I was discharged to celebrate!"



Nancy Vandespool

A patient representative at a doctor's office in New York, Vandespool, now 49, was shocked when she was diagnosed with lung cancer at the age of 38. "I had never smoked," she says. Vandespool did grow up in a smoking household and had warning signs such as a persistent cough and feeling a little weak.

"Looking back, I should have gone in to see my doctor earlier," she says. But after chemo, radiation, surgery and immunotherapy, she is happy to tell others about her survival journey and to serve as an advocate through Lung Force, a division of the American Lung Association aimed at raising awareness about lung cancer and its new treatments.



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- **KEYTRUDA AFTER CHEMOTHERAPY, PD-L1 POSITIVE**
It may also be used alone for advanced NSCLC if you have tried chemotherapy that contains platinum and it did not work or is no longer working **and**, your tumor tests positive for “PD-L1” **and** if your tumor has an abnormal “EGFR” or “ALK” gene, you have also received an “EGFR” or “ALK” inhibitor medicine that did not work or is no longer working.

PD-L1 = programmed death ligand 1;
EGFR = epidermal growth factor receptor;
ALK = anaplastic lymphoma kinase.

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- **Lung problems (pneumonitis).** Symptoms of pneumonitis may include shortness of breath, chest pain, or new or worse cough.
- **Intestinal problems (colitis) that can lead to tears or holes in your intestine.** Signs and symptoms of colitis may include diarrhea or more bowel movements than usual; stools that are black, tarry, sticky, or have blood or mucus; or severe stomach-area (abdomen) pain or tenderness.
- **Liver problems, including hepatitis.** Signs and symptoms of liver problems may include yellowing of your skin or the whites of your eyes, nausea or vomiting, pain on the right side of your stomach area (abdomen), dark urine, or bleeding or bruising more easily than normal.
- **Hormone gland problems (especially the thyroid, pituitary, adrenal glands, and pancreas).** Signs and symptoms that your hormone glands are not working properly may include rapid heartbeat, weight loss or weight gain, increased sweating, feeling more hungry or thirsty, urinating more often than usual, hair loss, feeling cold, constipation, your voice gets deeper, muscle aches, dizziness or fainting, or headaches that will not go away or unusual headache.
- **Kidney problems, including nephritis and kidney failure.** Signs of kidney problems may include change in the amount or color of your urine.
- **Skin problems.** Signs of skin problems may include rash, itching, blisters, peeling or skin sores, or painful sores or ulcers in your mouth or in your nose, throat, or genital area.
- **Problems in other organs.** Signs and symptoms of these problems may include changes in eyesight; severe or persistent muscle or joint pains; severe muscle

Important Safety Information is continued on the next page.



Katy is a real patient

[keytruda.com/lung](https://www.keytruda.com/lung)

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION (continued)

weakness; low red blood cells (anemia); swollen lymph nodes, rash or tender lumps on skin, cough, shortness of breath, vision changes, or eye pain (sarcoidosis); confusion, fever, muscle weakness, balance problems, nausea, vomiting, stiff neck, memory problems, or seizures (encephalitis); and shortness of breath, irregular heartbeat, feeling tired, or chest pain (myocarditis).

- **Infusion (IV) reactions that can sometimes be severe and life-threatening.** Signs and symptoms of infusion reactions may include chills or shaking, shortness of breath or wheezing, itching or rash, flushing, dizziness, fever, or feeling like passing out.
- **Rejection of a transplanted organ.** People who have had an organ transplant may have an increased risk of organ transplant rejection if they are treated with KEYTRUDA.
- **Complications, including graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), in people who have received a bone marrow (stem cell) transplant that uses donor stem cells (allogeneic).** These complications can be severe and can lead to death. These complications may happen if you underwent transplantation either before or after being treated with KEYTRUDA. Your doctor will monitor you for the following signs and symptoms: skin rash, liver inflammation, abdominal pain, and diarrhea.

Getting medical treatment right away may help keep these problems from becoming more serious. Your doctor will check you for these problems during treatment with KEYTRUDA. Your doctor may treat you with corticosteroid or hormone replacement medicines. Your doctor may also need to delay or completely stop treatment with KEYTRUDA if you have severe side effects.

Before you receive KEYTRUDA, tell your doctor if you have immune system problems such as Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, or lupus; have had an organ transplant or plan to have or have had a bone marrow (stem cell) transplant that used donor stem cells (allogeneic); have lung or breathing problems; have liver problems; or have any other medical problems.

If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, tell your doctor. KEYTRUDA can harm your unborn baby. If you are able to become pregnant, your doctor will give you a pregnancy test before you start treatment. Use effective birth control during treatment and for at least 4 months after the final dose of KEYTRUDA. Tell your

doctor right away if you think you may be pregnant or you become pregnant during treatment with KEYTRUDA.

If you are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed, tell your doctor. It is not known if KEYTRUDA passes into your breast milk. Do not breastfeed during treatment with KEYTRUDA and for 4 months after your final dose of KEYTRUDA.

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

Common side effects of KEYTRUDA include feeling tired; pain, including pain in muscles, bones, or joints and stomach area (abdominal) pain; decreased appetite; itching; diarrhea; nausea; rash; fever; cough; shortness of breath; and constipation.

Common side effects of KEYTRUDA when given with certain chemotherapy medicines include feeling tired or weak; nausea; constipation; diarrhea; decreased appetite; rash; vomiting; cough; trouble breathing; fever; hair loss; inflammation of the nerves that may cause pain, weakness, and paralysis in the arms and legs; swelling of the lining of the mouth, nose, eyes, throat, intestines, or vagina; and mouth sores.

These are not all the possible side effects of KEYTRUDA. Tell your doctor if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Please read the adjacent Important Information About KEYTRUDA and discuss it with your oncologist.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Having trouble paying for your Merck medicine?

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IT'S TRU.

KEYTRUDA[®]
(pembrolizumab) Injection 100 mg

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Important Information About KEYTRUDA® (pembrolizumab) injection 100 mg.

Please speak with your healthcare professional regarding KEYTRUDA (pronounced key-true-duh).

Only your healthcare professional knows the specifics of your condition and how KEYTRUDA may work with your overall treatment plan. If you have any questions about KEYTRUDA, speak with your healthcare professional. **Rx ONLY**

What is the most important information I should know about KEYTRUDA?

KEYTRUDA is a medicine that may treat certain cancers by working with your immune system. KEYTRUDA can cause your immune system to attack normal organs and tissues in any area of your body and can affect the way they work. These problems can sometimes become severe or life-threatening and can lead to death. These problems may happen anytime during treatment or even after your treatment has ended.

Call or see your doctor right away if you develop any symptoms of the following problems or these symptoms get worse:

Lung problems (pneumonitis). Symptoms of pneumonitis may include:

- shortness of breath
- chest pain
- new or worse cough

Intestinal problems (colitis) that can lead to tears or holes in your intestine. Signs and symptoms of colitis may include:

- diarrhea or more bowel movements than usual
- stools that are black, tarry, sticky, or have blood or mucus
- severe stomach-area (abdomen) pain or tenderness

Liver problems, including hepatitis. Signs and symptoms of liver problems may include:

- yellowing of your skin or the whites of your eyes
- nausea or vomiting
- pain on the right side of your stomach area (abdomen)
- dark urine
- bleeding or bruising more easily than normal

Hormone gland problems (especially the thyroid, pituitary, adrenal glands, and pancreas). Signs and symptoms that your hormone glands are not working properly may include:

- rapid heart beat
- weight loss or weight gain
- increased sweating
- feeling more hungry or thirsty
- urinating more often than usual
- hair loss
- feeling cold
- constipation
- your voice gets deeper
- muscle aches
- dizziness or fainting
- headaches that will not go away or unusual headache

Kidney problems, including nephritis and kidney failure. Signs of kidney problems may include:

- change in the amount or color of your urine

Skin problems. Signs of skin problems may include:

- rash
- itching
- blisters, peeling or skin sores
- painful sores or ulcers in your mouth or in your nose, throat, or genital area

Problems in other organs. Signs and symptoms of these problems may include:

- changes in eyesight
- severe or persistent muscle or joint pains
- severe muscle weakness
- low red blood cells (anemia)
- swollen lymph nodes, rash or tender lumps on skin, cough, shortness of breath, vision changes, or eye pain (sarcoidosis)
- confusion, fever, muscle weakness, balance problems, nausea, vomiting, stiff neck, memory problems, or seizures (encephalitis)
- shortness of breath, irregular heartbeat, feeling tired, or chest pain (myocarditis)

Infusion (IV) reactions that can sometimes be severe and life-threatening. Signs and symptoms of infusion reactions may include:

- chills or shaking
- shortness of breath or wheezing
- itching or rash
- flushing
- dizziness
- fever
- feeling like passing out

Rejection of a transplanted organ. People who have had an organ transplant may have an increased risk of organ transplant rejection. Your doctor should tell you what signs and symptoms you should report and monitor you, depending on the type of organ transplant that you have had.

Complications, including graft-versus-host-disease (GVHD), in people who have received a bone marrow (stem cell) transplant that uses donor stem cells (allogeneic). These complications can be severe and can lead to death. These complications may happen if you underwent transplantation either before or after being treated with KEYTRUDA. Your doctor will monitor you for the following signs and symptoms: skin rash, liver inflammation, stomach-area (abdominal) pain, and diarrhea.

Getting medical treatment right away may help keep these problems from becoming more serious. Your doctor will check you for these problems during treatment with KEYTRUDA. Your doctor may treat you with corticosteroid or hormone replacement medicines. Your doctor may also need to delay or completely stop treatment with KEYTRUDA, if you have severe side effects.

What should I tell my doctor before receiving KEYTRUDA?

Before you receive KEYTRUDA, tell your doctor if you:

- have immune system problems such as Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, or lupus
- have received an organ transplant, such as a kidney or liver
- have received or plan to receive a stem cell transplant that uses donor stem cells (allogeneic)
- have lung or breathing problems
- have liver problems
- have any other medical problems
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant
 - KEYTRUDA can harm your unborn baby.

Females who are able to become pregnant:

- Your doctor will give you a pregnancy test before you start treatment with KEYTRUDA.
 - You should use an effective method of birth control during and for at least 4 months after the final dose of KEYTRUDA. Talk to your doctor about birth control methods that you can use during this time.
 - Tell your doctor right away if you think you may be pregnant or if you become pregnant during treatment with KEYTRUDA.
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed.
 - It is not known if KEYTRUDA passes into your breast milk.
 - Do not breastfeed during treatment with KEYTRUDA and for 4 months after your final dose of KEYTRUDA.

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of them to show your doctor and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

How will I receive KEYTRUDA?

- Your doctor will give you KEYTRUDA into your vein through an intravenous (IV) line over 30 minutes.
- KEYTRUDA is usually given every 3 weeks.
- Your doctor will decide how many treatments you need.
- Your doctor will do blood tests to check you for side effects.
- If you miss any appointments, call your doctor as soon as possible to reschedule your appointment.

What are the possible side effects of KEYTRUDA?

KEYTRUDA can cause serious side effects. See “What is the most important information I should know about KEYTRUDA?”

Common side effects of KEYTRUDA when used alone include: feeling tired, pain, including pain in muscles, bones or joints and stomach-area (abdominal) pain, decreased appetite, itching, diarrhea, nausea, rash, fever, cough, shortness of breath, and constipation.

Common side effects of KEYTRUDA when given with certain chemotherapy medicines include: feeling tired or weak, nausea, constipation, diarrhea, decreased appetite, rash, vomiting, cough, trouble breathing, fever, hair loss, inflammation of the nerves that may cause pain, weakness, and paralysis in the arms and legs, swelling of the lining of the mouth, nose, eyes, throat, intestines, or vagina, and mouth sores.

Common side effects of KEYTRUDA when given with axitinib include: diarrhea, feeling tired or weak, high blood pressure, liver problems, low levels of thyroid hormone, decreased appetite, blisters or rash on the palms of your hands and soles of your feet, nausea, mouth sores or swelling of the lining of the mouth, nose, eyes, throat, intestines, or vagina, hoarseness, rash, cough, and constipation.

In children, feeling tired, vomiting and stomach-area (abdominal) pain, and increased levels of liver enzymes and decreased levels of salt (sodium) in the blood are more common than in adults.

These are not all the possible side effects of KEYTRUDA. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

Tell your doctor if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

General information about the safe and effective use of KEYTRUDA

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Medication Guide. If you would like more information about KEYTRUDA, talk with your doctor. You can ask your doctor or nurse for information about KEYTRUDA that is written for healthcare professionals.

For more information, go to www.keytruda.com.

Based on Medication Guide usmg-mk3475-iv-1906r025 as revised June 2019.

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The Cats of Christmas!



By Mara Reinstein

This holiday season, with a movie-musical version of *Cats* headed to the big screen, we celebrate the furry friends who make our lives so purr-fect.

“**C**ats, now and forever.” That was the onetime advertising tagline of the iconic musical. The adage still holds true—but we’re not just talking about cats of the singing and dancing variety. Big and small and just plain furball, the whiskered pets are just about purr-fect. In honor of the new *Cats* movie (in theaters Dec. 20), we’re celebrating all things feline. Hello, kitties!

Behind the Scenes With the Cast of *Cats* The Jellicle cats have gathered in a junkyard. Over the course of one night, they will individually make the case—via song—as to why they’re each worthy enough to enter the Heaviside Layer, the feline version of heaven, and be reborn as a younger cat. It’s up to Old Deuteronomy to decide which lucky cats will make the journey. For those who’ve forgotten or never experienced *Cats* before, yes, that really is the plot of the musical that ran nearly 18 years on Broadway.



Top: Francesca Hayward; clockwise from above left: Jennifer Hudson, Ian McKellen, Judi Dench and Taylor Swift

“Oh, the entire concept of *Cats* has always been bizarre!” says late-night talk show host and lifelong musical theater aficionado James Corden. “Can you imagine what it must have been like rehearsing the show for the first time? You’re sitting around thinking, *What are we making here?* It’s absurd.”

But *Cats*—with music from the award-winning composer Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics based on a 1939 book of poems by T.S. Eliot titled *Old Possum’s Book of Practical Cats*—has proven itself to be more than just a musical with nine lives. Ever since Grizabella the Glamour Cat first broke into the show-stopping song “Memory” on London’s West End back in 1981, the show has been a phenomenon. It’s been presented in more than 30 countries (in 15 languages), won a Tony for Best Musical in 1983 and continues to play across North America.

Now a big-screen, live-action movie version is finally ready to strut its stuff. *Cats* boasts an all-star cast of Corden (as Busto-

ARE YOU A CAT OR DOG PERSON?

JAMES CORDEN (Pictured in a *Cats* tribute on his *Late Late Show* in 2018) “I’m probably more of a cat person. I like the fact that a cat goes up to your house like, ‘Right, I’m going to need a door because I’m going to need to come and go as I please. Just make sure there’s some food and I’ll keep coming back.’ Dogs are needier. They can’t even go for a walk without us.”



JUDI DENCH “I’m very much a cat person. This is the only time in my life where I haven’t had a cat. During the war [World War II], people weren’t able to feed their cats, so we ended up having 17 cats living with us in York!”



Cats on Film

When the cameras rolled, these kitties were ready for their close-ups

BELL, BOOK AND CANDLE

(1958) It's not easy to steal scenes from

James Stewart and **Kim Novak.** But

Pyewacket, a brown sealpoint Siamese feline, did just that.



BREAKFAST AT TIFFANY'S (1961)

Holly Golightly (**Audrey Hepburn**)

later had a change of heart and found the nameless kitty she shoved out of an NYC cab in the pouring rain!



HARRY AND TONTO

(1974) Widower Harry

(**Art Carney**) treated his

adorable ginger tabby so well in this comedy that a grocer remarked, "Hey, that cat eats better than me."



ALIEN (1979) Jonesy the cat survived the deadly chaos aboard the *Nostromo* spaceship.

AUSTIN POWERS: THE SPY WHO SHAGGED

ME (1999) Fluffy Mr. Bigglesworth became a hairless sphynx after surviving cryogenic freezing in the Mike Myers spy spoof.

HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS

(2002) Caretaker Argus Filch's scrawny tabby, Mrs. Norris, skulked around Hogwarts in search of misbehaving students.

CAPTAIN MARVEL (2019) An orange tabby, Goose, befriended Carol Danvers (Brie Larson) as she became embroiled in an intergalactic war.

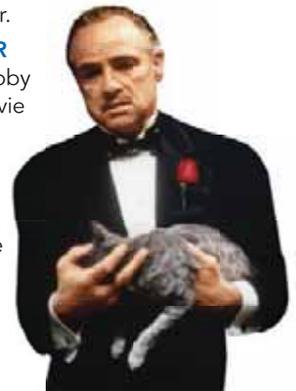
THE GODFATHER

(1972) The stray tabby cat, found on the movie

lot, was dropped in star **Marlon Brando's**

hands during filming.

The actor improvised the famous scene, set inside the Corleone home. However, the cat purred so loudly that some of Brando's dialogue had to be re-recorded.



pher Jones), Judi Dench (Old Deuteronomy), Ian McKellen (Gus the Theatre Cat), Taylor Swift (Bombalurina), Idris Elba (Macavity), Rebel Wilson (Jennyanydots), Jennifer Hudson (Grizabella) and newcomer Francesca Hayward (Victoria). Thanks to state-of-the-art motion-capture technology (as seen in the film's much-talked-about trailer), the actors all appear cat-size with feline features. But just as in director Tom Hooper's previous musical-to-movie, *Les Misérables*, the wall-to-wall singing is recorded live, not synced to a prerecorded vocal track. And Lloyd Webber himself contributed new material for the movie—and collaborated with Taylor Swift on a new song, "Beautiful Ghosts."

"It's going to be a real spectacle," says Wilson, 39, who previously sang in all three *Pitch Perfect* comedies.

"We sing and it's our own movements, so the performances are all live. And the dancing, from ballet to hip-hop to tap, is just world-class."

Memories Ask the *Cats* cast members why they wanted to be a part of the movie, and the answers all circle back to, well, memories—of the original musical.

Corden, 41, a Tony and Emmy winner perhaps best known for belting out music with celebrities on the hugely popular "Carpool Karaoke" segments on his *Late Late Show* on CBS, recalls seeing the production with his parents as a 13-year-old in London in the early 1990s. "I remember thinking, *Man, this is a spectacle*," he says. "I knew the movie would be great fun." Wilson,

who attended theater school in her native Australia, was visiting London in the early 2000s and caught a performance from the cheap seats. "I had to watch it with little binoculars," she recalls, "and I was still blown away."

For Dench, 85, the film served as a *Cats* homecoming.

Back in 1981, she was slated to be part of the original production but had to pull out because of an injury. "We were concentrating every

continued on page 12

For Cat Lovers Only

Check out these gifts for the feline-obsessed.

Plum & Bow
Cat Pillow \$39,
urbanoutfitters.com

"Cat Person"
Sweater \$110,
bodenusa.com

Hollywood Cats
Book \$17, barnesandnoble.com

REBEL WILSON "I did have a cat growing up who was an awesome pet. She was very mysterious and sometimes would leave for days at a time but always come back home. She'd taunt our family's dogs too and tease them. It was pretty funny. But I technically am allergic to cats and dogs now."



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from page 11

minute of every day on behaving like cats and trying to translate that into a way of moving," she says. "But I snapped my Achilles tendon during one of the rehearsals, and as anyone knows, that can take a while to heal." She was "very pleased" to be invited to join the movie production.

For the film, Wilson shares that—in addition to vocal training and learning choreography, stunts and blocking for the musical numbers—she and the cast had to attend "cat school" in London to channel their inner felines. She also watched cat

Treat Your Cat

Every feline needs a portrait—and you need those cat shoes.



**Custom
Pet Canvas \$70,**
crownandpaw.com



**Chapanima Cat Sneaker From
Ellen DeGeneres \$98,**
edbyellen.com

Cat Bandana \$15,
easytigerco.com



videos online to find comic inspiration.

When the ensemble finally came together to film in Leavesden, England, during the summer of 2018, the experience was surreal—and not just because Lloyd Webber often visited the set. "It was just mind-boggling," Corden says. "There you are with this unbelievable cast, like Sir Ian McKellen and Dame Judi Dench, and we're all playing old cats!" Seconds Wilson, "It was amazing to work with such a talented bunch."

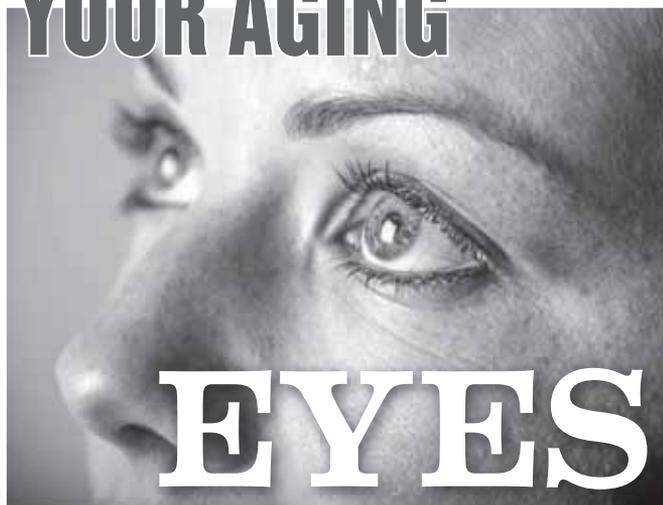
Corden insists that you don't have to be a *Cats* person to embrace the extravaganza. After all, can 73 million fans around the world be wrong? "The greatest strength of *Cats* is that it's a show where everybody is welcome," he says. "Grandparents and grandchildren and everybody in between can enjoy it on various levels. That's what *Cats* has always been, and why it will be around for the rest of our lives."

Can you really
teach tricks to a cat?
Go to
Parade.com/felines
to find out how they
do it in the movies.

How did Andrew Lloyd Webber freak out Rebel Wilson? Will Judi Dench join James Corden on "Carpool Karaoke"? Go to Parade.com/cats to find out.

Stay Healthy

YOUR AGING



Here's what you need to know about common vision changes—and when to see the doctor. *By Sheryl Kraft*

Along with the wrinkles, graying hair and creaky joints that often come with age, there's another certainty: changes in your vision. It's normal for most people, as they grow older, to have small changes in their vision, such as difficulty seeing while driving at night, problems focusing close-up on objects and an increased sensitivity to glare. But Rishi Singh, M.D., a retina specialist at the Cleveland Clinic Cole Eye Institute, says these also can be signs of more serious conditions that can permanently alter your vision.

That's why he stresses the importance of annual eye exams, even if you're not currently experiencing any problems. The sooner you treat any issues, the better

the chances of preserving your sight. It's also smart to eat a diet rich in leafy green vegetables and other foods high in antioxidants, which may help slow the progression of age-related macular degeneration (AMD) and other issues on our watch list below.

GLAUCOMA The second-leading cause of blindness in the U.S., glaucoma develops when the pressure inside your eye becomes too high for the optic nerve. Besides age, your risk is higher if you have a family history of the disease, or are African American and over the age of 40 or Hispanic and over 60.

The most common form of glaucoma, known as primary open-angle glaucoma, develops slowly and might

not become apparent until you notice significant vision loss (particularly your side vision). Although it can't be prevented, if diagnosed and treated early, glaucoma usually can be controlled. "There are excellent treatments to prevent vision loss from glaucoma," says Cleveland Clinic ophthalmologist Craig See, M.D. These may include some combination of prescription eye drops, oral medications or laser surgery.

A more severe type, acute angle-closure glaucoma, is a medical emergency and must be treated immediately. Symptoms include severe eye pain with nausea and vomiting, halos around lights and blurred vision.

DRY EYE If your eyes are red and itchy, sensitive to light or too sore to wear contact lenses, you may have dry eye, which can also cause blurry vision. Dry eyes can be caused by not blinking enough while reading, watching TV or doing computer work or by being exposed to dry air. People with rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes and thyroid issues may be especially susceptible. Treatments include over-the-counter artificial tears, closing the tear ducts to reduce tear loss and special contact lenses.

AMD As many as 11 million people in the U.S. suffer from some form of age-related macular degeneration, which is an irreversible destruction of the macula and the leading cause of blindness in adults 60 and over. Early signs can be detected during an eye exam, often before you're even aware you have it.

The macula is the part of your retina responsible for central vision and performing

tasks like driving, watching TV, reading and distinguishing faces. You're at higher risk of AMD if you smoke, are overweight, consume a diet high in saturated fat, have high blood pressure or high cholesterol or have a family history of AMD.

Dry AMD is more common and currently has no treatment, though studies have found that the progression may be slowed with certain vitamins and minerals, such as vitamin C and E, lutein, zeaxanthin, zinc and copper. Wet AMD is more serious and causes quicker vision loss. It's treated with medications known as anti-VEGF drugs, which are injected into the eye.

CATARACTS Does it seem as if you're peering through a fogged-up window? You could have a cataract, which occurs when the normal proteins in the lens of your eye gradually begin to break down, causing the natural lens of your eye to turn from clear to cloudy. Cataracts normally begin to develop around age 40, but the resulting vision changes—including blurriness, haziness or seeing duller colors—may not become apparent until after age 60.

Sometimes cataracts can make it difficult to see clearly at night or cause you to see double. You may also need more light when you read.

Wearing sunglasses in bright sunlight can help slow the development of cataracts, as can wearing eyeglasses with a clear anti-UV coating. That's because ultraviolet rays from the sun can contribute to their development.

Cataract surgery, which removes the lens and replaces it with a clear, artificial lens, can improve vision in as early as a week or two.

Help fight back against Wet Age-related Macular Degeneration.

EYLEA is on your side.

EYLEA improved vision in people with Wet AMD

94% of Wet AMD patients treated with EYLEA maintained their vision at 1 year of treatment.

In addition, EYLEA helped people with Wet AMD see 7 more letters on the eye chart at 1 year.*

*On average, in 2 clinical studies.

Learn more at [EYLEA.com/print](https://www.eylea.com/print) and talk with your eye specialist.

SELECT IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

EYLEA is a prescription medicine administered by injection into the eye. You should not use EYLEA if you have an infection in or around the eye, eye pain or redness, or known allergies to any of the ingredients in EYLEA, including aflibercept.

Please see additional Important Safety Information and Consumer Brief Summary on the following pages.



**EYLEA is the #1 prescribed treatment in its class
FDA approved for Wet AMD.†**



†IBM Truven MarketScan data: Number of injections administered, from Oct. 2017 through Sept. 2018; Data on File.

 **EYLEA[®]**
(aflibercept) Injection
For Intravitreal Injection

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10/2019
EYL.19.10.0021

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777 Old Saw Mill River Road, Tarrytown, NY 10591

INDICATIONS

EYLEA® (aflibercept) Injection 2 mg (0.05 mL) is a prescription medicine approved for the treatment of patients with Wet Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD), Macular Edema following Retinal Vein Occlusion (RVO), Diabetic Macular Edema (DME), and Diabetic Retinopathy (DR).

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

- EYLEA® (aflibercept) Injection is a prescription medicine administered by injection into the eye. You should not use EYLEA if you have an infection in or around the eye, eye pain or redness, or known allergies to any of the ingredients in EYLEA, including aflibercept.
- Injection into the eye with EYLEA can result in an infection in the eye and retinal detachment (separation of retina from back of the eye). Inflammation in the eye has been reported with the use of EYLEA.
- In some patients, injections with EYLEA may cause a temporary increase in eye pressure within 1 hour of the injection. Sustained increases in eye pressure have been reported with repeated injections, and your doctor may monitor this after each injection.
- There is a potential risk of serious and sometimes fatal side effects related to blood clots, leading to heart attack or stroke in patients receiving EYLEA.

- Serious side effects related to the injection procedure with EYLEA are rare but can occur including infection inside the eye and retinal detachment.
- The most common side effects reported in patients receiving EYLEA are increased redness in the eye, eye pain, cataract, vitreous (gel-like substance) detachment, vitreous floaters, moving spots in the field of vision, and increased pressure in the eye.
- It is important that you contact your doctor right away if you think you might be experiencing any side effects, including eye pain or redness, light sensitivity, or blurring of vision, after an injection.
- EYLEA is for prescription use only. For additional safety information, please talk to your doctor and see the full Prescribing Information for EYLEA.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please see the Consumer Brief Summary on the adjacent page.



REGENERON

Manufactured by:

Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
777 Old Saw Mill River Road
Tarrytown, NY 10591

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Issue Date: December 2019

Initial U.S. Approval: 2011

Based on the August 2019 EYLEA® (aflibercept) Injection full Prescribing Information.



Oct 2019
EYL.19.10.0021

Consumer Brief Summary

This summary contains risk and safety information for patients about EYLEA. It does not include all the information about EYLEA and does not take the place of talking to your eye doctor about your medical condition or treatment.

What is EYLEA?

EYLEA is a prescription medicine that works by blocking vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF). VEGF can cause fluid to leak into the macula (the light-sensitive tissue at the back of the eye responsible for sharp central vision). Blocking VEGF helps reduce fluid from leaking into the macula.

What is EYLEA used for?

EYLEA is indicated for the treatment of patients with:

- Neovascular (Wet) Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD)
- Macular Edema Following Retinal Vein Occlusion (RVO)
- Diabetic Macular Edema (DME)
- Diabetic Retinopathy (DR)

How is EYLEA given?

EYLEA is an injection administered by your eye doctor into the eye. Depending on your condition, EYLEA injections are given on different schedules. Consult with your eye doctor to confirm which EYLEA schedule is appropriate for you.

Who should not use EYLEA?

Do not use EYLEA if you have an infection in or around the eye, eye pain or redness, inflammation in the eye, or are allergic to aflibercept and/or any other ingredients in EYLEA.

What is the most important information I should know about EYLEA?

- EYLEA must only be administered by a qualified eye doctor. Injection into the eye with EYLEA can result in an infection in the eye and retinal detachment (separation of retina from back of the eye). Inflammation in the eye has been reported with the use of EYLEA. If your eye becomes red, sensitive to light, painful, or develops a change in vision, seek immediate care from an eye doctor
- In some patients, injections with EYLEA may cause a temporary increase in eye pressure within 1 hour of the injection. Sustained increases in eye pressure have been reported with repeated injections, and your eye doctor may monitor this after each injection
- There is a potential risk of serious and sometimes fatal side effects related to blood clots, leading to heart attack or stroke in patients receiving EYLEA
- Serious side effects related to the injection procedure with EYLEA are rare but can occur including infection inside the eye and retinal detachment
- You may experience temporary visual problems after receiving EYLEA and also during and/or after the eye doctor visits that will follow. Avoid driving or using machinery until your sight has recovered

- Because EYLEA is composed of large molecules, your body may react to it; therefore, there is a potential for an immune response (allergy-like) in patients treated with EYLEA

What are possible side effects of EYLEA?

EYLEA can cause serious side effects, including

- **See important safety information listed under “What is the most important information I should know about EYLEA?”**

The most common side effects include

- Increased redness in the eye
- Eye pain
- Cataract
- Vitreous (gel-like substance) detachment
- Vitreous floaters
- Moving spots in the field of vision
- Increased pressure in the eye

There are other possible side effects of EYLEA. For more information, ask your eye doctor.

It is important that you contact your doctor right away if you think you might be experiencing any side effects, including eye pain or redness, light sensitivity, or blurring of vision, after an injection.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA.

Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

What should I tell my eye doctor before receiving EYLEA?

- Tell your eye doctor if you have any medical conditions
- Tell your eye doctor if you are pregnant or are planning to become pregnant. It is not known if EYLEA may harm your unborn baby
- Tell your eye doctor if you are breastfeeding. It is not known if EYLEA may harm your baby. You and your eye doctor should decide whether you should be treated with EYLEA or breastfeed, but you should not do both

How is EYLEA supplied?

EYLEA is supplied in a clear, colorless to pale yellow solution. It is provided in a pre-filled glass syringe or glass vial containing the amount of product required for a single injection into the eye, which is 0.05 mL (or 2 mg of the medicine product).

Where can I learn more about EYLEA?

For more information, talk to your eye doctor and see the full Prescribing Information at EYLEA.com.

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Ask Marilyn

By Marilyn vos Savant

Why is high-fructose corn syrup linked to obesity?

—Mark Elliott, Post Falls, Idaho

This is an unfortunate, yet common, misconception. High-fructose corn syrup (HFCS) is a nutritive sweetener similar to table sugar (sucrose). It's used by the food industry because of its many qualities, including stability, broad functionality and abundant raw material in the Midwest. As a rise in obesity coincided with its introduction, some people believed it must be the cause. But HFCS was soon shown to have no means of causing obesity that sucrose does not have, and their calories are the same. If it were removed from the market, consumers would simply find products more expensive.

Send questions to marilyn@parade.com



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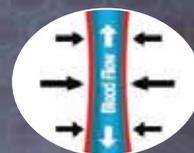
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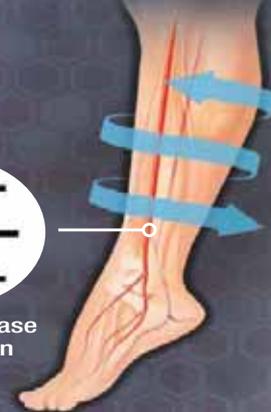
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