



Trump impeached

Divided House advances articles for only 3rd time in American history

45th president joins Clinton, Johnson as process now shifts to Senate for trial



BRENDAN SMIALOWSKI/GETTY-AFP

President Donald Trump arrives at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland to board Air Force One as he makes his way Wednesday to a campaign rally in Battle Creek, Mich.

BY LISA MASCARO AND MARY CLARE JALONICK | Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. House voted Wednesday night to impeach President Donald Trump on charges of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress for enlisting a foreign ally to investigate a political rival ahead of the 2020 election and later stonewalling Congress.

Trump became the third president in American history to be impeached, and the only one in modern times to be running for reelection facing the political equivalent of an indictment, an indelible mark on a disruptive presidency.

Democrats led the voting on the first article of impeachment, abuse of power, and approved another, obstruction of Congress, in what many framed as their duty to protect the Constitution to uphold the nation's system of checks and balances.

The House voted 230-197-1 on abuse of power. Two Democrats voted against: Rep. Jeff Van Drew of New Jersey and Rep. Collin Peterson of Minnesota. Those two lawmakers and freshman

Democratic Rep. Jared Golden of Maine also voted against obstruction of Congress. That vote was 229-198-1.

Republicans stood beside the party's president who tests the bounds of civic norms calling the whole affair a "witch hunt," a "hoax" and a "sham," and sometimes all three.

The articles of impeachment, the political equivalent of an indictment, now go to the Senate for trial. If Trump is acquitted by the Republican-led cham-

ber, as expected, he would have to run for reelection carrying the enduring mark of impeachment.

The trial is expected to begin in January in the Senate, where a vote of two-thirds is necessary for conviction. While Democrats had the majority in the House to impeach Trump, Republicans control the Senate and few if any are expected to diverge from plans to

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SAUL LOEB/GETTY-AFP

Speaker Nancy Pelosi presides over House debate and consideration of articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump.

Black aldermen's attempt to delay pot sales till July fails

Recreational use will be legal Jan. 1 after fiery council debate

BY JOHN BYRNE, LOLLY BOWEAN, GREGORY PRATT AND DAN PETRELLA

Mayor Lori Lightfoot on Wednesday beat back an attempt by black aldermen to stall the start of recreational marijuana sales in Chicago for six months, setting the stage for the city's legal weed bonanza to start Jan. 1.

The mayor emerged with a big legislative win after hours of intense, often heated public debate on the City Council floor about the need for more African Americans among the ranks of



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Ald. Michael Scott Jr., 24th, said the Black Caucus managed to get some changes made.

owners in what promises to be a lucrative industry.

Black aldermen who tried unsuccessfully to push the start

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INSIDE

Long sentences in slaying of child

Two reputed gang members were given sentences that would effectively keep them in prison for the rest of their lives in the slaying of 9-year-old Tyshawn Lee. **Chicagoland**, Page 4

Holidays perilous for Bulls coaches

Since Phil Jackson stepped away, the Bulls have had eight full-time coaches, and four of them have parted ways with the team in the months of November and December. **Chicago Sports**

Gaming Board takes aim at owner's video gambling rights

He allegedly offered \$5M 'inducement' to betting parlor chain

BY DAVID HEINZMANN

The Illinois Gaming Board has moved to strip video gambling operator Rick Heidner of his license after accusing him of offering a \$5 million "illegal inducement" to the owner of a chain of gambling parlors, records show.

The state disciplinary action centers on a deal in which Heidner's Gold Rush Gaming stood to have its gambling machines taken out of 44 spots owned by Laredo Hospitality Ventures, according to the Gaming Board complaint.

Heidner got the bad news during a Nov. 16, 2018, meeting at a Rosemont steakhouse with Laredo's CEO. The executive told Heidner that after a recent ownership change, Laredo would be severing its relationship with Gold Rush, according to the complaint.

"Termination of the (Gold Rush)-Laredo use agreements would result in a significant loss of revenue for (Gold Rush)," Gaming Board officials alleged in the complaint.

About two weeks later, Heidner met with Laredo's new owner, gambling cafe operator Daniel Fischer, at a Norridge pancake house and offered to arrange the sale of Laredo for \$5

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Tom Skilling's forecast High 38 Low 25

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CHICAGO TRIBUNE'S 'HOLIDAY COOKIES' BOOK

A comprehensive collection of the best holiday cookies as curated from decades worth of reader submissions to the Tribune's annual Holiday Cookie Contest, these delicious recipes represent an eclectic mix of traditional and modern recipes from diverse cultural background and skill levels. From cookie classics to twists on old standards, such as Tropical Nuevo Latino Cookies and Grandma Grump's Peanut Butter Drizzles, this book provides the home baker with a plethora of possibilities for any holiday party.

"Even the Terrible Things Seem Beautiful to Me Now, 2nd Edition" Over the last two decades, Mary Schmich's column in the Tribune has offered advice, humor and discerning commentary on a broad array of topics including family, personal milestones, mental illness, writing and life in Chicago. This second edition — updated to include Schmich's best pieces since its original publication — collects her ten Pulitzer-winning columns along with more than 150 others, creating a compelling collection that reflects Schmich's thoughtful, insightful and engaging sensibility.

"The Chicago Bears: A Decade-By-Decade History by the Chicago Tribune" The Tribune sports department has compiled a comprehensive, decade-by-decade portrait of the Bears featuring essays, box scores, articles, photographs, a one-of-a-kind first person account by George Halas and team memorabilia from the Tribune's historical archives. Available at chicagotribune.com/bears100book.

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ACCURACY AND ETHICS

MARGARET HOLT, standards editor

The Tribune's editorial code of principles governs professional behavior and journalism standards. Everyone in our newsroom must agree to live up to this code of conduct. Read it at chicagotribune.com/accuracy.

Corrections and clarifications: Publishing information quickly and accurately is a central part of the Chicago Tribune's news responsibility.

■ Dahleen Glanton's column on Dec. 16 gave the incorrect month of President Trump's call to Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. It occurred in July.

■ A story on the front page of the Dec. 12 Business section incorrectly stated how many health insurance plans on the Affordable Care Act exchange will include Northwestern Medicine next year. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois' Blue Precision HMO plan on the exchange will also include Northwestern in-network. The Tribune regrets the errors.

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HOUSE TELEVISION VIA AP

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi points to a poster as the House of Representatives debates the articles of impeachment.



JOHN KASS

Impeachment of Trump no profile in courage

In a moment of serene wisdom, Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said she did not want Donald Trump to become the third president in history to be impeached.

"I'm not for impeachment," Pelosi told The Washington Post in March. "Impeachment is so divisive to the country that unless there's something so compelling and overwhelming and bipartisan, I don't think we should go down that path, because it divides the country. And he's just not worth it."

Even with Democrats demanding Trump's head from the moment he defeated Hillary Clinton in 2016, Pelosi sought refuge in principle, sounding rather like one of the heroes in future President John F. Kennedy's "Profiles in Courage," a book given to me as a boy.

And, I thought, perhaps Pelosi understood, even if her fellow House Democrats did not, that a rabidly partisan impeachment hammering down upon a nation already divided into warring, tribal political camps, was thoroughly irresponsible, an assault on the republic.

But she made that grand statement months ago. And since then, her political calculations have changed. Now she wants Trump's head.

And on Wednesday, her Democratic-controlled House did what she once said she didn't want to do, impeach Trump along party lines.

Pelosi dressed smartly in black to reflect her solemn moment, with a striking gold pin evoking her speaker's gavel. As she directed Trump Impeachment Theater, she looked somewhat like an Empress Palpatine.

With her right hand over her heart, Pelosi pledged allegiance to a poster of an American flag marked with a caption: "To the republic for which it stands."

Couldn't Pelosi have used a real flag, rather than a depiction of a flag on a poster? Don't they have real flags in Washington?

Then the partisan speechifying began. It was all predictable, full of virtue signaling, dragging on until TV viewers could see their national politics through a split screen:

One with the Congress making speeches pro- and anti-Trump, the

other with Trump himself at a political rally of his faithful in Battle Creek, Michigan, buoyed by the polls showing even Democratic voters opposing impeachment, blowing the roof off the place.

Imagine Russian boss Vladimir Putin watching the split screen in a hot bath, sipping a vodka, ordering some attendant to hit him with branches in the Russian bath style, laughing at the Americans.

If you've been following Trump Impeachment Theater, you probably weren't surprised by Wednesday's drama.

As you know, and probably predicted, the House impeached Trump on two vague counts: abuse of power and obstruction of Congress, without specifically listing any crime.

What was aggravating were the Democrats wrapping themselves up in the Founding Fathers, although plenty of them wouldn't mind getting rid of the Electoral College and the Second Amendment, and modifying the First Amendment to include Thought Crimes.

But the Republicans were equally predictable, at least until U.S. Rep. Fred Keller, a Pennsylvania Republican, seemed to compare Trump with Jesus Christ.

"Father," Keller said, "forgive them (House Democrats), for they know not what they do."

I've pictured Trump as many things, but never as the Prince of Peace.

Since 2016 I've been picturing him standing outside the palaces of the Washington establishment like some barbaric Visigoth in a bearskin at the gates of Rome.

And chinless elites running around inside, panicking, their soft tiny hands fluttering, and loyal palace guardians (Beltway media) trying to protect them.

But Trump as Jesus? No way. Many Democrats and Republicans spoke from the heart, and then came U.S. Rep. Joe Kennedy, D-Mass., who spoke from the cheap Hallmark card deep inside his chest.

In the most cloying moment of the day, Kennedy directed his speech about why Trump had to be im-

peached to his children.

"Dear Ellie and James," Kennedy began — in a speech sure to be included in his future presidential campaign spots — "This is a moment you will read about in your history books."

His grand-uncle's book, "Profiles in Courage," was one of the most important books of my life when I was a little boy. That and "Treasure Island."

President John F. Kennedy was revered in our home, a Democrat who supported tax cuts and opposed the Commies. But now, with those radical views, Democrats wouldn't elect him dogcatcher.

One chapter begins this way: "In a lonely grave, forgotten and unknown, lies 'the man who saved a President,' and who as a result may well have preserved for ourselves and posterity Constitutional government in the United States — the man who performed in 1868 what one historian has called 'the most heroic act in American history, incomparably more difficult than any deed of valor upon the field of battle' — but a United States Senator whose name no one recalls: Edmund G. Ross of Kansas."

Republicans loathed Democratic President Andrew Johnson, and in a partisan vote, moved to impeach him. When the matter was brought to the Senate for trial it was Ross, a Republican, who cast the deciding "no" vote, saving Johnson's presidency and driving the Republican Party crazy.

Ross lost his bid for reelection. He ended up in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where he died and was buried in that lonely grave.

Trump may be only the third president impeached, but now that Pelosi and her Democrats have set the bar so low, pushing impeachment along party lines, other presidents will be impeached, and soon.

It won't be about profiles in courage. It'll be about one thing: power.

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Impeachment for 1 fool. A dousing for another.



REX W. HUPPKE

While President Donald Trump is busy becoming only the third president in U.S. history to be impeached by the House of Representatives, I find myself in danger of becoming the first Chicago columnist to get doused with ice water outdoors in January.

I honestly don't know which is worse. (It's definitely the one where I get doused in ice water.)

The Insult-A-Columnist Holiday Food Drive — a holiday tradition like no other — has seen a surge of donations in recent days, and the RexStinks team is suddenly within striking distance of the RexRocks team. As I write this, you kind and wonderful people have donated a total of nearly \$60,000, all of it going to the Greater Chicago Food Depository, which helps people throughout Cook County who are facing food insecurity.

I'll get to the specific team breakdowns in a moment — and the possibility of foreign interference in our food drive — but first, a refresher course for those unfamiliar with this whole Insult-A-Columnist affair.

It began last year as a way to take some of the strong feelings (ranging from general dismay to full-throated fury) people have about my opinions and point them in a more positive direction.

If you don't like me, I get it — I'm not a big fan of me either. But the cold, hard reality is there are some out there who enjoy my columns (poor souls), and that's why the paper keeps me around. (That and the fact that I'm the only one who knows how to reset the clocks when the power goes out.)

So I figured the only fair way to settle the argument over whether I'm worth the powder to blow me up was to create two teams and let the public fight it out. That's where the Greater Chicago Food Depository, which works with more than 700 food pantries, soup kitchens and other programs, came in.

The Food Depository folks set up a virtual food drive that allows people to donate under two dif-



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Workers scoop food into containers as they prepare 500 prepackaged meals in the cooler last month at the Greater Chicago Food Depository.

ferent team names: RexStinks and RexRocks. Every dollar donated buys three meals. Donors can even pick what type of food they want their money to go toward.

It was basically a win-win situation for donors and people in need. The only possible loser was me, but since many (including several family members) already think I'm a loser, it seemed a low risk endeavor.

Last year's drive raised more than \$110,000, and the RexRocks team won by about \$5,000. I have no explanation for that outcome, but I assure you it took me hours of therapy to work through the possibility that I'm not entirely awful.

Fast forward to the present. As with last year, if the RexStinks team wins, I'll write a column pummeling myself with richly deserved insults. If the RexRocks team wins, I'll write a column extolling my many virtues.

But to sweeten the pot this year, I've made some additional promises.

After the drive ends on Dec. 31, officials at the Greater Chicago Food Depository will reach out to the top 20 donors to the RexStinks team and mail them each a suitable-for-framing, signed certificate in which I will declare the following: "I, Rex Huppke, hereby certify that I am a true idiot, a Grade-A fool, a terrible columnist and a FAKE NEWS fopdoodle."

The Food Depository will also reach out to the top 20 donors to the RexRocks team and mail them each an official, suitable-for-framing, signed "Certificate of Eternal Gratitude from the Chicago Tribune's Rex Huppke."

On top of that, I'm offering a fantastic bit of public humiliation.

If the RexStinks team wins, I will stand outside the Tribune in January wearing an "I STINK" T-shirt and shorts and have a large bucket of ice water dumped on my foolish head. Video of that dousing will be posted online and promoted in my column.

If the RexRocks team wins, I'll

stand outside the Tribune in January in weather-appropriate clothing and do the most annoying celebratory dance anyone has ever seen. That too will go online and be duly promoted.

My detractors are never going to have a better chance to see me degraded (and possibly frozen solid) while also benefiting people in need.

So now let's get to the current state of the competition and my suspicions of anti-me skulduggery.

The RexRocks team is leading the RexStinks team about \$37,000 to \$21,000. But earlier this week, the RexStinks team had less than \$2,000 in donations.

More than 450 people have donated under RexRocks while only about 25 have donated under RexStinks. So it appears there was a recent large donation made under the RexStinks banner.

I don't like to start rumors, but it's possible one of my critics is being funded by Russian oligarchs. I'm not saying that's a fact,

just that many people (me) are saying that's a fact.

If a handful of well-to-do folks on the RexStinks side make a string of large donations, I could suffer the same fate as Hillary Clinton, winning the popular vote but losing the Electoral College! You'd like that, wouldn't you, haters? Imagine the satisfaction of seeing my smug face getting a good ice-water drenching in the dead of winter.

Go on, give until I hurt. Don't let me walk away with victory and an unmerited sense of self-worth for a second year in a row. Make America Not Tolerate Rex Again! (#MANTRA)

We've upped the fundraising goal to \$75,000, and whichever side you choose, it all goes to help our friends and neighbors. Let's do some good!

You can find the Insult-A-Columnist Holiday Food Drive donation page right here: <http://myfooddrive.org/#InsultRex>.

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Chicago Tribune

CHICAGOLAND

Lengthy sentences for child's killers

Reputed gang members get 90, 65 years for parts in revenge killing

BY MEGAN CREPEAU

At the sentencing Wednesday of two reputed gang members for the revenge killing of 9-year-old Tyshawn Lee, Cook County prosecutors read an emotional, angry letter from the fourth-grader's family.

"You preyed on Tyshawn, you lied to Tyshawn, you lured Tyshawn and then you murdered Tyshawn," the statement from his grandmother and great-grandmother said. "You left his little 9-year-old body in a cold alley on the ground to die. ... The word 'in cold blood' does not do justice."

When the hearing wrapped up about an hour later, Judge Thaddeus Wilson handed down sentences that would effectively keep the two behind bars for the rest of their lives.

Dwight Doty, 26, the convicted gunman, was sentenced to 90 years in prison, while Corey Morgan, 31, whose desire for revenge allegedly provided the motive for the slaying,



Doty

Morgan

was given a 65-year prison term.

The sentencing closes the book on one of Chicago's most shocking killings in recent years. Prosecutors said Tyshawn was targeted in November 2015 because his father, a high-ranking member of a rival gang, was suspected in the fatal shooting of Morgan's brother and wounding of his mother just weeks earlier.

After that shooting, Morgan was heard warning that he would retaliate with violence against "grandmas, mamas, kids and all," prosecutors alleged.

"Where does this mind-numbing, debilitating, senseless violence stop?" the judge said in impassioned remarks. "Grand-

mas, mamas, kids and all are not fair game.

Tyshawn's jubilant mother, Karla Lee, addressed reporters following the hearing at the Leighton Criminal Court Building for the first time in years.

"I'm just happy that I got justice today," she said. "I'm glad I got what I deserved. I'm glad my son got what he deserved. And that's justice."

Tyshawn's killing came to symbolize the entrenched cycles of gang retaliation that authorities say drive much of the city's violence.

Seeking revenge for the recent shooting of Morgan's mother and brother, Doty won Tyshawn's trust at a playground in Dawes Park in the South Side's Gresham neighborhood, dribbling his basketball before luring the boy into a nearby alley and shooting him multiple times at close range. Morgan and co-defendant Kevin Edwards watched from a nearby SUV.

Seven .40-caliber shells — and Tyshawn's beloved basketball — were found by his body.

Separate juries were

needed in part because the two defendants blamed each other for the killing to an extent.

New DNA analysis software — never before used as evidence in an Illinois criminal case — linked Doty to the basketball found near Tyshawn's body. Doty was also captured on undercover recordings bragging to another inmate in Cook County Jail about the killing.

While three eyewitnesses identified Morgan in police lineups, the evidence against him was more circumstantial. His cellphone was used to make calls in the area of the park on the afternoon of the shooting, and Edwards' sister testified that she heard Morgan vow revenge on "grandmas, mamas, kids and all" after his mother and brother were shot.

At Wednesday's sentencing, attorneys for the two defendants highlighted how their clients fell into the gang life while growing up in harsh circumstances.

Todd Pugh, one of Morgan's attorneys, warned the



Tyshawn Lee

judge not to punish Morgan for the entire sordid history between the rival factions of the Black P Stones and Gangster Disciples.

Gang life was more or less "foisted" at a young age on Morgan, who was raised by a drug-addicted father and a hardworking mother who did all she could to keep him on the right path, Pugh said.

Doty's attorney, Assistant Public Defender Danita Ivory, noted Doty's father was in and out of prison and that his beloved grandfather died when he was in his teens, so he "turned to the streets," she said.

Ivory read several letters from Doty's family members that described him as hardworking and supportive.

The judge acknowledged that the shooting of Morgan's family must have been "painful to say the least," but that "vigilante justice" could not be tolerated.

Doty could have been sentenced to up to life in prison, while Morgan faced a maximum 115-year prison

term. They each must serve the entire sentences.

Edwards, who acted as the getaway driver, pleaded guilty to the slaying shortly before the trial and was sentenced to 25 years in prison.

Morgan rejected a plea deal in September that would have resulted in a 25-year prison term for him as well. At the time, Judge Wilson told Morgan that by law he would face a much harsher sentence if he was convicted of the most serious charges at trial.

Veteran attorney Thomas Breen, who also defended Morgan, told reporters after the hearing that Tyshawn's killing was "the worst case I've ever seen."

He called on communities and police to work together to improve Chicago.

"Not one purpose has been served by the killing of Tyshawn Lee," he said. "Lives have been destroyed. Lives are now going to be spent behind bars. And for what? For absolutely nothing."

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TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Angie Monroy's mother, Maribel Diaz, from left, father Luciano Monroy and sister Joselyn Monroy at a vigil Wednesday.

Witness shares last moments of teen lost to gang violence

Angie Monroy is victim in Little Village conflict

BY ROSEMARY SOBOL

It had turned colder and Angie Monroy was bundled in a heavy, hooded coat with a scarf that hid most of the 16-year-old's face as she walked home from work Saturday night.

She passed a Little Caesars just as a man was leaving with an order of wings and breadsticks. Together they walked down Rockwell Street for less than two blocks until the first shots rang out from a passing pickup truck near 23th Street.

"We took cover," said the 32-year-old man, recounting the last moments of the latest innocent victim to be gunned down in Little Village over the last month and a half.

They sprinted toward a blue car parked close by and huddled behind it. "She didn't say anything but I felt her right behind me," said the man, who asked not to be named for his own safety. "Then there was about a two-second pause and they fired two more."

There was a loud screech of tires as the truck sped off and the man thought it was safe to get up.

"I turned around and

Angie was on the ground. I didn't see any blood and she was still kind of moving. I thought maybe she was startled," he said. "I kept on telling her, 'It's safe, they're gone.' She wasn't responding. I said, 'Hey, are you OK? Are you hit?'"

"She didn't make a sound," the man said. He said he turned her over and didn't see a wound. "But I pulled down her scarf and saw blood coming out of her mouth."

Grabbing her hand, he called 911. "Help is on the way," he told her. "Hold on."

He couldn't tell if she heard him.

Monroy had been shot in the head and was taken to Mount Sinai Medical Center, where she was pronounced dead the next day. Police

found the truck two days later and said it had been stolen. No one is in custody and police say they have few leads, despite video of the shooting.

Chicago's chief police spokesman said detectives believe Monroy, a junior at Benito Juarez Community Academy, was the latest "unintended target" in a gang conflict that has claimed the life of a nurse and seriously wounded a 7-year-old girl.

The girl was shot while trick-or-treating. A 15-year-old boy was arrested and

charged with attempted first-degree murder. He allegedly had been aiming at a gang rival when he hit the girl instead. Less than two weeks later, Frank Aguilar was shot to death on Nov. 12 as he carried laundry and snacks for his young relatives. The 32-year-old nurse had no gang affiliation, and police said the shooting was "possibly" a case of mistaken identity.

Police spokesman Anthony Guglielmi said officers in uniform and in plainclothes would increase patrols in Little Village, with an emphasis on "gang suppression and organized crime resources."

The man said he has lived in Little Village for about two years and had not encountered violence before this past weekend, though he has noticed more gang graffiti in his neighborhood lately. On Saturday night, he decided to brave the cold for a quick walk to Little Caesars to grab some carryout.

As he walked down Rockwell, a pickup pulled up and stopped. Someone rolled down the window, stuck his head out and "shouted something," the man said.

"I couldn't make out what he was saying. I was kinda confused," he said.

"What?" the man said he asked. The person in the truck "mumbled something, rolled the window back up

and kept on driving."

The man was a little wary as he left the restaurant a few minutes later. "I was already on high alert because I was really confused about what happened earlier."

Moments later, he noticed the girl walking about three feet away. "She kinda startled me. ... She wasn't behind me when I left Little Caesars," he said.

Monroy was walking home from her job at a clothing store about half a mile away. Her family said she loved children and thought maybe she would be a teacher or a day care worker. "She had the heart of a child, honestly," her sister Joselyn Monroy said.

The man wonders if Monroy was shot because someone in the truck mistook him for a rival gang member and was aiming at him. "I literally just said that one word," he said. "He caught me so off guard and I guess he ... I don't know ... I wasn't the person he was looking for. I don't know."

"To be honest, it's all I've been thinking about," he added. "I am just extremely saddened. I definitely don't think she was the target. I'm not sure if they were targeting me just because I am a Hispanic male. I don't know the reason behind that. But I just really hope that they find the person responsible for this so that her family can get closure."

Bar operator says he sold heroin and bribed 2 officials

BY JASON MEISNER

The clout-heavy operator of a Summit bar admitted in a plea agreement with federal prosecutors Wednesday that he paid \$6,500 in bribes to two undisclosed officials in the southwest suburb in exchange for official acts benefiting one of his businesses.

Mariano Martinez, 50, who has ties to a longtime political operative for indicted Chicago Ald. Edward Burke and embattled state Sen. Martin Sandoval, pleaded guilty to selling a kilogram of heroin to a man in a Berwyn laundromat for \$50,000. The buyer turned out to be secretly cooperating with law enforcement.

According to Martinez's plea agreement, he has agreed to cooperate with authorities in exchange for leniency.

Martinez runs Mars Bar, in the 6000 block of South Harlem Avenue in Summit, records show. He has also owned car washes and other businesses in the area.

In the 20-page plea deal entered before U.S. District Judge Matthew Kennelly, prosecutors revealed that Martinez was secretly recorded in a 2017 phone call with a Summit public official — identified only as Summit Official B — talking about bribing an elected official in exchange for help with Martinez's business. The elected official is identified as Summit Official A.

In all, Martinez admitted to paying at least \$6,500 in bribes to the two officials since 2014 in exchange for favorable action for one of his businesses, according to the plea agreement. The agreement does not specify which business was involved in the scheme.

The FBI has confirmed that agents conducted "investigative activity" at the Summit Village Hall on Sept. 26, the same day that federal law enforcement raided the government offices in nearby McCook and Lyons as part of a sprawling public corruption investigation.

In addition, Summit Mayor Sergio Rodriguez and Public Works Director Bill Mundy were both named in the FBI search warrant served on Sandoval's Springfield office two days earlier, records show.

No one has been charged as part of the ongoing probe.

Based on preliminary sentencing guidelines, Martinez faces up to about six years in prison on the drug conviction. But if he continues to cooperate on other investigations, including providing truthful testimony in court if necessary, prosecutors have agreed to recommend a sentence of about 2 1/2 years behind bars, according to the plea agreement.

Martinez, who is originally from Berwyn, has been active in local politics and is a longtime associate of Rudy Acosta, a top precinct captain for Burke,

In all, Mariano Martinez admitted to paying at least \$6,500 in bribes to two officials since 2014.

Martinez's lawyer, Dennis Doherty, wrote in a court filing earlier this year.

Acosta's son, Rudy Jr., is currently facing federal drug conspiracy charges alleging he distributed large amounts of narcotics in the Chicago area for Mexican cartel members.

The elder Acosta, who also serves as a political liaison for Sandoval, declined to comment on the ongoing investigations when a Chicago Tribune reporter visited his Southwest Side home in October.

A business card that Acosta handed to the reporter listed Burke's ward office number as his main point of contact.

Acosta could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

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The federal lawsuit is the latest blow for the hospital, which is trying trying to stop an attempt to cut off federal funding.

Suit: In Uptown 'hospital of horror,' kids abused

Children allegedly beaten, molested by staffers, peers

BY CHRISTY GUTOWSKI

Calling it a “hospital of horrors,” Cook County’s public guardian on Wednesday sued an embattled Uptown psychiatric facility on behalf of seven children and teens who said they were abused as they received mental health services while in state protective custody.

The federal lawsuit alleges the children, as young as 7 and 8, were beaten and molested by staffers and peers or improperly medicated at Chicago Lakeshore Hospital.

The complaint also names several current and former employees of the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, including former acting director Beverly “B.J.” Walker, who resigned in February.

Late last year, critics accused Walker of a lack of urgency in responding to an increased number of complaints to the state’s child abuse hotline about unsafe conditions at the privately run hospital.

The state agency stopped admitting children in its care to the facility in November 2018 and stationed staff there for round-the-clock monitoring until the last foster child was released.

DCFS acted after weeks of pressure from child advocacy watchdogs and state lawmakers in response to separate investigations by the Chicago Tribune and ProPublica Illinois, both of which cited a warning from the agency’s inspector general that children hospitalized at Lakeshore were at risk of harm.

In Wednesday’s lawsuit, Public Guardian Charles Golbert alleges DCFS knew the hospital had a history of problems but turned a blind

eye because of a shortage of other available facilities willing to accept DCFS children and teens. Besides the state’s slow payments to providers, Golbert said, DCFS has struggled to find suitable placement of children in less restrictive settings even after they are cleared for discharge.

“What’s perhaps most shocking is that DCFS knew about all the problems and all the abuses at this hospital of horrors,” Golbert said at a news conference at the civil rights law firm Loevy & Loevy, which filed the lawsuit on his behalf. “However, DCFS did nothing to protect the children. ... Only after a public outcry and also the federal government’s (threats) to stop funding did DCFS stop using this psychiatric hospital. But, unfortunately, it was already too late for the children who are the plaintiffs in this lawsuit.”

Lakeshore CEO Patricia McClure-Chessier characterized the lawsuit as an “egregious distortion” and said the hospital has worked diligently to correct past problems amid dramatic cuts to funding and other resources. She said the health and safety of its patients are a top priority.

The current DCFS administration sought to distance itself from the Lakeshore Hospital scandal, noting it no longer places children in the facility and has added 300 staff members to address systemic agency problems since receiving an 11% budget increase this year.

The Tribune previously has reported many of the suit’s allegations in stories last year that exposed shortcomings in the hospital’s supervision of staff and patients and DCFS’ ability to investigate allegations of mistreatment.

The suit, which identifies the former patients by partial names only, covers 2017 and 2018.

A 14-year-old girl said a female nurse showed her pornographic videos and had inappropriate sexual contact with her and other young patients, according to the suit. The complaint states the teen escaped the hospital and was missing for several months due to a lack of adequate supervision.

Another girl, 12, complained that a male staff member “forced her hand on his genitals and grabbed her breasts,” according to the suit. That same worker had made sexually inappropriate comments to the girl and a 16-year-old patient, who said hospital staffers retaliated against her when she reported the comments.

The lawsuit names both staff members, neither of whom have faced criminal charges. They no longer work at Lakeshore, hospital officials confirmed.

The female nurse named in the suit had her professional license revoked in April due to unrelated crimes, according to state records. She faces charges of attempted murder and aggravated battery of a roommate in Cicero, records show.

The youngest children in the suit, a 7-year-old boy and an 8-year-old girl, were harmed at the hands of other patients, the filing states. Both were sexually assaulted in separate incidents, but the hospital failed to schedule timely medical exams for the children, hampering investigations into the allegations, the complaint states.

In most of the incidents — including one in which a 12-year-old boy said he was molested by an older peer while hospitalized — the lawsuit says employees knew of the alleged attackers’ history of violence but failed to take proper safety precautions.

McClure-Chessier, Lakeshore’s CEO, said broader issues are at play in what she called a “statewide crisis” of

a lack of funding.

“This problem is beyond the control of Chicago Lakeshore Hospital,” she said in a statement. “Illinois already faces a severe shortage of mental health care providers and driving more out of business only serves to exacerbate the problem instead of solving it.”

The suit is the latest legal challenge for the hospital, which has been in court for a year trying to stop the government’s attempt to cut off federal funding. The move came in response to media coverage and several state health inspections dating back to 2018 that found the hospital lacked adequate policies and procedures to investigate abuse allegations and keep patients safe.

Without the ability to bill Medicare and Medicaid, hospital officials have said the state could lose a unique facility that takes on the most difficult medical cases. Federal authorities have set a deadline for next Monday if there’s no further court intervention.

Hospital officials said they long ago put in place a corrective action plan and made substantial changes to the way the Lakeshore staff handles allegations of abuse. For example, a new security camera system was installed late last year, replacing one whose cameras were sometimes inoperable, crippling investigations.

In Wednesday’s suit, Golbert alleges that investigative reports into the young patients’ complaints were fabricated and video evidence was destroyed to derail investigations and protect the staff.

The lawsuit seeks unspecified monetary damages and also names the hospital’s parent company, Signature Healthcare Services.

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R. Kelly denies he bribed official in '94 to wed teen Aaliyah

BY JASON MEISNER AND MEGAN CREPEAU

Jailed R&B star R. Kelly pleaded not guilty in a Chicago federal courtroom Wednesday to a new indictment brought in New York alleging he bribed an Illinois official to get a fake ID for 15-year-old singer Aaliyah a day before he married her in 1994.

Dressed in an orange jail jumpsuit, Kelly, 52, kept his hands clasped behind his back as he appeared for his arraignment before U.S. Judge Ann M. Donnelly in Brooklyn via a live television feed from a largely empty 17th-floor courtroom at the Dirksen U.S. Courthouse.

“Good afternoon, ma’am,” Kelly said to the judge in New York in a firm voice as the hearing began.

The superseding indictment filed in federal court in Brooklyn last week alleged that Kelly directed someone in August 1994 to bribe the public official into making a false “identification document” for the female.

The Chicago Tribune has obtained records showing that the female, identified in the charges only as “Jane Doe #1,” was Aaliyah.

The next day, Kelly, then 27, married Aaliyah Haughton in a secret ceremony with falsified paperwork that gave her age as 18. The marriage was later annulled by a Michigan judge at the insistence of Aaliyah’s family.

In Illinois, someone must be a minimum of 18 to marry without parental consent.

The new allegation was added to the sweeping racketeering conspiracy indictment that New York prosecutors brought over the summer, accusing the singer of identifying underage girls attending his concerts and grooming them for later sexual abuse.

Kelly’s attorney, Steven Greenberg, has previously said the new indictment “does not appear to materially alter the landscape.”

“We continue to look forward to the day he is free,” he told the Tribune by text last week.

Kelly is in federal custody awaiting trial on the New York charges as well as a separate indictment brought by federal prosecutors in Chicago alleging the singer conspired with two former employees to rig his 2008 child pornography trial in Cook County by paying off witnesses and victims to change their stories.

In addition, Kelly was charged in Cook County criminal court in February with four separate indictments accusing him of

sexual misconduct over more than a decade. Three of those alleged victims were underage at the time.

If convicted in all jurisdictions, the embattled singer, whose full name is Robert Sylvester Kelly, could potentially face the rest of his life in prison.

U.S. District Judge Harry Leinenweber in Chicago has set a tentative trial date in April. The New York case is set to go to trial May 18. No trial dates have been set for the four Cook County indictments.

Aaliyah met Kelly when she was just 12; as his protegee, she went on to become a teenage R&B star. Her smash-hit May 1994 debut album, “Age Ain’t Nothing But a Number,” was produced and written by Kelly.

The nature of their relationship and Aaliyah’s real age were the subject of much public speculation at the time. Their secret marriage collapsed after Aaliyah’s parents found out and insisted on an annulment, according to news accounts.

Aaliyah left Kelly’s record label later that year. She died in a plane crash in 2001.

In the recent documentary “Surviving R. Kelly,” Kelly’s former tour manager, Demetrius Smith, said he arranged the forged Aaliyah

marriage documents for Kelly and was one of a handful of people present at the small ceremony in Rosemont.

“It was just a quick little ceremony. She didn’t have on a white dress. He didn’t have on a tux,” Smith said in the documentary. “Just everyday wear. She looked worried and scared.”

Smith, who has not been charged with any wrongdoing, told TMZ in an interview last week that he’d been subpoenaed to testify by federal investigators.

Documents obtained by the Chicago Tribune through an open records request show that federal prosecutors in New York subpoenaed the Cook County clerk’s office in July for Kelly’s marriage records to Aaliyah and later to Andrea Danyell Kelly, which ended in divorce in 2009.

Prosecutors in Brooklyn also asked for any Cook County marriage records for one of Kelly’s recent live-in girlfriends, Azriel Clary, now 21, records show. Clary had until recently lived with Kelly at the Trump Tower in Chicago.

The Cook County clerk responded that it had no such records.

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R. Kelly

Pritzker signs measure to consolidate hundreds of pension funds

BY DAN PETRELLA AND JAMIE MUNKS

Gov. J.B. Pritzker on Wednesday signed a measure consolidating hundreds of downstate and suburban police and fire pension funds into two statewide funds, hailing it as a “banner accomplishment” while also acknowledging the much larger problems facing pension plans for teachers, state employees and Chicago city workers.

Both chambers of the General Assembly overwhelmingly approved Pritzker’s plan to consolidate roughly 650 downstate and suburban public safety pension funds during the fall veto session, delivering the first-term governor his top priority before legislators adjourned for the year.

The measure doesn’t touch any of the statewide pension funds that cover state workers or teachers, or any of Chicago’s pension funds, which face massive unfunded liabilities.

“We couldn’t do it all at once. ... We’re trying to address every level of pensions,” Pritzker said at a

bill-signing ceremony in Chicago.

The plan pools funds from the hundreds of funds into two statewide funds — one for police and one for firefighters — in an effort to increase returns through access to a broader range of investment opportunities and alleviate the property tax burden on homeowners.

The existing police and fire pension funds now collectively have \$11.5 billion in unfunded liabilities. The funds’ assets cover only 55% of liabilities, which is far short of the state-mandated target of 90% funding by 2040. That has dropped from nearly 63% before the Great Recession, according to a report earlier this year from the legislature’s bipartisan Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability.

Pension fund consolidation has been discussed for decades in Illinois, but failed to gain traction in the General Assembly as police and fire unions and other interests have fought to retain local control.

“Each time we got close to the finish line, it failed,”

said Pat Devaney, president of the Associated Fire Fighters of Illinois and a co-chair on the pension task force Pritzker convened earlier this year.

This time, the state’s largest firefighters union backed the plan Pritzker rolled out in October, signaling that the proposal might have a path forward in the General Assembly. In the end, it also gained support from police unions.

The task force issued a report earlier this year that concluded that each day the funds remain separate, they collectively forfeit \$1 million in potential investment returns. Citing state Department of Insurance analysis, the report estimates that if the consolidated funds were to perform similarly to other larger Illinois pension funds, it would mean additional investment returns of \$820 million to \$2.5 billion over the next five years.

The report was sparse on specifics of upfront and transition costs related to consolidation, acknowledging only that there could be “initial costs for transitioning assets into the consoli-

dated pool,” but those costs would be “substantially less than the upside from stronger investment returns over a matter of a few years.”

The new law reinstates surviving spouse benefits for those police officers and firefighters hired after Jan. 1, 2011, increases the pensionable salary cap and changes those employees’ final average salary calculation.

The pension consolidation is evidence that Illinois can “tackle its most intractable problems,” Pritzker said.

The governor hasn’t provided many clues as to how he’ll help tackle Chicago’s nearly \$30 billion in unfunded liabilities, or how he’ll address the state’s own pension debt, which grew by more than \$3.5 billion, to \$137 billion, from 2018 to 2019 despite increased contributions.

The legislature’s forecasting commission attributed the increasing debt largely to lower than necessary contributions and lower than expected investment returns.

The task force that rec-

ommended the police and fire pension consolidation will continue to study those issues, Pritzker said. Another group is investigating whether state assets could be transferred to the pension funds or sold to help shore up their balance sheets, but it has yet to make any recommendations.

The Illinois Municipal League has long pushed for pension fund consolidation, and the group’s executive director, Brad Cole, called the public safety pension fund consolidation “a good first step forward on the complicated and comprehensive issue of pensions.”

Among those who attended Wednesday’s bill-signing event was North Chicago Mayor Leon Rockingham Jr., president of the Illinois Municipal League. North Chicago is one of only four Illinois municipalities whose pension funds have appealed to the state for help after the local government failed to make its required contributions.

If local leaders don’t make the required contributions, a little-used provision in state law allows

pension funds to intercept state money that would otherwise go to the municipality.

The city reached a settlement with its firefighter pension fund but had to cut nearly \$1.3 million from its budget last year to put an additional \$500,000 million each into its police and fire pension funds. North Chicago also cut five positions, including three firefighters.

“North Chicago’s not alone,” Rockingham said. “A lot of communities are underfunded, and hopefully this will be helping them also to achieve that goal.”

He acknowledged that the savings won’t be immediate, as it will take time for the consolidated funds to get up and running. The local pension boards have until July 1, 2022, to transfer their assets to the new funds.

“It may be three or four years before you actually start to see a real benefit towards this,” he said.

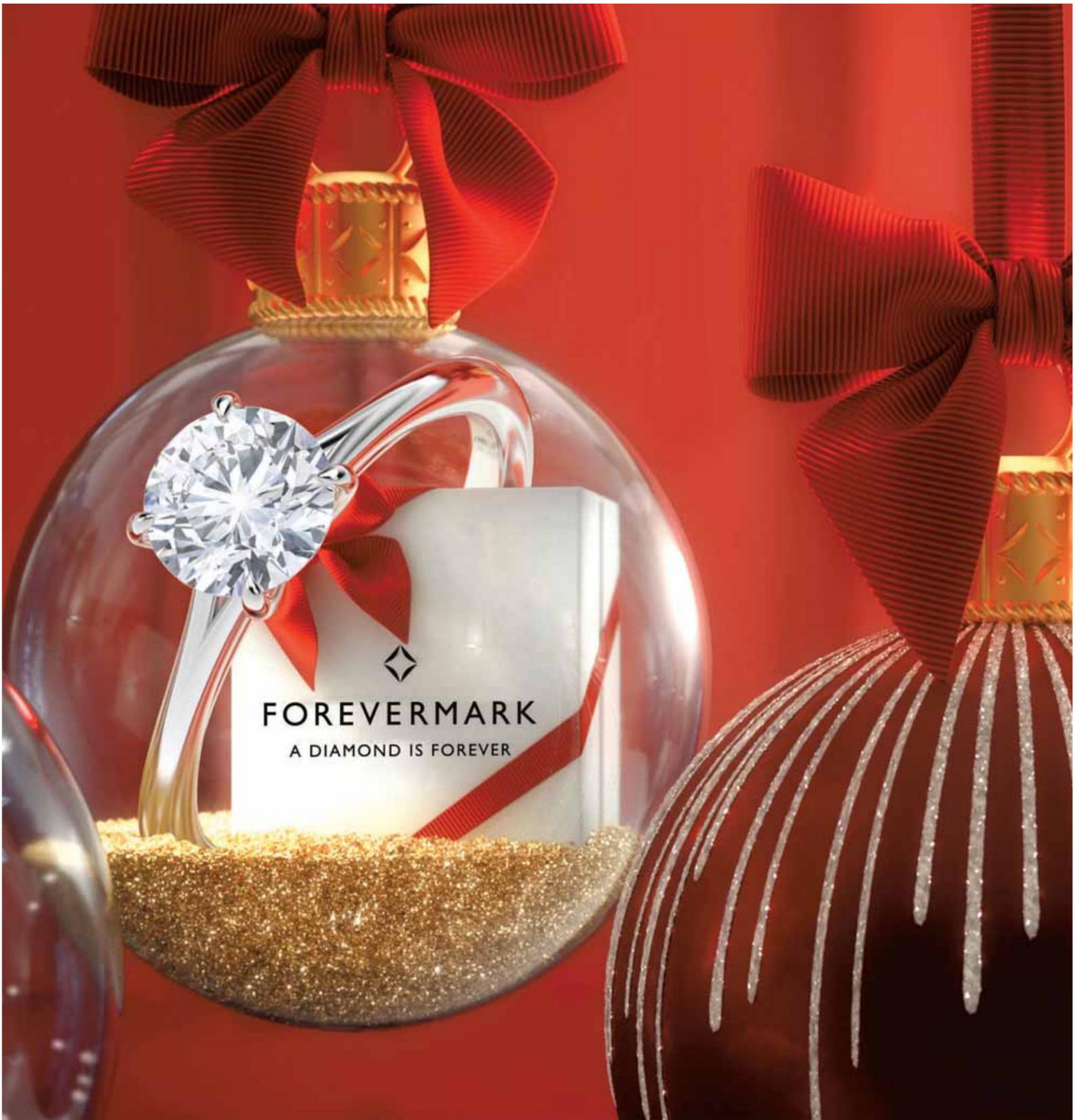
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City's top lawyer gives up 'Bat Cave' road pass

Lightfoot aide had access to obscure traffic-skirting path

BY GREGORY PRATT

The city of Chicago's top attorney under Mayor Lori Lightfoot has given up his pass to an obscure but exclusive road designed to avoid traffic en route to McCormick Place, the mayor's office said Tuesday.

Corporation Counsel Mark Flessner, who the mayor's office said lives in the South Loop, had a pass to a nearly 3-mile roadway known as the McCormick Place Busway.

But amid media scrutiny from NBC-5, the mayor's office released a statement saying Flessner "has already voluntarily voided his access to the busway, which



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE
Corporation counsel Mark Flessner laughs as he interacts with Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot last month.

he used as a convenience in his daily commute from his South Loop residence, given traffic congestion."

The administration also said more than 100 individ-

uals have access to the road, including Chicago cops and Streets and Sanitation workers.

But the street is not generally well-known or

trafficked. Former Mayor Rahm Emanuel called the busway the "Bat Cave," while Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle calls it "Magic Road," NPR reported in 2013.

It was "designed to ferry conventioners" to McCormick Place, NPR reported.

The disclosure comes a day after the mayor's office acknowledged Flessner improperly collected a tax break on his Chicago condo in recent years while living in west suburban Naperville. Flessner will repay the state about \$2,500 for the tax break, according to Lightfoot spokeswoman Anel Ruiz.

State campaign finance records show Flessner donated a total of \$2,650 to Lightfoot in February and March listing a Naperville address, and local officials

said he voted in that suburb during the April 2 election.

Flessner registered to vote in Chicago on April 23, about three weeks after Lightfoot won the mayoral election and less than a month before she announced him as her corporation counsel, according to the Chicago Board of Elections.

Flessner has voted in both Republican and Democratic primaries over the years, including most recently in the 2018 GOP contest, his voting record shows.

Flessner's Naperville home received a break on property taxes that is allowed for a dwelling that is the owner's primary residence. At the same time, he has gotten a homeowner exemption property tax break for the South Loop condo. Property owners are

not allowed to have two such exemptions simultaneously.

Flessner has not claimed a homestead exemption for 2019, Ruiz said.

The residency questions about Flessner come a little over a week after close mayoral adviser and Wilmette resident Lisa Schneider-Fabes resigned from her volunteer post in the mayor's office and her paid job as a vice president at the nonprofit, Lightfoot-controlled World Business Chicago, after the Tribune reported city watchdog Joseph Ferguson was investigating an arrangement that allowed her to collect a paycheck and do work at City Hall without living in Chicago.

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Weed

Continued from Page 1

of recreational sales back to July nonetheless claimed victory because they said Gov. J.B. Pritzker pledged to allow two more medical marijuana dispensaries to open, in Chicago's Chinatown and Hyde Park neighborhoods, with strong minority ownership numbers and the likelihood both will be able to transition over to more profitable recreational businesses.

"We got some things that were not in the original state bill," said Ald. Michael Scott Jr., 24th. "The state has stepped up to the plate to make sure there are two 'social equity' medicinal licenses that would be awarded.

"I know we want things when we want them and how we want them, but in government we all know it's negotiation," Scott added. "And we'll be working with, not only the governor, but the mayor's office, (which) stepped up to make sure there will be more capital for folks of color and people who are 'social equity' applicants."

There are five unused licenses for medical marijuana dispensaries statewide, including two for Chicago, but there is no guarantee where the dispensaries will be located if the licenses are awarded or that there will be minority ownership, according to Pritzker's office.

When asked, Pritzker spokeswoman Jordan Abudayeh did not confirm such a deal and instead issued a statement that read: "The state is working to finalize social equity standards for the remaining medical licenses and has to work through the rule-making process to get that done. When the rules are approved, applications for the remaining medical licenses will be opened for applicants and we will follow the application process to award those licenses."

Nevertheless, a raucous exchange on the council floor saw both supporters and opponents of the delay ordinance employing a dizzying array of parliamentary maneuvers to try to advance or block the proposal, which failed on a 29-19 vote.

Black Caucus Chairman Ald. Jason Ervin, 28th, at one point reluctantly ceded the floor to Lightfoot by slamming his microphone down and adding, "If you need it that bad, take it."

The procedural jujitsu and furtive meetings taking place in hallways, back corners and meeting rooms around the chambers harked back to Council Wars, when a majority-white bloc in the 1980s fought Chicago's first black mayor, Harold Washington, tooth and nail. Lightfoot rejected the comparison afterward, saying it "diminishes the magnitude of Council Wars."

"Council Wars was based upon the racist notion that a black mayor shouldn't be allowed to fully function and govern," Lightfoot said. "This is nothing like that."

The mayor instead struck a conciliatory stance.

Asked how the vote will affect her relationship with the Black Caucus, Lightfoot noted several African American aldermen voted against Ervin's proposed delay and said the issue "isn't



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS
Ald. David Moore, 17th, speaks at the Chicago City Council meeting on Wednesday, which was the culmination of a monthslong standoff.



Mayor Lori Lightfoot, who struck a conciliatory stance after the City Council fireworks, speaks to aldermen Wednesday.

about me and them."

"We all support the notion that we must have equity. It's what I ran on. It's what I talk about virtually every time that I make a public statement. We've been since October working with members of the Black Caucus to try to address their concerns," Lightfoot said. "The governor and his team met with them many, many times, made specific concessions to address the issues and concerns that they had, and in the words of one alderman, sometimes you have to just take a win. That's what today is about."

And Ervin said he expects to continue to have a good working relationship with the mayor. "We sometimes may have disagreements, and that's OK," he said. "That's the process, and we don't — we understand her position, she understands ours. We disagree with one another. That doesn't mean we're in a position where we can't work together."

In a body with few real cliffhangers, Wednesday's outcome was not pre-ordained. Mayoral staffers were pressing hard for aldermen to consider opposing the delay because of a series of pledges they said Pritzker's administration made to increase diversity in the market.

Following the meeting, Ald. Gilbert Villegas, 36th, noted the two additional medicinal dispensaries offered by Pritzker but said that deal had been in the works for a while. He said the mayor's team kept let-

ting aldermen know what the delay would mean.

"I think the key was continuing to educate the members about what the consequences were, what the impact would be," he said. "And delaying it for six months, after six months there still wouldn't have been any minority or female participation at the prime level. So I think the Black Caucus wanted to send a message to the industry. I support that message."

Wednesday's showdown was the culmination of a monthslong standoff.

Black aldermen and other council members had used the threat of a delay to push for minorities to get a much bigger cut of what promises to be an extremely profitable Chicago marijuana market, while Lightfoot has argued it makes most sense to kick off Jan. 1 while working to make sure there's ample diversity in the industry's ranks.

State lawmakers built various provisions into the legalization law aimed at increasing equity and representation by groups like African Americans and Hispanics, who were most adversely impacted by the war on drugs that long criminalized cannabis possession. But members of the council's Black Caucus said those steps were inadequate to level the playing field and help minority entrepreneurs get into the business.

Lightfoot earlier this week expressed confidence the ugly public floor fight would be avoided, telling reporters, "I think we're

going to get there" on a deal to avert the delay vote.

But on Tuesday, the council Committee on Contract Oversight and Equity voted 10-9 to advance Ervin's proposal to the floor, despite staffers from the mayor's office trying desperately during the meeting to get someone on the committee to change sides.

That set up Wednesday's vote.

Pritzker and his top marijuana policy adviser on Wednesday criticized members of the Black Caucus for what they described as shortsightedness on the issue.

"This was crafted over two years, not a month and a half of quick debate," Pritzker said at an unrelated news conference. "And we're proud of the bill as it was put together."

As the city has pressed toward legalizing recreational marijuana, it has revealed a deep divide along racial and class lines.

So far, the first set of licenses have been issued to mainly white business owners, and most of them opted to place their firms either in higher-income communities on the North Side and Northwest Side or gentrifying areas such as the South and West Loop.

For some, it seems, white Chicago has been preparing for a marijuana utopia.

Meanwhile, for African Americans and Latinos that for years were stigmatized for using the drug and arrested at disproportionate rates, legalization looks like white businessmen getting rich off the very product that sent them to jail and cost them jobs and housing. As white businessmen prep for a business boom, minorities have been offered a route toward amnesty.

Even the new law legalizing use is imbalanced, activists have said — residents who rent can't smoke without their landlord's permission and residents who live in subsidized housing aren't allowed to indulge at all. Because using marijuana won't be legal in cars or in parks, that leaves fewer

places for lower-income Chicagoans to participate.

"Legalization was never about social justice or righting the policy wrongs of the past — and so no one should be surprised about who (is) going to profit," said Kevin A. Sabet, president of SAM, or Smart Approaches to Marijuana and a former Obama administration drug policy adviser.

The conversation about who actually will get to sell marijuana, buy it and consume it freely without fear of punishment or policing has risen on social media, and it is being discussed in diners and restaurants, in hair salons and barbershops across communities.

Community organizer L. Anton Seals Jr. hears the conversations and tries to remind his neighbors, friends and other residents whom he encounters that there are efforts to make sure African Americans and Latinos eventually get into the mix.

"By pausing sales, how does that really advance social equity applicants? What comes after that?" said Seals, who through his organization Grow Greater Englewood has been lobbying and encouraging businesspeople to apply for licenses.

"Are we going to just be mad, or are we going to do something?" he said. "We've been out here telling people to please apply for a license in January. Some people think it's all a done deal, but there is still tremendous opportunity."

But Pritzker's administration called the measure the governor signed into law over the summer the most "equity-centric" policy in the country and one that's becoming a model for other states.

At the City Council meeting, black aldermen rose and spoke passionately about the unfairness in the process and their rage with how this process played out. Members of the public did too.

Willie "JR." Fleming of the Anti-Eviction Campaign said the council should

press on with recreational legalization because a delay could send dispensary owners to the suburbs. That would place well-paying jobs out of reach from black and Latino residents who need them.

"Chicago will not get a second chance for this opportunity," he said at the meeting. "As a social justice advocate ... (the proposed delay) hurts. We were not consulted. I didn't attend one town hall where I was consulted."

Also Wednesday, Zoning Committee Chairman Ald. Tom Tunney, 44th, held off on allowing a vote on an ordinance to allow a Lakeview medicinal marijuana dispensary to move to a storefront just south of Wrigley Field. Tunney said he likely would ask the council to vote on it in January.

Aldermen also deferred a controversial \$1.2 million settlement for the family of Heriberto Godinez, who died in police custody while being arrested in 2014 on the Southwest Side. Some aldermen opposed the payout, saying Godinez was a gang member who died of a drug overdose, not a victim of police misconduct.

The City Council also passed an ordinance from Ald. Matt O'Shea, 19th, and Ald. Michele Smith, 43rd, banning aldermen from being paid lobbyists and prohibiting elected officials from outside the city from lobbying in Chicago.

And Lightfoot introduced an ordinance to limit city entities and employees from assisting in immigration enforcement operations or sharing data with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. It also requires the Chicago Police Department to document requests for assistance it receives from federal immigration authorities.

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BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A dog, who's been named Elf, recovers from his injuries Wednesday at MedVet Chicago's emergency clinic, after being thrown from a moving vehicle.

Dog thrown from moving vehicle expected to make full recovery

BY KATHERINE ROSENBERG-DOUGLAS

An Englewood family worked together to rescue a small white dog from a busy street after seeing the dog thrown out of the window of a moving vehicle, according to Chicago's city animal shelter.

The dog, who's been named Elf, is expected to survive, thanks to quick work on the part of the rescuer, veterinarians who operated and local volunteer groups, said Jennifer Schlueter, a spokeswoman for the agency.

The Friends of Chicago Animal Care and Control, the main volunteer group that works with the city shelter, said in a Facebook post the dog at first was named Bob. Schlueter said Small Paws Rescue, the city's partner that arranges fostering and adoptions, later changed his name to Elf.

"It seemed the intention was to kill him," according to the Facebook post.

The daughters of a former veterinary assistant were driving Sunday night in the 700 block of West Garfield Boulevard when they saw what appeared to be an animal thrown out of a window of a car traveling

in front of them.

"They saw the other vehicle speed away, so they turned around to get the dog and bring him home," Schlueter said in an email.

By removing Elf from the busy road, the good Samaritans likely saved his life because he could have been run over. Schlueter said people should evaluate whether to intervene on a case-by-case basis.

"Our veterinarians recommend proceeding with caution when trying to assist an injured animal because the animal is likely in pain and may be more likely to bite," she said.

The mother of the people who saved the dog had experience helping injured animals, so she bandaged the dog's leg, but she also knew his injuries were severe, Schlueter said. The woman dialed 311 to reach Chicago Animal Care and Control and the agency dispatched animal control Officer Jamie Pfeffer, Schlueter said.

Pfeffer confirmed the dog, thought to be a bichon frise or bichon mix, possibly part poodle, was critically injured, but it was after the agency's regular hours and the dog needed immediate care, Schlueter said.

Enter the Friends of Chicago Animal Care and Control's After Hours Crisis Care Program, which launched in July.

"The program allows critically injured animals to receive emergency veterinary care when CACC medical staff is not on duty," Schlueter said. "The program has already served 26 critically injured or ill animals that would have otherwise had to wait overnight for care."

Elf then was taken to MedVet Chicago's emergency clinic, 3305 N. California Ave.

"The veterinarians examined him to learn the extent of his injuries, doing blood work and taking X-rays. The bad news was that his left hip had been pulled out of its socket and his pelvis was fractured. Fortunately, there was also good news, no deadly internal injuries," according to the volunteer group's Facebook post.

Elf underwent surgery Tuesday to repair the fracture and he should make a full recovery, Schlueter said.

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Heidner

Continued from Page 1

million more than Fischer had just paid for the company, according to the complaint. Fischer declined the offer, Gaming Board officials said.

The same day, Laredo gave a written notice of its intention to sever their agreement and pull the machines from Laredo's locations. Heidner then sent a series of text messages detailing the offer to Gary Leff, who was selling Laredo, the Gaming Board alleged.

"First thing I asked was if (Fischer) would sell and I could get a group together quickly and would get him \$5,000,000.00 more than he paid please make \$5 (million), in a week," Heidner texted to Leff on Dec. 1, 2018, according to the complaint. "I told him none of my friends wanted to see this happen to me. He obviously said no...I told him I would help him so much I would help him expand so much."

State law prohibits businesses from owning both the gambling machine supplier and the establishments where the machines are placed.

Heidner spokesman Randall Samborn said Wednesday that the Gold Rush owner has done nothing wrong. "In November 2018, Rick discussed assembling a group to make a legitimate purchase offer to Laredo," he said. "Rick would not have had any personal or financial interest in the proposed transaction."

Samborn called the allegations against Heidner "an orchestrated smear campaign," describing Heidner as the victim of an "illegal inducement" paid by one of his competitors to replace Gold Rush at Laredo's locations. He said they are related to an ongoing lawsuit.

A spokesman for Fischer, who is the lead investor in a proposed Rockford casino, declined to comment. Gaming Board officials also declined to comment, citing pending litigation.

Gaming officials filed two counts against Gold Rush. The first alleges that Heidner violated the Video Gaming Act prohibition against "giving anything of



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The Tribune revealed a business partnership between Rick Heidner, center, and Dominic Buttitta, a convicted bookie.

value to an establishment as an incentive or inducement to locate (video gaming terminals) in that establishment."

The second count cites a nearly identical prohibition that "requires that licensed terminal operators 'offer or provide nothing of value to any licensed video gaming location or any agent or representative of any licensed video gaming location as an incentive or inducement to locate, keep or maintain video gaming terminals at the licensed video gaming location.'"

State gambling regulators proposed stripping Heidner of his video gaming license.

"The terminal operator license of Gold Rush Amusements, Inc... shall be revoked for violations of the Video Gaming Act," Gaming Board Administrator Marcus Fruchter wrote in the complaint. Gold Rush has 21 days to respond.

It's the latest setback for Heidner, who two months ago saw Gov. J.B. Pritzker pull the plug on Heidner's proposed horse racing track and casino on state-owned land in Tinley Park.

The Pritzker administration's decision came days after a Tribune investigation detailed Heidner's long-standing business relationships with a banking family whose financial involvement with mob figures helped sink a Rosemont casino, as well as a convicted bookie. Heidner's name also had surfaced in an FBI search warrant for the Springfield office of Democratic state Sen. Martin Sandoval of Chicago.

One of the state's largest video gaming operators, Heidner's company has machines in more than 450 locations across the state.

In addition to his gam-

bling business, Heidner owns a commercial real estate company that develops and operates retail and office properties.

The Tribune revealed in October that Heidner has partnered in numerous real estate ventures with Parkway Bank Chairman Rocco Suspenzi to own convenience store and gas station locations in the Chicago area and four other states. Suspenzi invoked his Fifth Amendment rights against self-incrimination during a 2005 Gaming Board hearing when investigators sought to question him about his dealings.

In 2003, the FBI revealed that Suspenzi and his son had concealed their own ownership stake, as well as the stake of a reputed organized crime figure, in the proposed Rosemont casino. Parkway Bank, which Suspenzi controlled, also loaned \$1.5 million to a second reputed mob associate to fund his secret stake in the casino.

The Tribune also revealed a business partnership between Heidner and Dominic Buttitta, a convicted bookie. Together they own a building in Elgin that houses a bar and grill that's also a location for Gold Rush gambling machines. Buttitta pleaded guilty in 2012 to conspiracy and tax evasion charges related to his operation of Blackjacks Gentlemen's Club in South Elgin.

Two weeks before the Gaming Board first granted him a video gambling license in 2012, Heidner amended his state corporate filings to remove the Suspenzi and Buttitta names from the companies they operated together.

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Baby's ashes returned to grieving parents

BY ANGIE LEVENTIS LOURGOS

Police say the ashes of a baby boy stolen during a residential burglary have been returned to the grieving west suburban mother and father who had pleaded for their recovery.

Elmhurst police announced Wednesday that a suspect in the Dec. 10 burglary has been arrested, and formal charges are pending.

"We are hopeful that reuniting the remains with the family will help to bring them closure and peace," police said in a written statement.

Sue LaDeur of Elmhurst had told the Tribune that she returned to her home in the 200 block of Melrose Avenue to find it had been broken into and ransacked. Among the items taken was a little white box that contained the ashes of her son William "Billy" Pax

LaDeur, who died in 2014.

She and her husband, Jim, had said other possessions had also been taken, including some collector coins, but they only cared about getting back the remains of their son.

"It has no value to anyone else," Sue LaDeur had said. "But to us, it is invaluable."

The LaDeurs could not be immediately reached on Wednesday to comment on the recovery of the remains.

A photo of newborn Billy decorates a wall of the LaDeur home beside a baby picture of Matt, his twin brother, who is now in preschool. The LaDeurs also have two older children.

Billy suffered from hydrocephalus, excessive fluid buildup, in utero. The parents feared for both boys because Billy was pushing on Matt in the womb, and the twins were born about nine weeks early.

Billy died in the hospital at 10 days old.

The box of his remains had been taken from the top of a dresser in the couple's bedroom, near a few remnants of Billy's short life: His baby blanket. A fuzzy teddy bear. A bottle filled with holy water from his baptism.

News reports of the stolen ashes were widely circulated online and on social media, with strangers offering prayers and condolences to the bereaved parents.

The mother and father had said they intended to bury Billy's ashes beside their own graves, to be together in death.

"It's your baby," Sue LaDeur had said. "He should stay with you. A baby doesn't get separated from his parents."

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Safety group urges caution on the roads

BY MARY WISNIEWSKI

Whether you're driving home for Christmas or going out on the town for New Year's Eve, buckle up and make sure your driver is sober. A national safety group estimates that 278 people could be killed on U.S. roads during the holidays.

The National Safety Council, an Itasca-based advocacy group, estimates that 115 people may be killed and 13,100 seriously injured on roadways between 6 p.m. on Dec. 24, and 11:59 p.m. on Dec. 25.

The group also estimates that beginning at 5 p.m. Dec. 31, and ending at 11:59 p.m. Jan. 1, 163 people could be killed and 18,600 seriously injured.

About 37% of roadway

fatalities over Christmas and 39% over New Year's are alcohol-related, while the average over the course of a year is 29%, according to Ken Kolosh, the council's manager of statistics.

"Because there is a lot of alcohol consumed on all holidays, we do see an increase in the fatalities that involve at least one drunk driver," Kolosh said.

He noted, however, that the percentage of alcohol-related deaths has decreased. For the 2014 New Year's holiday, for example, more than half of roadway fatalities involved a drunk driver, he said.

In predicting holiday road fatalities, the council looks at data from past years, individual state fatal crash estimates and the calendar. This year, both

Christmas and New Year's Day fall in the middle of the week, which means fewer crashes, since the holiday is not prolonged by being on or adjacent to a weekend day, Kolosh explained.

Kolosh said 90% of drivers and passengers wear seat belts.

The warnings come as the AAA motor club estimates that more Americans than ever — 115.6 million — will travel between Sunday and Jan. 1, the most since AAA began tracking holiday travel in 2000 and a 3.9% increase over last year.

Nearly 105 million U.S. holiday travelers will be going by car, the most dangerous form of transportation.

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STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chris Marchionne walks her granddaughter and dog along Dole Avenue across the street from the Freund home on Dec. 5 in Crystal Lake.

Crystal Lake taking bids for demolition of Freund house

Mom has pleaded guilty to murder of 5-year-old son AJ

BY AMANDA MARRAZZO

Crystal Lake officials are seeking a company to demolish the dilapidated house where, according to authorities, 5-year-old AJ Freund was beaten to death.

In court Wednesday, David Goles, an attorney for Crystal Lake, told McHenry County Judge Kevin Costello that the city is taking bids for the work to take down the house at 94 Dole Ave.

On Dec. 5, AJ's mother, JoAnn Cunningham, admitted she beat her son to death in April after making him stand in a cold shower. Cunningham, who was charged along with the boy's father, Andrew Freund, entered a blind plea to one count of murder. She faces 20 to 60 years when sentenced next year. Andrew Freund remains charged with murder and other crimes.

Mayor Aaron Shepley said in a telephone inter-

view Wednesday that city officials are expected to review bids, have an open discussion and approve the "lowest, most responsible bidder" at a City Council meeting Jan. 7.

"All the steps we take are pretty strictly regulated, and when you are soliciting bids you have to do it in a manner that is consistent with state statutes, and that is what we are doing," Shepley said. "I understand that people have an expectation that within 30 minutes we would be out there with a bulldozer tearing it down, but that is not how it works."

Shepley said he is unaware if the city has already received bids.

Cunningham, 36, and Freund, 60, are each being held in the McHenry County jail on \$5 million bond. Freund appeared at Wednesday's court hearing. When asked by Costello if he had any comment on the pending demolition, he said, "No, no, your honor. That's acceptable."

William Progar, the mortgage holder of the property, was not in court Wednesday. Progar acquired the proper-

ty for \$49,900 last month at an auction at which he was the only bidder. Jonathan Kaman, an attorney for Progar, said by phone Wednesday that the official transfer of the property from Freund to Progar still awaits approval by a foreclosure judge.

However, the demolition could occur before this sale is approved, Kaman and other attorneys related to the case have said.

The city would pay for the demolition and the cost would then be placed as a lien against the mortgage holder, who also would have to pay unpaid property taxes totaling about \$23,000, according to the county treasurer's office.

The house is currently valued at \$116,000. It would cost more than \$100,000 to bring the house within code, according to city officials. After the house is leveled, the property would be valued at \$28,000, according to Frank Harrison, owner of Harrison & Associates, who evaluated the property.

Amanda Marrazzo is a freelance reporter.

Officials call Waukegan plant blast that killed 4 avertable

At the same time, no safety rules exist to prevent it

By FRANK S. ABDERHOLDEN

The May 3 explosion at AB Specialty Silicones in Waukegan, which was felt throughout Lake County, killed four workers and severely injured another, should not have happened, federal officials said Wednesday.

That said, officials admitted there were no regulations in place that required safety equipment that may have prevented the explosion.

"This incident didn't need to happen," concluded U.S. Chemical Safety Board Interim Executive Kristen Kulinowski at a press conference Wednesday morning at the Hilton Chicago O'Hare International Airport hotel.

"Like so many other incidents we have investigated, it was preventable," she said. "Safety management systems could have avoided the incident."

Lead investigator Tamara Qureshi went on to say that there were no flammable gas or hydrogen detectors in the plant at 3790 Sunset Ave. and, "Currently there are no regulations or requirements to have these types of detectors."

In addition, neither U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration nor Environmental Protection Agency regulations "would have covered this facility," Qureshi said.

She said some chemicals of interest, "have fallen through the regulatory gaps," and more will be said on that subject when the final report on the blast is released late next year.

AB Specialty Silicones responded to the latest report by CSB in a statement that "since the accident, we've worked in full cooperation and transpar-

ency with the CSB, as we have with all other regulators, first responders, and law enforcement.

"In fact, Engineering Systems, Inc. conducted an independent investigation into the root cause of the explosion, which determined the cause to be human error that resulted in the mistaken addition of an erroneous ingredient.

"We have provided this to CSB. Understanding that this is not their final report, we look forward to CSB's more comprehensive work on the cause of the tragedy that has made such an impact on our AB family and our Waukegan community," according to the statement.

Both CSB officials acknowledged not being able to answer all the questions concerning the explosion, including how many similar facilities there are in the United States and internationally.

"We need to wait until final report. Then we will make recommendations specifically targeted towards prevention," Kulinowski said.

The CSB is an independent federal agency charged with investigating industrial chemical incidents.

In October, the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) fined the silicone manufacturing company \$1.6 million for alleged safety violations in the wake of the explosion that killed four employees at its Waukegan plant earlier this year.

Specialty Silicones LLC was cited for 12 "willful federal safety violations" following an investigation into the May 3 explosion. The company faces \$1.59 million in penalties, according to a statement released by OSHA officials.

OSHA investigators determined AB Specialty Silicones failed to ensure that electrical equipment and installations in the production area of the plant com-

plied with OSHA electrical standards, and that they were approved for hazardous locations, the statement said.

"The company also used forklifts powered by liquid propane to transport volatile flammable liquids, and operated these forklifts in areas where employees handled and processed volatile flammable liquids and gases, creating the potential for ignition," the OSHA statement added.

"Employers must employ hazard recognition to protect workers from harm, especially in high hazard industries," said Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Loren Sweatt. "By ignoring safety and health requirements, this employer created an unsafe work environment with deadly consequences."

In statement released by AB Specialty Silicones in response to OSHA, company officials said they had received the OSHA citations, "and we are currently reviewing them. We cooperated fully with the agency's investigation, and we will continue to work with the agency."

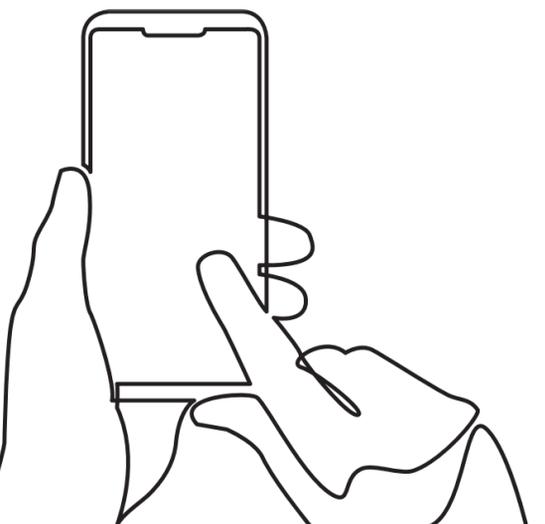
"It is important to recognize the scope of the OSHA report goes beyond the elements that contributed to the tragic explosion," the statement added. "Our internal investigation, as well as the Fire Marshal's report, confirmed the incident was in fact an accident, and there was no willful intent involved."

The statement concluded by stating, "The safety of our employees has been and will remain our top priority. While we are proud of our historically strong safety record preceding this accident, we commit to continuously improving ourselves and aiming to ensure our facilities meet or exceed all regulatory requirements."

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Impeachment set to bear fruit in Ill. politics

Delegation votes 13-4, putting issue into play next year

BY RICK PEARSON

Illinois' Democratic-led House delegation voted 13-4 along party lines on Wednesday to approve articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump, a historic roll call with political ramifications in hotly contested congressional races next year.

While the overall result had been expected, with the Democratic-controlled House voting 230-197 to approve an article for abuse of power and 229-198 to approve an article for obstruction of Congress against Trump to the Senate for trial, there is little expectation the GOP-led Senate will vote to remove the president from office. Democratic presidential hopeful Rep. Tulsi Gabbard of Hawaii voted present on each.

But the rhetoric surrounding impeachment is likely to become a central theme in many congressional general election contests — with the focus in Illinois on two longtime Republican suburban and exurban seats that Democrats flipped last year.

Much of the attention will be on first-term Democratic Rep. Lauren Underwood of Naperville. She narrowly defeated four-term Republican Rep. Randy Hultgren of Plano last year in the 14th Congressional District.

The large west and northwest ex-urban district had long been a bastion of staunch conservatism. What also makes it a target for Republicans is that Trump defeated Hillary Clinton in the 2016 presidential by 4 percentage points there.

Seven Republicans are waging a primary battle to challenge Underwood in the November 2020 general election: state Sens. Sue Rezin of Morris and Jim Oberweis of Sugar Grove,



Two Republicans are vying for the right to take on Rep. Sean Casten, D-Ill., who on Wednesday urged his colleagues to vote their character on impeachment.

along with Catalina Lauf of Woodstock, James Marter of Oswego, Jerry Evans of Warrenville, Ted Gradel of Naperville and Anthony Catella of St. Charles.

Several of the Republicans have issued statements accusing the freshman lawmaker of siding with a Democratic agenda to oust Trump instead of working on issues of concern to voters in the district.

The White House issued a direct criticism of Underwood's vote, and the Trump campaign released a poll from the 31 House Districts where Democrats now represent areas won by the president to warn of the political implications of impeachment. But the poll only surveyed 30 people in each of the districts, making its results highly questionable.

In announcing her decision to vote for the articles of impeachment, Underwood said the "testimony and evidence put forth led me to a clear conclusion" to uphold her oath to defend

the Constitution.

Impeachment is also likely to be a significant issue in the general election contest in the other district Democrats flipped last year, the west and north suburban 6th Congressional District. Democrat Sean Casten of Downers Grove defeated six-term Republican Rep. Peter Roskam of Wheaton 54% to 46%.

Trump lost the district to Clinton in 2016 by 7 percentage points, potentially marking an ideological and demographic change to an area that was once part of the GOP firewall against Democratic votes coming from Chicago and Cook County.

Two Republicans are vying for the right to take on Casten: former state Rep. Jeanne Ives of Wheaton and Gordon Kinzler of Glen Ellyn. Ives is heavily favored in the GOP primary and has received endorsements from conservative political action committees. She is a staunch Trump supporter who has regularly criticized

Casten for backing impeachment and accused him of trying to "take away the votes of millions of American patriots."

Casten has said his vote was based on a combination of reviewing impeachment materials and hearing from constituents. He said his review of the facts surrounding Trump showed the president abused "the powers of his office for his own personal gain."

On the House floor Wednesday, Casten said the vote was not about partisanship and urged his colleagues to vote their character because "that's how you're going to be judged."

"When those in elected power abuse their positions for personal advantage, it's on us to somberly uphold and defend the responsibility that the founders bestowed on us," he said. "In this moment, the answer is clear not because we want to impeach, but because we must."

Of more immediate impact may be the effect of the

impeachment vote cast by Democratic Rep. Dan Lipinski of Western Springs in the Southwest Side and suburban 3rd Congressional District.

Lipinski narrowly defeated primary challenger Marie Newman of LaGrange last year. Newman is back for the 2020 primary, but does not have a one-on-one matchup against Lipinski. Also in the primary are Rush Darwish of Palos Hills and Charles Hughes of Chicago.

Lipinski, a social conservative, has tempered his support for impeachment by warning that if the Senate rejects removing the president from office as expected, it could give Trump an opportunity to claim vindication and embolden him. "It may further weaken Congress. In November 2020, President Trump may be reelected," Lipinski said.

In contrast to Lipinski's reticence, Newman, who is challenging Lipinski from the left, has benefitted from repeated attacks on Trump and has won several high-profile endorsements. They include presidential contenders Sens. Bernie Sanders of Vermont, Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts and Cory Booker of New Jersey as well as Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, the first-term New York congresswoman who has become a symbol of the Democrats' far progressive wing.

Also supporting articles of impeachment was Rep. Cheri Bustos of Moline, who also chairs the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. Bustos was tapped for the post, in part, because her northwestern and western Illinois 17th Congressional District backed Trump by 10 percentage points in 2016. She has held the seat since 2013.

The other Democrats in the delegation who voted for impeachment were: Chicago Reps. Danny Davis, Bobby Rush, Jesus "Chuy" Garcia and Mike Quigley as

well as Robin Kelly of Matteson, Raja Krishnamoorthi of Schaumburg, Jan Schakowsky of Evanston, Brad Schneider of Deerfield and Bill Foster of Naperville.

Republicans in the delegation held the line for Trump, voting against impeachment: Reps. Adam Kinzinger of Channahon, Mike Bost of Murphysboro, Darin LaHood of Peoria and Rodney Davis of Taylorville.

John Shimkus of Collinsville, Illinois' senior Republican House member, said he had personal travel commitments and did not vote. He is retiring from office.

LaHood, whose father, Ray, presided over Bill Clinton's impeachment as a member of the House in 1998, issued a statement defending his vote against impeaching Trump.

"Impeachment is the most consequential act Congress can take and it is disappointing the Democrats are moving ahead with the fastest and most partisan impeachment process in our country's history," Darin LaHood said. "It's no secret that since President Trump was elected, Democrats have fixated on undoing the results of the 2016 election through impeachment."

All of the Republicans are in solidly GOP districts except for Davis, who has represented the central Illinois 13th Congressional District since 2013. Last year, Davis survived a challenge from Democrat Betsy Dirksen Londrigan 50.4% to 49.6%, a difference of less than 2,500 votes.

Londrigan, a supporter of impeachment, is back to challenge Davis though she has a rival in the primary, Stefanie Smith of Urbana. Davis has been a loyal Trump supporter while Londrigan has been a sharp critic of the president.

Still, the district backed Trump by 5.5 percentage points over Clinton in the 2016 presidential.

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Chicago Tribune

NATION & WORLD

Final debate of year for 2020 Dems

Biggest concern for voters: Who can beat Trump in November?

BY KATHLEEN RONAYNE AND MICHAEL R. BLOOD
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A winnowed field of Democratic presidential contenders takes the debate stage Thursday for a sixth and final time in 2019, as candidates seek to convince voters that they are the party's best hope to deny President Donald Trump a second term next year.

The televised contest ahead of Christmas will bring seven rivals to heavily Democratic California, the biggest prize in the primary season and home to 1-in-8 Americans. And, coming a day after a divided U.S. House voted on impeachment, the debate will underscore the paramount concern for Democratic voters: Who can beat Trump in November?

With voters distracted by the holidays and the impeachment proceedings in Washington, the debate in Los Angeles could turn out to be the least watched so far. Viewership has declined in each round though five debates, and even campaigns have grumbled that candidates would rather be on the ground in early voting states than again taking the debate stage.

The lack of a clear front-runner reflects the uncertainty gripping many voters. Would Trump be more vulnerable to a challenge from the party's liberal wing or a candidate tethered to the centrist establishment? Should the pick be a man or a woman, or a person of



The campaign has seen surges at various points by Pete Buttigieg, from left, Elizabeth Warren, Joe Biden and Bernie Sanders.

color? The Democratic field is also marked by wide differences in age, geography and wealth, and the party remains divided over issues including health care and the influence of big-dollar fundraising.

There will be a notable lack of diversity compared to earlier debates. For the first time this cycle, the debate won't feature a black or Latino candidate.

The race in California has largely mirrored national trends, with former Vice President Joe Biden, Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren clustered at the top of the field, followed by South Bend, Indiana, Mayor Pete Buttigieg, Minnesota Sen. Amy Klobuchar, businessman Andrew Yang and billionaire philanthropist Tom

Steyer.

Conspicuously missing from the lineup at Loyola Marymount University on Thursday will be former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, a billionaire who is unable to qualify for the contests because he is not accepting campaign donations.

But even if he's not on stage, Bloomberg has been felt in the state: He's running a deluge of TV advertising in California to introduce himself to voters who probably know little, if anything, about him.

Bloomberg's late entry into the contest last month highlighted the overriding issue, electability, a sign of the unease within the Democratic Party about its crop of candidates and whether any is strong enough to unseat an incum-

ment president. The eventual nominee will be tasked with splicing together the party's disparate factions — a job Hillary Clinton struggled with after defeating Sanders in a long and bitter primary fight in 2016.

Biden adviser Symone Sanders said she expects another robust exchange on health care.

"This is an issue that is not going away and for good reason, because it is an issue that in 2018 Democrats ran on and won," she said.

Jess O'Connell with Buttigieg's campaign said the candidate will "be fully prepared to have an open and honest conversation about where there are contrast between us and the other candidates. This is a really important time to start to do that. Voters need time to understand the dis-

tinctions between these candidates."

The key issues: health care and higher education.

The unsettled race has seen surges at various points by Biden, Warren, Sanders and Buttigieg, though it's become defined by that cluster of shifting leaders, with others struggling for momentum.

California Sen. Kamala Harris, once seen as among the top tier of candidates, shelved her campaign this month, citing a lack of money. And Warren has become more aggressive, especially toward Buttigieg, as she tries to recover from shifting explanations of how she'd pay for "Medicare for All" without raising taxes.

In a replay of 2016, the shifting race for the Democratic nomination has

showcased the rift between the party's liberal wing, represented in Sanders and Warren, and candidates parked in or near the political center, including Biden, Buttigieg and Bloomberg.

The moderate side of this divide within the party wants the nation's billionaires to pay a slightly higher tax rate on their income. Through an unprecedented wealth tax, the liberal side would target the stock holdings, real estate and other property of the nation's billionaires to raise trillions of dollars of new revenue.

One side has virtually no plans to have the government take over private industry. The other has an armada of proposals for federal interventions, spanning from government control of American health insurance to public production of prescription drugs to mandating worker control over their companies.

Still, there are signs that candidates are under pressure to make adjustments. Biden told CNBC earlier this month that he would support a new financial transaction tax on Wall Street. His comments came one day after his campaign released tax proposals that rejected the idea.

"If one side wins, it's economic disruption in advantage of the people, with the losers being billionaires and defense contractors," said Alex Lawson, president of Social Security Works, a liberal group. "And if the other side wins, it's less clear, but it probably looks basically similar to how it looks now — but without Trump."

The Washington Post contributed.

Netanyahu limps into new election campaign

3rd vote in one year will test Israel's longest-serving prime minister

BY JOSEF FEDERMAN
Associated Press

JERUSALEM — With Israel heading to its third straight election in a year, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has managed to buy some much-needed time as he tries to fend off a slew of criminal corruption charges.

But the embattled Israeli leader heads into the three-month campaign weakened within his own party, facing additional legal questions about his political future and squaring off against an increasingly popular opponent.

Netanyahu has been reeling since Israel's attorney general last month indicted him on charges of accepting bribes, fraud and breach of trust for allegedly receiving gifts and trading favors with the rich and powerful. That indictment was at the heart of the political standoff that triggered the new elections, and it is sure to be the central issue of an upcoming campaign that is expected to result in a similar deadlock.

"We are about to hold a third election because of the

legal problems faced by citizen Benjamin Netanyahu," wrote Sima Kadmon, a commentator in the Yediot Ahronot daily.

Following Sept. 17 elections, neither Netanyahu nor his main rival, Blue and White party leader Benny Gantz, was able to secure a governing majority. With the two sides together controlling a solid majority of seats, the easiest way out of the standoff appeared to be a power-sharing agreement. But the two men deadlocked over Netanyahu's legal troubles.

Netanyahu insisted on remaining prime minister, a position where he is best-positioned to fight the criminal charges. Gantz, a former military chief, said a prime minister with such serious criminal charges could not lead the country.

After months of failed talks, parliament dissolved at a midnight deadline Wednesday, triggering new elections that were scheduled for March 2. It is the third election in under 12 months, after voting in September and April ended inconclusively.

Although opinion polls

have forecast similar deadlock, the prospect of a new campaign offers Netanyahu a welcome breather from his legal troubles. Netanyahu is widely expected to ask parliament to grant him immunity from prosecution. But lawmakers in a caretaker government cannot rule on the question. That gives Netanyahu hope of mustering a more sympathetic parliament, while putting the question of immunity, and the start of his trial, on hold until next spring at the earliest.

The Likud party has so far stood firmly behind Netanyahu, the country's longest-serving prime minister. But that support has begun to fray.

Gideon Saar, a popular lawmaker, has already announced he will challenge Netanyahu in a party primary scheduled on Dec. 26.

Speaking to the Kan radio station Thursday, Saar said Israel's political system has sunk to a low point, and after two inconclusive elections, Netanyahu is "stuck."

"We need a new hope. The country is going the wrong way. We need to mend the divide, to rehabili-



ABIR SULTAN/POOL/GETTY-AFP

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu faces charges of accepting bribes.

tate the public's trust," he said. "None of this will happen if we don't make a change."

Though early polls have indicated that Netanyahu will trounce his upstart challenger, Saar claims to have significant grassroots support. On Thursday, Kan reported that Public Security Minister Gilad Erdan, another senior Likud member, was considering endorsing Saar.

Even if Netanyahu emerges victorious, a nasty primary challenge could leave him — and the party — weakened as it heads into the national campaign.

Under Israeli law, sitting prime ministers are not

required to resign if charged with a crime.

For this reason, Netanyahu is desperate to remain on the job as he girds up for his trial. Netanyahu has used the post as a bully pulpit to accuse police and prosecutors of trying to stage an "attempted coup."

As he moves forward, Netanyahu is likely to continue with his attacks on the country's Arab minority, which have drawn accusations of incitement, and his claims that he is the victim of a grand conspiracy by the nation's "elites."

This message has resonated well with his base of working class, religious and nationalist Israelis. But

there are signs that the broader support that has made him such a dominant politician for so long are beginning to soften.

Recent polls have indicated that Blue and White is gaining strength over Likud. They also show Gantz's personal popularity growing.

Whether the surge is enough to secure victory is unclear.

"The 2020 elections got underway yesterday," wrote Matti Tuchfeld, a commentator with the pro-Netanyahu Israel Hayom newspaper. "But unless there is a dramatic change, we may perhaps find ourselves with second 2020 elections."

Budget deal advances private care for vets backed by president

BY HOPE YEN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump's expansion of a program aimed at steering more veterans to private health care is getting an \$8.9 billion boost as part of the massive government spending bill approved by the House, setting up a potential battle over the direction of the Veterans Affairs Department.

The deal provides \$81 billion for VA medical care to treat 9.3 million veterans,

including the \$8.9 billion for private care under a law passed last year expanding the Veterans Choice program. An additional \$11.3 billion is on tap for private care in 2021.

Major veterans groups have cautioned against "cannibalizing" VA programs to pay for Choice, which they worry could lead to privatization of VA.

The program gives veterans wider access to private care when they have endured lengthy wait times or the treatment was not what

they had expected. The price tag could soar as the expanded program takes hold, putting the VA at risk of future budget shortfalls.

Democratic presidential contenders including Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren have urged reinvestment in the VA over expanded private care options.

Former Vice President Joe Biden and Pete Buttigieg, mayor of South Bend, Indiana, have said they will roll back or change

some of the Trump administration's rules on Choice.

"As the increasing need for medical care by wounded, ill and injured veterans and their family caregivers is being forced to fit under tight budget caps, we are concerned necessary resources could be shifted away from the VA health care system, which independent research has shown provides higher quality care than the private sector," said Joy Ilem, national legislative director for Disabled American Vet-

erans.

"While community care programs are vital to fill and supplement VA in many locations, we believe the value to veterans and the taxpayer of every dollar spent in the VA health care system is greater than if it were spent in the community," she said.

House Democrats had pushed for Choice money to be exempt from budget caps, to avoid the risk of cuts to core VA programs.

However, the money was kept under budget caps

after the White House resisted.

The added money for Choice is part of a 6% increase to the total VA budget for the fiscal year ending next September.

The spending bill, which still needs Senate approval, also requires the VA to report to Congress within 30 days the reasons for a two-year delay in announcing whether it plans to provide health care coverage for additional Vietnam War veterans exposed to Agent Orange.

SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENT

SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENT

SPECIAL ADVERTISEMENT

Man behind Amish Fireplace gives public \$99 deal

Bargain hunters rush to cash in on 73% off Absolute Liquidation deal

It's a deal too good to pass up.

That's because the man behind the Amish Fireplace and founder of Heat Surge is giving away brand new World Famous Miracle Heaters in a 73% off Absolute Liquidation deal for just \$99 to the general public beginning at 8:30am this morning.

And with many months of freezing cold weather yet to come and high heat bills right around the corner, the phone lines are ringing off the hook.

When I got wind that all this was ending in just 2 days, I left my office at Heat Surge and headed straight to Amish country to set up an interview with long time Amish craftsman Jonas Miller so I could be the first to get the story out to newspaper readers everywhere.

Here's my interview with the soft spoken, hardworking man who reminds me of good old honest Abe and I got right to the bottom line.

QUESTION: I'm confirming that the World Famous Miracle Heater is now just \$99, right?

ANSWER: Yes ma'am, it's just \$99.

QUESTION: That's unbelievable. Do you know how much people have paid for the Miracle Heater and handmade Amish fireplace mantle in the past?

ANSWER: Lots and lots of people have paid \$392.00 for the Miracle Heater and they're glad to pay it because they know it's top of the line quality that lasts forever and Heat Surge pays me to make sure everyone knows it.

QUESTION: Then why are the Miracle Heaters being given away for just \$99 now?

ANSWER: There's a bunch of good people out there that have always wanted to slash their heat bills and stay warm with one of our fireplaces, but just couldn't afford one. Folks living on fixed incomes, those living pay check to pay check and retired folks who would have so much more money if they didn't have to budget for such high heat bills every month.

That's why the man behind the Amish fireplace said to give the heaters away for just \$99 in an Absolute Liquidation to make room in the barns for the new 2020 models for the next 2 days. We want everyone to get one, so we're giving everyone a 73% off discount. And here's the best part. These are not used or scratch and dent models. These are brand new, still in the box with a full warranty models. We just gotta move em to make room in the barns for the new 2020 models.

QUESTION: Now I know why so many people are calling to get the Miracle Heater. Are the craftsmen struggling to keep up?

ANSWER: Yes ma'am. Now that winter is just around the corner folks are thinking about saving money. Everyone hates paying high heat bills that start showing up in January and don't stop until after May. I looked in one of the barns this morning



■ CONSUMERS JUMP ON DEAL: "We're gonna keep our word and give the Miracle Heaters away for just \$99, but please tell folks not to take any more than three because the boys are really struggling to keep up now that they're 73% off in this Absolute Liquidation," said long-time Amish craftsman, Jonas Miller. Barns that were stacked from floor to ceiling just days ago are now going empty because everyone hates paying high heat bills. That's why smart consumers are rushing to beat the 2 day deadline for this rock bottom deal that's putting a real strain on the craftsmen.

and I'll tell ya what, they're flying out the door like apple butter pies. The boys are really struggling to keep up. That's why I need you to tell folks I'm really sorry but we just can't let them have any more than three as part of this advertising announcement.

QUESTION: How much money are people saving with these Miracle Heaters?

ANSWER: Thousands of letters pour in from folks all across the country thanking us at Heat Surge for all the money they're saving on their heat bills with this fireplace. It works because the Miracle Heater creates perfect zone heating giving you

74° of bone-soothing room heat even when the home thermostat is turned down to 59°. So everyone will save money and no one will ever be cold again.

QUESTION: I read an article that says these Miracle Heaters are a top rated safety pick. Have you seen it too?

ANSWER: Oh yes. Someone showed me that article and we're very proud of it. In fact, when a fire chief tells people with children and pets to get it, you know it's safe. It has the World Famous safe to the touch Fireless Flame® technology that gives you the peaceful flicker of a real fire but without any flames, fumes, smells,

ashes or mess.

This is about the time we had to wrap things up, but I could've talked to this soft spoken Amish man for hours.

Unfortunately, he was late getting back to the barn. But there are two things I want readers to know. At 73% off this Absolute Liquidation is a fantastic deal and once the two-day deadline ends, the price for the World Famous Miracle Heater will go clear back up to \$392.00 including shipping.

That's why it's so important for readers to call the National Toll Free Hotlines today to get the Miracle Heaters for just \$99 and shipping before the dead-

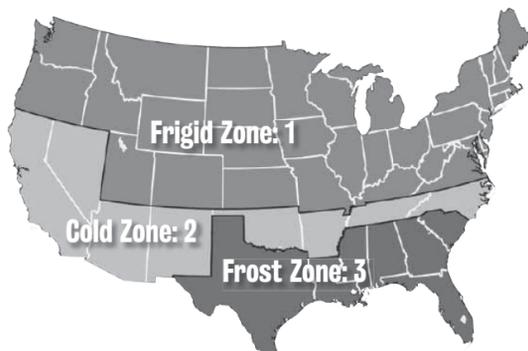
line ends.

To make sure everyone gets these new Miracle Heaters in a hurry, UPS® drivers have been instructed to make home deliveries anywhere in the United States beginning tomorrow.

Thousands of local readers are expected to call the hotlines beginning at 8:30am today.

It just doesn't make sense for anyone to suffer through the cold when you can get the brand new Miracle Heater for just \$99 and never have to pay high heat bills again. So if phone lines are busy keep trying, they promise to answer all calls. ■

— by Kristin Kishman, Consumer Analyst for Heat Surge LLC.



Claim Code: HSD444

EVERYONE LIVING IN THE
Frigid Zone: 1
START CALLING AT
8:30 A.M. TODAY
1-800-601-3271

EVERYONE LIVING IN THE
Cold Zone: 2
START CALLING AT
8:45 A.M. TODAY
1-800-731-3503

EVERYONE LIVING IN THE
Frost Zone: 3
START CALLING AT
9:00 A.M. TODAY
1-800-504-8107

Who gets the \$99 deal

Find your zone on this U.S. Weather Map

Everyone who locates the Weather Zone they live in must call the National Toll Free Hotlines for their zone beginning at precisely 8:30am this morning. Those who get through are being given the World Famous Miracle Heater for just \$99 and shipping. No calls will be accepted for this Absolute Liquidation deal after the deadline ends 2 days from today's publication date.

Anyone who misses the deadline will not get the \$99 deal for the Miracle Heater. They will be required to pay the regular price of \$392.00 including shipping for the Miracle Heater that comes mounted in the custom-made fireplace mantle.



■ GET THEM WHILE YOU CAN: Long-time Amish craftsman Jonas Miller encourages all the craftsmen to keep up with the household limit of 3 Miracle Heaters as newspapers hit the newsstands. "We've got everybody helping out, but we've never seen anything like this before. We're letting everyone get the Miracle Heater (shown here) for just \$99 and shipping so we can barely keep up with all the orders," Miller said. Everyone hoping to cash in on this deal needs to immediately call the National Toll-Free Hotlines before the deadline ends because once they're gone, they're gone.

Barns going empty, consumers rush to lock in \$99 deal

With just 2 days left to get in on the \$99 deal and barns going empty, people everywhere are rushing to get the Miracle Heaters in this 73% off Absolute Liquidation before they're all sold out.

Demand for the Miracle Heaters has skyrocketed ever since news about the \$99 deal started spreading. In fact, overflow hotlines had to be set up just to take all the calls and because the craftsmen are struggling to keep up, a household limit of 3 had to be imposed. According to the avalanche of consumer reviews for the Miracle Heaters, people absolutely swear by them, repeatedly saying, "It saves money," "looks beautiful," and "heats from floor to ceiling to keep everyone warm and cozy."

People from all across the country are calling to get in on this 73% off Absolute Liquidation deal before the deadline ends 2 days from today's publication date. So if lines are busy be sure to call one of the overflow hotlines at **1-866-222-2181** or **1-866-300-7684** to get the Miracle Heater for just \$99.

And since all the custom made mantles that the craftsmen are building today are included at no extra charge, nearly everyone is asking to have their Miracle Heater built with a custom mantle because everyone who does is getting a custom finish upgrade in Golden Oak or Dark Oak for free.

Just make sure you call before the deadline ends because anyone who misses the deadline can't get in on this deal and will have to pay the regular price of \$392.00 including shipping for the Miracle Heater that comes mounted in a custom made fireplace mantle. ■

An anti-BLM suit matters to activists

Free-speech advocates fear it will chill protests

BY MARISSA J. LANG
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Civil rights lawyers have asked the Supreme Court to intervene in a lawsuit that activists and legal scholars fear could have wide-reaching consequences for protest organizers across the country.

A police officer, who was hit in the head by a rock thrown at a 2016 demonstration in Louisiana, sued prominent Black Lives Matter organizer DeRay Mckesson on the premise that Mckesson should have foreseen the possibility of violence at the protest and be held accountable for it. Mckesson didn't throw the rock or tell anyone else to throw it.

The case was tossed by a federal judge, citing a Supreme Court decision interpreted as a shield against protesters sued for damages they didn't directly cause. But a three-judge panel with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit ruled in August that a jury should be allowed to hear the case and issue a verdict on Mckesson's alleged negligence.

Legal scholars and lawyers with the American Civil Liberties Union flinched at the decision. They said allowing the case to proceed in the face of civil rights protections long guaranteed to protesters could pave the way for similar lawsuits and have a chilling effect on protest organizers nationwide.

Even if the officer doesn't prevail in the case, experts said damage might already be done.

"If this is allowed to stand, anybody can show up and throw a rock at a protest to bankrupt a movement they disagree with," said Ben Wizner, director of the ACLU's Speech, Privacy and Technology Project. "People know when they



MAX BECHERER/AP

An officer who was hit by a rock at a 2016 demonstration in Louisiana sued Black Lives Matter organizer DeRay Mckesson.

step into the street that they might have to spend some hours in jail or pay a fine. But if they might have to pay a multimillion-dollar civil judgment — that's something they're not prepared for."

The ACLU this month asked the Supreme Court to hear Mckesson's appeal and urged justices to consider the potential ramifications on protesters' rights.

Organizations that coordinate protests, such as the Women's March, said the Fifth Circuit's ruling could have ramifications beyond its jurisdiction of Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.

For starters, activists said, it raises the risks and monetary costs associated with organizing a demonstration. In addition to applying for permits and providing medics, amenities and toilets, organizers said, activists might also have to anticipate a possible lawsuit if someone in the crowd

commits a violent act. That could mean legal counsel on standby and resources to cover the costs of a lawsuit.

Most activists, experts said, don't have that kind of cash.

"To me, this is scary," said Carmen Perez, who sits on the board of the Women's March and is the chief executive of the criminal justice reform group The Gathering For Justice. "This is a huge threat to the right to protest."

As the Women's March solidifies plans for the group's 2020 march on Washington, scheduled for Jan. 18, Perez said the case will be on organizers' minds.

Mckesson, a Black Lives Matter activist known for leading marches in his signature blue vest, was sued by a Baton Rouge police officer who blamed the activist for injuries he suffered at a 2016 protest over the police killing of Alton B.

Sterling, a black man whose shooting by two police officers was captured on video.

Sterling's was one in a series of shootings that prompted nationwide protests in 2016. In July of that year, Mckesson led hundreds onto a busy Louisiana highway in protest. They were met by police, who arrested demonstrators, including Mckesson, in an effort to clear the road.

The wounded officer, identified in court documents as John Doe, suffered injuries to his teeth, jaw and brain after a demonstrator threw a rock and hit the officer in the head, court documents state.

The rock-thrower was never identified. Instead, the officer sued Mckesson, who had become a recognizable face in the Black Lives Matter movement.

Mckesson, according to the lawsuit, knew there was a chance someone in the crowd could become vi-

olent at the demonstration.

Judge Grady Jolly, of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, wrote in the court's decision allowing the case to proceed to a trial that "Mckesson is liable in negligence for organizing and leading the Baton Rouge demonstration to illegally occupy a highway and that the lower court had "erred in dismissing the suit on First Amendment grounds."

The federal judge who originally had dismissed the case cited the landmark 1982 Supreme Court decision NAACP v. Claiborne Hardware Co., which created a precedent for blocking lawsuits against protesters because, the Supreme Court ruled, lawsuits could be wielded by the government as a weapon against protesters that would effectively suppress free-speech rights.

"It could lead to an organizer determining that, on balance, it's just not

worth it, that it's too burdensome and too risky for them to hold a public protest," said Timothy Zick, a constitutional law professor at William and Mary Law School. "I think that is the real danger."

The right to protest is among the liberties enshrined in the First Amendment. Violence at protests, however, is not a protected form of speech — and protesters can, and have, been criminally charged for violent acts.

But for decades, courts have ruled against attempts to sue protest organizers for the acts of others.

In this instance, the Fifth Circuit appellate court ruled, Mckesson could be held to account because he had led people onto a state highway, breaking the law and opening up the possibility of violence.

The ACLU's argument hinges on the fear that until the Supreme Court intervenes, the appellate court's decision could be cited in future decisions. It will be weeks before the Supreme Court decides whether to hear Mckesson's case.

Experts said government agencies and elected officials in recent years have tried to enact barriers to protesting, hoping to combat demonstrations across the country.

The National Park Service last year floated a proposal that would have and required organizers to repay the federal government for security costs — an idea the agency eventually withdrew. Earlier this year, Rep. Jim Banks, R-Ind., announced he was crafting legislation to hold protesters arrested during unpermitted demonstrations liable "for police overtime and other fees related to the action." At least 18 state legislatures have considered similar bills.

The precedent established by the Fifth Circuit's decision in this case, scholars said, could be used as another tactic to stymie protests.

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Navy to build ship named for slain gay activist Milk

Military had forced him to resign over sexual orientation

BY MARISA IATI
The Washington Post

By the time Harvey Milk's superiors in the U.S. Navy officially questioned him about his sexuality, he had graduated from officer school and served as a diving officer on a submarine rescue ship during the Korean War.

Then his superiors caught him in a park that was popular with gay men, his nephew said. The sighting raised questions about Milk's sexual orientation in an era when the military banned gay, lesbian and bisexual service members. Milk was forced to resign.

In a move that signaled an about-face on the issue of gay rights, the Navy last week began to construct the USNS Harvey Milk, a fleet oiler that will provide fuel to ships and aircraft. The Navy announced in 2016 that Milk's name would appear on a ship, along with other civil rights leaders.

Joining the Navy was a tradition in Milk's family. His Lithuanian-born father, William, and his mother,

Minerva, both served, according to a biography on the website of the Harvey Milk Foundation. Milk studied math and history at New York State College for Teachers, which is now the State University of New York, before he joined the Navy and started Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island.

Life after the Navy took Milk to New York, where he worked as a teacher, a stock analyst and a production associate for Broadway musicals. He moved to San Francisco in 1972 and opened a camera shop in the Castro District, which was known for its gay community.

Milk quickly became a powerful local activist. He founded the Castro Village Association for LGBTQ-led businesses, sat on San Francisco's Board of Permit Appeals and in 1978 was sworn in as a city-county supervisor.

In addition to advocating for policies that would affect all residents, Milk was also a fervent protector of gay rights. He joined others in opposing Proposition 6, a California ballot initiative that would have mandated firing gay teachers from public schools. The bill, sponsored by Republican state

Sen. John Briggs, was defeated.

Milk urged gay people to proclaim their sexual orientations as a way to fight for equality.

"We are coming out to fight the lies, the myths, the distortions," he said in a speech. "We are coming out to tell the truths about gays, for I am tired of the conspiracy of silence, so I'm going to talk about it. And I want you to talk about it. You must come out."

People regularly lobbed death threats at Milk, who created several iterations of his will in case he were to be assassinated. "If a bullet should enter my brain, let that bullet destroy every closet door," he said in one version.

Milk's prediction became reality on Nov. 27, 1978, when former Supervisor Dan White entered city hall through a basement window, killed Mayor George Moscone and shot Milk several times. Moscone had decided days earlier not to reappoint White to the legislative body.

Dianne Feinstein, then a supervisor and now a Democratic senator from California, found Milk's body and told people who gathered at city hall that Moscone and Milk, then 48, had been killed. White pleaded "diminished capac-



Stuart Milk, nephew of slain former San Francisco supervisor and gay activist Harvey Milk, thanks California state Assemblyman Todd Gloria, far left, and others on Dec. 13.

ity" at trial because he had fallen into a depression and, among other things, eaten a lot of sugar-heavy food before the killings.

Using that so-called "Twinkie defense," a jury found White guilty of voluntary manslaughter, instead of murder. Riots and candlelight vigils took place to express outrage at the verdict. White served five years in prison and later killed himself.

In contrast with White's suicide, which mostly went unnoticed by the public, Milk's legacy lives on.

It wasn't until more than a decade after his death that the Navy would have been barred from forcing Milk out for being gay. President Bill Clinton in 1993 signed a policy of "don't ask, don't tell," which banned harassment of "closeted" service members but still banned openly LGBTQ people from the armed forces. President Barack Obama repealed the policy in 2011, opening the door for LGBTQ military members to reveal their sexual orientations.

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 2012 urged

the secretary of the Navy to name a ship after Milk, one of the nation's first openly gay elected officials. The answer to their request would come four years later.

"When Harvey Milk served in the military, he couldn't tell anyone who he truly was," Scott Wiener, then a San Francisco supervisor, wrote in 2016 when the Navy announced the ship's name. "Now our country is telling the men and women who serve, and the entire world, that we honor and support people for who they are."



RICARDO ARDUENGO/GETTY-AFP

Gov. Wanda Vazquez talks to reporters after signing a law in favor of cockfighting.

Puerto Rico's new cockfighting law defies incoming US ban

BY DANICA COTO
Associated Press

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Puerto Rico defied the U.S. government by adopting a law Wednesday to keep cockfighting alive, seeking to protect a 400-year-old tradition on the island despite a federal ban that takes effect this week.

Those in the cockfighting business cautiously rejoiced amid concerns over the U.S. territory trying to sidestep a federal law that President Donald Trump signed a year ago.

"We are certainly challenging a federal law. We know what that implies," Rep. Gabriel Rodriguez Aguilo, who co-authored the bill, told The Associated Press late Tuesday before the announcement was made public.

Rodriguez said he expected the fight to end up in federal court.

As word spread, those in the cockfighting industry cheered the news as some met with Gov. Wanda Vazquez, who announced Monday that she plans to run in the island's 2020 general elections.

"There's going to be work!" exclaimed Domin-

go Ruiz, who owns more than 30 gamecocks and has spent more than half a century in the business. "We're going to keep the fight alive."

Cockfighting generates an estimated \$18 million a year and employs about 27,000 people, according to the bill approved by Puerto Rico's House and Senate. The island's legislators had bristled at Trump's move, noting in their bill that cockfights and betting on them have been "part of our culture and folklore ever since their introduction to Puerto Rico in the 17th century."

Puerto Rico has 71 cockfighting establishments in 45 municipalities licensed by the island's Department of Sports and Recreation, said Secretary Adriana Sanchez. She defended the cockfighting tradition and contended the U.S. government banned fights for economic and not animal welfare reasons.

Sanchez said a ban would just drive the fights underground on an island mired in a 13-year recession and still struggling to recover from Hurricane Maria.

"It's very hard for some-

one to find a Plan B from one moment to the next that would allow them to make a living through something that is not cockfighting," she said.

Animal welfare activists have long pushed to end cockfights in U.S. territories, saying they are cruel and noting they are illegal in all 50 states.

Wayne Pacelle, founder of the Washington-based Animal Wellness Action, said he doesn't believe the statistics on Puerto Rico cockfighting.

"They are widely exaggerating the economic value," he said. "Watching animals slash each other just for human entertainment and gambling is not judged as a legitimate enterprise by mainstream people."

The measure says it is legal for Puerto Rico to host cockfights as long as people don't export or import gamecocks or any goods or services related to cockfighting. The latter actions would violate the federal law, based on how Puerto Rico officials interpret it.

"It remains to be seen whether that's how federal authorities understand it," Rep. Luis Vega Ramos said.

New UK Parliament is most diverse in nation's history

BY WILLIAM BOOTH
The Washington Post

LONDON — Britain's new Parliament, sworn in this week at Westminster Palace, is the most diverse in the country's history — and one that may see greater unity within the ruling party than has been on display in years.

The House of Commons is dominated by Prime Minister Boris Johnson's thick slab of Conservatives, who won 364 of 650 seats.

The elected chamber also has record numbers of women, gays and minorities, including Conservative Imran Ahmad-Khan, Britain's first gay Muslim lawmaker.

At least 45 lawmakers are gay, lesbian or bisexual, according to their public statements. One publication called it the "pinkest" Parliament in the world.

There are many new members, too, who attended public schools and universities — alongside the usual oversized number of graduates from posh Eton and Oxford, like Johnson.

Plus: a former dolphin trainer, a reality TV star, and a bodyguard.

New members this week wandered the confusing maze of corridors and winding stairs to nowhere.

There was the smell of roasts and beer in the hallways, as election wins were celebrated in the dozen restaurants and bars on the crumbling Westminster estate.

At a packed opening session Tuesday to confirm Lindsey Hoyle as the House of Commons speaker, the chamber looked different.

For one thing, it looked younger — and is. A lot of the old-timers retired, or were booted from the Conservative Party, or lost seats long held by the Labour Party.

With her win last week in Nottingham East, Nadia



JESSICA TAYLOR/BRITISH PARLIAMENT

Prime Minister Boris Johnson speaks in the House of Commons during the new Parliament's first sitting.

Whittome became the youngest lawmaker in Westminster. She's 23 and a committed Labour activist who embraced outgoing leader Jeremy Corbyn. She made headlines when she promised to donate two-thirds of her new \$105,000 salary to charity.

In a short BBC clip, Whittome said that during the campaign, she was still sussing out temp Christmas jobs back home.

Coming into London, she told the broadcaster, "It feels a little bit like starting Hogwarts, but when the Death Eaters have all taken over."

The Death Eaters in her "Harry Potter" metaphor being the Conservatives.

Among the new Conservative members are candidates who prevailed in the traditional Labour heartland in the north and Midlands of England, in struggling working-class, post-industrial towns.

Some of these new Tory lawmakers grew up in public housing, raised by single mothers, and came from families that for generations worked with their hands. Like schoolteacher and trade unionist Jonathan Gullis, from Stoke-on-Trent North, whose victory unseated a Labour candidate in that constituency for the first time since World War II.

As the Telegraph noted, "Mr. Gullis is as far from the archetypal Tory toff as you could possibly get."

The working-class Tories from the north could reshape the party — or collide with party traditionalists, who embrace lower taxes and less government.

On Monday, Johnson hosted Conservative lawmakers for group photos and drinks.

On Tuesday, the prime minister was backed by rows of green benches so packed with new Tories that many were sitting on the floor.

Standing at the lectern, Johnson looked around the chamber and said, "I think this Parliament is a vast improvement on its predecessor."

He asked the House: What are we going to do?

And his party behind him roared, "Get Brexit done!"

A total 220 female lawmakers were elected last Thursday, 12 more than the previous record in the 2017.

Of Labour's 202 lawmakers, more than half, 104, are women. Among the Liberal Democrats' 11 members, seven are women.

Johnson's side is decidedly more male — less than a quarter of Conservative members are women: 87 of 364 Tories.

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Soros jabs spark anti-Semitism debate

Baseless claims made by conservatives in impeachment saga

BY ELANA SCHOR
Associated Press

Near the end of a marathon impeachment hearing in the House of Representatives last month, former White House national security aide Fiona Hill tied conservative jabs at George Soros to “the longest-running anti-Semitic trope that we have in history.”

Anti-Soros theories amplified by conservatives are “the new ‘Protocols of the Elders of Zion,’” Hill told lawmakers, referring to an infamous early-20th-century screed that falsely asserts a Jewish conspiracy to control the world. Her comment focused fresh attention on the role of Soros’ Jewish identity in the right’s long-running portrayal of the liberal billionaire as using his wealth to manipulate events for his own benefit.

Indeed, Soros’ status as an enemy of the far right predates the Ukraine drama that has brought President Donald Trump to the brink of impeachment. But the 89-year-old Hungarian-born philanthropist and financier has played a key part in a narrative woven of unfounded corruption claims that Trump’s allies have used to defend him during the impeachment process.

Soros’ nonprofit, Open



BLOOMBERG NEWS 2018
George Soros’ nonprofit is decrying baseless claims about the financier by conservatives.

Society Foundations, is decrying some of those claims as anti-Semitic — speaking out, as it has more vocally since mid-2017, when Hungary’s far-right government mounted an anti-Soros ad campaign also lambasted as anti-Semitic. In the United States, the foundations’ president last year publicly punctured baseless conservative claims that Soros was funding a Central American migrant caravan.

“It’s about something much bigger and much more dangerous” than criticism of Soros himself, Laura Silber, chief communications officer for the foundations, said. “It’s a way of dehumanizing, of making it easy to hate an individual, and that individual becomes symbolic of a group.”

During her closed-door deposition to Congress in October, Hill attested that she and ousted U.S. ambas-

sador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch were threatened by “what is frankly an anti-Semitic conspiracy theory” tying them to Soros. Hill told lawmakers that one GOP lobbyist attempted to get her fired by slamming her as “a Soros mole in the White House,” and State Department Ukraine adviser Catherine Croft also testified that another GOP lobbyist pushed for Yovanovitch’s firing, citing an alleged connection to Soros.

As the impeachment investigation dug into Trump’s withholding of aid to Ukraine, the president’s allies circulated claims, lacking evidence, that a Ukrainian nonprofit partly funded by Soros’ foundation was involved in efforts to undercut Trump and Paul Manafort, his former campaign chairman.

Trump’s lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, claimed on ABC in September that “George Soros’ company was funding” Ukrainian efforts to disrupt the 2016 election — efforts at the heart of a debunked conspiracy theory promoted by some in the GOP to help Trump during the impeachment battle.

The Ukrainian anti-corruption nonprofit in question has received 17% of its funding since its 2012 founding from Soros’ foundation, with the U.S. government and the European Union also providing finan-

cial support.

Appearing on Fox Business last month, pro-Trump attorney Joe diGenova claimed that the liberal Soros “wants to run Ukraine” and “controls a very large part” of the State Department’s foreign service.

“So many acts of brutality and violence against us, from all corners, came from some version of this trope, which is that Jews have some sort of secret global conspiracy cabal that exerts control over decision-makers,” said Rabbi Jonah Pesner, director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. That idea “invariably leads to acts of violence against Jews and should be condemned no matter where it manifests,” he added.

Anti-Defamation League CEO Jonathan Greenblatt called on those “in positions of authority” to help stop the spread of anti-Semitic rhetoric by “calling it out, clearly and cogently.”

“It’s very fair to criticize Soros and some of his charity work or political contributions,” said Greenblatt, whose group last month joined Soros’ foundations in asking Fox to bar diGenova from the airwaves following his remarks. “I certainly don’t agree with all of it. But you can do it in a way that’s not anti-Semitic.”

Mark Corallo, a spokesman for diGenova, responded in a statement: “Criticizing the far leftist politics and oversized influence Mr.

Soros and his network have in the Democrat party and in certain agencies of our government is not anti-Semitism.”

One conservative pundit chided for invoking anti-Semitic tropes against Soros, Glenn Beck, said that he would stop using puppet-master imagery to depict the philanthropist even as he defended his own criticism as free from bias.

Acknowledging that “some attacks against George Soros may be rooted in anti-Semitism,” Beck told viewers that “legitimate criticisms of George Soros, like the kind I have tried to do, is not related to, nor is it motivated by, any anti-Semitism.”

Neil Strauss, spokesman for the Republican Jewish Coalition, said Beck was right to avoid puppeteer imagery that is historically linked to anti-Semitism. But Strauss warned against attempts to employ “religion as a shield for criticism” by those of any faith who use “money and influence to put their thumb on the politics of this nation.”

Trump signed an executive order on Dec. 11 that expands the federal government’s definition of anti-Semitism for the purposes of reining in alleged discrimination on college campuses, a move welcomed by some Jewish American advocates but criticized by others as constraining free speech.

Republican criticism of

Soros in the United States is often linked to his financial support for Democratic candidates and causes. Overseas, Soros has steered significant grants in Eastern Europe and beyond to promote democratic values and civil society, with total spending by his foundations topping \$15 billion since 1982.

Hill, who served as Trump’s National Security Council senior director for Europe and Russia before leaving the administration earlier this year, held an unpaid advisory post on a project at Soros’ foundations that ended in 2006.

Regardless of whether anti-Soros rhetoric is consciously biased, Jewish Americans concerned about desensitization to anti-Semitic stereotypes warn that their spread is problematic. Conservatives criticizing Soros have focused on his support for refugees and migrants, and the gunman who killed 11 Jews at a Pittsburgh synagogue last year shared anti-Semitic tropes about Jewish support for refugees before his attack. Days before that synagogue shooting, Soros and other high-profile liberals were sent mail bombs by a Florida man whom federal prosecutors said researched his targets in advance.

Deborah Lipstadt, an Emory University professor and expert in anti-Semitism, noted that “you don’t have to be an anti-Semite to enable anti-Semitism.”

Trump

Continued from Page 1

acquit the president ahead of early state election-year primary voting.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, once reluctant to lead Democrats into a partisan impeachment, now risks her majority and speakership to hold the president accountable.

“Today we are here to defend democracy for the people,” Pelosi said opening debate.

Moments after a historic vote Pelosi said the House could at least temporarily withhold the articles from the Senate — a decision, she suggested, that could depend on how the other chamber chooses to conduct its trial on Trump’s removal.

“We cannot name managers until we see what the process is on the Senate side,” she said, referring to the House “managers” who present the case for removal to the Senate. “So far we haven’t seen anything that looks fair to us. So hopefully it will be fair. And when we see what that is, we’ll send our managers.”

Trump, who began the day tweeting his anger at the proceedings, then flew to Battle Creek, Michigan, for a political rally.

He pumped his fist before an enthusiastic crowd, boasted of “tremendous support” in the Republican Party and said, “By the way it doesn’t feel like I’m being impeached.”

What Pelosi called a sad and solemn moment for the country, coming in the first year that Democrats swept control of the House, unfolded in a caustic daylong session that showcased the nation’s divisions — not only along party lines, but also by region, race and culture.

The House impeachment resolution laid out in stark terms the two articles of impeachment against Trump stemming from his July 25 phone call when he



HOUSE TELEVISION

House members mill about the chamber’s floor as voting on abuse of power against President Donald Trump gets underway Wednesday night.

asked the Ukraine president for a “favor” — to announce it was investigating Democrats ahead of the 2020 election. He also pushed Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy to probe unsubstantiated corruption allegations against Joe Biden, a 2020 White House contender and the former vice president.

At the time, Zelenskiy, a comedian newly elected to politics, was seeking a coveted White House visit to show backing from the U.S. as it confronts a hostile Russia at its border. He was also counting on \$391 million in military aid already approved by Congress. The White House delayed the funds, but Trump eventually released the money once Congress intervened.

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Narrow in scope but broad in its charge, the resolution said the president “betrayed the nation by abusing his high office to enlist a foreign power in corrupting democratic elections,” and then obstructed Congress’ oversight like “no president” in U.S. history.

“President Trump, by such conduct, has demonstrated that he will remain a threat to national security and the Constitution if allowed to remain in office,” it said.

Republicans argued that Democrats are impeaching Trump because they can’t beat him in 2020.

“This vote is about one thing, and one thing only: They hate this president,” said Rep. Chris Stewart, R-Utah. “They want to take

away my vote and throw it in the trash.”

But Democrats warned the country cannot wait for the next election to decide whether Trump should remain in office because he has shown a pattern of behavior, particularly toward Russia, and will try to corrupt elections in 2020.

“The president and his men plot on,” said Chairman Adam Schiff, D-Calif., of the Intelligence Committee that led the inquiry. “The danger persists. The risk is real.”

The outcome brings the Trump presidency to a milestone moment that has building almost from the time the New York businessman-turned-reality-TV host unexpectedly won the White House in

2016 amid questions about Russian interference in the U.S. election — and the rise of the “resistance.”

Democrats drew from history, the Founding Fathers and their own experiences, as minorities, women and some immigrants to the U.S., seeking to honor their oath of office to uphold the constitution.

Rep. Lou Correa, D-Calif., spoke in Spanish asking God to unite the nation.

“In America,” said Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, D-N.Y., “no one is above the law.”

Republicans aired Trump-style grievances about what Arizona Rep. Debbie Lesko called a “rigged” process.

The political fallout from the vote will reverberate across an already polarized

country with divergent views of Trump’s July phone call when Trump asked Zelenskiy to investigate Democrats in the 2016 election, Biden and his son Hunter, who worked on the board of a gas company in Ukraine while his father was the vice president.

Trump has repeatedly implored Americans to read the transcript of the call he said was “perfect.”

But the facts it revealed, and those in an anonymous whistleblower’s complaint that sparked the probe, are largely undisputed.

More than a dozen current and former White House officials and diplomats testified for hours.

The Washington Post contributed.

Judge cites double jeopardy in tossing Manafort’s fraud case in NY

BY MICHAEL R. SISAK
Associated Press

NEW YORK — A New York judge threw out state mortgage fraud charges against Paul Manafort, ruling Wednesday that the criminal case was too similar to one that has already landed President Donald Trump’s former campaign chairman in federal prison.

The ruling was a blow to what had been seen as an attempt by Manhattan’s district attorney to hedge against the possibility that

Trump would pardon Manafort for federal crimes. District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr.’s office said it would appeal.

Manafort was convicted last year in two federal cases stemming from his business dealings and is serving a 7½-year prison sentence.

Judge Maxwell Wiley ruled that state law precludes prosecution, citing double jeopardy grounds.



Manafort

Manafort, 70, wasn’t in court for the ruling because of a heart-related condition that reportedly caused him to be moved last week to a hospital from a federal prison in Pennsylvania.

Defense lawyer Todd Blanche raised the double jeopardy issue soon after Manafort was arrested, saying the charges brought by Vance, a Democrat, violated a state law that bars repeat

prosecutions for the same general conduct. He wrote in court papers seeking a dismissal that the factual overlap between the federal and state cases “is extensive — if not total.”

“This indictment should never have been brought, and today’s decision is a stark reminder that the law and justice should always prevail over politically-motivated actions,” Blanche said in a statement.

Blanche said Tuesday that Manafort’s condition is stable, but that his family

and friends remain “extremely concerned about his health and still do not have a full understanding of his medical condition or well-being.”

Manafort looked frail as he shuffled into a Manhattan courtroom in June for an arraignment on the state charges. In March, at his sentencing in the second of the two federal cases, he used a wheelchair because of gout.

Manafort was convicted in federal court on charges alleging he misled the U.S.

government about lucrative foreign lobbying work, hid millions of dollars from tax authorities and encouraged witnesses to lie on his behalf.

The 16-count New York indictment alleged Manafort gave false and misleading information in applying for residential mortgage loans, starting in 2015 and continuing until three days before Trump’s inauguration in 2017. He was also charged with falsifying business records and conspiracy.

Inspector general cites FBI missteps in Page investigation

BY MATT ZAPOTOSKY
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Justice Department Inspector General Michael Horowitz testified Wednesday that he was concerned the FBI did not reevaluate whether to continue investigating a former Trump campaign adviser as agents failed to uncover evidence of wrongdoing in late 2016, and the FBI's missteps in that case might indicate a broader problem.

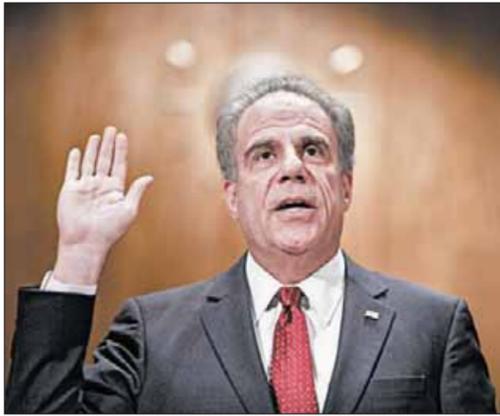
Testifying at a Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee hearing, Horowitz criticized how the FBI handled its probe of former Trump campaign adviser Carter Page, asserting that agents used inaccurate information to obtain Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court orders to surveil Page, even as they discussed among themselves that the investigation was coming up empty.

While Horowitz said he did not see evidence of those problems "infecting" the rest of the FBI's investigation into whether the Trump campaign coordinated with Russia to influence the 2016 election, he asserted he was so alarmed that he launched a broader review of the FBI's use of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court.

"The concern here is this is such a high profile, important case," Horowitz testified. "If it happened here, is this indicative of a wider problem?"

The hearing is the second time Horowitz has discussed his assessment of the FBI's 2016 investigation of the Trump campaign. As with his last appearance before the Senate Judiciary Committee, his remarks offered fodder for Democrats and Republicans to validate their divergent views of the politically sensitive probe, which was ultimately taken over by special counsel Robert Mueller.

Horowitz said that the



DOJ watchdog Michael Horowitz is sworn in before testifying before a Senate panel Wednesday in Washington.

bureau was justified in opening the politically sensitive investigation, though he noted the threshold for doing so was low. He also said he found no evidence of political bias affecting the inquiry.

But Horowitz said, too, that as the investigation went along and the FBI applied to surreptitiously monitor Page, the bureau included "significant inaccuracies" and omitted important information in its bids to do so. He said he found evidence that agents discussed "not finding anything with regards" to Page, but pressed ahead anyway, instead of reassessing whether the probe was worthwhile.

"We've got agents talking with one another about why is Page even a subject anymore," Horowitz said.

That assertion is important, as Republicans have suggested even if the FBI's investigation was opened legitimately, it should have been shut down long before Mueller was appointed.

Sen. Ron Johnson, R-Wis., chair of the Homeland Security Committee, said in his opening statement he believes the inspector general report shows that the FBI's Russia investigation should have been shut down "within the first few months of 2017"

Instead, he said, the Trump administration was "was tormented for over two years ... all based on a false narrative."

The probe was opened in the summer of 2016; Mueller submitted his final report to the attorney general in March.

Under questioning from Sen. Gary Peters, D-Mich., Horowitz noted he found no evidence that the missteps in the Page case sullied the FBI's other work.

The FBI's opening of the umbrella investigation involving the Trump campaign was based not on Page, but a different Trump campaign adviser, George Papadopoulos, whose boasts to an Australian government official about the Russians potentially having dirt on Hillary Clinton sparked the bureau's interest.

Horowitz said he was unable to get satisfactory explanations for some of the FBI's misconduct, and certain witnesses only agreed to cooperate late in the investigation.

Conservatives have also noted that Horowitz's report is not the last word. Attorney General William Barr tapped the top federal prosecutor in Connecticut, U.S. Attorney John Durham, to do a similar review of the Russia case.

Defiant Trump spends the day tweeting, fuming — and at rally

BY JILL COLVIN
AND AAMER MADHANI
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — An incredulous and defiant President Donald Trump stared down Wednesday's impeachment votes as he has every obstacle in his presidency: broadcasting his grievances by tweet.

The White House insisted Trump would be busy working rather than focused on the proceedings in the House, but Trump spent his morning tweeting and retweeting, expressing fury and disbelief.

"Can you believe that I will be impeached today by the Radical Left, Do Nothing Democrats, AND I DID NOTHING WRONG!" Trump wrote in one of 45 tweets posted before noon. He asked his followers to "Say a PRAYER!"

As members of the House debated the articles of impeachment, Trump's urgency appeared to escalate as he switched to all capital letters: "SUCH ATROCIOUS LIES BY THE RADICAL LEFT, DO NOTHING DEMOCRATS. THIS IS AN ASSAULT ON AMERICA, AND AN ASSAULT ON THE REPUBLICAN PARTY!!!!" he wrote.

For Trump, it was an acknowledgment of the inevitable: That he will become the third president in U.S. history to be impeached by the House of Representatives. While he and White House officials have tried to brush off the significance — noting there is little chance he will be convicted by the Republican-controlled Senate and removed from office — allies nonetheless acknowledge that Trump has indeed been angry over the stain the episode will leave on his legacy.

Trump is facing two articles of impeachment: The first charges him with abuse of power for allegedly pressuring the president of Ukraine to investigate his



A computer user checks some of the dozens of tweets President Trump posted Wednesday in Washington.

Democratic rivals while crucial U.S. security aid was being withheld. The second charges him with obstruction of Congress for stonewalling investigative efforts.

Trump planned his own counterprogramming Wednesday night, holding what is expected to be a highly charged rally in Battle Creek, Michigan.

As the debate raged on during the day, Trump aides, including White House counselor Kellyanne Conway, fanned out across Capitol Hill to bolster the president's message that impeachment is helping Republicans.

Vice President Mike Pence headed to Michigan early for a daylong bus tour before joining Trump at his Battle Creek rally.

He said he marveled at Trump's resilience and his "determination to go forward."

He also accused Democrats of "trying to impeach this president because they can't defeat" him, predicting that Trump would once again carry the state, in part because of the energy generated by impeachment.

Trump's campaign has experienced a surge in contributions and volunteers during the proceedings and was hoping to raise another \$2 million Wednesday.

Trump, for his part, had plenty to say via tweet, declaring that Democratic House Speaker Nancy Pelosi "Will go down in history as worst Speaker."

He also generously retweeted allies' comments from his favorite morning show, "Fox & Friends," as they sought to reassure conservative voters that Trump remains in good spirits despite the vote.

On Tuesday, Trump released a fiery letter to Pelosi denouncing his impeachment as "an unprecedented and unconstitutional abuse of power by Democrats."

"You view democracy as your enemy!" he railed, claiming at one point that, "More due process was afforded to those accused in the Salem Witch Trials."

Rep. Kevin McCarthy, the House minority leader and Rep. John Ratcliffe, R-Texas, said they were among a group of GOP lawmakers who met with Trump at the White House on Tuesday night to talk strategy and the likely Senate trial in January.

"Anybody else, this would be traumatic for them," McCarthy said. He noted that Trump in recent days has hosted multiple holiday parties. "I've never seen a man so strong. ... He is focused on what the American people need."



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NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

European planet-studying craft launches from South America

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — A European space-craft launched from South America Wednesday on a three-year mission to study planets in other solar systems.

The Characterizing Exoplanets Satellite (CHEOPS) mission blasted off from Kourou, French Guiana, at 3:54 a.m. EST atop a Russian Soyuz rocket. The launch came 24 hours after a first attempt was delayed shortly before liftoff be-

cause of a software problem in the rocket.

The European Space Agency says the satellite is the first mission dedicated to studying bright nearby stars that are already known to have planets, and will focus on “planets in the super-Earth to Neptune size range.”

The agency hopes that the data will enable the bulk density of those planets to be calculated, a first step toward understanding them better.

British man accused of hacking US health care companies

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — A British man pleaded not guilty Wednesday to U.S. charges alleging that he and co-conspirators in an international hacking group called The Dark Overlord stole data from health care and accounting companies in Missouri, Illinois and Georgia and threatened to release the information unless they paid ransom.

Nathan Francis Wyatt, 38, was charged in federal

court in St. Louis with conspiracy and two counts of aggravated identity theft, according to an indictment unsealed Wednesday.

His court appearance came after he lost an 11-month fight to avoid being extradited from Britain to the U.S.

The charges allege that Wyatt and his co-conspirators committed the crimes between June 10 and July 26, 2016.

Rapper Tekashi 6ix9ine given sentence in racketeering case

NEW YORK — The rapper Tekashi 6ix9ine was sentenced to two years in prison Wednesday by a judge who said his extraordinary cooperation with prosecutors let him dodge potential decades in prison but did not absolve him entirely.

The 23-year-old performer, whose real name is Daniel Hernandez, pleaded guilty earlier this year to charges accusing him of joining and direct-

ing violence by the gang known as Nine Trey Gangsta Bloods, including orchestrating a shooting in which an innocent bystander was wounded.

Tekashi 6ix9ine has already served 13 months and will be released in late 2020.

After his arrest, Tekashi 6ix9ine shed the outlaw reputation he'd curated online and testified against his gang mates earlier this year.



HUSSEIN MALLA/AP

An anti-government protester attempts to give flowers to riot police Wednesday in Beirut, Lebanon, during ongoing demonstrations against what many regard as a ruling elite responsible for corruption and a financial crisis.

Court says part of ‘Obamacare’ is invalid, more review needed

NEW ORLEANS — The “individual mandate” of former President Barack Obama’s health care law is invalid, but other parts of the law need further review, a federal appeals court ruled Wednesday.

The 2-1 ruling in the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans largely sidestepped what happens to some of the most popular parts of the Affordable Care Act such as protections for those with pre-existing conditions, Medicaid expansion and the ability for children under the age of 26 to remain on their parents insurance.

The panel agreed with Texas-based U.S. District Judge Reed O’Connor’s 2018 finding that the law’s insurance requirement, the so-called individual mandate, was rendered unconstitutional when Congress, in 2017, eliminated a tax on people without insurance.

The court reached no decision on the big issue — how much of the Affordable Care Act must fall along with the insurance mandate. The Act has remained in place while the question of its future has been litigated in court.

“It may still be that none of the ACA is severable

from the individual mandate, even after this inquiry is concluded. It may be that all of the ACA is severable from the individual mandate. It may also be that some of the ACA is severable from the individual mandate, and some is not,” Judge Jennifer Elrod wrote.

In dissent, Judge Carolyn Dineen King said her colleagues were prolonging “uncertainty over the future of the healthcare sector.” King would have found the mandate constitutional, although unenforceable, and would have left the rest of the law alone.

Rule would deny asylum due to low-level crimes

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration proposed new regulations Wednesday that would deny asylum protections to immigrants with criminal convictions — including some low-level offenses and misdemeanors — measures that would raise new legal barriers to those seeking

refuge in the U.S.

The proposed change from the Department of Justice and the Department of Homeland Security would disqualify asylum applicants found guilty of serious offenses such as driving while intoxicated and domestic battery, as well as lesser violations

such as the use of false documents and re-entering the United States illegally.

If implemented after a public comment period, the regulation would help the government sort through an immigration court backlog that exceeds 1 million pending cases, the Justice Department said.

US top court to rule on religious freedom case

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court will consider how much leeway religious organizations have in firing their employees in two cases from California filed by teachers who lost their jobs at Catholic schools.

The court said Wednesday that it will combine the two cases, in which panels of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit in San Francisco said teachers could proceed with their lawsuits against the schools.

One teacher alleged age discrimination, and another, now deceased and represented by her husband, said she was fired after informing the school that she had breast cancer.

The cases ask the court for further guidance on when an employee should be considered secular and, thus, able to take advantage of anti-discrimination laws — or religious, and, thus, unable to do so.

In India: A controversial religion-based citizenship act will have to pass the scrutiny of the nation’s top court, even as Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s government pledged to push ahead and implement the law.

A three-judge bench agreed to examine the legality of the legislation after more than 50 petitions were filed by activists, lawyers, student groups, Muslim bodies and politicians.

The move may calm protesters who have called the law discriminatory because it bars undocumented Muslims from Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh from seeking citizenship but allows Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians from these regions to do so.

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EDITORIALS

AFTER THE 737 MAX SHUTDOWN

Boeing's struggle to regain the flying public's full trust

Air travel is safe — and trusted by the American flying public — because aircraft manufacturers, airline operators and government regulators all perform at very high levels. The same is generally true in many other countries.

Chicago-based Boeing, one of the world's leading technology companies and the largest U.S. exporter, ripped a gigantic hole in the fabric of international air travel by mishandling the development and roll-out of a new aircraft. Two of its 737 Max jetliners crashed in less than five months, killing a total of 346 people in Indonesia and Ethiopia.

The 737 Max was supposed to be one of the most advanced and reliable (read: safe) planes in the sky. Perhaps that will turn out to be true, but the aircraft has been grounded since March. Boeing this week said it would suspend production in January as the company works to prove to the Federal Aviation Administration and foreign regulators that the 737 Max deserves to fly again.

Boeing is so enormous that the production shutdown could create a noticeable drag on the U.S. economy. The company has orders for about 5,000 Max jets and has built 400 at its Renton, Washington, plant that it hasn't delivered. Airlines — including United, Southwest and American — are counting on the 737 Max. They've been forced to rejigger schedules and cancel flights.

Boeing had said it would get the 737 Max back in the sky by the end of 2019 but that won't happen. The company's shares have taken a major hit and CEO Dennis Muilenburg was stripped of his additional title of chairman.

A front-page New York Times news story described Boeing's situation as "the worst crisis in its 103-year history." If that's



DAVID RYDER/GETTY

an exaggeration it's only slightly so, reflecting the devastating blow to Boeing's reputation: Here is the great American manufacturer, creator of the 747 and other fabulous planes, struggling to convince regulators its new jet is airworthy.

The two fatal crashes, involving new 737 Max jets flown by Lion Air and Ethiopian Airlines, occurred in similar fashion during good weather, suggesting a glitch with sophisticated software: An automated

anti-stalling program known as MCAS, or Maneuvering Characteristics Augmentation System, apparently steered the planes into sharp dives.

Boeing needs to fix the software and assuage the regulators, but problems with MCAS may run deeper in the company's culture. There are questions about whether Boeing hurried the development process and properly explained MCAS to airlines, pilots and regulators, among other possible failings.

All of those issues will have to be addressed satisfactorily for the 737 Max to be recertified to fly. Then Boeing and its airline customers will face another tough task: convincing passengers that the plane is safe to board.

It's easy for passengers in Chicago and around the globe to feel good about Boeing, and to embrace the miracle of flight — until something goes terribly wrong. At which point Boeing's struggle to regain the flying public's full trust begins anew.

Hyper-fast transit for Chicagoans? We've been down this tunnel before.

Remember those days when a visit to a drive-up bank branch meant pushing your deposit into a pneumatic tube that would whoosh your paycheck to a teller inside the building?

Imagine yourself in one of those tubes. Essentially, that's the idea behind a hyperloop system, a potentially game-changing way of travel between cities that involves passenger pods moving at speeds of up to 700 mph inside metal tubes. A partial vacuum is created inside the tube, minimizing friction. Propulsion is provided much the same way bullet trains move, via large magnets along a track that the pods levitate over.

Could hyperloop be coming to Chicago? A northeast Ohio transportation agency released a study this week that touts the idea of a hyperloop connection between Chicago and Cleveland that could generate more than 900,000 jobs, the Tribune's Mary Wisniewski reports. Getting from Chicago to Cleveland could take a little more than a half-hour.

Wake up in Chicago, grab a mocha latte, hop on a hyperloop pod and be at your job in Cleveland faster than it takes to get from Lisle to the Loop. What's not to like?

Well, forgive Chicagoans if they don't strap themselves in just yet, but they're likely to feel like they've been down this tunnel before.

One mayor ago, billionaire innovator Elon Musk came to Chicago with visions and mock-ups of a high-speed conduit between the Loop and O'Hare International Airport. Musk's drilling enterprise — yes, it's called the Boring Company — would have created a subterranean super-highway in which passenger pods zip along at speeds of up to 150 mph. Unlike hyperloop, though, no vacuum would be involved.

Musk's biggest cheerleader for the project was then Mayor Rahm Emanuel. When Emanuel left, so did Musk's tunnel dream. What made us skeptical about Musk's idea is what raises our eyebrows now about hyperloop: It's hard to get lathered up

about a zippy new way of getting around if the technology is still in a nascent stage of testing.

The company that collaborated with northeast Ohio transportation officials to produce the study, Hyperloop Transportation Technologies, is running tests in a 320-meter tube in southern France.

A 101-year-old French woman, Henriette Ardouin, plans to be in one of the pods tested there early next year. *Vive Henriette!*

The rest of us, however, need to see much more evidence that this technology is workable, scalable and affordable: Aside from questions about the technology itself, there's the obvious question about viability. Will there be a market for a link between Chicago and Cleveland? We don't know; perhaps a combination of passenger and freight traffic would create enough demand.

And speaking of demand, we have one: The study suggests the project could be

paid for wholly by the private sector. Good, because that should be the only way Chicago would agree to the idea. And what if whatever entity is building the transit link suddenly abandons it? Taxpayers would want written assurance that their hard-earned dollars won't get sucked into an incomplete project.

There's also some upside to the Chicago-Cleveland connection. Right-of-way issues can become big hurdles in these kinds of projects, but a usable right of way exists along the Interstate 80/90 Tollway that links Chicago with Cleveland.

It's natural and right for cities to think ambitiously about transportation. We welcome smart proposals: Dismissing ideas simply because they seem too futuristic is a recipe for falling behind in the competitive global economy. But before we take our protein pills and get on board the hyperloop bandwagon, we want to hear more about how realistic a hyperloop is — and how taxpayers won't be left holding a shovel if an ambitious tunnel project collapses.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

Democrats fear that President Trump will not only walk away from the impeachment but also win reelection. Be afraid, be very afraid.

It's a virtual certainty that Trump will emerge relatively unscathed and, credibly, unfazed. Not only are his supporters more stalwart than ever but ... his base is expanding. Since the impeachment proceedings began, 600,000 new donors have contributed to the Republican National Committee, according to Axios. Last week alone, just as the House Judiciary Committee adopted two articles of impeachment, the Trump campaign and RNC together took in more than \$10 million in small-dollar donations.

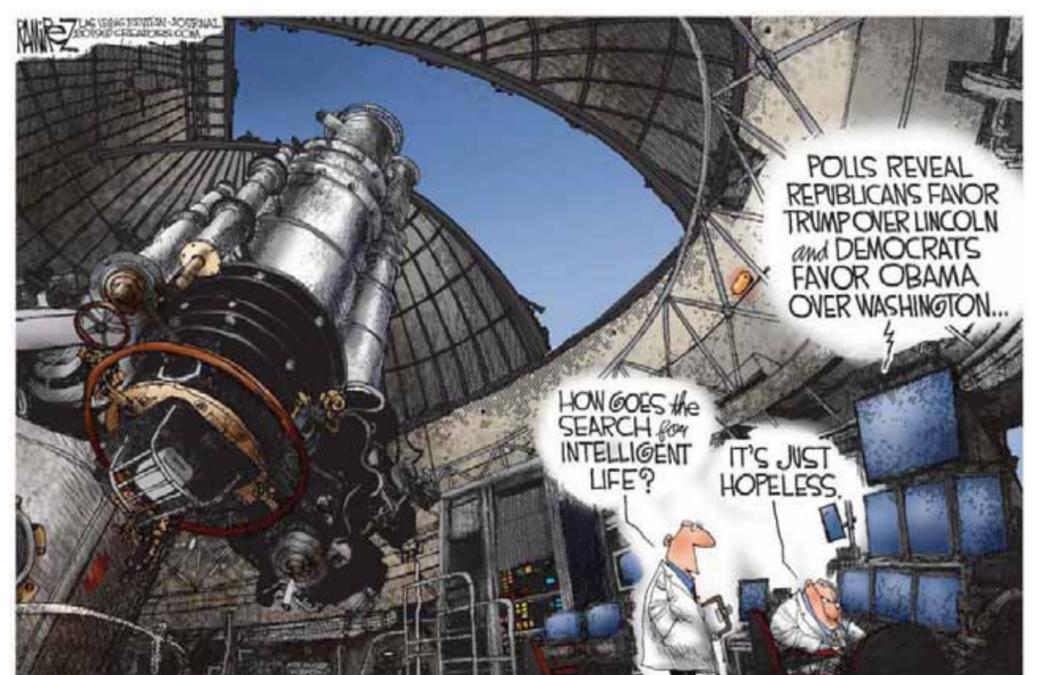
The Democratic National Committee made no such commensurate gains, though some Democrats running against designated Republican villains, such as Rep. Devin Nunes (Calif.), did see an uptick in fundraising.

Suffice to say, the Democrats have probably damaged themselves more than they have Trump, whose approval ratings have remained relatively steady between a low of 35% in 2017 and a high of 46% in April 2019 — no matter what he does to whom, according to Gallup. The latest RealClearPolitics poll average has him at 44.5% approval, which is slightly higher than in early October. ...

Which is to say: Unless a photo surfaces showing latecomer Mike Bloomberg shooting a polar bear while slurping an extra-large, sugar-laden soda, you can expect a Trump sequel in 2020. Sorry for the spoiler.

Kathleen Parker, *The Washington Post*

EDITORIAL CARTOON



MICHAEL RAMIREZ/THE LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

Chicago Tribune PERSPECTIVE



JABIN BOTSFORD/THE WASHINGTON POST

President Donald Trump did not participate in House impeachment hearings, though he has let his thoughts be known about the proceedings on Twitter.

Amid impeachment turmoil, Trump keeps acting like a guilty man



STEVE CHAPMAN

Donald Trump is not known to be a fan of country music, or any music. But lately he is taking counsel from the Alison Krauss hit that advises, “You say it best when you say nothing at all.”

Not when it comes to heaping abuse on Nancy Pelosi. His bizarre six-page letter, released on the eve of the House impeachment vote, was a boiling mix of fury, mendacity and self-pity. When it comes to sitting down, taking an oath and answering hard questions, though, he’s as silent as a snake.

In November, the president tweeted that he would “strongly consider” providing oral or written answers to impeachment investigators. But he let the House committees complete their hearings without the benefit of his version of events.

The Senate proceedings are not likely to loosen his inhibitions. Trump reportedly would like an extended trial that would include appearances by the White House whistleblower and Hunter Biden, but he balks at testifying or letting his accomplices do

so.

On Tuesday, Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said the Senate does not care to hear from acting chief of staff Mick Mulvaney, former national security adviser John Bolton or other aides who could shed light on the conduct for which Trump has been impeached.

“It is not the Senate’s job to leap into the breach and search desperately for ways to get to ‘guilty,’” he declared Tuesday. McConnell would not expect their testimony to get to “innocent.”

Most Americans lack the time to plow through the 685-page House Judiciary Committee report making the case against the president. But if they are in doubt about whether Trump committed impeachable offenses, they might ponder why he consistently behaves like a guilty man.

From the start, he and those around him have labored to keep the truth from coming out. After his July 25 phone call with the president of Ukraine, his aides made the extraordinary decision to put a transcript in a highly classified server. Trump later released the call record only because of his bizarre delusion that it vindicated him. But he rails bitterly against the whistleblower for bringing the call to light.

House Republicans charge that the Judiciary Committee acted on “hearsay, presumptions and speculation.” In fact, much of the incriminating testimony was firsthand, and it’s not speculation to draw logical conclusions from a wealth of evidence. But any residual uncertainty would vanish if Trump and his subordinates gave their accounts under oath.

Americans are conditioned not to regard the silence of an accused person as incriminating — because our criminal justice system stipulates that it shouldn’t be taken that way. A prosecutor, making her closing argument, is not allowed to say that a suspect who declines to testify must have something to hide.

But because this is not a criminal trial, Trump can’t hide behind the Fifth Amendment. “There’s no problem with drawing adverse inferences in impeachment proceedings,” University of Chicago emeritus law professor Albert Alschuler tells me. “And there’s no problem even in a criminal case with drawing adverse inferences from orders to other people to stonewall. It’s only a privilege against self-incrimination.”

In every realm besides a criminal trial, we interpret a refusal to answer questions about possible misconduct as strong evidence of guilt. If you ask a teenager why there are empty beer bottles under his bed and he declines to answer, you would reasonably assume he’s been drinking. If Trump’s conduct were as impeccable as he

claims, his testimony could only vindicate him.

The Senate, if it yearned to uncover the truth, could order Trump and those around him to appear. But the White House could fight any Senate subpoenas, notes University of Missouri law professor Frank O. Bowman III, author of “High Crimes and Misdemeanors: A History of Impeachment for the Age of Trump,” which could delay any enforcement for months. And he might refuse to heed any eventual court orders.

“All of which is yet another reason why Senate Republicans will use every means at their disposal to avoid issuance of Senate subpoenas to administration witnesses,” Bowman told me. “Defiance followed by Senate inaction would highlight Republicans’ utter subservience to Trump.”

Trump loves to harangue crowds, yammer at press gaggles and burn up his smartphone banging out tweets. When the prospect of regaling senators with accounts of his “perfect” behavior makes him swallow his tongue, it’s not hard to figure out why.

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

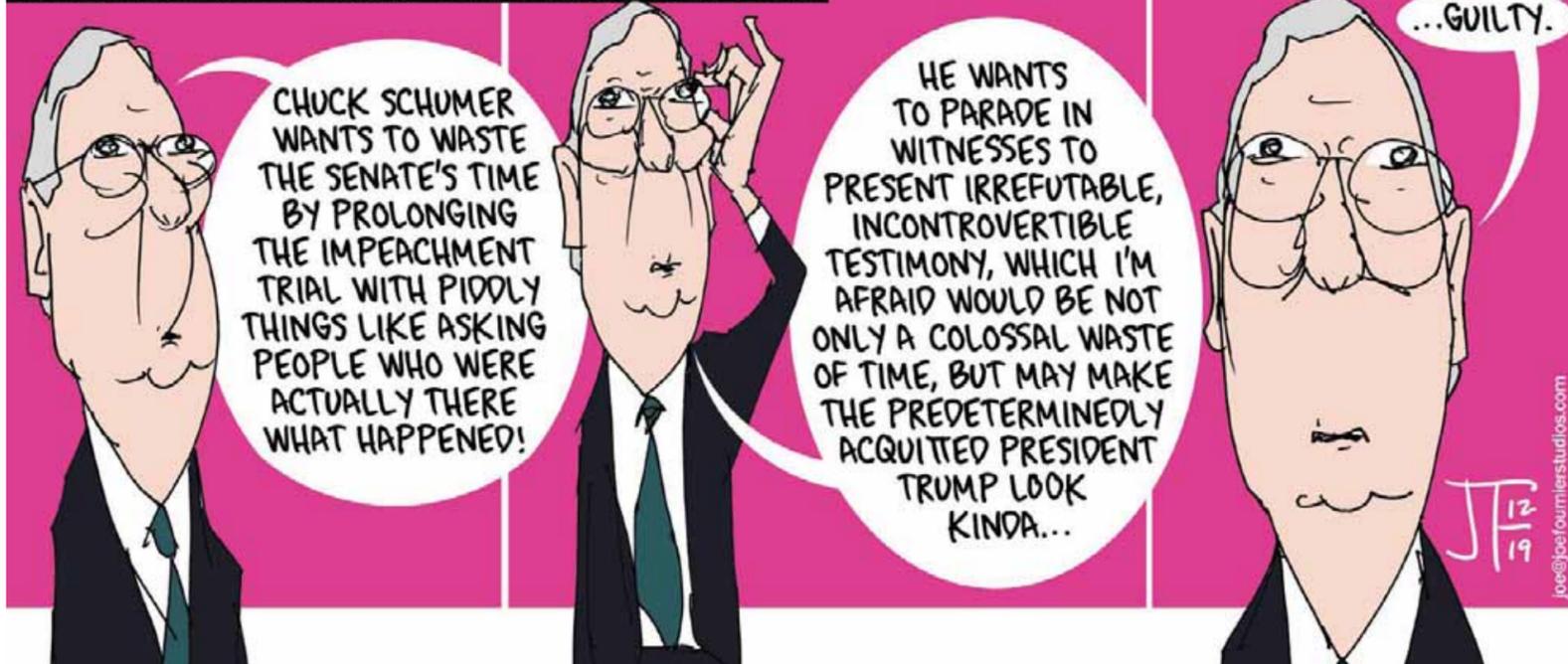
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PERSPECTIVE



TOM WILLIAMS/CQ-ROLL CALL 2017

An aide opens Electoral College ballot boxes during a joint session of Congress to tally ballots for president and vice president.

Our political system urgently needs an overhaul. Start with these 7 steps.

BY ADLAI E. STEVENSON III

As historian Arnold Toynbee taught us, nations rise or fall according to their ability to respond to challenge, and thus does challenge become opportunity.

It's time to respond with reform of American politics and government — make the challenge of American politics an opportunity for America. The Adlai Stevenson Center on Democracy has authored a comprehensive Agenda for Political Reform addressing all branches and levels of government. The agenda includes the following principles and recommendations:

1. Abolish the Electoral College. Donald Trump was defeated by the American electorate. Pending abolition of the Electoral College, states should ratify the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact, which obligates their electors to vote for the winner of a national plurality.

2. Democracy requires an informed electorate. Restore the Fairness Doctrine; enforce the Federal Communications Act. The public's airwaves should be used for the public's benefit, not its exploitation. Television networks, seeking ratings and protected by the FCC, effectively financed Trump's primary campaign. Trump ranked first for lying as one of the Democratic primary candidates, former Maryland Gov. Martin O'Malley, ranked first for truthfulness yet faded from the screens.

Support public broadcasting and criminalize the knowing distribution on social media of "fake history" with intent to harm. Require sponsors of political messages on social media to identify themselves — and public corporations to disclose their political contributions.

3. Drain the swamp of money with partial public financing for qualifying presidential and congressional candidates and limits on their receipt of contributions. Require full public disclosure of donors and their contributions. Shorten cam-

paigns by requiring all states to hold primary elections in one of three months, starting in July. Reduce the number of elected offices to drain money from politics.

Revisit the Citizens United case in court. Revitalize the Federal Election Commission and enforce campaign finance laws.

4. Reform the selection of judges. The United States is one of very few nations that elects judges. An end to judicial elections would eliminate campaign contributions to judges (or judicial candidates) while enhancing the quality of state and local judiciaries. And the ballot would be shortened in most states.

5. Reduce the number of elected offices to focus public attention and drain money from politics. Are elected constitutional officers needed to issue license plates and accept corporate filings? Local units of government could be eliminated or consolidated, including school districts. Ballots are so long in most state and local elections that even the most conscientious citizens cannot be expected to know the qualifications of all candidates for all offices and understand all referenda. Reducing the number of elected officials also would drain money from politics.

6. Strengthen party organization and leadership. The great presidents post-Civil War were nominated in conventions. The delegates were predominantly party and public officials with knowledge of the candidates, the issues and demands of public office. Today, the conventions are media events.

Gov. Adlai Stevenson entered no primaries in 1952. His nomination for president cost nothing. His campaigns of 1952 and 1956 laid the programmatic foundation for the New Frontier and Great Society.

The number of ex officio delegates could be increased. Democracy is fragile. Chastened by its history, the founders created a representative form of democracy now in need of reform.

7. Redistricting of legislative districts should be reformed. End gerrymandering with districts drawn up by nonpartisan commissions. Four-year terms for members of Congress would end the perpetual campaigning and afford representatives more time to carry out their official duties. Districts with multiple representatives would create opportunities for minority representation. Ranked choice voting would assure proportional representation in multi-member and single member districts.

I could go on. This Congress bears little resemblance to the Congress in which I served from 1970 to 1981. There was little partisanship. We divided over issues not along party lines. The regular order should be restored, cloture reformed. We held our "mark-up" sessions behind closed doors to write legislation line by line. When doors were opened to let in the "sunshine," the lobbyists were let in — and the money. Legislating was delegated to staff as senators and representatives spent more time raising money. The founders closed the doors to the Constitutional Convention of 1787.

The Adlai Stevenson Center on Democracy has organized these and other reforms under the banner of its Agenda for Political Reform, and it is attempting to stimulate a broad movement which seizes the moment, joins reformers in an agenda for action and challenges candidates and officeholders.

The center has organized a nationwide, nonpartisan coalition of prominent reformers and reform organizations with shared responsibilities for refining and promoting its Agenda for Political Reform. The time for political reform is ripe.

We hope more and more Americans will join this movement. "We the people" cannot just be a slogan we wistfully recall from our history. The onus is on us to restore and strengthen our system of elections and governance.

Adlai E. Stevenson III is chairman of the Adlai Stevenson Center on Democracy and is a former U.S. senator from Illinois.

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

Richard Hatcher was a lionhearted leader

Much of who I am and aspire to be is the result of growing up in Gary, Indiana, under the leadership of Richard Hatcher.

In civil rights circles, people of Gary are thought of as a pretty radical bunch, and we are: as the first African Americans of a city to elect a black mayor and govern themselves.

We laid the groundwork for black mayors in other cities to be elected as well as leaders in Congress and eventually, America's first black president.

Today, when I address the unpopular issues of police brutality, income disparity between blacks and whites, and the normalization of racism in America, it's as a result of growing up in Gary, where our mayor tackled these difficult issues each and every day of his career.

Before Hatcher, blacks were limited in where they could, live, work and play in Gary, and after his election all of these barriers were eradicated.

Much of what my generation has accomplished was done on the backs of lionhearted leaders like Hatcher, who sacrificed themselves so we would enjoy lives that they could only dream of.

Hatcher helped teach my generation that we were young, gifted and black, that black was beautiful and that no race or creed, anywhere, was better than us.

His life and leadership were not spent in vain. The torch he bore will burn forever and be carried on and passed to the next generation.

— *Louis Blackwell, Birmingham, Alabama*

Why not change to a graduated tax?

Is the Tribune Editorial Board capable of having a serious debate about a serious issue? I'm referring to its trivializing editorial ("A motto for the Fair Tax: 'Would we ever break a promise to you?'" Dec. 15) about an amendment to the Illinois Constitution that would change residents' income tax from flat to graduated, which would more fairly tax higher incomes.

Many of the examples it cites as broken promises came about as a result of an unsustainable taxing system that created the structural deficit we "enjoy" today.

We have had a flat tax for 50 years. It is time to try something that the majority of states use, a progressive income tax. Any further discussion of the subject on the editorial page should be limited to why the board thinks a flat tax is better for Illinois than a progressive tax.

— *Diane Niesman, Wheaton*

Vote 'no' to change in income tax rate

Kudos to the Tribune Editorial Board for revealing the shell game of Gov. J.B. Pritzker and Democratic legislators to change the Illinois Constitution to allow the governor and legislature to raise taxes using a graduated rate.

The Tribune's litany of broken promises made by governors and legislators that raising revenue — read, mostly taxes — would fix all sorts of problems is telling. In short, voters should ignore the untrustworthy politicians and, instead, trust their gut and the historical facts. Voters should vote "no" in the November 2020 election to amend the constitution's income tax clause.

— *Dennis Dohm, Oak Lawn*

'Fair tax' in Illinois is long overdue

The "Fair Tax" editorial misses the point. The editorial board's point about Illinois politicians breaking promises to the electorate over the decades is not wrong. But the fair tax amendment is not a promise nor is it a substantive change. It is a structural change to our antiquated taxing policies. The federal government has had a progressive income tax since 1913. Most states that have an income tax have a progressive tax. That is even true for our neighboring states of Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri, which are hardly bastions of progressive voters. A flat tax is regressive because it hits poorer constituents harder than wealthier ones. This amendment is long overdue.

Politicians have raised and lowered the flat tax numerous times over the years and can continue to do so. What can change the culture of broken promises in Springfield are fair elections. And fair elections can only take place in districts that are fairly drawn. That is why both the fair tax and the fair map amendments should be approved by Illinois voters. Fairly drawn districts can lead to real competition for the office of representative or senator. Structural change is needed in Illinois.

— *Jan Goldberg, Riverside*

Language serves all of us. Merriam-Webster's word of the year shows that.

BY BENJAMIN DREYER

When I first got into the copy-editing racket, back in the early 1990s, writers, and thus copy editors, were vigorously wrestling with the longstanding and essentially rote use of the pronoun "he" to refer to a person whose gender was, in the moment, either unknown or irrelevant, as, for instance, "Is it wise to feed your baby whenever he is hungry?"

The commonly held notion that this allegedly genderless "he" did the job just fine because the default person is a "he" and everyone else can just fall in line behind that had stirred resistance from some writers. For a while, they were leaning hard into the use of "he or she" (which over time uses up a lot of space and, more to the point, can become quickly tiresome), alternating "he" or "she" paragraph by paragraph (well-intentioned but clumsy) or sentence by sentence (dizzying), with the occasional foray into "s/he" (just plain unsightly).

Clever copy editors would do what they could to address the issue, pluralizing nouns as possible to lead gracefully into a "they" or (one of my preferred tricks) revising a bit of text to eliminate the need for a pronoun entirely.

Funnily enough, I rarely encountered a writer reaching for what we call "the singular 'they,'" as in, "Is it wise to feed your baby whenever they are hungry?" It simply wasn't — again, in my observation — done.

Well, now it's done, and often. The dictionary folk at Merriam-Webster last week named "they" as word of the year, and not simply in its singular sense — Merriam-Webster helpfully noted that the singular "they" has been "used for this purpose for

over 600 years" — but also in its nonbinary sense, as a third-person pronoun used by people who are gender-nonconforming. The editors also noted that in 2019 "they" look-ups on the company's search site increased 313% over the year before.

The online responses I've observed in the wake of the Merriam-Webster anointing have run the gamut from but-of-course embrace to outraged rejection, with a lot of tactfully, earnestly expressed confusion occupying the middle ground.

The embracers are fine, then, where they are, and the outraged parties can carry on with their outrage with no assistance from me. It's to the confused folk in the middle that I, a word person by trade, would hope to offer some advice and perhaps even comfort.

Yes, this nonbinary "they" use can be, as new things are wont to be, confusing.

Yes, it's a new challenge in writing and editing to avert confusion as to whether the "they" in a particular sentence is one person or a few people. (FAQ: "Is it 'they are' or 'they is'?" It's "they are," one notes, just the way we use "you are" for both singular and multiple persons with no great confusion attendant.)

Yes, it's something to be puzzled over and wrestled with, whether for you it's an entirely abstract concept or something that hits closer to home, as a relative or friend of someone whose pronoun — I've tried to stop myself from referring to it as a preferred pronoun, which is a bit too close to having one's sexual orientation referred to, also, as a preference — is "they."

Which leads me to a story:

A few years ago, I gained a colleague who was introduced, in one of those divisional welcome-aboard memos, as "they."

Well, I thought, this is going to be tricky. Perhaps feeling myself the old dog who had finally lost the ability to learn a new trick, I spent a good bit of time doing everything I could to shimmy around the thorny pronoun. I would refer to my colleague by my colleague's name, I would refer to my colleague as my colleague, I would tie myself in knots until, one day, the word "they" popped out of my mouth and I thought, "Thank heaven that's over."

From that point on, it was a relatively simple thing to do what I realized was, simply, the right thing. (Yes, I would on occasion misgender them, happily not to their face.)

If I had thought myself some kind of protector of language, I guess in this instance I would have finally asked myself, "From whom are you protecting it?" Moreover, an actual relationship with someone I immediately respected and increasingly, a bonus, liked — one can kick oneself all one wants at the thought that it shouldn't take a personal interaction to spark personal evolution, but for many of us frail humans it does — led me to an increasingly crystalline conclusion:

Language is here to serve those of us, all of us, who use it, and when one's perhaps unconsidered thoughts as to what is correct run smack into the honor we owe another person, one can only hope that it's honor that wins out.

The Washington Post

Benjamin Dreyer is vice president, executive managing editor and copy chief of Random House, and the author of "Dreyer's English: An Utterly Correct Guide to Clarity and Style."

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Chicago Tribune BUSINESS

Morning co-host Dixon out at WXRT

News anchor's position eliminated from Chicago radio station

BY ROBERT CHANNICK

Listeners to WXRT-FM had a rude awakening Wednesday when Mary Dixon, the rock station's longtime morning show news anchor, was missing from the airwaves.

Dixon, who had co-hosted the morning show with Lin Brehmer for more than 20 years, was home, asleep, and out of a job after the station eliminated her position.

"I slept until 7:30 this morning and it was glorious," said Dixon, 54.

In addition to Dixon's position, the legacy adult alternative rock station on Wednesday eliminated the morning newscasts entirely. Station owner Entercom, the Philadelphia-based chain that acquired WXRT and a half dozen other Chicago radio stations through the 2017 megamerger with CBS Radio, did not respond to a request for comment.

While her departure was abrupt, the decision was weeks in the making, sources said. Dixon was offered one of two open anchor positions on news stations WBBM-AM 780 and WCFS-FM 105.9, which are also owned by Entercom. The position, sources said, was the 7 p.m. to 3 a.m. overnight slot.

"I was offered a position at Newsradio (WBBM)," Dixon said. "It was not a good fit for my family, and I had to say no. I am no longer on the air at WXRT."

Entercom's \$2.4 billion acquisition of CBS Radio made it one of the largest radio owners in the U.S., with more than 235 stations. Other former Chicago CBS stations under the Entercom banner are Top 40 station WBBM-FM 96.3, sports talk station WSCR-AM 670,

Turn to Dixon, Page 2



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE
WXRT radio personality Lin Brehmer and Mary Dixon in the WXRT studio in 2012.



Fiat Chrysler vehicles move along the production line at a plant in Sterling Heights, Mich.

BLOOMBERG

Merger deal reached

Fiat Chrysler, Peugeot form fourth-largest automaker

BY COLLEEN BARRY
AND ANGELA CHARLTON
Associated Press

MILAN — The boards of Fiat Chrysler Automobiles and PSA Peugeot on Wednesday signed a binding merger deal creating the world's fourth-largest automaker with the scale to confront the challenges of stricter emissions regulations and the transition to new driving technologies.

The companies said in a joint statement the new group will be led by PSA's cost-cutting CEO Carlos Tavares, with Fiat Chrysler's chairman John Elkann as head of the board of the merged group. Fiat Chrysler CEO Mike Manley will stay on, though it was unclear in what capacity.

No name for the new company has been decided, executives said, but both Tavares and Manley insisted it was not a "touchy subject."

The deal, which was first unveiled in October, was billed as a 50-50 merger, but PSA has one extra seat on the board and Tavares at the helm, giving the

French carmaker the upper hand in daily management.

The executives said they expect the deal to take 12-15 months to close. It will create a company with revenues of nearly 170 billion euros (nearly \$190 billion) and producing 8.7 million cars a year — just behind Volkswagen, the Renault-Nissan alliance and Toyota.

The merger is expected to yield 3.7 billion euros in savings a year, which will be invested in "the new era of sustainable mobility" and to meet strict new emissions regulations, particularly in Europe.

"The merged entity will maneuver with speed and efficiency in an automotive industry undergoing rapid and fundamental changes," the companies said in their statement.

The new technologies include electrified engines, autonomous driving and connectivity, part of what Tavares described as "the transition to a world of clean, safe and sustainable mobility." Both companies have lagged in developing electric cars in particular.

No plants will be closed under the deal, the companies said. Savings will be achieved by sharing investments in vehicle platforms, engines and technology,

while leveraging scale on purchasing.

But the executives also said there would be cuts. Decisions on where those will come will be made after the deal closes.

"There is room for sharing (a) significant amount of existing platforms and avoiding excess investments for the future," Tavares said.

Fiat Chrysler shares rose nearly 1% in Milan, while Peugeot gained almost 2% in Paris trading.

Both the Peugeot and Fiat brands are strong on small car technology, with significant overlap in Europe. Manley said that the convergence of platforms would be "an early target" that will likely take two years to achieve.

Nick Oliver, a management professor at the University of Edinburgh Business School, said that most of the savings are likely to come from cost cuts as "it is not clear how the merger will boost joint revenues."

"Neither partner has products that can easily be sold under the others' brands in new or existing markets. Both are weak in China, the world's largest car market, while their center of gravity is in the mature European market,"

Oliver said.

Meanwhile, the deal will give Peugeot the opportunity to try to sell more in the U.S., where it does not have much of a presence. With 2,640 dealers across the U.S., Fiat Chrysler would be a ready distribution network.

PSA specializes in small and medium-sized cars, which have fallen out of favor with U.S. and even some international buyers who prefer SUVs and trucks. PSA could build its own vehicles off the underpinnings of Fiat Chrysler's hot selling Jeep SUVs and Ram trucks.

The new company will be legally based in the Netherlands, and traded in Paris, Milan and New York.

The executives played down the significance of the new entity's name and headquarters location, but both are symbolic choices that will signal who is in the driver's seat.

The French and Italian governments as well as unions will be looking for such details, given the national significance of car-making to both economies. The French government helped rescue PSA Peugeot in 2014 and owns a 12% stake through the

Turn to Merger, Page 2

Chicago's Willis Tower reaches LEED Platinum certification

Skyscraper becomes largest US building to achieve highest degree of energy efficiency



RYAN ORI
On Real Estate

It's not quite the same as its previous distinction — the world's tallest skyscraper — but Chicago's Willis Tower has captured a new title: the largest U.S. building to achieve the highest level of energy efficiency.

Building owner EQ Office, the U.S. office arm of private-equity giant Blackstone Group, is scheduled to announce Wednesday that the 110-story skyscraper has achieved LEED Platinum certification. It is the highest designation for energy efficiency and sustainability under Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design guidelines.

The 1,451-foot-tall tower achieved LEED Gold status in 2018. Efficiency was improved via upgrades to heating and cooling systems, hot water generators, lighting, plumbing and an ongoing overhaul of the elevator systems, according to EQ Office.

The building at 233 S. Wacker Drive opened as Sears Tower in 1973, and remained the world's tallest skyscraper until 1996 and North America's tallest until 2014.

Willis Tower is in the late stages of a \$500 million expansion to create new retail and entertainment on lower floors. When the expansion is completed in 2020's third quarter, the building will have about 4.5 million total square feet — including 3.5 million square feet of rentable offices and 300,000 square feet of retail.

Willis Tower's upgrades are among several major investments happening in the southwest corner of downtown Chi-



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE
View of Willis Tower from the 727 W. Madison building in Chicago, on Aug. 23.

cago, including the recent opening of the redeveloped, 2.8 million-square-foot Old Post Office and the upcoming groundbreaking for the 50-story BMO Tower office building alongside Union Station.

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Shareholder lawsuit filed against Exelon Corp.

Suit alleges company misled investors concerning probe

Chicago Tribune

A shareholder lawsuit seeking class-action status has been filed against Exelon Corp. and its top executives, alleging the utility misled investors concerning its lobbying activities and a federal investigation into its conduct, news of which caused the stock price to fall.

The suit states that Exelon regulatory filings made in July and October disclosed the company's receipt of grand jury subpoenas from the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of Illinois were related to its lobbying activities and communications with certain individuals. The Oct. 9 filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission also disclosed the company's board had formed a special committee in June to deal with the subpoena and any resulting actions.

The complaint, filed in federal court in Chicago Monday on behalf of shareholder Joshua Flynn, says Exelon's stock price fell 4.57%, to close at \$44.91 a share on Oct. 16, a day after Exelon announced the departure

of Exelon Utilities CEO Anne Pramaggiore, who formerly served as ComEd president and CEO. It also says that shares fell 2.51%, closing at \$45.49 a share, on Oct. 31, after the utility disclosed in a quarterly financial report that the SEC had begun an investigation of Exelon and ComEd's lobbying activities.

The suit also alleges the stock fell by 15 cents a share on Nov. 1, to close at \$45.34 a share when the Chicago Tribune reported that "a source with knowledge of the case in Chicago" confirmed that "Pramaggiore is one focus of the ongoing federal investigation" and that the "ComEd lobbying investigation dates to at least mid-May."

In addition to the utility, the suit names Exelon CEO and President Christopher Crane, Exelon CFO Joseph Nigro, ComEd CEO Joseph Dominguez and ComEd CFO and Treasurer Jeanne Jones as defendants.

The utility does not comment on pending litigation, ComEd spokeswoman Jean Medina said.

The potential class includes shareholders who purchased stock between Feb. 9 and Nov. 1. Exelon filed its 2018 annual report with the SEC on Feb. 8, which included a "code of business conduct," the suit states.

Uber Works expanding, launching in Miami

BY LIZETTE CHAPMAN
Bloomberg

On Wednesday, Uber announced an expansion of a temporary staffing service it has been testing in Chicago. The program, called Uber Works, connects workers with businesses offering short-term jobs in hospitality, events, light industrial and other sectors. Miami will become the second city where Uber Works is available, with more planned for next year.

The program has been mainly focused on workers at traditional staffing agencies, but the company plans to start recruiting from its massive pool of drivers in the coming months, said Andrey Liscovich, the chief executive officer of the Uber Works project. That would enable anyone in those cities to sign up for an array of gigs that don't require a car and driver's license, potentially unlocking an even bigger labor market. "For us to invest in something, it needs to be on the order of ride-share in

size, or even exceed it," Liscovich said.

Dara Khosrowshahi, the company's CEO, has struggled to define what Uber is and why investors should put up with at least two more years of estimated losses. To justify investments in autonomous vehicles, bicycles, electric scooters, flying cars, food delivery and groceries, Khosrowshahi has drawn parallels to Amazon, which started by selling books and now sells practically everything. Khosrowshahi had pitched Wall Street on doing something similar for transportation.

As 2019 comes to a close, Uber is set to be one of the worst-performing stock debuts of the year. It's down more than 30% since the initial public offering in May, burdened by concerns about losses and the long-term viability of the business. In response, Khosrowshahi has pledged Uber will turn an adjusted profit by the end of 2021, a promise he repeated onstage at an event in San Francisco

last week when he described the company's new approach to growth: "Every part of the portfolio is going to play their part."

With Uber Works, the company believes it can rake in more revenue, and eventually profit, by repurposing the technologies — and the people — that run its ride-hailing business for other jobs, said Liscovich. The move also bolsters Uber's case that it's a tech platform, rather than a car-sharing service — an argument the company frequently uses to defend itself in employment lawsuits.

Khosrowshahi's bet comes at a critical time for the San Francisco-based business. Regulators in London said last month they will revoke Uber's license to operate there, citing safety concerns. This month, Uber published a first-of-its-kind safety report detailing more than 3,000 allegations of sexual assault filed with the company last year, raising further concerns about the dangers of the platform.

And starting next month, a law designed to reclassify gig economy workers as employees goes into effect in Uber's home state of California. Uber is bracing for a lengthy battle in court and at ballot boxes next year.

Uber Works is an opportunity for Khosrowshahi to demonstrate his version of responsible growth. Temporary staffing is a natural extension of Uber's technology, said Tom White, an analyst at DA Davidson, but the company must show it can be done profitably and without putting the safety of workers or customers at risk. "The safety report highlighted there are still problems, and with gig workers where you are putting them on-site, that really needs to be buttoned up," White said. "Hopefully Uber has learned its lesson over the last couple of years."

Although the staffing project is sprouting in a new era for Uber, its origins date back to Travis Kalanick, the co-founder and

former CEO. Liscovich pitched the idea more than three years ago while interviewing for a job at Uber. He got hired and later tested the concept at restaurants in Los Angeles, where the company had relationships through Uber Eats. Liscovich's team helped restaurants deal with overwhelming demand from delivery orders by finding them additional workers on the fly to assist with food prep, packaging and dishwashing.

This year, Uber made the app available throughout Chicago. It started by working with restaurants as well as customers of Uber's trucking business. On top of the kitchen work, Uber added short-term warehouse and industrial jobs. To find backup workers, the service leverages similar technology to that used to line up alternative drivers in case one cancels.

Uber acts as a buffer between businesses looking to schedule shifts and staffing agencies like TrueBlue, which employs the

workers, provides benefits and handles payroll. TrueBlue CEO Patrick Beharelle said he was hopeful Uber Works could expand the staffing industry in the same way food delivery expanded the restaurant industry. However, there's a risk Uber, with its global contract workforce, does to the staffing business what it did to taxis.

The move to Miami is timed to the city's busy winter season, made even more frenzied with the Super Bowl taking place there in February, said Liscovich. Uber recently started testing the service in Miami ahead of the wider rollout.

A local bed and breakfast, Copper Door B&B, used Uber Works to hire five workers to cook, clean and do laundry. Jamila Ross, the manager, said the work and prices were excellent. She had always relied on friends and family to fill temp work, until Uber came calling.

"They had some of the best cocktail napkin fans I'd seen," she said. "They made the venue look tight."

Boeing's Starliner capsule ready for launch

BY MARCIA DUNN
Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Boeing's shiny new Starliner crew capsule makes its debut this week with a launch to the International Space Station, the company's last hurdle before flying astronauts for NASA next year.

Testing the cosmic waters will be Rosie the mannequin, decked out in Boeing's custom blue spacesuit and a red polka dot bandanna modeled after the World War II riveter.

If the orbital demo goes well, the first Starliner crew could be rocketing to the space station by summer.

SpaceX also is looking to start launching astronauts for NASA, perhaps by spring. It completed a similar test flight of its crew capsule last in March.

The space agency hired the private companies to build and fly the capsules while it focused on a new generation of moonshots and other distant travel. Regardless of which company flies astronauts first, NASA's commercial crew program finally seems to be closing in on the finish line, after years of technical difficulties and delays.

"2020 is the year," program manager Kathy Lueders said this week. "This is really the final trial of these vehicles."

It's been 8½ years since Americans rocketed into orbit from home soil, and everyone — Boeing,



JOHN RAOUX/AP

Boeing's Starliner spacecraft is seen Dec. 4 atop the United Launch Alliance Atlas 5 rocket that will carry it to the International Space Station in Cape Canaveral, Fla.

SpaceX, NASA, local residents — is eager for astronaut launches to resume. "Really exciting now!" NASA-turned-Boeing astronaut Chris Ferguson recently tweeted. "Let's go fly!"

Ferguson was the commander of NASA's final space shuttle flight in July 2011, when human launches from Florida ceased. He left NASA and joined Boeing to help develop the Starliner. He's assigned to the first crew, along with two NASA astronauts.

All three will watch Friday's launch from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. An Atlas V rocket, from United Launch Alliance, is set to blast off with the Starliner just before sunrise.

The test dummy Rosie is outfitted with hundreds of

sensors to gauge the stresses of the weeklong flight, from launch and space station docking, through atmospheric re-entry and touchdown in the New Mexico desert. Virtually every capsule system will be tested, including the ultra critical life-support.

The Starliner will carry Christmas presents and treats for the six space station residents, as well as 500 tree seeds similar to the ones that flew to the moon on Apollo 14 in 1971.

Unlike Elon Musk's decade-and-a-half-old SpaceX, Boeing's human spaceflight ties run deep. As a result of company acquisitions, Boeing has partnered with NASA on every domestic astronaut program dating back to Project Mercury.

"It's incredibly inspirational. The team is really

excited," said John Mulholland, manager of Boeing's commercial crew program.

NASA gave more than \$4 billion to Chicago-based Boeing in 2014 to develop and fly the capsule to the space station; the company had been working on it since 2010. SpaceX got \$2.6 billion for its crew capsule, an upscale version of its Dragon cargo ship, flying since 2012. Crew capsules turned out to be far more complicated than cargo capsules. Launch dates starting in 2017 came and went, as SpaceX and Northrop Grumman made steady supply runs.

The delays have been costly.

NASA has been shelling out as much as \$86 million for a seat on a Russian Soyuz, the only ride to the space station for astronauts since the shuttles' retirement. The space agency's overall Soyuz tab is now in the billions.

Both Boeing and SpaceX have been beset by parachute problems, among other things. Last month, a Starliner landed safely despite only two of three parachutes deploying during a test. The mishap was traced to human error: The parachute rigging was improperly connected.

Boeing also was blasted last month in a NASA audit. According to the inspector general's report, NASA overpaid Boeing as launch delays starting piling up. Boeing disputes the findings.

SpaceX completed its first orbital test flight of the crew Dragon last March, but the capsule was destroyed a month later during testing at Cape Canaveral. Still ahead: an emergency escape test during liftoff, scheduled for January.

On Wednesday, the towering Atlas V rocket was moved to the launch pad with the Starliner on top. White with black and blue trim, the capsule is 16.5 feet (5 meters) tall with its attached service module — the height of a giraffe — and 15 feet (4.5 meters) in diameter.

It can fit up to seven people, though crews typically will number four: two Americans, one Russian and another international astronaut. Boeing eventually wants to sell empty seats to private researchers or even tourists.

In a first for a U.S. crew capsule bound for orbit, the Starliner will aim for a land, versus water, landing. It's reusable and this one will be recycled for the second mission with a crew, including NASA astronaut Sunita Williams.

"Bring it back in good shape," she urged Boeing this week.

The Associated Press Health and Science Department receives support from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute's Department of Science Education. The AP is solely responsible for all content.

Brewery workers approve of sale

Associated Press

FORT COLLINS, Colo. — Employees approved the sale of one of the largest U.S. craft breweries to a subsidiary of Japanese beverage company Kirin in a vote that ended Tuesday, clearing the way for the sale to close by the end of the year.

New Belgium Brewing Co. declined to release the number of employees who voted in favor of the sale to Lion Little World Beverages of Australia or a breakdown of how they voted, the Coloradoan reported.

"This result moves us one step closer towards New Belgium Brewing officially joining Lion Little World Beverages," New Belgium CEO Steve Fechheimer said in a statement. "We're excited about the next chapter for NBB and continuing to prove business can be a force for good."

Fechheimer has said New Belgium does not anticipate any changes for employees or its beer product offerings because of the sale.

New Belgium has breweries in Fort Collins and Asheville, North Carolina, with about 700 employees. It is currently employee owned but will no longer be after the sale.

New Belgium co-founder Kim Jordan, who started the brewery in a basement with her then-husband, has said employees will receive \$100,000 in retirement money "with some receiving significantly greater amounts."

The mood at the Fort Collins brewery was upbeat shortly before the vote result was announced.

Merger

Continued from Page 1

state investment bank.

While the merger of Fiat and Chrysler has been a success, thriving on the strength of the U.S. market and the executive prowess of longtime CEO Sergio Marchionne, the history of car mergers is littered with failed tie-ups. Most famous among those is the short-lived Daimler-Chrysler merger, which foundered on cultural differences between the German and U.S. executives.

The new company will start with a strong base in

Europe, where PSA is the second-largest carmaker, while Fiat makes most of its profits in North America and has a strong presence in Latin America. It will be looking to strengthen its position in China, where both companies lag.

"That is part of the opportunities," Tavares said. "We are not happy with our performance there. We think we should be doing better in China."

Tavares said the deal has the support of Chinese partner and investor Dongfeng. As part of the deal, Dongfeng's stake in the new company will be diluted from 6.2% to 4.5%.

Fiat Chrysler will pay its

shareholders a 5.5 billion-euro (\$6.1 billion) premium, raising questions about whether the new company will be saddled with debt. Analysts estimate that Peugeot is paying a hefty 32% premium to take control of Fiat Chrysler.

Fiat Chrysler has long been looking for an industrial partner in recent years, and a previous deal with French rival Renault last spring fell apart over French government concerns about the role of Renault's Japanese partner, Nissan.

Tavares said both the French government and unions backed the new deal from the beginning.

French Finance Minister

Bruno Le Maire said in a statement the deal was "very good news for France, for Europe and for our auto industry." He said the government would keep an eye on where the company decides to set up its executive headquarters, the impact on French jobs and PSA's commitment to creating a Euro-

pean battery industry.

Italy's economy and finance minister, Roberto Gualtieri, likewise welcomed the deal, saying it "was a fundamental step in the consolidation of the car industry."

Charlton reported from Paris.

Dixon

Continued from Page 1

country station WUSN-FM 99.5 and classic hip hop WBMX 104.3-FM.

Chicago leadership is in transition after longtime radio veteran Jimmy de Castro retired as market manager of Entercom Chicago on Dec. 13. His named successor, Rachel Williamson, is expected to take the reins early next year.

Layoffs, pay cuts and forced retirements have been taking place in "dribs and drabs" since Entercom took over the Chicago cluster, sources said.

WXRT has been a pioneering Chicago rock station since the early 1970s, launching under local ownership with an underground melange of free-form album cuts, but only at night, after its ethnic-based programming like Korean gospel and Spanish talk radio had concluded for the day. The rock format went full time in 1976.

The station became part of CBS in the late 1990s.

WXRT is ranked 9th among Chicago stations with a 3.8 share, according to the Nielsen listenership survey for November.

Dixon joined WXRT in November 1991 as a general assignment reporter, and

was paired with Brehmer on the morning show in 1993, where they established a strong on-air rapport and connection with listeners. She left radio briefly in 1995 for TV gigs with WGN-Ch. 9 and CNN, but returned to WXRT in 1997, rejoining Brehmer the following year. In 2003, she took an extended maternity leave, and has been a mainstay at the station for 25 years.

As to her future career plans, Dixon declined to offer specifics.

"I'm really looking forward to a very good 2020," Dixon said.

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		Acct	Mkt Acct	CD												
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Synchrony Bank	NA	1.20	0.75	1.00	2.00	2.00	2.10	2.10	2.25							800-869-3813
	NA	0	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	www.synchronybank.com

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Savings Update

CD, time deposit, share certificate... What's the difference?

If you shop for certificates of deposit in the newspaper or online, venturing beyond just your local bank, you'll likely encounter some names for CDs that leave you wondering if you're considering apples to apples.

CDs are what the banking industry calls "time deposits", or sometimes "term deposits". Those names signify that your deposit is made with an agreement that you will keep it at the bank for an established time period or term. This is different than checking, savings or money market accounts, where you can generally deposit and withdraw funds at any time of your choosing.

But while "certificate of deposit" and "CD" are fairly ubiquitous terms, not every U.S. financial institution uses those names, and shopping for the best CDs in the country will occasionally put a product in front of you that certainly looks like a CD but goes by some other name.

This most often happens at credit unions or community banks. Instead of CDs on their product menu, you might simply see "time deposits" or "term deposits", such as "3-Year Time Deposit". And at credit unions, where customers are members who hold a share in the credit union, you might see "share certificates" instead of CDs.

Does this matter? Essentially no. While some wonky banking rules specify minor differences in these products, they do not come into play for the vast majority of consumers. Whether it's called a CD or a time deposit or a share certificate, it's the same product: Deposit X dollars for a period of Y months or years and we'll pay you Z percent interest.

So when you see X, Y, and Z in a deposit product's description, rest easy that you are looking at that institution's version of a CD, no matter the marketing name they've given it.

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Trump plan to import cheaper drugs advances

Health secretary touts proposal to allow in Canadian medicines

By RICARDO ALONSO-ZALDIVAR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration, eager to show progress on prescription drug costs, moved forward Wednesday with its plan to allow Americans to safely and legally get access to lower-priced medicines from abroad.

But patients are unlikely to see quick relief on prices, even in states such as Florida that are pursuing their own import plans. Meanwhile, major legislation to lower costs for seniors has gotten bogged down in a Congress consumed by the impeachment of President Donald Trump.

On Capitol Hill, the House and the Senate have different strategies to cut drug costs. There's considerable overlap between the congressional plans, but there are also sharp differences.

A bipartisan bill in the Senate and House-passed legislation from Speaker Nancy Pelosi would cap what Medicare recipients pay out of pocket for medicines and penalize drug companies that raise their prices above the inflation rate.

Canadian officials have also raised questions, saying their country's prescription drug market is too small to have any real impact on U.S. prices.

In Washington, U.S. health officials unveiled a proposed regulation that would allow states to import many brand name drugs from Canada, with federal oversight. A second draft plan would let pharmaceutical companies seek approval to import their own drugs, from any country.

It's unclear if either pathway will be available to patients ahead of the 2020 election, although the Trump administration has advanced beyond its predecessors in trying to set up a supervised system for importing drugs. Medicines cost less in other advanced countries because the governments take an active role in setting prices.

Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar traveled to Florida on Wednesday to promote the plan with Republican Gov. Ron DeSantis. Earlier this year, DeSantis signed a bill intended to allow pharmacies and wholesalers in his state to import drugs from Canada, for patients

covered by government programs like Medicare.

There are still some hurdles before Florida can start, the governor acknowledged Wednesday.

"This is not easy stuff," DeSantis said. More work is needed, "but I'd much rather be here moving forward than on the sidelines chirping," he added.

Azar earlier told reporters that allowing imports "can move us to a more open and competitive market."

"We will not take steps that would put patients or our drug supply at risk," he added.

Wednesday's proposals follow the outline of an announcement by the White House in July. Many people already buy at least some of their medicines from pharmacies in Canada or Mexico, although technically it's illegal to import them.

The idea of allowing importation has been around for years, but previous attempts have been blocked by pharmaceutical industry lobbying and safety concerns seconded by government regulators.

Rivals focus on standard to connect smart things

By MARK GURMAN
AND GERRIT DE VYNCK
Bloomberg News

Apple, Alphabet's Google and Amazon.com — three of the biggest smart-home and voice-assistant providers — are joining forces to make internet-connected homes easier to set up and safer to use.

The rivals announced Wednesday that they're working with the Zigbee Alliance, a foundation that promotes standards for the internet of Things and its members, including Samsung Electronics Co., Somfy SA, and IKEA, on a new standard that will ensure their products work with each other.

While an increasing portion of the home can now be controlled by a voice-activated speaker or remote app, from thermostats to lights and even refrigerators, "the lack of an industrywide connectivity standard leaves people confused and frustrated when trying to understand what devices work with each smart home ecosystem," Nik Sathe and Grant Erickson, engineers at Google's Nest unit, wrote in a statement.

"It also places a heavy burden on manufacturers to make sure all devices are compatible with each other," they wrote.

Amazon and Google have relatively open systems already, which have allowed tens of thousands of third-party devices to link up with their smart speakers.

But Apple only supports a few hundred via its HomeKit standard.

The global smart-home market is projected to grow to \$174.2 billion by 2025, according to MarketWatch, up from \$55.7 billion in 2016.

Apple said the project is built around "a shared belief that smart home devices should be secure, reliable, and seamless to use."

But the move could also raise privacy and security questions.

The new alliance is aiming to have its new joint protocol in place by the end of 2020.



YOUTUBE

Mark Rober with the package he used for his prank, which carries the return address of the "Home Alone" house in Winnetka, Illinois.

Porch pirates in for a surprise

Glitter Bomb 2.0 goes beyond burst of sparkle with some smelly spray

By RACHEL SIEGEL
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Not all heroes wear capes. Some accessorize with glitter, fart spray and the element of surprise.

You may remember Mark Rober, the former NASA engineer who rose to YouTube fame last year after a \$5 package was stolen from his doorstep. His mission: to exact a little justice by leaving booby-trapped boxes outside homes — making it very, very clear to any would-be thief that he'd messed with the wrong porch.

On Sunday, Rober unveiled a souped-up version of his creation, one he spent 11 months engineering with the same precision he put into the Curiosity Mars rover. A YouTube video viewed more than 79 million times breaks down how Rober's "glitter bomb" works, plus bonus footage of real-life thieves who meet a smelly fate.

This time around, Rober scored a coveted endorsement: Macaulay Culkin — the "Home Alone" actor and muse behind the glitter bomb itself. He makes a cameo in the video, and even takes the fart spray for a test run to ensure optimal ... effect.

Rober is a YouTube sensation, and spends much of his time making videos of quirky science experiments. But his porch protection program comes as holiday packages are circling the country in droves. Between Thanksgiving and Jan. 1, the U.S. Postal Service expects to ship more than 800 million packages. Last year, study by InsuranceQuotes estimated about 26 million Americans have had a holiday package stolen.

The new and improved glitter bomb includes a circuit board and four phones that record the sting from all sides and upload footage to the cloud. Robbers will be most stunned by the surge of glitter (which is biodegradable) and a rush of re-engineered fart spray. Sound effects include a countdown clock and fake police scanner chatter.

The idea is for thieves to toss the packages, which are designed to look like expensive headphones, out their doors. The phones provide tracking information so the boxes can be retrieved and re-deployed on another mission.

To test the glitter bomb 2.0, Rober sent out a call to his social media followers. He heard back from 400 people who've all had packages stolen, and then he chose a handful to take the new model for a spin.

There were some kinks: one package ended up riding around in a UPS truck. Another leaked glitter.

"Then the thefts began to pile up, and

we started hitting our stride," Rober said in the video.

When Rober debuted last year's glitter bomb, he had to make some edits to his video after learning some of the footage was staged. He'd put out a call for volunteers, offering to pay people to lay the bait and retrieve the stolen packages later on.

But in some cases, the "thieves" were "actually acquaintances of the person helping me," Rober said at the time.

This year, Rober said, one of the volunteers swiped a package with no intention of setting the trap or returning it.

"What do you think I'm going to do to the guy who steals the outcome of that year and a half of work," Rober said in his video with a laugh. "I quit my job at NASA to make YouTube videos."

And so, Rober ordered \$300 of starting course materials from Scientology and shipped it to the person's house. He also sent an array of quirky, if not controversial, postcards to a slew of the volunteer's neighbors.

Still, even a blast of sparkly powder and unwanted odor can expose the humanity in mankind. Some people spotted the mystery packages and used the phony contact information written on the side to ensure a safe delivery. The calls, of course, went to Rober, who gave the good Samaritans \$400 — and a personal thank you.

Coke documents reveal push to sell to teens

By LAURA REILEY
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Coca-Cola has sponsored the Olympic Games since 1928, the longest-standing brand partner and one that has helped many National Olympic Committees send athletes to compete.

So says the beginning of a Coca-Cola internal document, a global request for proposal for a public-relations campaign for the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro. The budget? \$1.5 million to \$2.5 million. Among the target audience? Teens and moms.

A new paper in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health this week found that the

Coca-Cola Co.'s public relations goals included trying to shift teens' sense of the health impacts of drinking sugary soda.

Obesity rates for children have tripled since the 1970s, an increase that puts children at greater risk of diabetes, heart disease and other health problems. The 2015-2016 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey found 18.5% of kids ages 2 to 19 were obese. In the United States, childhood obesity is estimated to cost \$14 billion annually in direct health expenses.

Rates of obesity among adults are even worse: In 2007, 33.7% of American adults were obese. The most recent estimates approach 40%, according to the American Medical Association.

The paper, produced by Australia's

Deakin University and U.S. Right to Know, a nonprofit consumer and public health group, includes another Coca-Cola document, a request for proposal for a campaign called "Movement Is Happiness." Its public relations goals included "to increase Coke brand health scores with teens."

Gary Ruskin, co-director of U.S. Right to Know, said after reviewing thousands of pages of requested documents from Coca-Cola, some themes emerge.

"One of these is Coca-Cola's efforts to evade responsibility for the global obesity epidemic," he said by phone.

Kent Landers, Coca-Cola's senior vice president of public affairs, said these documents predate Coke's 2016 commitment to discontinue funding physical activity programs.

BUSINESS BRIEFING

Instagram adds influencer ad rules

Instagram is finally making rules to govern content in influencer advertising.

Influencers, the app's most-followed users who are paid by brands to post, will no longer be allowed to promote products related to vaping, tobacco and weapons, Instagram said Wednesday in a blog post.

Instagram, the photo app owned by Facebook Inc., has long allowed people with thousands or even millions of followers to operate their own sponsored content operations, outside the Facebook ad-buying system, without the level of oversight applied to the rest of the company's advertising. For years, the company felt that if an influencer had cultivated an audience willing to hear their messages, Facebook shouldn't get in the way.

Mercedes agrees to \$13 million fine

DETROIT — Mercedes-Benz will pay a \$13 million penalty to U.S. safety regulators for a string of reporting failures involving more than 1.4 million vehicles.

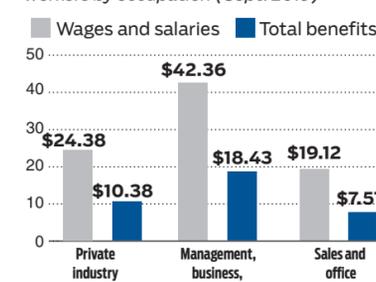
The German automaker agreed to the payment in a settlement with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

The investigation covered allegations of recall notification letters being sent too slowly to vehicle owners as well as slow reporting of safety problems to the agency.

The settlement also addresses flaws with the operation and functionality of Mercedes' internet site that lets vehicle owners check for recalls by vehicle identification numbers, the agency said. Mercedes agreed to pay the penalty with another \$7 million deferred if certain conditions are met.

Employer costs for employees

Employer costs for employee compensation for private industry workers by occupation (Sept. 2019)



SOURCE: Bureau of Labor Statistics

TNS

MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow High: 28,323.25 Low: 28,239.28 Previous: 28,267.16



Nasdaq +4.38 (+0.05%)	S&P 500 -1.38 (-0.04%)	Russell 2000 +4.16 (+.25%)
Close 8,827.73 High 8,848.76 Low 8,820.42 Previous 8,823.35	Close 3,191.14 High 3,198.48 Low 3,191.14 Previous 3,192.52	Close 1,661.73 High 1,663.39 Low 1,654.73 Previous 1,657.57
10-yr T-note +0.03 to 1.92%	Gold futures -2.00 to \$1,472.60	Yen +0.11 to 109.60/\$1
Euro +0.0025 to .8996/\$1	Crude Oil -0.01 to \$60.93	

Major market growth and decline

5-day % change			30-day % change			1-year % change		
DOW +1.18	NASD +2.01	S&P +1.58	DOW +1.50	NASD +3.53	S&P +2.66	DOW +21.08	NASD +33.01	S&P +27.29

COMMODITY	AMOUNT-PRICE	MO.	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHG.
WHEAT (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 20	553.25	555	545.25	548.25	-8
CORN (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 20	389.25	390	385.75	387	-3
SOYBEANS (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Jan 20	928	930	923	928.50	-25
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)	60,000 lbs- cents per lb	Jan 20	33.72	33.80	33.26	33.43	-39
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT)	100 tons- dollars per ton	Mar 20	306.40	307.90	304.00	307.40	+1.00
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NYMX)	1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.	Jan 20	60.55	61.18	60.32	60.93	-01
NATURAL GAS (NYMX)	10,000 mm btu's, \$ per mm btu	Jan 20	2.318	2.327	2.257	2.286	-033
NY HARBOR GAS BLEND (NYMX)	42,000 gallons- dollars per gallon	Jan 20	1.6703	1.6904	1.6550	1.6838	-0019

LOCAL STOCKS

Stocks listed may change due to daily fluctuations in market capitalization. Exchange key: N=NYSE, O=NASDAQ

STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.
Abbott Labs	N	86.93	-.13	Envestnet Inc	N	70.63	+0.82	McDonalds Corp	N	195.63	-.89
AbbVie Inc	N	89.33	-.75	Equity Commonwealth	N	31.75	+2.4	Middleby Corp	O	111.50	+98
Allstate Corp	N	109.65	-.20	Equity Lifesty Prop	N	68.77	-.13	Mondelez Intl	O	54.53	+44
Aptargroup Inc	N	113.08	-.27	Equity Residential	N	80.29	+1.8	Morningstar Inc	O	150.48	-.15
Arch Dan Mid	N	45.31	-.90	Exelon Corp	O	45.37	+3.9	Motorola Solutions	N	159.39	-1.59
Baxter Intl	N	83.66	+4.1	First Indl RT	N	41.05	+2.5	NiSource Inc	N	27.55	+2.9
Boeing Co	N	330.68	+3.68	Fortune Brds Hm&Sec	N	65.74	-.24	Nthn Trust Cp	O	108.08	-.58
Brunswick Corp	N	59.53	-.13	Gallagher AJ	N	94.43	-1.24	Old Republic	N	22.15	-.64
CBOE Global Markets	N	116.43	-.28	Grainger WW	N	332.53	+1.05	Packaging Corp Am	N	111.78	-.53
CDK Global Inc	O	54.99	-.32	GrubHub Inc	N	46.48	+6.9	Paylocity Hldg	O	120.88	+1.10
CDW Corp	O	140.62	+1.26	Hill-Rom Hldgs	N	113.31	...	RLI Corp	N	91.24	-.45
CF Industries	N	46.53	-.39	IAA Inc	N	45.17	-.13	Stericycle Inc	O	62.65	-1.19
CME Group	O	200.49	-3.08	IDEX Corp	N	169.00	-.19	TransUnion	N	84.63	-.50
CNA Financial	N	44.71	-.57	ITW	N	178.89	+1.09	US Foods Holding	N	40.07	-.38
Cabot Microelect	O	134.76	+6.9	Ingredion Inc	N	89.98	+5.5	Ulta Salon Cosmetics	O	250.07	-5.89
Caterpillar Inc	N	147.12	+7.5	Jones Lang LaSalle	N	171.68	+2.02	United Airlines Hldg	O	88.84	-.52
ConAgra Brands Inc	N	29.05	-.14	Kemper Corp	N	78.06	+0.1	Ventas Inc	N	56.03	+2.0
Deere Co	N	172.61	-1.23	Kraft Heinz Co	O	31.75	+1.3	Walgreen Boots Alli	O	57.20	+1.1
Discover Fin Svcs	N	86.51	...	LKQ Corporation	O	36.33	+2.7	Wintrust Financial	O	71.06	+4.8
Dover Corp	N	113.60	-.66	Littelfuse Inc	O	189.95	-.19	Zebra Tech	O	255.43	+1.99

MOST ACTIVE STOCKS

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Chesapck Engy	.90	+0.08
Gen Electric	10.96	-.14
Bank of America	35.11	+0.07
Ford Motor	9.54	+1.15
PG&E Corp	11.31	+4.40
Aurora Cannabis Inc	2.19	-.16
Uber Technologies	30.13	+3.38
McDermott Intl	1.08	+2.9
DanaHER Corp	150.01	-.76
Sthwstn Energy	2.29	-.01
AT&T Inc	38.74	+2.4
EnCana Corp	4.49	-.02
Pfizer Inc	38.89	-.01
Banco Bradesco ADS	8.74	+2.3
Macy's Inc	16.53	+5.0
Ambev S.A.	4.68	+0.6
Denbury Res	1.41	+0.1
Petrobras	15.88	+4.0
FedEx Corp	146.86	-16.37
Avon Products	5.45	+1.3
Freeport McMoRan	12.98	+0.2
Tallgrass Engy LP	22.11	-.03
Schwab Corp	48.66	-.83
Wells Fargo & Co	53.67	-.67

LARGEST COMPANIES

Based on market capitalization

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
AT&T Inc	38.74	+2.4
Alibaba Group Hldg	210.00	+1.82
Alphabet Inc C	1352.62	-2.50
Alphabet Inc A	1351.91	-2.98
Amazon.com Inc	1784.03	-6.63
Apple Inc	279.74	-.67
Bank of America	35.11	+0.07
Berkshire Hath B	225.01	-2.04
Exxon Mobil Corp	69.87	+1.9
Facebook Inc	202.50	+4.11
HSBC Holdings prA	26.52	-.06
JPMorgan Chase	138.04	-.14
Johnson & Johnson	143.19	-.37
MasterCard Inc	294.74	-1.26
Microsoft Corp	154.37	-.32
Procter & Gamble	124.01	-1.30
Taiwan Semicon	59.10	-.13
Visa Inc	184.90	-.62
Walmart Strs	119.86	-1.42

LARGEST MUTUAL FUNDS

Based on total assets

FUND	NAV	CHG	1-YR %RTN
American Funds AMCPA m	34.67	+0.9	+23.9
American Funds AmrcnBalA m	28.26	+0.1	+17.6
American Funds CptWldGrncA m	51.76	+0.5	+23.7
American Funds CptlncBldrA m	64.06	...	+16.5
American Funds FdmTlncvSA m	64.82	+0.7	+25.0
American Funds FdmAmrcA m	54.24	+1.5	+25.5
American Funds IncAmrcA m	23.08	+0.2	+17.2
American Funds InvCmrcA x	39.12	-1.89	+21.3
American Funds NwPrspctvA m	48.43	+0.1	+27.7
American Funds WAMtinvSA m	49.35	+0.3	+23.2
Dodge & Cox Inc	14.18	-.01	+9.7
Dodge & Cox IntStk	45.04	+0.5	+20.9
Dodge & Cox Stk	202.89	-.80	+21.1
DoubleLine TRtREtdl	10.66	-.01	+6.3
Fidelity 500ldxlnsPrm	110.60	-.04	+27.9
Fidelity Contrafund	13.53	+0.2	+27.0
Fidelity InvMGrdeBd	11.56	-.02	+9.9
Fidelity TtlMktldxlnsPrm	89.48	...	+27.4
Fidelity USBdlxlnsPrm	11.91	-.02	+9.0
Franklin Templeton IncA1 m	2.33	+0.1	+13.2
Metropolitan West TRtREtdl	10.92	-.02	+9.4
PIMCO InclSt	12.03	...	+7.8
PIMCO InclStl	64.93	-.03	+8.5
PIMCO TRtRetls	10.38	-.03	+8.4
Schwab SP500ldx	49.72	-.01	+27.9
T. Rowe Price BCGR	122.78	+3.2	+26.9
T. Rowe Price GrStk	72.35	+2.3	+27.3
Vanguard 500ldxAdmrl	295.77	-1.0	+27.9
Vanguard BalldxAdmrl	39.21	-.03	+20.1
Vanguard DivGrInv	30.20	-.07	+27.8
Vanguard EqInclAdmrl	78.68	-.07	+22.7
Vanguard GrldxAdmrl	92.50	+0.5	+23.5
Vanguard HCAAdmrl	87.00	-.01	+26.6
Vanguard IntTEAdmrl	14.47	-.01	+7.3
Vanguard InslDxlns	290.03	-1.0	+27.9
Vanguard InslDxlnsPlus	290.05	-1.0	+27.9
Vanguard InslTSMInPls	68.77	...	+27.4
Vanguard IntlGrAdmrl	101.83	+0.2	+29.1
Vanguard MdcpldxAdmrl	218.95	+2.8	+27.0
Vanguard PrncpAdmrl	142.68	-.42	+24.9
Vanguard STInvMGrAdmrl	10.72	...	+6.0
Vanguard SmCpldxAdmrl	79.17	+1.5	+24.1
Vanguard TrgtRtr2020Inv	33.48	-.03	+16.6
Vanguard TrgtRtr2025Inv	20.22	-.01	+18.4
Vanguard TrgtRtr2030Inv	37.04	-.03	+19.6
Vanguard TrgtRtr2035Inv	22.86	-.01	+20.8
Vanguard TtlMktldxAdmrl	11.04	-.02	+9.1
Vanguard TtlMktldxlns	11.04	-.02	+9.1
Vanguard TtlMktldxAdmrl	23.19	-.05	+8.4
Vanguard TtlMktldxlns	34.80	-.07	+8.4
Vanguard TtlMktldxAdmrl	29.98	-.02	+20.3
Vanguard TtlMktldxlns	119.88	-.08	+20.3
Vanguard TtlMktldxlnsPlus	119.91	-.08	+20.3
Vanguard TtlMktldxlnv	17.92	-.01	+20.3
Vanguard TtlMktldxAdmrl	79.14	...	+27.3
Vanguard TtlMktldxlns	79.15	...	+27.3
Vanguard TtlMktldxlnv	79.10	...	+27.2
Vanguard WlghtnAdmrl	76.42	-1.2	+21.1
Vanguard WlslvncAdmrl	65.80	-.09	+15.6
Vanguard WndsrllAdmrl	63.97	-.11	+26.2

TREASURY YIELDS

DURATION	CLOSE	PREV.
3-month disc	1.53	1.53
6-month disc	1.53	1.53
2-year	1.62	1.61
10-year	1.92	1.89
30-year	2.35	2.31

SPOT METALS

	CLOSE	PREV.
Gold	\$1472.60	\$1474.60
Silver	\$16.953	\$17.978
Platinum	\$935.70	\$929.80

INTEREST RATES

Prime Rate	4.75
Discount Rate Primary	2.25
Fed Funds Target	1.50-1.75
Money Mkt Overnight Avg.	0.57

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

A U.S. Dollar buys...

Argentina (Peso)	59.7389
Australia (Dollar)	1.4595
Brazil (Real)	4.0595
Britain (Pound)	.7643
Canada (Dollar)	1.3115
China (Yuan)	7.0049
Euro	.8996
India (Rupee)	70.972
Israel (Shekel)	3.4976
Japan (Yen)	109.60
Nikkei	23934.43
Mexico (Peso)	18.9608
Poland (Zloty)	3.84
So. Korea (Won)	1166.78
Taiwan (Dollar)	30.17
Thailand (Baht)	30.21

FOREIGN MARKETS

INDEX	CLOSE	CHG./%
Shanghai	3017.04	-5.4/-2
Stoxx600	414.38	-.5/-1
Nikkei	23934.43	-131.7/-6
MSCI-EAFE	2022.06	-10.4/-5
Bovespa	114314.60	+1698.9/+1.5
FTSE 100	7540.75	+15.5/+2
CAC-40	5959.60	-8.7/-2

d - Deferred sales charge, or redemption fee.
m - Multiple fees are charged, usually a marketing fee and either a sales or redemption fee.
Source: Morningstar.

BESTREVIEWS

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OBITUARIES

FELIX ROHATYN 1928-2019

Wall Street wizard helped save New York City from bankruptcy

Associated Press

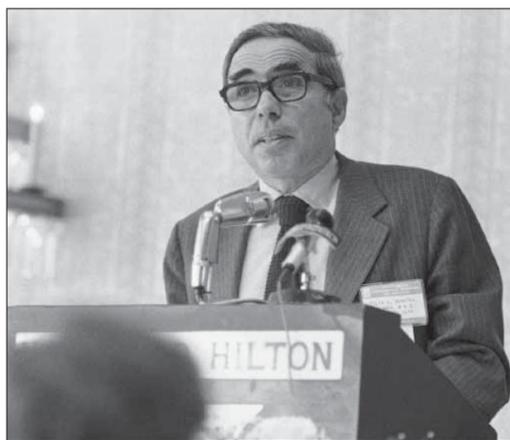
NEW YORK — Felix Rohatyn, the financier and government adviser who was credited with helping to save New York City from ruin during the 1970s as chairman of the agency that oversaw the city's finances, died Saturday. He was 91.

Rohatyn's son Nicolas Rohatyn said his father died at his Manhattan home. The cause was "simply old age," he said.

Born in Vienna in 1928, Rohatyn (pronounced ROH-uh-tin) fled Nazi-occupied France with his family in 1940 and arrived in the United States in 1942.

After rising to prominence with the banking firm Lazard, formerly Lazard Freres, Rohatyn was named chairman of the state-appointed Municipal Assistance Corporation in 1975. The position, which he held until 1993, gave him power over taxes and spending in the nation's largest city that was unusual for someone who did not hold elected office.

As chairman of the agency, Rohatyn pushed the financially strapped city to make reforms including a municipal wage freeze and charging tuition at the formerly free City University of New York. Rohatyn wrote in the agency's annual report that the alternative to such cutbacks, which were criticized by many New Yorkers, "would have been bankruptcy for the city, which would have generated infinitely greater so-



AP FILE PHOTO

Felix Rohatyn speaks Nov. 12, 1976, at a meeting of the University of Hartford's tax institute in Hartford, Conn.

cial costs."

Rohatyn likened his work brokering financial deals to the job of a surgeon. "I get called when something is broken," he told The Associated Press in 1978. "I'm supposed to operate, fix it up and leave as little blood on the floor as possible."

A longtime Democratic donor, Rohatyn was President Bill Clinton's first choice for vice chairman of the Federal Reserve in 1996, but he withdrew from consideration for the post due to opposition in the Republican-controlled Senate.

Clinton named Rohatyn ambassador to France instead, and he served in the position from 1997 to 2000.

Rohatyn returned to Lazard as a senior adviser in 2010 and remained active in public life well into his 80s.

Democratic New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo named him co-chairman of a commission dedicated to improving the resilience of the state's infrastructure following Superstorm Sandy in 2012.

Rohatyn was a frequent contributor to the New York Review of Books and the author of books including "Bold Endeavors: How Our Government Built America, and Why It Must Rebuild Now," published in 2009, and "Dealings: A Political and Financial Life," published in 2010.

Rohatyn married Jeanette Streit in 1956. Their marriage ended in divorce. He married the former Elizabeth Fly in 1979. She died in 2016. Rohatyn's survivors include sons Pierre, Nicolas and Michael, stepdaughter Nina Griscom and six grandchildren.

Chicago Daily Tribune

ON DECEMBER 19 ...

In 1732, Benjamin Franklin began publishing "Poor Richard's Almanac."

In 1776, Thomas Paine published his first "American Crisis" essay.

In 1777, Gen. George Washington led his army of about 11,000 men to Valley Forge, Pa., to camp for the winter.

In 1842, the United States recognized the independence of Hawaii.

In 1843, "A Christmas Carol," by Charles Dickens, was first published in England.

In 1871, Albert Jones, of New York City, patented corrugated paper.

In 1903, the Williamsburg Bridge opened in New York City, linking Manhattan and Brooklyn.

In 1907, 239 workers died in a coal mine explosion in Jacobs Creek, Pa.

In 1932, the British Broadcasting Corp. began transmitting overseas with its Empire Service to Australia.

In 1941, Adolf Hitler dismissed his chief of staff and took personal command of the German army.

In 1946, war broke out in Indochina as troops under Ho Chi Minh launched widespread attacks against the French.

In 1950, Gen. Dwight Eisenhower was named commander of the military forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

In 1957, Meredith Willson's musical play "The Music Man" opened on Broadway.

In 1969, the United States eased a decades-old trade embargo against China.

In 1972, Apollo 17 splashed down in the Pacific, winding up the Apollo program of manned lunar landings.

In 1974, Nelson Rockefeller was sworn in as the 41st vice president of the United States.

In 1984, Britain and China signed an accord returning Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty on July 1, 1997.

In 1985, in Minneapolis, Mary Lund became the first woman to receive a Jarvik VII artificial heart. (Lund received a human heart transplant 45 days later; she died in October 1986.)

In 1986, the Soviet Union announced it had freed dissident Andrei Sakharov from internal exile, and pardoned his wife, Yelena Bonner.

In 1990, Iraq urged its people to stockpile oil to avoid shortages should war break out, and Saddam Hussein declared he was "ready to crush any attack."

In 1991, the failed Bank of Credit and Commerce International agreed to settle federal racketeering charges by forfeiting all its U.S. assets.

In 1994, CNN publicly acknowledged it had wrongfully disobeyed a judge's order in broadcasting former Panamanian military ruler Manuel Noriega's jail-

house telephone conversations.

In 1996, the television industry unveiled a plan to rate programs using tags such as "TV-G," "TV-Y" and "TV-M."

In 1997, a SilkAir Boeing 737-300 plunged from the sky, crashing into an Indonesian river and killing all 104 people on board.

In 1998, President Bill Clinton was impeached by the Republican-controlled House for perjury and obstruction of justice. (He was later acquitted by the Senate.)

In 2000, the U.N. Security Council voted to impose broad sanctions on Afghanistan's Taliban rulers unless they closed terrorist training camps and surrender U.S. Embassy bombing suspect Osama bin Laden.

In 2001, the fires that had burned beneath the ruins of the World Trade Center in New York City for the previous three months were declared extinguished except for a few scattered hot spots.

In 2002, after a prosecutor cited new DNA evidence, a judge in New York threw out the convictions of five young men in a 1989 attack on a Central Park jogger who had been raped and left for dead.

In 2003, Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi agreed to halt his nation's drive to develop nuclear and chemical weapons.

In 2005, Afghanistan's first democratically elected parliament in more than three decades convened.

In 2013, Target Corp. announced that thieves gained access to 40 million credit and debit card accounts during the first three weeks of the holiday shopping season. (The retailer later said the personal information of as many as 70 million people was stolen.)

In 2016, a truck rammed into a crowded Christmas market in Berlin, killing at least 12 people and injuring 48; the Tunisian man suspected in the attack that Islamic State took credit for was shot dead two days later at a Milan checkpoint by Italian police, ending an international manhunt.

Chicago Tribune Death Notices
Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.
chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

In Memoriam

Daniel D. Feld
6/26/1936-12/19/2008

It will be 11 years sense you left us. We remember sometimes the passed seems like the day before yesterday. I wish in our old age you could sit on the swing, and I in the chair, and the fragrance of lilacs will hang in the air - but both our old hearts will be thinking its good to be loved, where the fragrance of lilacs hangs in the air. We all love you Sue, Richard, April, Charlie, Laura and grandchildren.

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Death Notices

Adams, Cora Gillett

Cora Gillett Adams, 100, of Bethlehem, died Saturday, December 14, 2019. She was the wife of the late Forrest Gillett, her first husband, and the late, Stanhope Adams, her second husband.

Cora graduated from LaSalle College in Boston, MA where she obtained her degree in fashion merchandising. Her extensive involvement in the Junior League of Evanston led to a position with the Heart Association organizing symposiums in Chicago, IL and in Germany. Cora's love for travel was enhanced by a career as a travel agent where she worked for over 45 years. She especially enjoyed reading to the blind, working at the Chicago Art Institute and at Evanston Hospital.

Cora is survived by her daughters: Pamela Barnhill and her husband, Sam of Denver, CO and Wink Alogna of Bethlehem; grandchildren: 6; great-grandchildren: 10.

There will be a memorial service on June 27th at Christ Church Winnetka, 784 Sheridan Rd, Winnetka, IL 60093 followed by an urn burial at the churchyard cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Blind Service Association, Inc., 17 N. State Street, Suite 10150, Chicago, IL, 60602.

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Baffa, Richard F.

Richard F. Baffa Veteran of U.S. Airforce. Dearly Beloved Husband of Gail Nee Murphy. Loving Father of Tim (Ellen) and Cheryl Baffa. Cherished Grandpa of Erica, Christi and Derek. Dear Brother of Donald (the late Myrna) and Robert (the late Anna) Baffa. Fond Brother in law, Uncle and Friend of Many. Cherished Doggie Daddy to Honey and Baby. Visitation Saturday from 2 until 8 P.M. with a chapel service TBA at CARBONARA FUNERAL HOME, 1515 North 25th Ave. Melrose Park. Int. Private. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Cancer Society would be appreciated. Please visit Richard's memorial at www.carbonara.net or 708-343-6161



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Benson, Ruth A.

Ruth Ann (Hendrickson) Benson passed away peacefully at her home in Aurora, IL surrounded by her family on December 14, 2019. Ruth was born on April 5, 1932 to Howard and Viola Hendrickson in her family home in Blanchardville, WI.

Ruth and Jim married on June 28, 1953 and lived in Wisconsin for a few years before moving to Illinois where Jim started working at the Old Second National Bank.

Ruth was very active in several community organizations including: Junior Women's Club, the Aurora Jaycee-ettes, Child Welfare Society, PTA Boards, Mid-West Early American Pressed Glass Club, Grace Lutheran Church, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Faith Circle, and a 50-year member of the PEO Sisterhood Chapter BT.

Ruth is survived by her husband of 66 years, Jim, and their daughters and their families, Barb (Chuck) Carson of Phoenix, AZ, Diane Benson of Geneva, IL, Janet (Steve) Spears of Oro Valley, AZ, Karen (Jim) Hutton of Arlington Heights, IL, Beth (Jeff) Ulrich of Sugar Grove, IL, Mary (Ray) Bohr of Aurora, IL. She is also survived by her grandchildren, Michael (Nicole) Hutton, Kolette (Matt) McGary, Jordan Bohr (Matt Taylor), Cally Hutton (Pat Cooper) and Katie Ulrich; one great-granddaughter Amelia Ruth Hutton. Ruth was looking forward to the arrival of her second great-granddaughter, Baby McGary, due in January. Ruth was preceded in death by her parents Howard and Viola Hendrickson, her in-laws Elmer and Edith Benson and a brother James Hendrickson.

A Funeral Service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, December 21, 2019 at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Aurora, IL. Visitation with the family and lunch will be held at the Church after the service. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the St. Mark's Lutheran Church Memorial Fund.

Arrangements are being handled by **The Healy Chapel**, 332 W. Downer P., Aurora. For further information, please call 630-897-9291 or visit our website at www.healychapel.com to leave an online condolence.



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Bonoma, Paul W.

Veteran U.S. Marine Corp.; cherished husband and best friend of Roseanne for over 60 years; loving father of Debbie (Kevin) Donovan, David (Mary Kay), Paul G. (Julie); adored grandfather of Kelsey, Grace, Elizabeth, Molly, Anna, Cody, Jake, Maximilian and Sophia; devoted son of the late Ignatius and Bernice Bonoma; dear brother of Donna (late Bill) Wilkinson and William (Rita) Bonoma; caring brother-in-law of Marie (late Patrick) Cassidy, the late Carrie (late James) Andriacchi and the late Lillian (late Alex) Baffa; fond uncle of many nieces and nephews. Visitation Friday from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at **Dalcamo Funeral Home**, 470 W. 26th Street. Lying in State at Nativity of Our Lord Church (Corner of 37th St. and Union Ave.) for visitation Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until time of Funeral Mass 10:00 a.m. Interment St. Mary Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations to Nativity of Our Lord Church or a charity of your choice are appreciated. Funeral Info 312-842-8681 or www.dalcamofuneralhome.com to sign guestbook.

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Boylan, Mary Shirley

Shirley Boylan (nee VanBogget), 95, beloved wife of the late Roger Sr. Cherished mother of John (Mary), Carole (the late Raj) Chopra, the late Kevin (Connie), Nancy (Jack-ret'd CPD) Fitzgerald, Bonnie (Dennis) Heywood, Dan (Connie), Pat, Roger (Tricia) and Mary (Jim) Baker. Adored Grandma & Nana of 24 and Gigi of 27 3/4. Family and friends will gather to celebrate her life on Saturday, December 21 at 11:00 with a 1:00 mass at St. Germaine Church, 9711 S. Kenton, Oak Lawn, IL. In lieu of flowers, Shirley asks that you "pay it forward" with an act of kindness or contribution to a charity of your choice. She will be forever in our hearts.

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Bubes, Irving S

Irving S. Bubes, age 97, passed away on December 18th at his home in Glenview, Illinois. Loving husband of Florence (nee Bush) for 77 years. Devoted father to Sharon (Stuart) Levy, Jacqueline (John) Holicka, and David (Carol) Bubes. Proud grandfather to Asher and Raymond. Levy, Lisa and Steven (Annalise) Bubes. Cherished great-grandfather to Juliana Levy. Fond uncle of Carolyn (Mark) Ammer, and Deborah (Malcolm) Douglas. Irving was born on June 26, 1922, in New York and moved to Chicago where he was a 1939 Graduate of a Roosevelt High School. He graduated from University of Chicago in 1942, with a degree in chemistry. He married his high school sweetheart, Florence, on October 10, that same year. They then moved to Richland, Washington to work on the Manhattan Project, for the Atomic Energy Commission. After returning home to Chicago, he was employed as a chemist, metallurgist, and spectrographer, for several Chicago companies. Irving enjoyed many wonderful years of retirement, and traveled the world with his wife and friends. He was an avid golfer, enjoyed theater and the arts, and special times with his loving family and friends. He will be fondly remembered as a kind and generous man, whose unique laugh and contagious smile will be missed by all who knew him. Service Friday 11AM at **Chicago Jewish Funerals**, 8851 Skokie Blvd (at Niles Center Road), Skokie. Interment Westlawn. In lieu of flowers memorials can be made to your favorite charity. Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** - Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjinfo.com



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Casey, Joanne F.

Joanne F. Casey (nee Parfitt), age 85; Beloved wife of the late Clifford J. Casey Jr.; Loving mother of Cheryl (Vern) Lanenga, Richard Casey, Debbie (Bill) Gilbert, Clifford Casey III, Diane (Alan) Griffiths and Steven (Rhonda) Casey; Cherished grandmother of 10 and great grandmother of 5; Proud daughter of the late Claude and Anna Parfitt (nee Grant); Dear sister of Mary (the late Jack) Martin, the late Jack (the late Laura), Allen "Butch" (the late Martha) and Phil (the late Dorothy) Parfitt; Fond aunt to dozens of nieces and nephews. Visitation Friday 4 to 9 PM; Funeral Saturday 10:15 AM from the Blake-Lamb Funeral Home, 4727 W. 103rd St., to St. Linus Church for Mass at 11:00 AM; Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Please sign guest book at blakelamboaklawn.com, for info 708-636-1193.



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Cavanagh, Victoria L.

Victoria L. Cavanagh, 92, of Crete, IL passed away on Tuesday, December 17, 2019. She is survived by her sons, Mark, Gary and Kevin (Heidi) Cavanagh; grandson, Timothy Cavanagh; several loving nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her husband, Gerald A. Cavanagh in 1996.

Visitation will be on Friday, December 20, 2019 from 3:00-8:00 pm at Kish Funeral Home, 10000 Calumet Ave. Munster, IN and on Saturday from 9:30-10:00 am at the church. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday, December 21, 2019 at 10:00 am at St. Agnes Catholic Church, 1501 Chicago Road, Chicago Heights, IL. Interment will be at Assumption Cemetery, Glenwood, IL.

Victoria was a longtime member of St. Agnes Catholic Church. She retired from Prairie State College with over 30 years of service. Victoria was an avid Chicago sports fan. Memorial contributions to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital or a charity of your choice in her memory would be appreciated. www.kishfuneralhome.net

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Coughlin, Edward J.

Edward J. Coughlin, age 85, US Army Veteran 4th Armored Division. Beloved brother of Mary (Danilo) Fernandez, Kathleen (John) Morrison, the late Michael (the late Marge) Coughlin and the late Bernadette (the late LeRoy) St. Arnaud; loving uncle, great uncle and great-great uncle to many. Eddie will truly be missed by all who knew and loved him.

Visitation Friday, December 20th 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Blake-Lamb Funeral Home 4727 W. 103rd St. Oak Lawn. Funeral Saturday, December 21st prayers from Blake-Lamb at 9:15 a.m. to St. John Fisher Church. Mass 10:00 a.m. Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations to American Blind Skiing Foundation at www.absf.org would be appreciated. For more information 708-636-1193 or visit www.blakelamboaklawn.com

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Curran, Lorena "Jean"

Lorena "Jean" Curran nee Blew, age 96, of Palos Park, IL passed away December 15, 2019. Beloved wife of the late Robert E. Curran. Loving mother of John (Julie), Paul (Valery), Stephen (the late Cindi), Roger (Evelyn). Proud grandmother of Kristen, Sheri (Nick) Styczen, Jeremy (Michelle), Rachel, Brett, Kellie (Lisa), Greg (Megan), Michael (Meagan), Amanda, Jake (Ashley), and Luke (Hannah). Great-grandmother of 7. Cherished sister of Dorothy, and the late Bob and Don Blew. Jean graduated from University of Illinois in 1946, double majoring in Math and Science. She was especially proud to be the only female chemist working in a Sherwin Williams lab during World War II. A woman of multifaceted talents, Jean was a creative master of lavish needlepoint projects, as well as knitting keepsake pieces for family, friends and infant charities. She was an avid golfer into her eighties. Jean considered herself fortunate to be able to travel around the globe. Her family will cherish the many stories and photos she shared from her various ports of call. Above all else, Jean declared her proudest accomplishment to be her close-knit family. She led by example, passing on her remarkable drive and compassion for life. In lieu of flowers, memorials to Pacific Garden Mission www.pgm.org 1458 S. Canal Street Chicago, IL 60607 or Crisis Center for South Suburbia www.crisisctr.org P.O. Box 39 Tinley Park, IL 60477. Memorial Service Saturday December 21, 2019 at 11:00 a.m., Palos Community Church 12312 S. 88th Ave Palos Park, IL. For more information and online register www.hickeyfuneral.com or (708) 385-4478



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WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

ILLINOIS	
Dec. 18	Powerball 14 18 26 39 68 / 09
	Powerball jackpot: \$160M
	Lotto jackpot: \$14.75M
	Pick 3 midday 391 / 7
	Pick 4 midday 7755 / 4
	Lucky Day Lotto midday 15 23 24 27 28
	Pick 3 evening 889 / 9
	Pick 4 evening 1173 / 7
	Lucky Day Lotto evening 08 21 28 32 42
Dec. 20 Mega Millions: \$40M	
WISCONSIN	
Dec. 18	Megabucks 08 11 21 24 34 43
	Pick 3 359
	Pick 4 4130
	Badger 5 03 10 14 21 26
	SuperCash 04 09 12 20 22 26

INDIANA	
Dec. 18	Lotto Not available
	Daily 3 midday 318 / 3
	Daily 4 midday 1688 / 3
	Daily 3 evening 379 / 3
	Daily 4 evening 3079 / 3
	Cash 5 Not available
MICHIGAN	
Dec. 18	Lotto 10 13 22 38 39 41
	Daily 3 midday 858
	Daily 4 midday 4077
	Daily 3 evening 773
	Daily 4 evening 3203
	Fantasy 5 09 22 23 25 31
	Keno 02 03 08 13 18 20
	22 24 25 26 27 32 35 45
	46 47 54 55 58 73 76 78

More winning numbers at chicagotribune.com/lottery

Chicago Tribune Death Notices

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Dagiantis, Dena P.

Dena P. Dagiantis, survived by daughter, Christina Dagiantis; son, Chris (Anastasia) Dagiantis; grandchildren, Panayioti and Anna Dagiantis; sister, Aphrodite (Dimitrios) Tambassis; brother, Vasilius (Vera) Roinoitis; sister, Eleftheria Roinoitis and many nieces and nephews.

Dena was preceded in death by her husband, Peter C. Dagiantis; parents, Ioannis and Panagiota (Galiotos) Roinoitis and sister, Aggeliki Roinoitis.

Visitation will be held on Thursday, December 19, 2019 from 4-9 P.M. with a Trisagion Service at 7 P.M. at **The Healy Chapel**, 332 W. Downer Place, Aurora, IL. Her funeral service will be held on Friday, December 20, 2019 at 10 A.M. at St. Athanasios Greek Orthodox Church, 1850 Fifth Ave., Aurora, IL. Interment will be at Lincoln Memorial Park.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to St. Athanasios Greek Orthodox Church.

For further information please call 630-897-9291 or visit www.healychapel.com to leave an online condolence.

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Dell'Orfanello, Judith

Dell'Orfanello, Judith (nee Kopsky), beloved daughter of the late Joseph and the late Helen Kopsky; loving mother of Sharon (Mark) Allgeier, Carol Power and Gary (Michelle) Dell'Orfanello; cherished sister of Phillip Kopsky, Bonni Van Eck, the late Edward and the late Larry Kopsky; Nana to five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; aunt and cousin to many. Judy loved singing, and for many years was an active member of the St. Gall Catholic church choir, as well as the St. Gall theater guild. Judy also sang at St. Richard Parish, where she was also a lector. Born on the North side of Chicago in November of 1940, her parents moved to the growing Southwest side of Chicago. After graduating from Maria High School in 1957, Judy started and stayed in the workforce for 49 1/2 years with companies Liquid Carbonic, Lag Drug, Rockwell International, and Fashion Bed Group. Judy was a member of the Stella Doro's Fedoras chapter of the Red Hatters, sang with the Double Nickel Chorus of Evergreen Park, and also enjoyed movie musicals, Broadway shows. Visitation Friday 3-9 p.m. at **Richard Modell Funeral Home & Cremation Services**, 5725 S. Pulaski Rd. Interment Private. In lieu of flowers donations to Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation. For info (773) 767-4730 or www.rjmodelllf.com

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Demet, Nicholas

Nicholas Demet, 90, Born in Alea, Tegea, Greece; Beloved husband of the late Sophia (Chioles); Devoted father of Steven (Maria), George (Alice), and Peter (Catherine); Cherished grandfather of Nicholas, Grace (Matthew) Paley, Nina (Adam) Reynolds, Christopher, Nico, Elena, Zachary, and John; Loving brother of Toula, Kiki, and the late John; Dearest brother-in-law, uncle, cousin and friend of many. Visitation, Dec. 20, 2019, Friday morning 11 a.m. until time of Funeral service at 11:30 a.m. Ascension Greek Orthodox Church, 1207 N. Riverwoods Rd, Lincolnshire, IL. 60069. Interment will follow to Memorial Park cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorials in his name to Ascension Greek Orthodox Church Building Fund, appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to Nicholas M. Pishos, Funeral Director, Ltd. For more information, please call 847-833-9522

PISHOS
Nicholas M. Pishos
Funeral Director, Ltd.

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Devoney, William L.

Loving husband of Arlene Devoney; beloved father of Kathleen, Dean, Tia, Joie, William Jr., Edward, Anthony and Dori; cherished grandfather of seventeen. Heaven has gained a superhero and now he is our guardian angel.

Visitation Friday, December 20, 2019 from 3:00 to 9:00 P.M. at **Morizzo Funeral Home** and Cremation Services, 2550 West Hassell Road, (Northeast corner at Barrington Road), Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169; and Saturday, December 21, 2019 from 9:00 A.M. until time of prayers at 10:45 A.M. proceeding to Queen of the Rosary, 750 W. Elk Grove Blvd, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007 for a 11:30 A.M. Mass of Christian burial. Entombment to follow at St. Michael the Archangel Cemetery, Palatine, Illinois. This Life Tributes page has been created to make it easy for Family and Friends to share memories, photos and videos.

For further information about this funeral, please contact the Morizzo Funeral Directors at 847.752.6444. Arrangements entrusted to **Morizzo Funeral Home** and Cremation Services, 2550 West Hassell Road, (Northeast corner at Barrington Road), Hoffman Estates, Illinois 60169.

Morizzo
Funeral Home & Cremation Services

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Econom, Pat

Pat Econom, nee Kountouris, Age 80, passed away on December 14, 2019. Beloved wife of the late Steve. Loving mom of Bill Econom and Nancy Econom. Dear sister of the late Niko, the late Voula (the late Niko), the late Vassio (the late James) and Anna (the late Steve). Fond aunt of many nieces and nephews. Visitation, Saturday, December 21, 2019, 10:00AM until 11:00AM time of Funeral Service at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church, 7560 S. Archer Road, Justice, Illinois. Interment Bethania Cemetery, Justice, Illinois. Arrangements entrusted to care of **Damar-Kaminski Funeral Home & Crematorium**, 7861 S. 88th Avenue, Justice, Illinois. 708-496-0200 or www.kaminskifamilyfuneralhomes.com

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Feldman, Laurence 'Laury'

Laurence 'Laury' Feldman, age 85. Beloved husband of Linda, nee Rosenthal; Cherished father of Brian (Paula) Feldman, Stacey Knight, Lindsey (Aaron) Swarvar and Jenna Feldman; devoted grandfather of Jordan (Brianna), Jared, Ashlyn, Ian and great-grandchild Charlotte; dear brother of Richard (Debbie) Feldman and Irma (Chuck) Pasick; devoted son of the late Marvin and Pearl. Graveside services Friday 10:30 AM at Waldheim Cemetery, OBA section, gate #54 Des Plaines Ave, South of Roosevelt Rd., Forest Park. Info **Mitzvah Memorial Funerals** 630-MITZVAH 630-648-9824, or www.mitzvahfunerals.com

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Gilger, Sarah 'Sally'

(nee Ruane) 97, born in Killasser, Swinford, County Mayo, Ireland. Sally was the loving daughter of James and Bridget Ruane; beloved wife of the late William "Bill" Gilger; devoted mother of Mary (Dave) Korrison, Bill (Peggy), Bridie (Rick) Hilperts, Peggy (Wendell) Labern, Jim, Sheila (Bill) Bray, John (Mary Kay), Ed, Ann, and the late LCDR Cathy USN (Enrique) Segni. Sally was the devoted sister of the late Mary (Brendan) Glazier, the late Ed (Aine) Ruane DVM, and the late A. Philomena (Pat) Quinn DDS. Loving grandmother of 23, great grandmother of 11, and loving aunt and great aunt to numerous nieces and nephews in the U.S., Ireland and England. Because of the generosity of her children, Sally was able to travel in the United States, Canada, Ireland, England, France, Germany, Italy, Austria, St. Croix, Bahamas, and Mexico. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Misericordia in Liam Lucchesi's name, grandson of Sally. Visitation will be held on Friday from 3:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. at **Cooney Funeral Home** located at 625 Busse Hwy. in Park Ridge. Funeral Saturday, family and friends are asked to meet at St. Benedict's Church for Mass at 11:00 a.m. Interment Mount Carmel Cemetery. For information please call 847-685-1002 or visit www.cooneyfuneralhome.com

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Glennon, Dolores M. 'Laurie'

Dolores "Laurie" Marie Glennon, nee Lyons, age 77, of Huntley, longtime resident of Rockford; passed away peacefully in the company of her family. Laurie attended St. Killian's grade school and Mercy High School (Class of 1960). Earned a Bachelor's degree from Rockford College and Master's in Psychology from Northern Illinois University. Laurie was a dedicated mother, wife, sister, aunt, grandmother and friend to many. She was known for her love of family, vacations and playing cards! She treasured time spent with her family especially during the holidays and on trips to Hawaii, Disney World, and Camp Marydale. Laurie was the beloved wife of the late Timothy F.; loving mother of Timothy Jr. (Carol), Christopher, Annemarie (Joe) Linus, Marybeth (Rick) Waldorf and John and the late Patrick Glennon; proud grandmother of Timothy and Leo Glennon, Jordan, Sam and Bryn Glennon, Grace and Joey Linus, Cassandra, Brendan and Thomas Waldorf, Andrew and Emma Glennon; dear sister of Fran (Gerry) Dudek and the late Mary Ann Lyons and Helen White; cherished daughter of the late Helen and the late George Lyons; dear aunt and cousin of many. Visitation Friday, December 20, 2019, 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 21, 2019, 8:00 a.m. until time of funeral 9:15 a.m. at **Gibbons Funeral Home**, 134 South York Road, (1/2 mile North of Saint Charles Road), Elmhurst. Mass of Christian Burial 10:00 a.m. at Mary Queen of Heaven Catholic Church. Interment Holy Sepulchre Catholic Cemetery, Alsip. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the charity of your choice. For funeral information please call 630-832-0018 or www.gibbonsfuneralhome.com

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Gould, Bobbie Hope

Bobbie Gould, age 98, nee Siegel was reunited with her husband and best friend of 44 years, Alvin, on December 18, 2019. Bobbie was the beloved mother of Sherrie (Irwin) Brill and Holly (the late Jeff) Conrad. She was the best grandmother ever to each of her special granddaughters, Jori (David) Brenner, Erin (Matt) Cooper, Mandy Guzman and Melinda (Dave) Symonds. Bobbie was grateful to fawn over her seven great grandchildren Julie, Adam, Andrew, Olivia, Ian, Liliana and Emily. Lovingly remembered by her nephew Avy (Marcie) Stein, great nephews Justin and Jordan Stein and cousin Peggy (the late Harold) Leon. Preceded in death by her parents, Louis and Anna and sister Phyllis (the late Arthur) Stein. Graveside services Friday 2:00pm at Zion Gardens, 6758 W. Addison, Chicago. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Bernie's Book Bank, 917 N. Shore Dr., Lake Bluff, IL 60044, www.berniesbookbank.org or to a charity of your choice. Info: The Goldman Funeral Group, www.goldmanfuneralgroup.com, (847) 478-1600.

GOLDMAN
FUNERAL GROUP

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Grochowski, Sara A.

(nee Werr) Age 73; Loving wife of Thomas. Beloved Mother of Thomas, Keith (Cari), Julie (Jim) Newtoff, Charles (Laura) and the late Angela Rourke; Cherished grandmother of Anthony, David, Michael, Eric, Aaron, Abby, Owen, Jodi, Reese, Thomas, Kiersten and Austin; Loving sister of Frank (the late Janielle) Werr, Elizabeth Brausil and Anthony (Elevera) Werr. Fond aunt, cousin and friend to many; Visitation Friday December 20, 2019 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Funeral Saturday December 21, 2019 10:00 am from **Curley Funeral Home**, 6116 W. 111th Street, Chicago Ridge to St. Terrence Church, 4300 W. 119th Place., Alsip, IL; Mass 11:00 am Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery; For Funeral info 708-422-2700, or www.curleyfuneralhome.com

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Gustafson, Terese

82, of Lowell and formerly Chicago, passed away Tuesday, December 17, 2019. She is survived by her husband, Donald "Gus"; sons, Dale (Wendy) of Oak Forest, Douglas (Shelley) of Schererville and grandsons, Joseph, Matthew, Andrew, Christopher and Stephen. Terese was a member of Lowell's St. Edward Catholic Church, Women of the Moose, in Crown Point and was active in Lowell's Moose Lodge. Visitation, Friday December 20, from 4-8 at Sheets Funeral Home & Cremation Services, 604 E. Commercial Ave., Lowell, with Funeral Mass on Saturday 10 AM, at her church, 216 S. Nichols. Burial will follow in Chapel Lawn Memorial Gardens, Schererville. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be given to an Animal Shelter of your choice. www.sheetsfuneral.com

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Hartman, Mary Ellen

Mary Ellen Hartman (nee McGarry), age 89. Devoted daughter of the late Michael and the late Hilda McGarry. Beloved wife of the late Ted Hartman and stepmom of Suan (late Graham) Davies. Loving sister of Dolores (Donald) Omasta, Michael (late Jacqueline) McGarry, and Rev. Peter W. McGarry O' Carm. Mary Ellen is also survived by many grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. She was a former employee of Walgreens and the Northwestern Dental School. Visitation Friday, December 20, 2019 3-8 pm at the **Elmwood Funeral Chapel** 11300 W. 97th Ln. (1/2 block west of US 41/Wicker Ave. at 97th Ln.) St. John. Funeral Services Saturday, December 21, 2019 DIRECTLY at Holy Name Catholic Church 11000 W. 133rd Ave. Cedar Lake where visitation will take place from 10:30 am until time of Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 am with her brother Rev. Peter W. McGarry O' Carm presiding. Cemetery private. For more information 219-365-3474 or www.elmwood-chapel.com

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Koruna, Dancy

Dancy Koruna, 82, of Mundelein, passed away Dec. 17, 2019. Beloved wife of the late Emil. Dearest mother of Daniel (Mary), Steven (Laura), David (Debbie), and Roddy (Beth). Cherished grandmother of 13. Adored great grandmother of two. Devoted sister of the late Milorad, Milena, Rosalind, Millie, and John. Visitation Saturday, Dec. 21, 2019 from 11:00 a.m. until time of Funeral Service at 12:00 Noon at Holy Resurrection Serbian Orthodox Cathedral, 5701 N. Redwood Drive; Chicago. Interment Montrose Cemetery. Devoted member of the Circle of Serbian Sisters for many years. For info 773-545-3800 or visit www.MuzykaFuneralHome.com

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Kraus, Harold H.

Harold H. Kraus, 98, WW11 Veteran with 3 battle stars. Beloved husband for 70 years of the late Beatrice, nee Zummer. Loving father of Alan (Anne) Kraus and Meryl (Donald) Greene. Proud grandfather of David Kraus, Brian (Ellyssa Seager) Greene, Susan (Nickolas) Gladden and Eric (Lesley) Greene. Adored great grandfather of Jaxon Greene. Will be missed by many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends. Respected and admired executive for Binny's for over 6 decades, and author of 3 books. He was a graduate of Loyola University and a founding member of Skokie Central Traditional Congregation. Service 9:30 AM at Chicago Jewish Funerals, 8851 Skokie Blvd (at Niles Center Road), Skokie. Interment Shalom. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in his name to Anti-Cruelty Society, www.anticruelty.org. Arrangements by Chicago Jewish Funerals - Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, www.cjinfo.com

CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS

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Livingston, Andrew M.

Andrew M. Livingston, 81. Beloved husband of Anne, nee Jacobson; devoted father of Julie (Jeffrey) Echt, Karen (Craig) Lewis, and Jennifer (late Ian Adler) Livingston; cherished grandfather of Daniel, Alexander, and Henry Echt, Gaby, Haley, and Maddie Lewis; dear brother of the late Susan Sickle. A memorial service will be held Thursday, Dec. 19, 2 PM, at North Shore Congregation Israel, 1185 Sheridan Rd, Glencoe. Interment private. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Lewy Body Dementia Association, 912 Killian Hill Rd SW, Lilburn, GA 30047, or Highland Park Community Foundation (where he was a former Chairman), PO Box 398, Highland Park, IL 60035. For info, please call **Weinstein & Piser Funeral Home**, 847-256-5700.

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Ludwig, Robert

Robert "Bob" Ludwig, Professor Emeritus at Loyola University Chicago, died at Mercy Hospice, Johnston Iowa, on December 15, 2019. He was 75. Formerly of Evanston, Bob and his wife Kathy had retired to Des Moines, Iowa, where he had been born in 1944. Ludwig earned a BA of philosophy in 1966. He has graduate degrees in theology from the Aquinas Institute of Theology and attended classes in Tubingen, Germany in 1969-70 as part of his graduate work. He earned his MA in 1969 and his PhD in 1972. He was a conscientious objector during the Vietnam Era and an anti-war activist his whole life. Ludwig is survived by his wife of 46 years, Kathleen, his children Petra (West Des Moines) Patrick, (Urbandale, IA), and Mark (and Angela Siu, Brooklyn, NY) and two grandchildren, Mady and Jordan. Bob's siblings include Tom (deceased 2015), Mary Ann (Chicago), Rita (and Dick Klein, Houston), Bill (and Joyce Baker, Des Moines), Carol (and Warren Obluck, Vero Beach, FL), John (Des Moines), Jim (and Patrick Maloney, Evanston, IL), Dick (and Mary Rose Gaston, Lincoln, NE).

A visitation will be from 4:00 - 7:00 PM on Friday, December 20, 2019 at **Caldwell Parrish Funeral Home & Crematory** in Urbandale. The funeral mass will be at 10:00 AM on Saturday, December 21, 2019 at St. Mary of Nazareth Catholic Church in Des Moines. For information on services please go to www.caldwellparrish.com In lieu of flowers, please make a donation to Catholic Relief Services.

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Majcher, Elsie Theresa 'Glueckert'

Elsie Majcher nee Stahl, 81 of Arlington Heights, formerly of Walworth, Wisc., beloved wife of the late Anthony Majcher; loving mother of Anthony Jr. (Evelyn) and Mark (Donna) Majcher, and Linda (Ray) Braun; loved grandmother of Abigail Garske, Alex, Justine, and Mark Braun; dear sister of Elizabeth (Albert) Schmidt. Visitation from 12:00 pm until the time of memorial service at 2:30 pm, Sunday at **Glueckert Funeral Home Ltd.**, 1520 N. Arl. Hts. Rd., Arl. Hts., Ill. Funeral Information and condolences www.GlueckertFuneralHome.com or (847) 253-0168. Body Copy

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Mantel, Titania M.

Titania M. Mantel, nee Montoya, age 72, of Buffalo Grove, formerly of Skokie. Beloved wife of Harvey; dear mother of Rica (Neil) Jones, Kenneth (Michelle K.) Mantel, and Michelle Mantel; cherished grandmother of Wesley, Camille, Meredith, and Chase; loving sister of Antonio (Anicia) Montoya, Laurita (Ruding) Villanueva, and the late Milagros (the late Marcial) Libunao; fond aunt of Antoinette and Aileen. Visitation, Thursday, December 19, 2019, from 3 to 8 p.m., at **HABEN Funeral Home & Crematory**, 8057 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. Funeral, Friday, December 20, at 9:45 a.m., from the funeral home, for Mass of Christian Burial, 10 a.m., at St. Peter Catholic Church, 8100 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. Interment, Sunset Memorial Lawns Cemetery, Northbrook. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to UW Health Transplant Fund, UW Foundation, U.S. Bank Lockbox 78807, Milwaukee, WI, 53278-0807. Info: 847.673.6111 or www.habenfuneral.com to sign guestbook.

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Massaro, Joseph C.

Joseph C. Massaro, age 80, at rest December 16, 2019; Beloved husband of Joyce Massaro; Loving father of Mary Eileen (John) Gerrard, Joseph Massaro, Kristina Massaro, and Anthony Massaro; Grandfather of Danielle, Jordan and Jenna; Dear brother of Charles (Theresa) Massaro; Eileen Ferro, and Donna (Frank) Krzanik; Loving son of the late Jenny Garafolo (nee Tirrito) and step son of the late Sam Garafolo; Dearest brother in-law of Tom (Lynn) Russell, William (Marianne), Joanne Histed, and John (Jean) Russell; Fond uncle of many nieces and nephews; Visitation Friday, December 20, 2019 from 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Funeral Saturday, December 21, 2019 9:00 a.m. from **Curley Funeral Home**, 6116 W. 111th St. Chicago Ridge to Sacred Heart Church, 8245 W. 111th Street, Palos Hills; Mass 10:00 a.m.; Interment Good Shepherd Cemetery; In lieu of flowers, donations would be appreciated to the Lymphoma Research Foundation; For Funeral info 708-422-2700, or www.curleyfuneralhome.com

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Mattioda, Richard S. 'Rick'

Richard S. "Rick" Mattioda, age 65, a long-time resident of Naperville, IL, formerly of Spring Valley, IL, passed away on Monday, December 16, 2019, surrounded by his family, after a valiant battle with cancer. He was born November 8, 1954 in Spring Valley. Rick was a 35 year employee of Leopardo Companies Inc., Hoffman Estates, IL. Arrangements by **Friedrich-Jones Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Naperville, IL**. For service times and a complete obituary, please visit www.friedrich-jones.com or call (630) 355-0213 for more information.

Friedrich Jones
Funeral Homes & Cremation Services

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McCafferty, Hubert F. 'Bert'

Hubert "Bert" F. McCafferty, age 84; beloved husband of 64 years to Joanne McCafferty, nee Hlavac; loving father Michael (Ger) and Daniel McCafferty; dear grandfather of Kevin and Laura McCafferty, and Daniela (Adam) Munoz, Andrea (Michael) Kinsella, Kyle and Kaitlyn McCafferty; great-grandfather of Cooper and Lyla Jo Kinsella; fond uncle to many nieces and nephews. Bert was a devout Catholic and attended Ascension of Our Lord Church in Oak Brook. For 35 years, he was the national sales executive for Berger Industries. Before beginning his career in sales, Bert proudly served his country in the Naval Air Reserves. Outside of work, he was an avid traveler, sports fan and, most importantly, a devoted grandfather to his six grandchildren. Visitation Friday, December 20th, 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Funeral Saturday, December 21st, 11:00 a.m. from **Sullivan Funeral Home**, 60 S. Grant Street, Hinsdale, Illinois 60521 to Ascension of Our Lord Church. Funeral Mass, 12:00 p.m. Interment Private. In lieu of flowers, memorials to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, PO Box 1000 Dept. 142, Memphis, TN 38105 or www.stjude.org/donate, appreciated. 630-323-0275 or www.sullivanfuneral-homehinsdale.com

Sullivan
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Melroy, Robert Leo

Robert Leo Melroy, 88, of Arlington Heights, beloved husband of Dennie (nee Wolters); loving father of Theresa Melroy, Margaret (Kurt Pairitz) Melroy, Denise Melroy, and Sharon (Rob Kippenbrock) Melroy; loved grandfather of Carolyn (Derek Morris) Pairitz, Mark Pairitz, Alex, Noah, Claire, Rose Kippenbrock and Ruby Melroy; dear brother of Patricia Martin and the late David J. Visitation is Friday 10:00 am until time of Funeral Mass at 11:00 am at Our Lady of the Wayside Catholic Church, 440 S. Mitchell, Arl. Hts., IL. Interment St. Michael the Archangel Cemetery, Palatine. In lieu of flowers, contributions to the Little Sisters of the Poor St. Joseph's Home in Palatine, IL (littlesister-softhepoorpalatine.org), or Our Lady of the Wayside Church in Arlington Heights, IL (olwparish.org) are appreciated. Funeral information and condolences can be given at www.GlueckertFuneralHome.com or 847-253-0168.

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Mersch, Mary Patricia

Mary Patricia Mersch, nee McDonnell, age 87, of Skokie. Beloved wife of the late Robert; dear mother of Martin (Mary Beth), Marie (Len) Mrowczynski, Maureen, Margaret, Marlene (Brian Magliozzi), Marjorie (William) Horvath, Matthew (Julie Keefe), Melissa (John) Dore, and the late Michael (Nancy Varco); loving grandmother of Erin (Lukas), Mairtin (Sara), Anne (Ian), Timothy (Sara), Robert, Tracy, Kelsey (Parker), Courtney, Jenny (Jake), Laurie (Phil), Michael (Jenna), Natalie, Dominick, Sara, Will, Nora, and John; cherished great-grandmother of Gregory, Paul, and Nicholas; fond sister of the late Nancy Balog. Visitation, Friday, December 20, 2019, from 3 to 9 p.m., at **HABEN Funeral Home & Crematory**, 8057 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. Funeral, Saturday, December 21, at 9:15 a.m., from the funeral home, for Mass, 9:30 a.m., at St. Peter Catholic Church, 8100 Niles Center Rd., Skokie. Interment, All Saints Catholic Cemetery, Des Plaines. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to The American Cancer Society, P.O. Box 22718, Oklahoma City, OK, 73123-1718. Funeral info: 847.673.6111 or www.habenfuneral.com to sign guestbook.

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Moore, Avery L 'Bubba'

Avery L. Moore, born November 17th, 1936. Resident of Gleason, Tennessee passed away December 13, 2019 at age of 83. Beloved Husband of Joan Gail Moore; loving Father to Diana Goergen, Eric Moore; cherished Grandfather of Michael Goergen, Brandon and Ashley Moore; dedicated brother to ten siblings and caring uncle to many nieces and nephews. Avery at the age of twenty settled in the Chicagoland area of Illinois to build a career as a successful leader, entrepreneur and the longest running business owner on Ogden Avenue, Berwyn, Illinois, A & R Incorporated. He was a sought out trustworthy auto mechanic with long standing customers across the states. As a secondary business, Avery serviced multiple communities, townships and malls as an owner/operator of a large snow removal business with dozens of vehicles/equipment and a long standing dedicated crew. Retired at age 67, Avery returned to Gleason, Tennessee where he continues to help neighbors and friends. Visitations at William's Funeral Home 429 S. Cedar St., Gleason, TN 38229 from 4pm to 7pm December 19th, 2019 Funeral services December 20th, 11am at William's Funeral Home and Hopewell Cemetery in Gleason.

For more funeral home information or to leave condolences, 731-648-5801
Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Peck, Brian D.

Suddenly, age 20. Loving son of Steve and Karen (nee Bennett), dearest brother and best friend to Colin. Beloved grandson of William and the late Lynn Bennett and Joan and the late Donald Peck. Kind, loving and humble nephew and cousin to many. Cherished friend to all from Cardinal Bernadin, Providence Catholic and The University of Wisconsin Madison. Brian was an accomplished musician and deans honor student who had a passion for improving the quality of life for others. He was looking forward to his summer internship at Medtronic as a biomedical engineer. Those who knew Brian, even just a little, lost a precious gift in their lives. Visitation Friday 3-9 p.m. Funeral Saturday 9:45 a.m. from the **Robert J. Sheehy & Sons Funeral Home**, 9000 W. 151st Street, Orland Park, IL to Our Lady of the Woods Church, Mass 10:30 a.m. Interment Good Shepherd Cemetery. www.sheehyfh.com 708-857-7878

Robert J.
Sheehy & Sons

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Reiter, Harvard

Harvard Reiter, 90. Husband of Elanor Reiter; father of T.L. Adams (Scott Adams), Adam Reiter (Dawn Reiter) and Amy Reiter (Mark Miller); grandfather of Jason and Amanda Reiter, Colman and Simon Adams, and Max and Dahlia Miller. Brother of the late Stanley Reiter (Nina Reiter). Professor Emeritus of Microbiology and Immunology at University of Illinois-Chicago Medical Center. Funeral: Friday 11:30 a.m. at Mah Tovu, 7313 N. Western Ave. Shiva info: **Mitzvah Memorial Funerals**, 630-648-9824. Donations to Cure Alzheimer's Fund, Doctors Without Borders or your chosen charity.
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Rotko, Gerald E. 'Jerry'

Gerald E. "Gerry" Rotko, age 84, a proud member of the United States Army Security Agency (ASA) from 1954 to 1957, a 36 year resident of Naperville, IL, formerly of Bedford, OH, passed away on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at Alden Estates of Naperville. He was born December 14, 1935 in California, PA. 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.

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Rudnick, Barbara K.

Barbara Rudnick (nee Kolanowski) 80 of Arlington Heights, beloved wife for 58 years of Kenneth Rudnick; loving mother of Susan (David Wilson) Rudnick, Steven Rudnick and Sharon (Martin Bukacek) Rudnick; dear grandmother of Peter Wilson. Memorial Visitation Saturday, December 21, 2019 from 9:30am until time of Funeral Mass at 10:30am at St. Emily Catholic Church, 1400 E. Central Rd., Mount Prospect, IL 60056. In lieu of flowers memorials may be made to either St. Emily Catholic School, 1400 E. Central Road, Mount Prospect, IL 60056 or Carmel Catholic High School, 1 Carmel Pkwy., Mundelein, IL 60060. Funeral Information and condolences www.GlueckertFuneralHome.com or (847) 253-0168.

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Scolaro, Mary C.

Mary C. Scolaro, nee Lohman, of Westchester, age 101. Beloved wife of the late Anthony J.; loving mother of Jim (Diane), Rick and the late Peggy; proud grandmother of Jeffrey (Nicole), Laura (Jason) Friesema and Gregory (Alexandra); great-grandmother of Sophia, Karina, Francesca, Ava and Gianna; dear sister of Monica and the late Betty, Marge, Sr. Jeanice "Gertrude", Gerry, Bernard, Urban and Jeanice. Family and friends will be received at the **Conboy-Westchester Funeral Home**, 10501 W. Cermak Rd., Westchester (2 blks West of Mannheim Rd.) on Saturday, December 21, 2019 from 9:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. proceeding to Divine Infant Church for 11:30 a.m. Funeral Mass. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. For info 708-F-U-N-E-R-A-L.

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www.ConboyWestchesterfh.com

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Swartz, Dorothy

Dorothy Swartz, nee Bornstein, 100. Beloved wife of the late Jesse; devoted mother of Claudia Katz, Edward (Ellen) Swartz, and the late Arthur Swartz; cherished grandmother of Leslie (Cary) Getlin, Jeffrey Swartz, Dr. Liana (Erik) Billings, and Sacha (Kevin) Krasney; proud great-grandmother of Micah and Graham Getlin, Amelie, Adele, and Noah Billings, Tybee and Olive Krasney; dear sister of the late Ann Liberman, Shirley Shaevel, Morris Bornstein, Hershel Bornstein, and Bluma Herman. Dorothy was a treasured teacher in the Chicago Public School system for many years. She was a gifted seamstress and baker- everyone will miss her rugelach and blueberry pie! She was an avid golfer and bridge player. Funeral service Friday, Dec. 20, 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 Center for Enriched Living, www.centerforenrichedliving.org. For info: 847-256-5700.

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Thanos, Tracey Elizabeth

Tracey Elizabeth Thanos, 55, devoted mother, sister, daughter and friend, died on Thursday December 12, 2019. She leaves behind her three daughters, Macy, Maris and Madden, her daughters' father, Erich Muellner, sister Cleo Thanos, her father Nicholas Thanos, and countless others who loved her and will miss her deeply. She is preceded in death by her mother, Kathy Brownell.

Tracey rose to the position of Special Agent in Charge of the Chicago Field Division of the Social Security Administration Office of the Inspector General (SSA OIG). Grew up in South Bend, IN, lived in Chicago. Rago Brothers Friday Dec 20 4-8pm 7751 West Irving Park Chicago, IL AND Kaniewski Funeral Home Monday, December 23 11am-1pm Visitation 1pm Memorial Service 3545 North Bendix Drive South Bend, IN

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Vecchio, Dominic A.

Dominic A. Vecchio, age 15. Passed away peacefully with his family at home after a 16 month battle with cancer. Graduate of St. Paul of the Cross School. Beloved son of Dominic J. and Fran. Loving brother of John Paul, Joe and Anna. Caring cousin of James and many others. Dear nephew of many aunts and uncles, some residing in Brazil. In lieu of flowers donation appreciated Michael Mosier Defeat DIPG Foundation. Visitation Friday from 3:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at **PETERSON-BASSI CHAPELS** 6938 W. North Ave. Saturday friends are asked to meet at St. Vincent Ferrer Church for Mass of Christian Burial 10:00 a.m. interment Maryhill Cemetery. For information 708.848.6661 or www.petersonfuneral-home.com

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ASSUMED NAMES

Notice is hereby given, Pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct of or transaction of Business in the State" as amended, that a Certification was filed by the Undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County File No. Y19002754 on the Date: December 9, 2019 Under the Assumed Name of: MY WEALTH WISDOM

with the business located at: 1. N. FRANKLIN STREET SUITE 2470 CHICAGO, IL 60606

The true name and residence address of the owner: WENDY JESTINGS 1. N. FRANKLIN STREET SUITE 2470 CHICAGO, IL 60606 12/12, 12/19, 12/26/19 6539737

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF: Goo Young

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF: Robyn Gee (Mother)

JUVENILE NO.: 19JA00126

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Unknown (Father), respondents, and to All WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, that on March 12, 2019, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by KIM FOX, STATE'S ATTORNEY OF COOK COUNTY through her assistant State's Attorney in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge John Huff in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON 01/09/2020, at 1:30 PM in CALENDAR 14 COURTR00M 14, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS December 2, 2019 6543346

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LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF: Joseph Martin

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF: Sharell Martin (Mother)

JUVENILE NO.: 19JA00689

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Curtis Deramus (Father), and Any And All Unknown Fathers, respondents, and to All WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, that on July 02, 2019, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by KIM FOX in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge Peter Wikkels in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON 01/10/2020, at 9:30 AM in CALENDAR 13 COURTR00M 10, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order of judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS November 4, 2019 6516755

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT JUVENILE JUSTICE DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF: Martese Hunt

A MINOR NO. 2018JD01629

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Notice is given you, Antwoin Hunt (Father) AKA Antoin Hunt, respondents, and TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, that on October 04, 2018, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by KIM FOX, STATE'S ATTORNEY OF COOK COUNTY through her assistant State's Attorney in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge Terrence Sharkey in the 1100 South Hamilton, Chicago, Illinois, ON 01/09/2020 at 9:00 AM in CALENDAR 63 COURTR00M 13, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act. The court has authority in this case to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor.

Unless you appear at the hearing and show cause to the contrary, an order of judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief asked in the petition.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF COURT November 25 2019

ASSISTANT STATE'S ATTORNEY: S. Auyeung, L. Martin ATTORNEY FOR: THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS ADDRESS: 1100 South Hamilton CITY/STATE: Chicago, Illinois 60612 TELEPHONE NUMBER: (312) 433-7000 ATTORNEY NO.: 33182

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, COOK COUNTY OF ILLINOIS November 25 2019 6534277

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF: Nadia I Fox

A MINOR NO. 2019JD06119

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

Notice is given you, Nadia Fox (Minor-Respondent) and Lisa Lilekis (Mother), respondents, and TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, that on November 18, 2019, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by KIM FOX, STATE'S ATTORNEY OF COOK COUNTY through her assistant State's Attorney in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge Sanju Oommen Green in the 16501 South Kedzie Parkway, Markham, Illinois on 01/03/2020 at 9:30 AM in CALENDAR 76 COURTR00M 099, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, an adjudicatory hearing will be held upon the petition to have the minor declared to be a ward of the court and for other relief under the Act. The court has authority in this case to take from you the custody and guardianship of the minor.

Unless you appear at the hearing and show cause to the contrary, an order of judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief asked in the petition.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF COURT November 18, 2019

ASSISTANT STATE'S ATTORNEY: C. Nugarus, P. Sloan, A. Sammarco ATTORNEY FOR: THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS ADDRESS: 16501 South Kedzie Parkway CITY/STATE: Markham, Illinois 60428 TELEPHONE NUMBER: (708) 232-4061 ATTORNEY NO.: 33182

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT, COOK COUNTY OF ILLINOIS November 18, 2019 6534240

FORECLOSURES

MANLEY, DEAS, KOCHALSKI LLC One East Wacker - Suite 1250 Chicago, IL 60601 IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING, Plaintiff, v. CHRISTEL Y. BRIDGES, AKA BRIDGES; UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS; THE NEW MERRILL SQUARE CONDOMINIUM, Defendants. Case No. 2019CT004487. The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, Christel Y. Bridges, AKA Bridges, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, that the said suit has been commenced in the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois by the said plaintiff against you and other defendants, praying for the foreclosure of a certain Mortgage conveying the premises described as follows, to-wit: Unit 6741-2 in the New Merrill Square Condominium as delineated on a survey of the following described property: The South 10 feet of Lot 6 all of Lot 7 and the North 30 feet of Lot 8 in first addition to Bryn Mawr Highlands subdivision of the North 3/4 of the West 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of Section 14, Township 38 North, Range 14 East of the Third Principal Meridian, which Survey is attached as Exhibit B to the declaration of condominium recorded in the office of the recorder of deeds of Cook County, Illinois as Document Number 98202497 together with its undivided percentage interest in the common elements. 6741 South Merrill, Unit 6741-2, Chicago, Illinois 60602-0227-1006 Now, the foreclose, unless you, Christel Y. Bridges, AKA Bridges, Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants, and the said above named defendants, file your answer to the complaint in said suit or otherwise make your appearance in this court as the Clerk of the Cook County Judicial Circuit, Cook County, Illinois, on or before January 20, 2020, default may be entered against you at any time after that day and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/faq/gethelp.asp or contact the Clerk of this Court. Edward R. Peterka (6220414) MANLEY/DEAS KOCHALSKI LLC Attorneys for Plaintiff One East Wacker, Suite 1250, Chicago, IL 60601 Phone: 312-651-6700 Fax: 312-651-5613 Email: sef-peterka@manleydeas.com One of Plaintiff's Attorneys 12/19, 26/2019, 1/2/2020 6547595

TO: Steven M. Driscoll; Asset Acceptance, LLC, Kenneth Driscoll, Oakwood Hills Condominium Association, Occupant, 1007 Lincolnshire Ct., #C, Elgin, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019CTD004487. FILED: November 18, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/3/2017. Certificate No. 15-0006383. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 1007 Lincolnshire Ct., #C, Elgin, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 15-0006383. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. MTAG CUST ATCF II, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6545294

TO: Damir Veljacic, Edin Veljacic; John Armatia; Fifth Third Bank; Victorian Park Condominium Association, Occupant, 56 N VICTORIA LN, Unit F, Streamwood, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019CTD004833. FILED: December 3, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/3/2017. Certificate No. 15-0000945. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 56 N VICTORIA LN F, Streamwood, Illinois 60107. Legal Description or Property Index No. 06-14-428-015-1289. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. Pine Valley One Real Estate, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6545894

TO: Lottie Barkley, Alan Barkley, Marilyn Barkley, Thomas Kelly, Debbie Villafane, Bank of America, N.A.; Occupant, 4909 N MERRIMAC AVE, 1st Floor, Chicago, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019CTD004478. FILED: December 2, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/5/2017. Certificate No. 15-0006451. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 4909 N MERRIMAC AVE, Chicago, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 13-08-319-018-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago, IL 60602, on 4/20/2020 at 9:30 AM in room 1704. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before April 2, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. MTAG CUST ATCF II, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6545472

TO: Alanya Properties, Inc.; Adrian Cozma, Silviu Runcari, Cornelius Stresanu, Doinita Stoiciu, Medallion Financial Corp., Murphy & Hourihane, LLC, Balmoral Courts Condominiums II; Occupant, 2405 W. Balmoral Ave., Unit 2D, Chicago, IL; Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019CTD004526. FILED: November 19, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/5/2017. Certificate No. 15-0006383. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 2405 W. Balmoral Ave., Unit 2D, Chicago, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 13-22-030-1035. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. Pine Valley One Real Estate, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6546047

TO: Peter Leyden, Peter Leyden, Margaret Leyden, The Leyden Living Trust, Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Peter Leyden, Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Margaret Leyden, Derek Rodriguez, James T. Leyden, Maureen Leyden, City of Chicago, Rivers Edge Condominium Homeowners Association; Occupant, 3742 N. Nora Ave., Chicago, IL; Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019CTD004459. FILED: November 20, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/5/2017. Certificate No. 15-0006483. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 3742 N. Nora Ave., Chicago, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 13-19-121-044-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 4/2/2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 4/2/2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago, IL 60602, on 4/20/2020 at 9:30 AM in room 1704. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before 4/2/2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. Pine Valley One Real Estate, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6544119

TO: John Rutka, Virginia Rutka, Becky Rutka, Kimberly Rutka, Roberta Smock, Unknown Heirs and Legatees of John Rutka; Mirhalina Navrallo; Occupant, 3012 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, IL; Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019CTD004545. FILED: November 19, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/5/2017. Certificate No. 15-0007971. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 3012 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 13-27-110-036-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 4/2/2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 4/2/2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago, IL 60602, on 4/22/2020 at 9:30 AM in room 1704. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before 4/2/2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. Cazenovia Creek Funding II, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6544315

TO: John Rutka, Virginia Rutka, Becky Rutka, Kimberly Rutka, Roberta Smock, Unknown Heirs and Legatees of John Rutka; Mirhalina Navrallo; Occupant, 3012 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, IL; Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019CTD004545. FILED: November 19, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/5/2017. Certificate No. 15-0007971. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 3012 N. Knox Ave., Chicago, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 13-27-110-036-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 4/2/2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 4/2/2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago, IL 60602, on 4/22/2020 at 9:30 AM in room 1704. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before 4/2/2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. Cazenovia Creek Funding II, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6544315

TO: Stanley Burek, Judith Burek, Chicago Title Land Trust Company, as Successor Trustee to Harris, N.A., as Trustee, U/L/N 1184, Trust Dated: August 25, 1988, Bit O'Tropics, Inc., Selina's Hair Salon, and M & H Hair Salon; U.S. Trust Company of New York, N.A.; Northern District of Illinois, Occupant, 5550 W FULLERTON AVE, Chicago, IL; Occupant, 5550 and 1/2 W FULLERTON AVE, Chicago, IL; Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019CTD004557. FILED: December 3, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/5/2017. Certificate No. 15-0006594. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 5550 W FULLERTON AVE, Chicago, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 13-23-234-037-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. Cazenovia Creek Funding II, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6544333

TO: Stanley Burek, Judith Burek, Chicago Title Land Trust Company, as Successor Trustee to Harris, N.A., as Trustee, U/L/N 1184, Trust Dated: August 25, 1988, Bit O'Tropics, Inc., Selina's Hair Salon, and M & H Hair Salon; U.S. Trust Company of New York, N.A.; Northern District of Illinois, Occupant, 5550 W FULLERTON AVE, Chicago, IL; Occupant, 5550 and 1/2 W FULLERTON AVE, Chicago, IL; Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019CTD004557. FILED: December 3, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/5/2017. Certificate No. 15-0006594. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 5550 W FULLERTON AVE, Chicago, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 13-23-234-037-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. Cazenovia Creek Funding II, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6544333

TO: Alanya Properties, Inc.; Adrian Cozma, Silviu Runcari, Cornelius Stresanu, Doinita Stoiciu, Medallion Financial Corp., Murphy & Hourihane, LLC, Balmoral Courts Condominiums II; Occupant, 2405 W. Balmoral Ave., Unit 2D, Chicago, IL; Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019CTD004526. FILED: November 19, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/5/2017. Certificate No. 15-0006383. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at: 2405 W. Balmoral Ave., Unit 2D, Chicago, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 13-22-030-1035. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April

TAKE NOTICES

TO: Ruby L. Logan, Darlene Clopton; Josh Chambers, Christina Chambers; Louis Coleman, Occupant, 57 LAWSON LN, Dixon, IL, 60110. ... TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/4/2017. Certificate No. 15-000332. ...

TAKE NOTICES

TO: Lawrence Hunt, Jeanel Edwards, Victoria Edwards, Frank Vance, Joshua Edwards, Raymond Dennis, Latoya Dean, James Hoidal, Midland Funding, LLC, Parties in occupancy and possession; ...

TAKE NOTICES

TO: SP 1, LLC, City of Chicago, Fountain Crest Condominium Association Building No. 2; Occupant, 14635 Greenwood Rd. Unit 303 (a/k/a B303). ...

TAKE NOTICES

TO: Z Financial, LLC, Akpevwe Ollidge, James Adeniji, James Ollidge; City of Chicago, Village of South Holland, Capital One Bank (USA) N.A., Adonic College of Nursing, Inc., ...

TAKE NOTICES

TO: Renee Windell, Illinois Attorney General, Illinois Dept. of Revenue; Occupant, 15116 Honore Ave., Harvey, IL, Cook County Clerk; ...

TAKE NOTICES

TO: Dan Drayton, Marie Drayton, Barbara Drayton; Matthew Dright, Ford Motor Credit Company, LLC; Occupant, 218 W. 155th St., Harvey, IL, Cook County Clerk; ...

TO: Robert Roseborough; Will Evans and Alfredo Carino; Advanced Critical Transport, LLC, Advanced Critical Transport, LLC, Darrell Roseborough, Gwendolyn Roseborough, ...

TO: Angela Kyse, Kenneth Kyse; Tremayne Dean, Brooke Hayes, Jamsine Moore, Cheryl A. Neeson, Health Care Center, Southern Lakes, Short Term Financial, LLC, ...

TO: Kolawole Akande, Morenike Akande, Kehinde Abegunde, Patricia Anthony, Clear Property Management Services, Illinois Attorney General, Illinois Dept. of Revenue, LWN Funding, LLC, Fountain Crest Condominium Association Building No. 3; ...

TO: PMJR Enterprises, LLC, Dennis Poole, Oneka Poole, Katherine Poole, Henry Poole, April Poole, Channel Richardson, Sheila Poole, Crystal Napier, Illinois Dept. of Revenue; City of Chicago, IRS, U.S. Attorney General, U.S. Attorney, Northern District of Illinois, Illinois Attorney General, Illinois Dept. of Revenue; ...

TO: Elliot Simpkins, Lynda Simpkins, Ariana Simpkins, Julie Buckner; Occupant, 15313 Marshfield Ave. 1st and 2nd Floor, Harvey, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; ...

TO: Norman Kutscher, Betty Kutscher, Susan E. Durkin, Fifth Third Bank; Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, ...

TO: Jacqueline E. Jackson, Worth Jackson; Sandra Freeman, Enjoli Freeman, Andrew Boone, Louise Franca, Ashwan Harris, Monea Lewis, Cal Union Drainage District; Occupant, 14632 Spaulding Ave., Apt. 1, Harvey, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; ...

TO: Robert J. DeYoung and Shirley DeYoung; Michael DeYoung, Marilyn O. Marshall, Patricia Marshall, Office of the Trustee and the Sernad Law Firm; Occupant, 14738 Ebrooke Ave., Dolton, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; ...

TO: Tracie Myers and Tracie D. Myers; Kenneth Smith, Capital One Bank (USA), N.A., and Discover Bank; Occupant, 14904 Oak St, Dolton, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; ...

TO: African American Space Guild, Mildred Williamson, Shaniel Reed, Shantiera Poole; City of Chicago; Occupant, 621 E. 155th St., Phoenix, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; ...

TO: Robert Wright, Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Robert Wright; Taxpayer of 15410 Marshfield Ave., Harvey, IL, Midwest Memorial Chapel, LLC; Capital Crossing Small Business Finance, LLC; Occupant, 15410 Marshfield Ave., Harvey, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; ...

TO: Norman Greenfield, Delois Greenfield; Ryan Patterson, Damon Patterson; Helena Greenfield; Occupant, 15541 S. Honore Ave., Harvey, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; ...

TO: Victoria Markewicz, Veronica Jakubik, Richard Jakubik, Chicago Title Land Trust Company, Successor Trustee to South Highland Trust & Investment Co., Trustee, u/t/n 10607, Trust Dated August 18, 1992; Patricia Fugate; Occupant, 14539 VINE AVE, Harvey, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; ...

TO: Robert J. DeYoung and Shirley DeYoung; Michael DeYoung, Marilyn O. Marshall, Patricia Marshall, Office of the Trustee and the Sernad Law Firm; Occupant, 14738 Ebrooke Ave., Dolton, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; ...

TO: Don Davis, Glen Davis, Sharon Davis; Neenah Davis, Joshua Davis; Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (MERS), Accredited Home Lenders, Inc., Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc.; Occupant, 15119 EVERS ST, Dolton, Illinois; Legal Description or Property Index No. 29-10-409-006-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. ...

TO: Arthur James, Ellamae Brown, Brenda Booth, James E. Spary; Occupant, 15224 DIXIE HWY., 2nd Floor, Harvey, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; ...

TO: Johnnie Thomas, John Walker, and Alberta Walker; Sarah Campbell, Marcus Campbell; Occupant, 222 W 155TH ST, Harvey, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; ...

TO: Taiwan Israel; Maria Israel, Anthony Garth, Angela Dixon, Shelly Kirby, Jessica McFadden, Sam Kirby; Occupant, 15515 S. Marshfield Ave., Harvey, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; ...

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TO: Matthew Gies, Irene Gies, as Trustee u/r/n 225, Trust Dated: June 21, 2004, Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Irene Gies; City of Calumet City, Mark Gies, Occupant, 225 RUTH ST, Calumet City, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019COTD004827. FILED: December 3, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/4/2017. Certificate No. 15-0003958. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at 225 RUTH ST, Calumet City, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 30-17-309-007-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago, IL 60602, on 4/20/2020 at 9:30 AM in room 1704. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before April 2, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. MTAG CUST ATCF II IL, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6545458

TAKE NOTICES

TO: Karl Moore; Zuriel Johnson, Kendall Moore; Allan Moore, FRG Glen Elyn LLC; Occupant, 371 BLACKHAWK DR, Park Forest, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019COTD004785. FILED: December 2, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/4/2017. Certificate No. 15-0002697. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at 371 BLACKHAWK DR, Park Forest, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 31-35-204-019-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago, IL 60602, on 4/20/2020 at 9:30 AM in room 1704. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before April 2, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. MTAG CUST ATCF II IL, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6544539

TAKE NOTICES

TO: John F. Southall, Jr., Craig Harvey, Tajana Southall, and Craig B. Harvey; Amber Southall, Jan Jackson, Illinois Attorney General, Illinois Dept. of Revenue, Andrew Grod, Occupant, 67 ORCHARD DR, Park Forest, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019COTD004793. FILED: December 2, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/4/2017. Certificate No. 15-0002740. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at 67 ORCHARD DR, Park Forest, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 31-36-208-057-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago, IL 60602, on 4/20/2020 at 9:30 AM in room 1704. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before April 2, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. MTAG CUST ATCF II IL, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6545074

TO: Robert P. Morris III, Arlene M. Morris, as Trustee of the 1257 Trust; Trust Number: August 12, 2002. Unknown Heirs and Legatees of Arlene M. Morris; Arlene Morris, Anjeel Samano, Linda R. Anderson; City of Calumet City, Shanika Morris, Loni R. Cap, Andrielle Cap; Occupant, 1257 MACKINAW AVE, Calumet City, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019COTD004828. FILED: December 3, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/4/2017. Certificate No. 15-0003997. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at 1257 MACKINAW AVE, Calumet City, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 30-19-207-030-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago, IL 60602, on 4/20/2020 at 9:30 AM in room 1704. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before April 2, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. MTAG CUST ATCF II IL, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6545435

TO: NVR Investments, LLC, Francisco Davila; Occupant, 317 SENECA ST, Park Forest, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019COTD004784. FILED: December 2, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/4/2017. Certificate No. 15-0002712. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at 317 SENECA ST, Park Forest, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 31-35-408-008-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago, IL 60602, on 4/20/2020 at 9:30 AM in room 1704. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before April 2, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. MTAG CUST ATCF II IL, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6545094

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TO: Level Field Spread, LLC; Occupant, 410 WESTGATE DR, Park Forest, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019COTD004789. FILED: December 2, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 4/4/2017. Certificate No. 15-0002640. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2015 and 2013 2nd. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at 410 WESTGATE DR, Park Forest, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 31-26-404-003-0000. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on April 2, 2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before April 2, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago, IL 60602, on 4/20/2020 at 9:30 AM in room 1704. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before April 2, 2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. MTAG CUST ATCF II IL, LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6544668

TO: Twin Arbor in Park Forest, Inc., John Scott, Randolph 18, LLC; Occupant, 144 Hemlock St., Park Forest, IL, Cook County Clerk; Parties in occupancy and possession; any unknown owners and occupants. TAX DEED NO. 2019COTD004597. FILED: November 21, 2019. TAKE NOTICE. County of Cook. Date Premises Sold 7/14/2017. Certificate No. 175-0002850. Sold for General Taxes of (year) 2010-2015. Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and special assessment number N/A Warrant No. N/A Inst. No. N/A. THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES. Property located at 144 Hemlock St., Park Forest, Illinois. Legal Description or Property Index No. 31-36-200-028-1051. This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on 4/2/2020. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the county clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before 4/2/2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of this county in the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 W. Washington St., Chicago, IL 60602, on 4/22/2020 at 9:30 AM in room 1704. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY. Redemption can be made at any time on or before 4/2/2020 by applying to the County Clerk of Cook County, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Chicago, Illinois. For further information contact the County Clerk. ADDRESS: 118 North Clark Street, Room 434, Chicago, Illinois 60602. TELEPHONE: (312) 603-5645. Urban Property Holdings LLC, Purchaser or Assignee. Dated: December 12, 2019. 12/19, 20, 23/2019 6544298

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AVALANCHE 4, BLACKHAWKS 1

Youth movement catches Seabrook

Vet can't dislodge young defensemen, is healthy scratch as Keith returns

BY JIMMY GREENFIELD

Duncan Keith is in. Brent Seabrook is out.

And the Blackhawks appear to be embracing a youth movement in their efforts to return to prominence.

When coach Jeremy Colliton announced Keith would return Wednesday against the Avalanche



Seabrook



Keith

after missing the last nine games with a groin injury, it wasn't a huge surprise that he elected to keep rookie Adam Boqvist, the No. 8 pick last season, in the lineup.

But it was a surprise that both Boqvist and fellow rookie defenseman Dennis Gilbert would be playing while Seabrook was a healthy scratch.

Colliton could have said Seabrook was sitting out because Wednesday's game was the first of back-to-back games against the Avalanche and Jets. Instead, he made it clear this was a coach's decision to give chances to the organization's young talent.

"Obviously, we've got to find a spot for Dunc and we have some

young players who've played well," Colliton said. "With where we are, we can't expect to make improvements, turn this thing around, if we don't give opportunity to young players."

Boqvist, 19, and Gilbert, 23, have played a combined 21 NHL games in their brief careers. Seabrook, 34, trails only Stan Mikita on the Hawks' all-time games-played list with 1,114.

Seabrook, who was benched for the first time in his career during the 2017-18 season, was also a healthy scratch for two games

earlier this season. He has three goals and one assist in 32 games while averaging a career-low 18 minutes, 9 seconds of ice time.

Telling Seabrook he was the odd man out on Wednesday was difficult but necessary, Colliton said.

"Yeah, it's not my favorite thing about doing the job," he said. "But that's part of what we have to do: give communication and feedback. And ultimately it's what's best for the team."

Turn to **Defensemen**, Page 5



THE Fire place

'Tis the season ...
to ax Bulls coaches? A look at a franchise tradition.

BY DEANTAE PRINCE

The holiday season presents an opportunity to indulge in rituals. When the calendar hits the two-month span that includes Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day, there is time allotted to share food with family, exchange gifts, drop the ball and ... fire Bulls coaches. Increasingly, it has become commonplace for the Bulls to let go of their head coach when it is least likely to reach the radar of fans and media members. Since Phil Jackson stepped away at the end of the Michael Jordan era, the Bulls have had eight full-time coaches, and four of them have parted ways with the team in the months of November and December. With rumors about Jim Boylen's fate swirling, now feels like an opportune time to reflect on the Bulls' checkered history during the giving season.

Turn to **Coaches**, Page 5

CHICAGO TRIBUNE ILLUSTRATION USING A GETTY PHOTO

BEARS

Patterson's Pro Bowl trip quickly turning into a family affair

Special teams star will have large contingent cheering him at game

BY DAN WIEDERER

Late last month, as Cordarrelle Patterson thought about a potential invitation to this season's Pro Bowl, he acknowledged that the trip to Orlando, Fla., probably would mean more to his family

than it would to him. So when the announcement came Tuesday night that Patterson could indeed pack his bags for next month's all-star showcase, he anticipated the way his phone began bleeping up.

"I heard from people I haven't heard from all year," Patterson cracked after Wednesday's Bears practice at Halas Hall. "They tell me they've already got their rooms and stuff booked for Orlando. You know how that goes,

man. Your family comes out of the woodwork when stuff like this happens."

Patterson was one of three Bears selected to the Pro Bowl on Tuesday. Outside linebacker Khalil Mack and safety Eddie Jackson also received the honor. Kyle Fuller, Tarik Cohen and Eddie Goldman were chosen as alternates.

It's worth noting that Patterson was selected as the NFC's special

teams representative, while Deontae Harris of the Saints was picked as the conference's return man.

Patterson, who leads the NFC with an average of 29.2 yards per kickoff return this season, has also been a standout in coverage on special teams. It's a role he first dabbled with during his days with the Vikings but not something that either the Raiders or Patriots asked him to take on. So when

HOME FINALE
Chiefs at Bears
7:20 p.m. Sunday, NBC-5
■ Trubisky isn't worried about Mahomes. **Page 3**

Bears special teams coordinator Chris Tabor approached him with a vision last spring, Patterson jumped at the opportunity.

Turn to **Patterson**, Page 4

TOP OF THE SECOND



PHIL ROSENTHAL

Some advice for NBC gang

NBC's Al Michaels and Cris Collinsworth are nothing if not familiar with the Bears — and to Bears fans — going into Sunday's prime-time game against the Chiefs.

It will be the Bears' sixth NBC appearance in a span of 23 games, counting their postseason loss to the Eagles, a streak dating to mid-November of last year.

In 2019 alone, including that Jan. 6 "double doink" playoff ouster, the Bears are 0-3 on the Peacock Network entering their fourth Michaels-Collinsworth telecast of the year.

Everyone should have a fairly good idea of what to expect, so here is a wish list for Michaels, Collinsworth, Michele Tafoya and everybody else in executive producer Fred Gaudelli's crew, one of the best in the business.

■ **1.** If a Bears player is hurt — such as, say, Mitch Trubisky was late in the game against the Rams — maybe the team can get the word to you and you can tell viewers before the game is over. If you want to have the sideline reporter report from sideline, that's OK too. But the emphasis is on, you know, getting the info on the air, especially if the news already is on Twitter.

■ **2.** It doesn't take that much more time to say "run-pass option" than "RPO," Cris. It's one extra syllable. Just ditch the jargon.

■ **3.** It is OK to refer to Chiefs coach Andy Reid's coaching tree, given how many of his former assistants are now NFL head coaches, including the Bears' Nagy, the Ravens' John Harbaugh, the Bills' Sean McDermott, the Eagles' Doug Pederson and the Giants' Pat Shurmur. Please refrain, however, from using the image of a tree in any accompanying graphic.

■ **4.** Aerial shots of Chicago always show the city to advantage. The gleaming skyscrapers, the Chicago River and lakefront never fail to dazzle. But on the ground, perhaps avoid the clichés. Believe it or not, there's more public art besides the Bean and the new statues of George Halas and Walter Payton outside Soldier Field.

■ **5.** Ditto for shots of people making or dining on deep-dish pizza and Italian beef. How about you show us where and on what Al, Cris and Michele dined Saturday night.

■ **6.** How about a hard cap on references to how the Bears traded up to pick Trubisky second in the 2017 draft, while the Chiefs snapped up reigning NFL MVP Patrick Mahomes at No. 10? One per half seems plenty.



■ **7.** Same goes for Ricky Gervais promos touting the Golden Globes, airing Jan. 5 on NBC. But we're open to at least one more if Gervais riffs on the Trubisky-Mahomes thing.

■ **8.** Feel free to wonder aloud what John Madden would say about Nagy's visor. There's no sun to be kept out of his eyes during a night game and, by design, it won't keep his head warm on a winter night. So how does this make sense? Use the Telestrator if you'd like.

■ **9.** No more "Da Bears" this season. You played that one out before the season opener in the parking lot with Brett Favre.

■ **10.** If referee Carl Cheffers' crew blows a call — and the way things have gone this season in NFL officiating, it seems likely — be specific and merciless in your criticism. The league needs to address the shortcomings, and unvarnished criticism on national TV may spur offseason action.

NBC broadcasters Cris Collinsworth, left, and Al Michaels have become familiar figures to Bears fans over the past year. TONY AVELAR/AP

■ **11.** When analyzing the Bears, be specific and merciless. The team needs to address the shortcomings, and unvarnished criticism on national TV may spur offseason action.

■ **12.** One Sid Luckman reference is more than enough. We'll allow two if Al summons his childhood memory of playing punchball with Luckman, the Bears' one great quarterback in 100 seasons.

■ **13.** If things get dull, maybe Al can slip in a reference to when he played a lawyer on the original "Hawaii Five-0" or his time working with Chuck Barris behind the scenes on "The Dating Game."

LET'S PLAY 2

	Sunday Chiefs 7:20 p.m. NBC-5	Dec. 29 @Vikings Noon FOX-32
	Thursday @Jets 7 p.m. NBCSCH	Saturday @Avalanche 8 p.m. NBCSCH+
	Saturday @Pistons 6 p.m. NBCSCH	Monday @Magic 6 p.m. NBCSCH+

THURSDAY ON TV/RADIO

NBA		
7 p.m. Lakers at Bucks		TNT
9:30 p.m. Rockets at Clippers		TNT
MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL		
6 p.m. Wofford at Duke		ESPN2
6 p.m. Maryland at Seton Hall		FS1
8 p.m. N.C. State at Auburn		ESPN2
GOLF		
8:30 p.m. Australian PGA		Golf
NHL		
6 p.m. Islanders at Bruins		NBCSN
7 p.m. Blackhawks at Jets		NBCSCH WGN-AM 720
TENNIS		
6 a.m. Abu Dhabi		Tennis
WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL: FINAL FOUR		
6 p.m. Baylor vs. Wisconsin		ESPN
8:30 p.m. Stanford vs. Minnesota		ESPN

ASK THE REPORTER

BRAD BIGGS

Do you think the Bears will upgrade the tackle positions in the offseason, even after signing both to extensions?
@beardownnyc

It's easy to say upgrade at offensive tackle and much more difficult to actually do it. Finding massive, athletic men who are strong enough and agile enough to block pass rushers like Khalil Mack is difficult. Look what happened to the Giants, who signed Nate Solder in free agency a year ago to a \$62 million deal with \$35 million guaranteed. He has been below average, to put it kindly. I would be surprised if Charles Leno and Bobby Massie are not the starting tackles in 2020.

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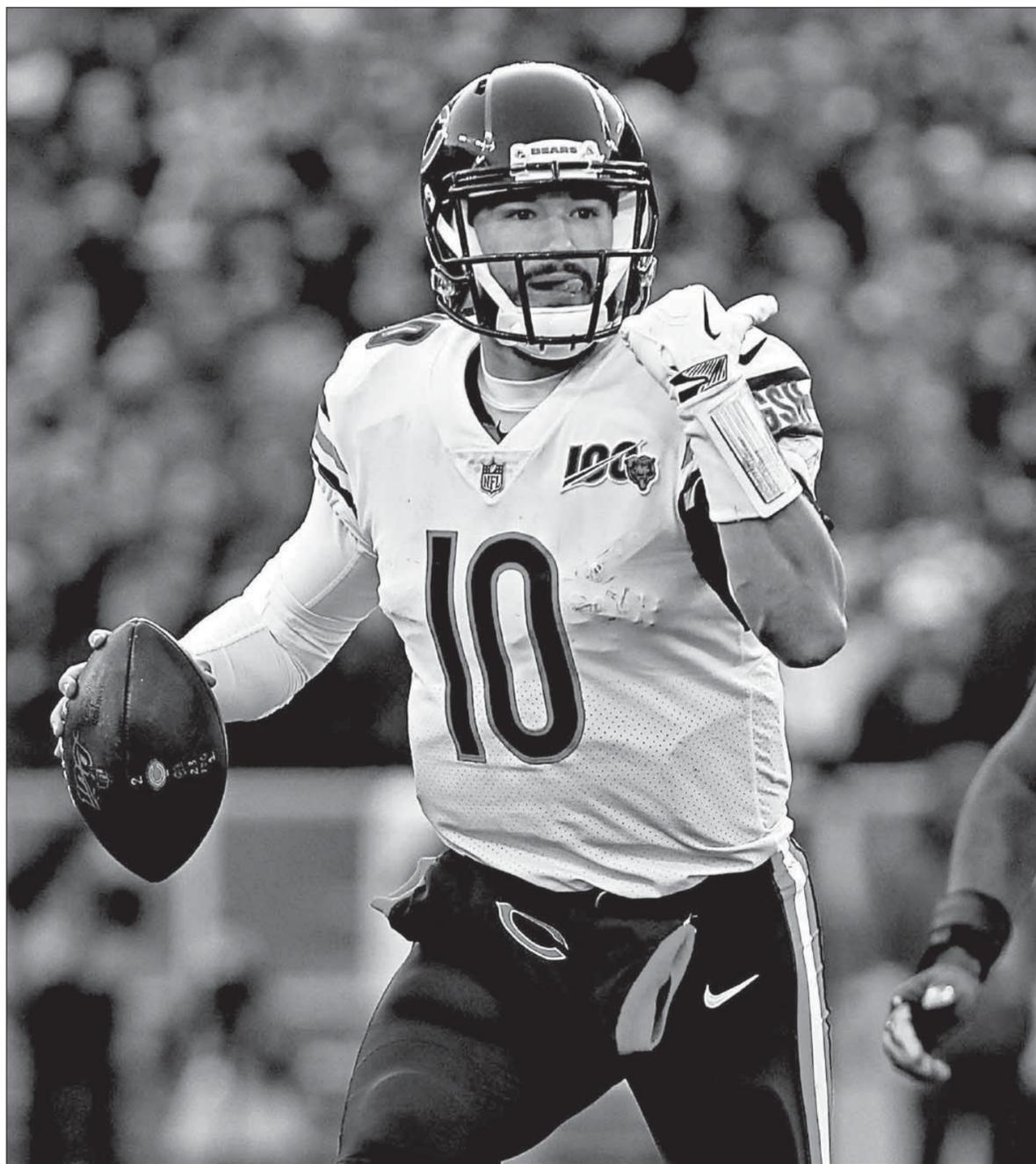
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BEARS



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bears quarterback Mitch Trubisky tries to find a receiver Sunday during the third quarter against the Packers at Lambeau Field.

Trubisky isn't feeling draft comparisons

QB on Mahomes: 'I'm in competition with myself'

BY DAN WIEDERER

On Sunday night, two of the three quarterbacks drafted in the first round of the 2017 NFL draft will square off in prime time at Soldier Field. Patrick Mahomes vs. Mitch Trubisky. Bears against Chiefs. "Sunday Night Football."

You're probably aware.

Inevitably, the national spotlight will shine over the disparity between the production of the two young quarterbacks. Mahomes is the league's reigning MVP and has thrown for 8,987 yards with 73 touchdown passes in his first 29 career regular-season starts. Plus he has the Chiefs again eyeing a deep postseason run.

Oh, and yeah, for those who didn't remember, the Bears passed on selecting Mahomes in the 2017 draft to pick Trubisky, whose inconsistency in 2019 has been a significant reason the Bears are out of playoff contention a week before Christmas.

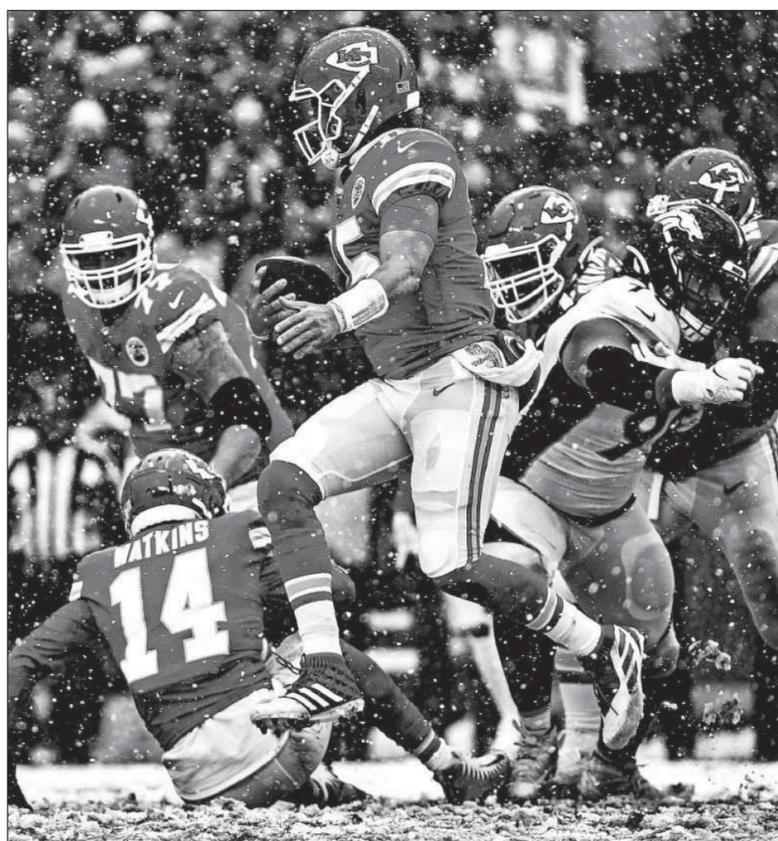
Trubisky's regular-season numbers through his first 39 starts: 8,190 yards and 48 TD passes.

Still, as Matt Nagy emphasized after Wednesday's practice at Halas Hall, Trubisky can't allow himself to get sucked into a one-on-one battle with Mahomes this week. He has to block out the conversation about the quarterbacks and instead stay locked in on the Bears' game plan.

"Don't worry about that; it's the Bears versus Chiefs," Nagy said. "That's the easiest way to approach it. The second you start getting into individual comparisons, whether it's me and Coach (Andy Reid) or it's the quarterbacks or it's their D-linemen and our D-linemen ... All that stuff? That's your trouble. That's how I handle it."

"We don't even talk about it. It's important for our guys to worry about the unit. Otherwise, if you start worrying about the individual stuff, it doesn't normally go too well."

The Bears traded up to draft Trubisky at No. 2 in 2017. In so doing, they also passed on Deshaun Watson, whom the Texans



REED HOFFMANN/AP

Chiefs quarterback Patrick Mahomes (15) scrambles for yardage against the Broncos.

drafted at No. 12, two picks after the Chiefs took Mahomes.

Both Mahomes and Watson were named to the AFC Pro Bowl roster on Tuesday while Trubisky is simply trying to salvage what's left of his season and working to show growth that can help him ascend in 2020 and beyond. Trubisky was asked directly Wednesday how he will handle the comparisons to Mahomes this week.

"The comparisons are out there and they are never going to stop," Trubisky said. "It's

kind of me, Pat and Deshaun all grouped together because we were in the same draft class, drafted in the first round and all that. But there are no do-overs. We are where we are. Our careers are going on different paths and they will for the rest of time. And (we'll) be compared against each other."

"It's just the nature of the beast. But I'm in competition with myself and just trying to be the best version of me to go out there and win games for the Chicago Bears. It's just something I can't control."

NFL

Chiefs add Suggs for playoff push

Associated Press

Terrell Suggs was brutally honest with Chiefs coach Andy Reid when they spoke on the phone for the first time, shortly after the Chiefs were awarded the veteran pass rusher off waivers ahead of a handful of other playoff contenders.

He spent 16 years with the Ravens, almost all of them memorable. He spent one with the Cardinals that he would rather forget.

"I asked coach, I was like, 'I just learned the hard way, a player like me don't just fit in anywhere,'" Suggs said over the din of a pickup basketball game in the Chiefs locker room. "Coach Reid got on and said, 'Trust me. You'll fit in here.'"

So far, so good.

After a day of rumors that Suggs might not report to any team other than the Ravens, the seven-time Pro Bowl selection was more than ready to take the field with the Chiefs for the first time Wednesday.

Suggs' arrival happened to be a perfectly timed marriage of convenience: He joins a team that already clinched the AFC West and has Super Bowl aspirations, but also a team that has lost defensive ends Emmanuel Ogbah and Alex Okafor to torn pectoral muscles.

Okafor's injury occurred this past Sunday, shortly before halftime of the Chiefs' win over the Broncos. It left the team with just Frank Clark, Tanoh Kpassagnon and Demone Harris at a crucial position in defensive coordinator Steve Spagnuolo's scheme — hardly an enviable situation heading into the final two regular-season games and the playoffs.

"I think I can come in and contribute right off the bat," Suggs said. "This was a team that was what, a penalty away from the Super Bowl? You're not really missing much. Hopefully I can add that last addition and we can do something special."

One of the reasons Suggs could see the field as soon as Sunday night, when the Chiefs visit the Bears, is because he is familiar with Spagnuolo's system. They were together in Baltimore in 2013 and '14, when Spagnuolo spent time with Ravens coach John Harbaugh as a senior defensive assistant and secondary coach.

"Spags has been a head coach. He's been a defensive coordinator before. I'm not sure there's anything more he can learn, but he's been doing a good job evolving the defense, evolving how players play," Suggs said. "That right there can help a guy in his 17th year in the league."

Now the question is whether a 37-year-old pass rusher can help the Chiefs.

Ax falls in Jacksonville: The Jaguars fired Tom Coughlin as executive vice president of football operations, parting ways with the two-time Super Bowl-winning coach a little more than a day after the NFL Players Union took a sledgehammer to his reputation.

Owner Shad Khan made the announcement, saying he decided earlier this season that Coughlin would be gone at the end of the season. Khan said he reconsidered the timing in "recent days."

The NFL Players Association said this week that than 25% of player grievances filed in the last two years have been against the Jaguars. The takeaway from the union: "You as players may want to consider this when you have a chance to select your next club."

Khan responded by firing Coughlin. He added that general manager Dave Caldwell and coach Doug Marrone will report directly to him on an interim basis.

Beckham committed: Tired about speculation over his future, Browns star wide receiver Odell Beckham Jr. said Wednesday he doesn't want to leave Cleveland after one frustrating season.

Beckham dismissed reports that he's unhappy with the Browns (6-8) and said he's committed to helping the team win. "It's done. It's over with," he said of the speculation. "I'm not going anywhere. I'll be here. We're going to figure this thing out. It's just too special to leave."

Beckham's first season with the Browns hasn't gone as expected, but the three-time Pro Bowler remains convinced the team has the pieces to be a Super Bowl contender.

Extra points: Cowboys quarterback Dak Prescott has a shoulder injury that is limiting him in practice but shouldn't keep him out Sunday when the Cowboys try to qualify for the playoffs in Philadelphia. ... Bengals WR A.J. Green decided not to try to play in the team's last two games because he hasn't fully recovered from ankle surgery during training camp. The Bengals' most accomplished player said he expects to be fully healed in the offseason, when he can be a free agent. He said he's not sure whether he'll stay in Cincinnati after nine years, and he won't participate in offseason workouts if the Bengals use their franchise tag on him. ... Former Broncos and Bengals CB Deltha O'Neal, 42, has been charged with felony drunken driving in connection with an August high-speed crash that seriously injured him and a passenger, Florida court records show.

Trevathan ends his season on IR for 2nd time

BY DAN WIEDERER

Danny Trevathan's season is officially over. The Bears on Wednesday placed the inside linebacker on injured reserve with the left elbow injury he suffered in a home game against the Lions last month.

The team also promoted defensive back Michael Joseph to the 53-man roster and signed receiver Alex Wesley to the practice squad.

This is the second time in four seasons with the Bears that Trevathan has finished

on IR. In 2016, he missed the final five games after rupturing the patellar tendon in his right knee. This year he suffered a gruesome elbow injury in Week 10. And any hope he had of making a comeback this season went out the window when the Bears were eliminated from playoff contention Sunday.

Trevathan, who will turn 30 next spring, has been a reliable playmaker and an energetic leader for the Bears since signing as a free agent in 2016. His contract expires in March, and it remains to be seen what the Bears' plans are at inside linebacker.

Trevathan joins the list of prominent Bears who have wound up on IR this season, a group that includes offensive lineman Kyle Long, tight ends Trey Burton, Adam Shaheen and Ben Braunecker and fellow inside linebacker Roquan Smith.

Akiem Hicks spent more than two months on IR with a left elbow injury before returning Sunday against the Packers. It remains to be seen whether the Bears will move Hicks back to IR as they consider the most sensible approach to the final two games of the season.

BLACKHAWKS

Players glad Crawford's suspension soon ending

Kane calls assistant coach 'nothing but a first-class guy'

BY JIMMY GREENFIELD

The controversy surrounding Blackhawks assistant coach Marc Crawford is nearing a conclusion.

On Jan. 2, Crawford's suspension will end and he'll resume a career that was threatened by allegations he had physically and verbally abused former players more than a decade ago.

For veteran goaltender Robin Lehner and other Hawks, the only controversy is that Crawford ever was suspended.

"If the standard is what Marc Crawford did (requires rehabilitation) and an apology letter, I think a big, big portion of the league coaches, GMs, presidents, players better start typing," Lehner said Wednesday. "Everyone (better) get ready for their apology letters because if that's the standard from back in the day, a lot of people are guilty of it."

The Hawks' two-week investigation, which the team said in a statement released Monday was done in conjunction with an independent legal counsel, found that Crawford, 58, had been undergoing counseling since 2010 in an effort to

"improve and become a better communicator, person and coach."

"We believe that Marc has learned from his past actions and has committed to striving to reform himself and evolve personally and professionally over the last decade," the statement read. "We have experienced no incidents during Marc's coaching tenure with the Chicago Blackhawks."

Recently, the NHL has undergone what some have described as a reckoning. Last month, Flames coach Bill Peters resigned after allegations of making racial slurs toward a former Hawks prospect.

Shortly after the Maple Leafs fired Mike Babcock on Nov. 20 for hockey reasons, accusations arose that he had mentally abused former players.

When the Hawks were in Europe on their season-opening trip, Lehner recalls Crawford addressing some of the issues that only recently have come up around the NHL.

"I remember when we were in Prague he was talking to the team about how happy he is that the culture has changed in the NHL," Lehner said, "and that things are going about in a different way and more communication, more back and forth. Not like that dictatorship that it was around the whole league before. He's talked a lot about that."

"He's a good man. So I'm very happy he's (coming) back."

Patrick Kane said he didn't encounter any issues with Crawford, adding that the team has missed his scouting reports of opponents, a duty Kane said Jeremy Colliton has assumed with Crawford away from the team.

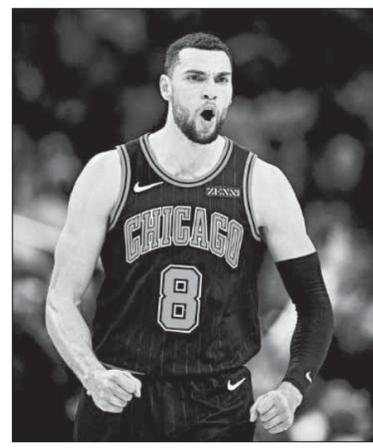
"He's been nothing but a first-class guy and just trying to help the team out any way he can," Kane said of Crawford. "He's obviously very passionate, and ever since he's gone away we've definitely missed him behind the bench. He's a guy that can fire up players. He's a guy that can teach players. Gives you a couple things before the game to think about."

Jonathan Toews confirmed that Crawford, who is in his first season with the Hawks, had talked about his past behavior shortly after joining the team.

"Marc definitely made a point at the start of the year to talk about how the relationship between players and coaches has changed," Toews said. "And obviously he's trying to take strides in the right direction. So we have a lot of respect for him and his knowledge and his experience as he's adapting to a new league and a new culture."

"We're looking forward to getting him back in the locker room."

BULLS



NICK WASS/AP

BULLS 110, WIZARDS 109 (OT)

Bulls win a thriller

Wendell Carter's layup with 9.1 seconds left off a drive and dish by Zach LaVine, above, gave the Bulls a 110-109 overtime victory over the Wizards on Wednesday night in Washington. LaVine was fouled on a 3-pointer and made all three shots with 5.5 seconds left in regulation to tie the score at 96. After Bradley Beal hit a jumper with a second to go, the Bulls called a timeout with 0.5 seconds left. Isaac Bonga fouled LaVine on the inbound lob, and LaVine made two more free throws to send it to OT. Markkanen's basket with 1:47 left in OT gave the Bulls their first lead since the first quarter. More at chicagotribune.com/sports

Coaches

Continued from Page 1

2001: Tim Floyd resigns on Christmas Eve

The first was Tim Floyd, who took over after the Michael Jordan years and struggled to produce under the long shadow of Phil Jackson. Floyd, the 13th coach of the Bulls franchise, was an abysmal 49-190 in Chicago, including a 15-67 showing in the 2000-01 season.

But rather than make a decision on Floyd during the offseason when transactions are often expected, the Bulls brought Floyd back. He resigned on Christmas Eve. At the time, Floyd said the decision to resign was his own, yet general manager Jerry Krause's name was left off the list when he thanked members of the franchise.

2003: Bill Cartwright fired days after Thanksgiving

John Paxson became general manager in 2003, and Bill Cartwright was his first casualty. Fired just days after Thanksgiving during a road trip to his hometown of Sacramento, Calif., Cartwright was let go in a phone call from his former teammate. Paxson believed the Bulls were underperforming under Cartwright. He was 51-100 in two seasons.

Cartwright never really stood a chance, as he took over in lean times after Floyd's resignation. Cartwright coached a mismatched roster centered on young players such as Tyson Chandler and Eddy Curry and anchored by veterans including Jalen Rose and future Bulls coach Fred Hoiberg.

"Just as I am a young player getting better, he was a young coach who was getting better. It's a sad thing," Chandler told the Chicago Tribune at the time.

2007: Scott Skiles fired on Christmas Eve

Scott Skiles' firing was perhaps the most egregious on the list. Unlike Floyd and Cartwright, he experienced success as Bulls coach and reached the playoffs in each of his three full seasons. Skiles' team registered the first playoff win since the Jordan dynasty ended in 1998, reinvigorating a franchise and fan base that had lay dormant for years.

Led by a young Ben Gordon and Luol Deng, the Bulls became a franchise on the rise with Skiles at the helm. None of that mattered when they started the 2007-08 season with a 9-16 record. Skiles was summoned to Paxson's office and relieved of his duties just before his team was set to start a Christmas Eve practice.

2018: Fred Hoiberg fired in December

A blowout loss to the Rockets on Dec. 1 proved to be the final game of Fred Hoiberg's tenure. The Mayor wasn't in a position of power in Chicago. Hoiberg entered his time as Bulls coach on the heels of a messy breakup between the Bulls and Tom Thibodeau. While Thibodeau rarely saw eye to eye with the front office, he oversaw some of the best years in Bulls history. Thibodeau coached Derrick Rose in his prime and took the Bulls to the conference finals in 2011.

When Hoiberg came around, Rose and Joakim Noah were hobbled, and one of the best groups in Bulls history was on its last legs. The emergence of Jimmy Butler should have been an asset for Hoiberg, but the two never clicked. Butler's dissatisfaction, an ill-fated experiment with Dwyane Wade and Rajon Rondo and team infighting ended the Hoiberg era after three years.



ERIN HOOLEY/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

AVALANCHE 4, BLACKHAWKS 1

Not much has changed

Duncan Keith's return to the Blackhawks from a groin injury went fine Wednesday, but the result was the same as his last game: a loss to the Avalanche at the United Center. Nathan MacKinnon and Andre Burakovsky scored second-period goals to lead the speedier Avs to a 4-1 victory. Ryan Carpenter scored the lone goal for the Hawks, who dropped to 13-16-6. The Avs beat the Hawks for the third time in less than three weeks and can complete a four-game season sweep Saturday in Denver. Corey Crawford stopped 33 shots while losing his third straight start. Pavel Francouz, above, stopped 31 shots for the Avs. For more, go to chicagotribune.com/sports

Defensemen

Continued from Page 1

The Hawks began the season with a clear veteran group of starting defensemen: Keith, Seabrook, Calvin de Haan, Erik Gustafsson, Connor Murphy and Olli Maatta. It's not certain how long de Haan will be out for with a shoulder injury, but it

will be for an extended period, which should provide a consistent spot in the lineup for Boqvist and Gilbert.

Keith's return should give the Hawks a boost. They allowed at least three goals in eight of the nine games he was out, including a season-high seven to the Avalanche on Nov. 30, and have gone 3-5-1 in his absence.

He has led the team in ice time since his rookie season in 2005-06 and, despite playing a career-low 23:01 per game this

season, is once again leading the team.

"It's huge," Jonathan Toews said. "He does a lot of different things for our team."

"Whether he goes out there and scores three points or whatever, it doesn't really matter — he eases the burden on all our other defensemen and he's on the (power play), (penalty kill), eating big minutes for us. Definitely don't realize sometimes what a guy brings to the team every night until he's out."

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

DEPAUL 73,
CLEVELAND STATE 65Demons improve
to 11-1 with victory

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Paul Reed had 19 points and 10 rebounds as DePaul beat Cleveland State 73-65 on Wednesday night.

Romeo Weems added 14 points and Charlie Moore 12 for DePaul (11-1), which earned its fourth consecutive road victory.

Cleveland State scored a season-high 44 second-half points after trailing by 14 at the break.

Tre Gomillion scored 15 points for the Vikings (4-8), who have lost four straight. Hugo Ferreira added 10 points.

The teams combined for 55 turnovers, 29 by Cleveland State.

Reed was 6 of 9 from the field and 7 of 8 from the line and also blocked four shots. Devin Gage scored seven points off the bench, all at the free-throw line, in his first game since Nov. 16. He had been out with an ankle injury.

DePaul plays host to Northwestern on Saturday night at Wintrust Arena.

LOYOLA 78,
VANDERBILT 70Krutwig carries
Ramblers to win

Associated Press

PHOENIX — Cameron Krutwig scored 22 points and grabbed a rebound on the final play to close out a triple-double, helping Loyola knock off Vanderbilt 78-70 in the Hall of Fame Showcase on Wednesday night.

Behind Krutwig, Loyola (8-4) dominated the paint, outscoring the Commodores 46-32, and shot 56%. Krutwig made 8 of 13 shots and had 10 assists and 10 rebounds.

Loyola has won five straight, its longest winning streak since taking 14 in a row during a surprising run to the 2018 Final Four.

This was the Ramblers' eighth win over a Power Five conference opponent in the last eight seasons.

Vanderbilt (6-4) was no match for Krutwig inside and hurt itself by going 13 of 22 on free throws.

Aaron Nesmith had 23 points and Saben Lee added 18 for the Commodores.



NAM Y. HUH/AP

Michigan State's Cassius Winston drives against Northwestern's Ryan Young.

MICHIGAN STATE 77, NORTHWESTERN 72

Buie's hot hand can't
lift Cats over Spartans

BY TEDDY GREENSTEIN

The battle between Michigan State's Cassius Winston and Northwestern's Boo Buie ended in a draw, as the Big Ten's preseason player of the year engaged in an entertaining duel with the Wildcats' freshman point guard.

Buie was unstoppable in stretches, hitting back-to-back 3-pointers and flipping one in over his right shoulder during a second-half run. In the end Buie's 26 points were not enough to lead the Wildcats to an upset of 15th-ranked Michigan State, which won 77-72 before a mixed crowd Wednesday night at Welsh-Ryan Arena.

Winston, who has struggled to focus in the wake of his brother's Nov. 9 death, looked more like the conference's top

guard. Coming off a 3-for-13 shooting performance against Oakland, he set the tone by hitting two 3s in the first minute. He finished with 21 points and six assists.

Michigan State (8-3, 2-0 Big Ten) won despite committing 16 turnovers. Northwestern fell to 5-5, 0-2 despite Buie's hot hand (5 of 7 from 3-point range).

NU forward Pete Nance, coming off a one-game suspension for "failure to adhere to program standards," had 14 points and seven rebounds. He almost got a technical foul with eight minutes to play for arguing a loose-ball foul.

The game was the last of the Big Ten's 14 December conference matchups. Had the Wildcats pulled off the upset, it would have resulted in a 14-way tie at 1-1, with the home team winning every game.

ROUNDUP

Gonzaga rips
sliding UNC

News services

Corey Kispert scored 26 points, Filip Petrusev added 20 and No. 2 Gonzaga rolled past North Carolina 94-81 on Wednesday night in Spokane, Wash., handing the Tar Heels their fourth straight loss.

One of the most highly anticipated games ever inside Gonzaga's gym was a party for most of the night for the home team. The Bulldogs (12-1) won their fourth straight since suffering their only loss of the season against Michigan in the final of the Battle 4 Atlantis.

More importantly, the Zags finished off an unbeaten stretch of three marquee games at Washington, at Arizona and against the Tar Heels.

Garrison Brooks led North Carolina (6-5) with 16 points, but the Tar Heels have dropped four straight for the first time since the 2009-10 season. It's been a brutal stretch for the Tar Heels with the Zags the fifth opponent ranked in the top 10 in North Carolina's past six games.

Then there's the injuries. North Carolina learned Monday it would be without star point guard Cole Anthony for four-to-six weeks following surgery to repair a partially torn meniscus in his right knee. Anthony sat during Sunday's loss to Wofford as did guard Leaky Black. Black returned Wednesday and had six points in nine minutes.

Big run propels Louisville: Jordan Nwora scored 20 points as No. 3 Louisville pulled away with a 17-0 run to beat Miami of Ohio 70-46.

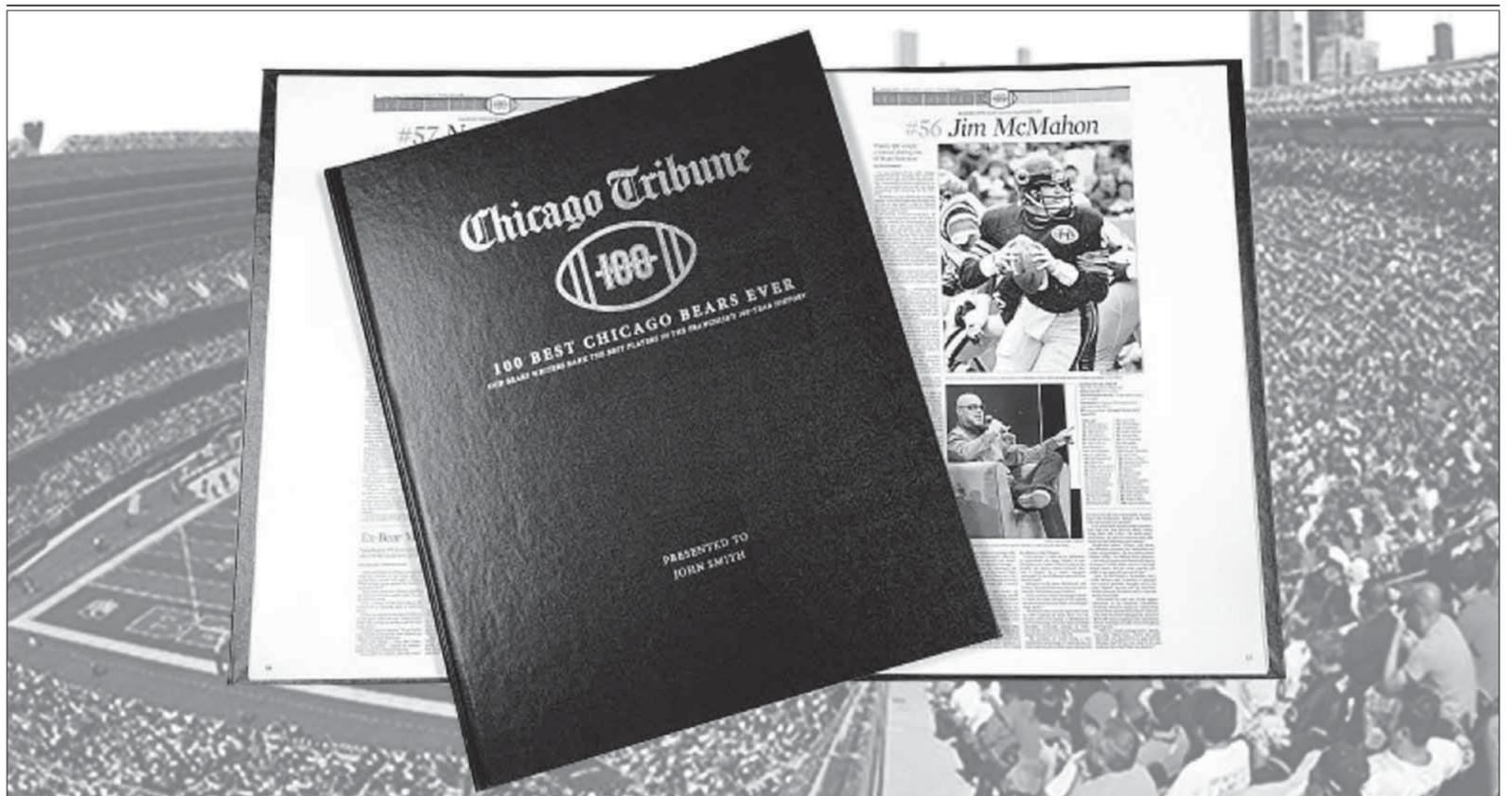
Ryan McMahan added 11 points for the Cardinals (11-1), and Dwayne Sutton tied a career-high with 15 rebounds.

Mekhi Lairy led the Redhawks (5-6) with 10 points.

Volunteers stumble: Trevon Scott scored 15 points and host Cincinnati recovered from back-to-back losses by knocking off No. 21 Tennessee 78-66.

The Bearcats (7-4) got the better of a back-and-forth game by getting inside one of the country's stingiest defenses for close-up baskets. Forty-six of Cincinnati's points came in the paint.

The Volunteers (7-3) were coming off a 51-47 loss to No. 13 Memphis that highlighted their offensive shortcomings. Tennessee has lost back-to-back games for the first time in two seasons.

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SCOREBOARD

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Boston	18	7	.720	—
Toronto	19	8	.704	—
Philadelphia	20	9	.690	—
Brooklyn	15	12	.556	4
New York	7	21	.250	12½

SOUTHEAST	W	L	PCT	GB
Miami	20	8	.714	—
Orlando	12	16	.429	8
Charlotte	13	18	.419	8½
Washington	8	18	.308	11
Atlanta	6	22	.214	14

CENTRAL	W	L	PCT	GB
Milwaukee	24	4	.857	—
Indiana	19	9	.679	5
Detroit	11	17	.393	13
Chicago	11	19	.367	14
Cleveland	7	21	.250	17

WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Dallas	18	9	.667	—
Houston	18	9	.667	—
San Antonio	10	16	.385	7½
Memphis	10	18	.357	8½
New Orleans	7	22	.241	12

NORTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Denver	18	8	.692	—
Utah	16	11	.593	2½
Oklahoma City	13	14	.481	5½
Portland	12	16	.429	7
Minnesota	10	16	.385	8

PACIFIC

L.A. Lakers	24	4	.857	—
L.A. Clippers	21	8	.724	3½
Sacramento	12	15	.444	11½
Phoenix	11	16	.407	12½
Golden State	5	24	.172	19½

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Chicago 110, Washington 109, OT
Cleveland 100, Charlotte 98
Miami 108, Philadelphia 104
Toronto 112, Detroit 99
New Orleans 107, Minnesota 99
Oklahoma City 126, Memphis 122
Denver 113, Orlando 104
Boston 109, Dallas 103
Portland 122, Golden State 112

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Utah at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
Brooklyn at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
Houston at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.

BULLS 110, WIZARDS 109 (OT)

CHICAGO: Dunn 5-10 4-6 15, Markkanen 12-19 2-21 31, Carter Jr. 3-8 3-4 9, Satoransky 7-11 1-1 17, LaVine 6-23 11-11 24, Gafford 1-1 0-0 2, Young 1-10 0-2, Arcidiaccono 1-3 0-0 2, Harrison 0-0 0-0 0, White 1-6 0-0 3, Valentine 2-6 0-0 5, Totals 39-97 21-24 110

WASHINGTON: Bonga 1-1 0-0 2, Bertans 8-15 3-3 26, Mahinmi 4-9 0-0 8, Thomas 5-15 3-16, Beal 4-19 13-14 22, Brown Jr. 3-8 2-4 10, Schofield 2-8 0-0 5, Pasencniks 3-7 3-4 9, Smith 3-10 0-0 6, Mathews 1-3 3-3 5, Totals 34-95 27-32 109.

Chicago	23	29	21	25	12	—	110
Washington	27	31	27	13	11	—	109

3-Point Goals—Chicago 11-37 (Markkanen 5-10, Satoransky 2-3, Dunn 1-2, White 1-4, Valentine 1-4, LaVine 1-8, Arcidiaccono 0-2, Young 0-4), Washington 14-45 (Bertans 7-13, Thomas 3-9, Brown Jr. 2-5, Schofield 1-6, Beal 1-9, Smith 0-1, Mathews 0-2). **Fouled Out—**Mahinmi, Dunn. **Rebounds—**Chicago 53 (Markkanen, Carter Jr., Young 9), Washington 55 (Pasencniks 8). **Assists—**Chicago 25 (Satoransky 6), Washington 21 (Beal 7). **Total Fouls—**Chicago 24, Washington 20. A—14,987 (20,356).

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	21	7	7	49	118	90
Buffalo	16	12	7	39	110	108
Montreal	16	12	6	38	108	105
Toronto	17	14	4	38	115	112
Tampa Bay	17	12	3	37	114	103
Florida	16	12	3	37	115	109
Ottawa	14	18	3	31	94	113
Detroit	9	24	3	21	79	141

METRO.	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	24	6	5	53	125	100
N.Y. Islanders	22	8	2	46	95	80
Carolina	21	11	2	44	113	89
Pittsburgh	20	10	4	44	114	90
Philadelphia	18	11	5	41	105	100
N.Y. Rangers	16	13	4	36	105	106
Columbus	14	16	6	34	87	101
New Jersey	11	17	5	27	80	116

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	22	8	6	50	109	96
Colorado	22	9	3	47	123	92
Winnipeg	20	12	2	42	104	97
Dallas	19	12	4	42	91	82
Nashville	16	12	5	37	115	106
Minnesota	16	14	5	37	107	115
Chicago	13	16	6	32	95	114

PACIFIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Arizona	20	12	4	44	100	86
Vegas	19	13	4	43	112	105
Edmonton	19	14	5	42	109	112
Calgary	18	14	4	40	96	108
Vancouver	16	15	4	36	111	108
San Jose	16	18	2	34	98	125
Los Angeles	15	18	3	33	94	114
Anaheim	14	17	4	32	89	104

2 pts for win, 1 pt for shootout/OT loss

WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

New Jersey 3, Anaheim 1
Colorado 4, Chicago 1
St. Louis 2, Edmonton 1

THURSDAY'S GAMES

Buffalo at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Los Angeles at Columbus, 6 p.m.
Dallas at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Boston, 6 p.m.
Nashville at Ottawa, 6:30 p.m.
Chicago at Winnipeg, 7 p.m.
Carolina at Colorado, 8 p.m.
Montreal at Calgary, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Arizona, 8:30 p.m.
Vegas at Vancouver, 9 p.m.

FRIDAY'S GAMES

Washington at New Jersey, 6 p.m.
Dallas at Florida, 6 p.m.
Toronto at N.Y. Rangers, 6 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Edmonton, 7 p.m.

AVALANCHE 4, BLACKHAWKS 1

Colorado	1	2	1	—	4
Chicago	1	0	0	—	1

FIRST PERIOD: 1, Colorado, Cole 2 (Zadorov, Landeskog), 8:41. 2, Chicago, Carpenter 2 (DeBrincat), 9:48.

SECOND PERIOD: 3, Colorado, MacKinnon 21 (Rantanen, Lindholm), 7:49. 4, Colorado, Burakovsky 13, 10:08.

Penalties: Colorado bench, served by Burakovsky (too many men on the ice), 4:14; Saad, CHI, (slashing), 13:00; Francouz, COL, served by Donskoi, (interference), 14:47.

THIRD PERIOD: 5, Colorado, Rantanen 10 (Landeskog, Cole), 17:04.

Penalties: Gustafsson, CHI, (roughing), 13:48; Nichushkin, COL, (cross checking), 18:02.

SHOTS ON GOAL: Colorado 19-10-7—36. Chicago 6-16-10—32.

POWER PLAYS: Colorado 0 of 2; Chicago 0 of 3.

GOALS: Colorado, Francouz 10-2-1 (32 shots-31 saves), Chicago, Crawford 6-10-2 (35-32).

A: 21,481 (19,717). T: 2:29.

Referees: Marc Joannette, TJ Luxmore.

Linesmen: Brian Mach, Andrew Smith.

TENNIS

WTA OPEN BLS DE LIMOGES

R2 at Limoges, France, indoor—Alize Cornet, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3
Nicola Pietrangeli, 6-2, 6-3
6-4, 3-6, 6-3
6-4, 3-6, 6-3
6-4, 3-6, 6-3

R1: #1 Ekaterina Alexandrova d. Monica Niculescu, 6-4, 2-6, 6-3
#2 Caroline Garcia d. Pauline Parmentier, 6-2, 6-2
Ana Bogdan d. Arantxa Rus, 7-5, 6-2
Creet Minnen d. Clara Burel, 6-3, 6-2

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

HOW MEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED

1. Kansas (9-1) did not play. Next: at No. 18 Villanova, Saturday.
2. Gonzaga (12-1) beat North Carolina 94-81. Next: vs. E. Washington, Saturday.
3. Louisville (11-1) beat Miami (Ohio) 70-46. Next: at No. 6 Kentucky, Sat., Dec. 28.
4. Duke (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Wofford, Thursday.
5. Ohio State (10-1) did not play. Next: at No. 6 Kentucky, Saturday.
6. Kentucky (8-2) lost to Utah 69-66. Next: vs. No. 5 Ohio State, Saturday.
7. Maryland (10-1) did not play. Next: at Seton Hall, Thursday.
8. Oregon (9-2) beat Montana 81-48. Next: vs. Texas Southern, Saturday.
9. Virginia (9-1) beat Stony Brook 56-44. Next: vs. South Carolina, Sunday.
10. Baylor (9-1) beat UT Martin 91-63. Next: vs. Jackson State, Mon, Dec. 30.
11. Memphis (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Jackson State, Saturday.
12. Auburn (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. N.C. State, Thursday.
13. Dayton (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Colorado, Saturday.
14. Michigan (8-3) did not play. Next: vs. Presbyterian, Saturday.
15. Michigan State (8-3) beat North-western 77-72. Next: vs. E. Mich., Sat.
16. Arizona (10-2) did not play. Next: vs. St. John's, Saturday.
17. Butler (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Purdue, Saturday.
18. Villanova (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 1 Kansas, Saturday.
19. Florida State (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. South Florida, Saturday.
20. San Diego State (11-0) beat San Diego 92-48Cincinnati. Next: at Utah, Saturday.
21. Tennessee (7-3) lost to Cincinnati 78-66. Next: vs. Jacksonville St., Saturday.
22. Washington (8-2) did not play. Next: vs. Ball State, Sunday.
23. Penn State (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. CCSU, Friday.
24. Texas Tech (7-3) did not play. Next: vs. UT Rio Grande Valley, Saturday.
25. West Virginia (9-1) did not play. Next: at Youngstown State, Saturday.

WEDNESDAY'S SCORES

EAST

Buffalo 82, Canisius 73
Case Western 65, Alvernia 64
Dartmouth 76, CSU 60
Franklin Pierce 74, Rbert Wesleyan 59
Huntingdon 93, Averett 92
La Salle 74, Wagner 60
Montreat 98, St. Andrews 75
New Hampshire 64, Marist 56
Pfeiffer 92, Piedmont 87
St. Bonaventure 87, Niagara 70
Syracuse 74, Oakland 62
Transylvania 75, DePaul 74
UNC 66, St. Peter's 56
UNC Greensboro 54, Vermont 53
Ursinus 84, Washington (Md.) 73

SOUTH

Ablene Christian 77, New Orleans 71
Alabama 102, Samford 87
Ball State 65, Georgia Tech 47
Belmont 83, Kennesaw St. 44
Bethel (Tenn.) 109, Crowley's Ridge 98
Catawba 88, Wingate 79
ETSU 74, LSU 63
Howard 105, Regent 47
Jacksonville 81, Presbyterian 58
Jacksonville St. 92, Delaware St. 80
King (Tenn.) 88, Emmanuel (Ga.) 82
Mississippi St. 77, Radford 68
Nicholls 64, Texas A&M-CC 58
Richmond 62, Old Dominion 59
SC-Upstate 73, SC State 70
UCF 70, Bethune-Cookman 65
VCU 76, Coll. of Charleston 71
Valparaiso 87, High Point 72

MIDWEST

Cent. Missouri 67, Missouri Baptist 58
DePaul 73, Cleveland St. 65
Green Bay 126, Concordia (Ill.) 64
Illinois State 67, Ill. Chicago 66
Indiana St. 78, Tennessee St. 72
Loyola of Chicago 78, Vanderbilt 70
S. Dakota St. 75, Florida Gulf Coast 56
S. Illinois 75, Hampton 53
W. Michigan 84, Aquinas 61
Wittenberg 69, Hanover 52
Xavier 74, Western Carolina 61
Youngstown St. 73, Binghamton 55

SOUTHWEST

Arkansas St. 79, La-Lafayette 67
C. Arkansas 88, Incarnate Word 82, OT
Lamar 79, SE Louisiana 73
Oregon St. 88, UTSA 78
Sam Houston St. 92, Northwestern St. 79
Stephen F. Austin 96, Houston Baptist 68
Utah State 76, South Florida 74

HOW WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED

1. Stanford (10-0) beat No. 23 Tennessee 78-51. Next: at Texas, Sunday.
2. UConn (9-0) did not play. Next: vs. Oklahoma, Sunday.
3. Oregon (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Kansas State, Saturday.
4. Oregon State (9-0) vs. Northern Arizona. Next: vs. BYU, Thursday.
5. South Carolina (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Duke, Thursday.
6. Louisville (10-1) did not play. Next: at UT Martin, Thursday.
7. Baylor (9-1) beat Arkansas St. 111-43. Next: vs. Morehead St., Mon., Dec. 30.
8. Florida State (11-0) beat North Florida 70-41. Next: vs. No. 24 Michigan, Sunday.
9. N.C. State (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. Chattanooga, Thursday.
10. UCLA (9-0) did not play. Next: at Georgia, Thursday.
11. Texas A&M (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia Tech, Friday.
12. Indiana (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 10 UCLA, Sunday.
13. Maryland (9-2) beat Georgia St. 114-41. Next: vs. No. 24 Michigan, Dec. 28.
14. Kentucky (10-1) did not play. Next: at California, Saturday.
15. Mississippi State (9-2) did not play. Next: vs. South Florida, Thursday.
16. DePaul (9-2) did not play. Next: at Loyola of Chicago, Friday.
17. Gonzaga (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 20 Missouri State, Friday.
18. Arizona (10-0) did not play. Next: vs. UC Santa Barbara, Saturday.
19. Michigan State (7-2) did not play. Next: vs. Syracuse, Friday.
20. Missouri State (9-1) did not play. Next: at No. 17 Gonzaga, Friday.
21. Arkansas (10-1) did not play. Next: vs. Little Rock, Saturday.
22. West Virginia (7-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 19 Michigan State, Saturday.
23. Tennessee (8-2) lost to No. 1 Stanford 78-51. Next: at Portland State, Saturday.
24. Michigan (9-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 8 Florida State, Sunday.
25. South Dakota (12-1) did not play. Next: at No. 5 South Carolina, Sunday.

GOLF

WORLD RANKINGS

RK.	GOLFER	COUNTRY	Avg
1.	Brooks Koepka	U.S.	10.83
2.	Rory McIlroy	N. Ireland	9.65
3.	Jon Rahm	Spain	8.34
4.	Justin Thomas	U.S.	7.34
5.	Dustin Johnson	U.S.	7.26
6.	Tiger Woods	U.S.	6.79
7.	Patrick Cantlay	U.S.	6.48
8.	Justin Rose	England	6.39
9.	Xander Schauffele	U.S.	5.88
10.	Tommy Fleetwood	England	5.75
11.	Webb Simpson	U.S.	5.17
12.	Patrick Reed	U.S.	5.04
13.	Bryson DeChambeau	U.S.	4.93
14.	Francesco Molinari	Italy	4.81
15.	Paul Casey	England	4.78
16.	Tony Finau	U.S.	4.75
17.	Gary Woodland	U.S.	4.76
18.	Adam Scott	Australia	4.65
19.	Shane Lowry	Ireland	4.50
20.	Louie Oosthuizen	S. Africa	4.31
21.	Hideki Matsuyama	Japan	4.22
22.	Brend Wiesberger	Austria	4.14
23.	Rickie Fowler	U.S.	4.09
24.	Matt Kuchar	U.S.	4.01
25.	Matth Fitzpatrick	England	3.81
26.	Henrik Stenson	Sweden	3.57
27.	Kevin Na	U.S.	3.50
28.	Marc Leishman	Australia	3.42
29.	Danny Willett	England	3.29
30.	Matt Wallace	England	3.17

NFL

AFC

EAST	W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV
x-New England	11	3	0	.786	372	181	5-1-0	6-2-0	7-3-0	4-0-0	4-0-0
x-Buffalo	10	4	0	.714	291	222	4-3-0	6-1-0	7-3-0	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	11	0	.214	241	435	2-5-0	1-6-0	2-8-0	1-3-0	1-4-0

SOUTH

W	L	T	PCT.	PF	PA	HOME	AWAY	AFC	NFC	DIV	
Houston	9	5	0	.643	341	330	5-2-0	4-3-0	8-3-0	1-2-0	4-1-0
Tennessee	8	6	0	.571	339	279	4-3-0	4-3-0	6-5-0	2-1-0	2-3-0
Indianapolis	6	8	0	.429	303	329	4-3-0	2-5-0	5-6-0	1-2-0	3-2-0
Jacksonville	5	9	0	.357	250	353	2-5-0	3-4-0	5-		

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

It's early, but the signings begin

We're tracking the early signing period in college football, which runs through Friday. Check chicagotribune.com/sports for updates on Illinois, Northwestern, Notre Dame and Northern Illinois.

BY JOEL BOYD, TEDDY GREENSTEIN AND SHANNON RYAN

Illinois

Illinois received a bonus on early signing day. Coach Lovie Smith's recruiting efforts paid off when three-star defensive lineman Jer'Zhan Newton flipped his commitment from Maryland and signed with the Illini on Wednesday.

Newton, a 6-foot-2, 260-pounder from Clearwater Central Catholic in Florida, had been committed to Maryland since August and had 22 offers, including from Iowa, Indiana, Georgia Tech and Rutgers. He had a stellar senior season with 29½ tackles for a loss and 16 sacks and also rushed for 381 yards and 12 touchdowns.

The Illini staff kept working to sway him with a November visit from Smith and another in-home visit this month, according to Illini Inquirer.

Newton was the 12th player to sign with Illinois on Wednesday and the 13th commitment in a class that ranks 64th nationally and 13th in the Big Ten, in large part because of its relatively small size.

The Illini's highest-rated commitment, four-star Naperville Central wide receiver Jadon Thompson, is expected to wait for the February signing period. He told Illini Inquirer "all's good" with his relationship with Illinois, but the delay could cause fans to worry.

Thompson, the No. 5 prospect in the state in the 247Sports.com composite rankings, committed to Illinois in April over offers from Michigan, Michigan State, Minnesota, Iowa, Indiana and Purdue. He transferred from Marist to Naperville Central before his senior season.

Illinois made size on both lines a priority in this class. Among the first signees Wednesday morning were three offensive line recruits: Phifer Griffin, a 6-foot-6, 290-pounder from North Carolina; Florida native Blaise Sparks (6-7, 300); and Kevin Tyler (6-5, 295) of St. Louis.

Newton, meanwhile, joined fellow defensive line signees Tre'von Riggins (6-2, 265), Cooper Davis (6-6, 245), Anthony Shipton (6-4, 305) and Quinton McCoy (6-2, 260). All except Shipton, a junior-college transfer, are from Florida.

The Illini also signed speedy junior-college linebacker Lavar Gardner and dual-threat quarterback Deuce Spann and continued their pipeline to Trinity Catholic in St. Louis with running back Reggie Love and wide receiver James Frenchie.

Smith is expected to speak about the class during a Thursday news conference.

ILLINOIS SIGNEES (12)

National ranking: 64th.
Big Ten ranking: 13th.

- Cooper Davis, DL, Melbourne, Fla.
- James Frenchie, WR, St. Louis
- Lavar Gardner, LB, Atl./Hutchinson CC
- Phifer Griffin, OL, Monroe, N.C.
- Reggie Love, RB, St. Louis
- Quinton McCoy, DL, Valrico, Fla.
- Jer'Zhan Newton, DL, St. Petersburg, Fla.
- Tre'Von Riggins, DL, Bradenton, Fla.
- A. Shipton, DL, Orange, Calif./Cerritos
- Deuce Spann, QB, St. Petersburg, Fla.
- Blaise Sparks, OL, N. Fort Myers, Fla.
- Kevin Tyler, OL, St. Louis



CHICAGO TRIBUNE MEDIA GROUP

Maine South's Peter Skoronski is Northwestern's highest-rated recruit among signees.

Northwestern

Northwestern coach Pat Fitzgerald was not buying into any negative storylines Wednesday morning.

"Stay positive, my friends," he said.

Northwestern's 16-man class might be the best of Fitzgerald's tenure, especially on the lines. Offensive lineman Peter Skoronski of Maine South is a borderline five-star recruit, according to 247Sports director of recruiting Steve Wiltfong. He ranks No. 2 in Illinois after receiver A.J. Henning, who signed with Michigan.

"Peter is a guy we identified early," Fitzgerald said. "We knew him when he was barely shaving."

Guard Josh Priebe's offer list included Ohio State and home-state Michigan, and guard Ben Wrather drew an offer from Penn State.

"That group of big guys is phenomenal," Fitzgerald said.

On the flip side — emphasis on flip — Northwestern lost the only receiver in its class when Abdur-Rahmaan Yaseen decommitted Wednesday and signed with Purdue.

"It stings twice," Wiltfong said. "Northwestern didn't get him — and they have to play against him in the Big Ten West. Yaseen had a great senior year and is an incredibly smooth guy."

New Wildcats offensive coordinator Mike Bajkian talked about getting the ball in the hands of playmakers, but who are they? Only Riley Lees caught more than 17 passes last season.

Fitzgerald is counting on improved health from JJ Jefferson, Kyric McGowan, Malik Washington, Berkeley Holman and redshirt freshmen Genson Hooper-Price and Bryce Kirtz. Hooper-Price and Kirtz, both receivers, were the top two players in the Wildcats' 2019 class, softening the blow a bit from losing Yaseen.

Graduate student Ben Skowronek remains in the transfer portal, and Fitzgerald would not say if there's a path for him to return.

The other negative of the class is that it lacks a quarterback. The highly touted Aidan Atkinson does not figure to get admitted, and Northwestern lost out

Wednesday on three-star dual-threat quarterback Michael Wright, who chose Vanderbilt.

"We're not going to talk about anybody that goes to another school," Fitzgerald said. "I am absolutely ecstatic with the 16 guys who have been fully committed and are excited to lead us back to (being) a champion. This group of 16 is as good as we've ever had."

Fitzgerald was thrilled to talk about Cam Porter, his latest running back from Ohio. Porter is from Cincinnati's La Salle High School, which produced Jeremy Larkin. Isaiah Bowser is from Sidney, Ohio.

"You're going to see a Lark-ish guy, a combination of Lark and Bowser," Fitzgerald said. "He played all over the field for La Salle, including linebacker. He's dynamic with the ball in his hands, and personality-wise, he's a rock star."

Fitzgerald said he has "a couple" of scholarships to use for the traditional national signing day in February or for players in the transfer portal.

Six incoming freshmen will enroll in time for winter drills: Priebe, Wrather, defensive linemen Jordan Butler, Jaiden Cameron and Te-Rah Edwards and super-back Hunter Welcing of Lake Zurich.

Welcing is one of four Chicago-area signees, joining Skoronski, Wheaton North linebacker Xander Mueller and Lincoln-Way East defensive end Sean McLaughlin.

NORTHWESTERN SIGNEES (16)

National ranking: 37th.

Big Ten ranking: 10th.

- Jordan Butler, DT, North Las Vegas, Nev.
- Jaiden Cameron, DE, Clayton, Ohio
- Cullen Coleman, LB, Port Chester, N.Y.
- Te-Rah Edwards, DT, Groveport, Ohio
- Garnett Hollis, CB, Nashville, Tenn.
- Jaheem Joseph, CB, Miami Gardens, Fla.
- Marshall Lang, SB, Cincinnati
- Gunner Maldonado, S, Chandler, Ariz.
- Sean McLaughlin, DE, Frankfort (L-Way E.)
- Xander Mueller, LB, Wheaton (Wheaton N.)
- Cam Porter, RB, Cincinnati
- Josh Priebe, OL, Niles, Mich.
- Peter Skoronski, OL, Park Ridge (Maine S.)
- Hunter Welcing, SB, Deer Park (Lk. Zurich)
- Nigel Williams, CB, Richmond, Va.
- Ben Wrather, OL, Powell, Ohio

Notre Dame

Notre Dame signed all 17 of their committed recruits — starting in Germany with defensive end Alexander Ehrensberger and ending in Hawaii with linebacker Jordan Botelho — and then capped the day with an 18th signee.

Three-star cornerback Ramon Henderson of Bakersfield, Calif., announced Wednesday afternoon that he chose Notre Dame over a host of Power Five offers, with Utah said to be the primary competition.

"They have a lot of stuff that interests me with their African-American graduation rate being high and their graduation rate overall," Henderson told Irish Illustrated. "It's little things like that, the fine details that catch my attention."

Henderson's signing jumped Notre Dame's class from 13th to ninth nationally in the 247Sports composite.

The class is headed by five-star running back Chris Tyree and five-star wide receiver Jordan Johnson. It also includes the No. 4 prospect in Illinois, four-star defensive end Rylie Mills of Lake Forest; two of the nation's top six tight end recruits in Michael Mayer of Kentucky and Kevin Bauman of New Jersey; and a pair of four-star offensive tackles in Tosh Baker of Arizona and Michael Carmody of Pennsylvania.

At a news conference in South Bend, Ind., coach Brian Kelly was asked about Tyree's size (5-9½, 179 pounds).

"A general rule for all of our guys is when they get in, they will meet with (strength and conditioning director Matt Balis and) our nutritionist, and we'll begin the process of developing them from where they are," Kelly said. "So whatever he is, 175 pounds ... we'll develop him naturally from that number."

Eight signees will enroll next month: Botelho, Ehrensberger, Henderson, Mills, wide receivers Jay Brunelle and Xavier Watts, cornerback Caleb Offord and quarterback Drew Pyne.

Notre Dame also officially announced the addition of safety Isaiah Pryor, a graduate transfer from Ohio State. Pryor was a four-star recruit and the No. 67 prospect in the nation in the Class of 2017. He played in 31 games with seven starts in three seasons with the Buckeyes, totaling 47 tackles.

NOTRE DAME SIGNEES (18)

National ranking: 9th.

- Tosh Baker, OL, Scottsdale, Ariz.
- Landen Bartleson, CB, Harrodsburg, Ky.
- Kevin Bauman, TE, Red Bank, N.J.
- Jordan Botelho, LB, Honolulu
- Jay Brunelle, WR, Paxton, Mass.
- Mike Carmody, OL, Mars, Pa.
- Alexander Ehrensberger, DE, Germany
- Ramon Henderson, CB, Bakersfield, Calif.
- Jordan Johnson, WR, St. Louis
- Aidan Keanaaina, DT, Englewood, Colo.
- Clarence Lewis, CB, Edison, N.J.
- Michael Mayer, TE, Independence, Ky.
- Rylie Mills, DE, Lake Bluff (Lake Forest)
- Caleb Offord, CB, Southaven, Miss.
- Alex Peitsch, LS, Ellicott City, Md.
- Drew Pyne, QB, New Canaan, Conn.
- Chris Tyree, RB, Chester, Va.
- Xavier Watts, WR, Omaha, Neb.

Northern Illinois

Northern Illinois Coach Thomas Hammock's first full recruiting class has 25 players from 10 states, topped by six from Wisconsin.

"Today marks 11 months to the day that I was hired," Hammock said at a news conference in DeKalb, Ill., "and in that time, there has been a lot of hard work by my coaching staff to evaluate these players. We feel that we have some game-changers in terms of guys that can come in and make plays."

Quarterback Dustin Fletcher of Flint, Mich., is the highest-rated signee in the 247Sports composite. He's the nation's No. 29 dual-threat quarterback prospect.

Running back Jeyvon Ducker was the Gatorade Player of the Year in Nebraska and is the No. 15 all-purpose back in the country in the composite rankings.

The Huskies have three Chicago-area signees: West Aurora defensive end Matt Johnson, Oswego defensive tackle Jack Huginin and Hersey safety Jordan Hansen.

Four of the six signees from Wisconsin are offensive linemen: Tyler Pitcel, Evan Buss, John Champe and Anthony Vacula. The Huskies also signed defensive end Raishein Thomas of Racine and tight end Jake Novotny of Milwaukee.

In all NIU signed five players each on the offensive and defensive lines and at safety.

"We wanted to build this team from the inside out," Hammock said. "That's something that we've stressed for a long time."

Fletcher, Ducker, Thomas, linebacker Cody Kopp and safety CJ Brown will enroll early.

NIU SIGNEES (25)

National ranking: 86th.

MAC ranking: 5th.

- CJ Brown, S, Canton, Mich.
- Evan Buss, OL, Kimberly, Wis.
- John Champe, OL, Brookfield, Wis.
- Ivan Davis, DE, Canton, Mich.
- Jeyvon Ducker, RB, Bellevue, Neb.
- Dustin Fletcher, QB, Flint, Mich.
- Jordan Hansen, S, Arl. Heights (Hersey)
- Malik Harvey, CB, Camden, N.J.
- Jeremiah Howard, WR, Merrillville, Ind.
- Jack Huginin, DT, Oswego (Oswego)
- Eddie Jackson, S, Miami
- Matt Johnson, DE, Aurora (W. Aurora)
- Cody Kopp, LB, Jacksonville, Fla.
- Devin Lafayette, S, Brunswick, Ga.
- Myles McGee, CB, Canton, Ga.
- Jake Novotny, TE, Greendale, Wis.
- Pierce Oppong, DT, Bloomington, Minn.
- Tyler Pitcel, OL, Mukwonago, Wis.
- Jashon Prophete, CB, Pompano Beach, Fla.
- Daveren Rayner, LB, Indianapolis
- Eric Rogers, S, Burlington, N.J.
- Raishein Thomas, DE, Racine, Wis.
- Anthony Vacula, OL, Hales Corners, Wis.
- Harrison Waylee, WR, Johnston, Iowa
- Jack Wilty, OL, Altoona, Iowa

National/Big Ten

The biggest flip of the day came in the Big Ten when Maryland got five-star wide receiver Rakim Jarrett to decommit from LSU and sign with the home-state Terrapins.

Jarrett was one of three LSU players to flip on the first day of the early signing period. Four-star safety Malcolm Greene signed with Clemson and four-star wide receiver Jermaine Burton signed with Georgia.

Another big flip occurred Wednesday night when four-star running back Jase McClellan — who had been committed to Oklahoma since July 2017 — signed with Alabama.

Only two uncommitted five-stars were scheduled for announcements Wednesday, both of them top-five national recruits in the 247Sports composite. Linebacker Justin Flowe (No. 4) of Upland, Calif., signed with Oregon, while defensive end Jordan Burch (No. 5) of Columbia, S.C., picked the hometown Gamecocks over Clemson, Georgia, LSU and Alabama.

In a bit of signing day drama, however, Burch did not sign a national letter of intent with South Carolina, and reports indicated he might wait until the regular signing period begins in February.

Elsewhere in the Big Ten, Ohio State landed a potential successor to Justin Fields in four-star quarterback C.J. Stroud of Rancho Cucamonga, Calif., while Nebraska added a trio of four-stars in wide receivers Marcus Fleming and Alante Brown — a former Simeon star who spent this season at St. Thomas More, a prep school in Connecticut — and defensive back Jaiden Francois.

BIG TEN CLASS RANKINGS

Per the 247Sports.com composite (number of commitments in parentheses)

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| ■ 1. Ohio State (26) | ■ 8. Iowa (22) |
| ■ 2. Michigan (25) | ■ 9. Minnesota (26) |
| ■ 3. Penn State (27) | ■ 10. NU (16) |
| ■ 4. Nebraska (24) | ■ 11. Mich. State (20) |
| ■ 5. Wisconsin (19) | ■ 12. Indiana (19) |
| ■ 6. Maryland (27) | ■ 13. Illinois (13) |
| ■ 7. Purdue (21) | ■ 14. Rutgers (16) |

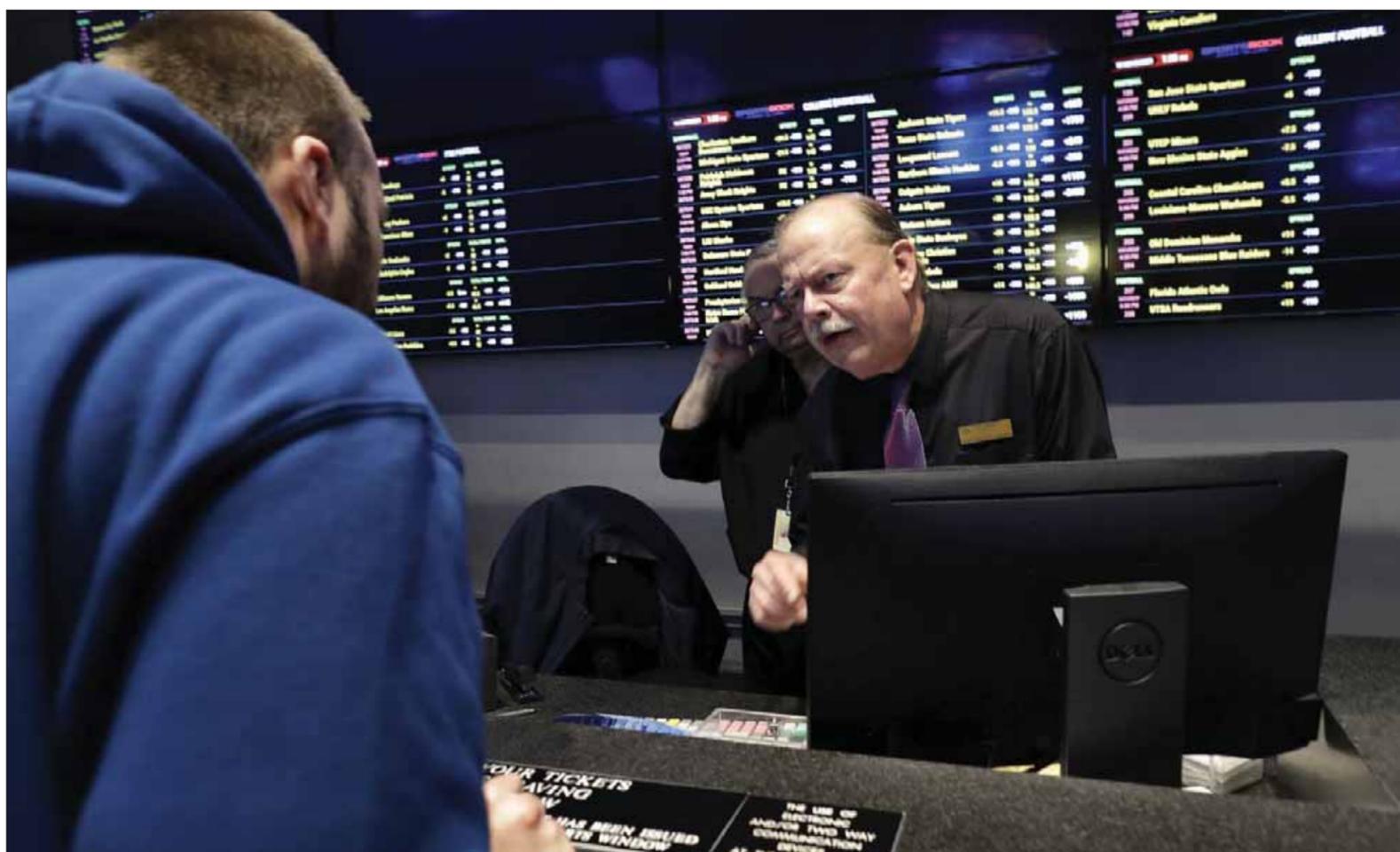
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eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE



STEVEN SENNE/AP PHOTOS

Sportsbook shift manager Stuart Norsell, right, assists a patron in the sports betting area of Twin River Casino in Lincoln, R.I.

HEDGING BETS ON THE FUTURE

Rapid expansion of sports betting faces tests in '20

BY JENNIFER McDERMOTT AND GEOFF MULVIHILL
Associated Press

LINCOLN, R.I. — The line for the ticket windows at a Rhode Island casino's sportsbook stretched to the door on one afternoon last month: Gamblers were cashing in their winnings from betting on the victorious New England Patriots the day before and placing new wagers for that night.

"This happens pretty much every Monday," said Craig Sculos, vice president and general manager at Twin River Casino Hotel, just north of Providence. "The building takes on this unique rhythm."

The casino adds extra staff at its sportsbook on Mondays. And since it's the only New England state that has launched sports betting, Rhode Island is the closest place for Patriots fans to legally bet on their team.

This could be the scene in more states in the years ahead. Legalized sports betting has caught on quickly since a U.S. Supreme Court ruling in 2018 allowed for it to be legalized in every state; 2020 will be a test of whether that rapid expansion continues.

Sports wagers can be made legally in 13 states, while sportsbooks have been legalized in another half-dozen where they're not yet running. In all, about one-third of the nation's population lives in a state where legal sports betting has been authorized.

Where it's happening: In 2019, the first legal sports bets were made in Arkansas, Indiana, Iowa, New York and Oregon, joining eight states where betting was already running.

Voters in Colorado and lawmakers in Illinois, Montana, New Hampshire, North Carolina and Tennessee also legalized it this year, but the programs have not yet launched. The same is true in the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. A bill that cleared the Michigan Legislature this month also is expected to be signed into law.

The next sportsbook to open could be in New Hampshire. The state's lottery commission approved having DraftKings, one of the biggest players in sports betting, set up mobile wagering as soon as January.

What's ahead in 2020: Whether to legalize sports betting is expected to be debated in 2020 in a number of states, including Connecticut, Massachusetts, Missouri and Ohio — all states where efforts this year fell short.

In Georgia, state Sen. Brandon Beach has been pushing for years to legalize horse racing as a way to



Television screens are lit up as patrons mill about the sports betting area of the Twin River Casino.

"Because all of the television screens are lit up for the NFL games, you have no idea what they're clapping and cheering about, but they were having just the best time."

—Craig Sculos, vice president and general manager, Twin River Casino Hotel Lincoln, R.I., describing a recent Sunday at the sportsbook

promote economic development. He's now trying to get momentum for a constitutional amendment to allow casino betting, horse racing and sports betting in a state that doesn't have any legalized gambling outside the lottery. He wants to use the revenue to beef up a lottery-funded college scholarship program.

"If we're going to look at sports betting, we've got to look at the whole thing," said Beach, a Republican.

The Georgia effort is getting pushback from the Faith and Freedom Coalition, which has its headquarters there. The socially conservative group says all forms of gambling can lead to addiction, bankruptcy and crime.

"It causes all of us to pay, whether or not we play," spokeswoman Virginia Galloway said.

The biggest states: So far, the three most populous states — California, Texas and Florida — have not legalized sportsbooks.

But the industry is watching them, along with the fourth-largest, New York, where bets can be made only in person at four upstate casinos located far from the New York City area's massive

population. Whether those four casinos can add online betting without an amendment to the state constitution is under debate.

In California, a group of Native American tribes has proposed a ballot measure for next year. The proposal would cut out rival card rooms and would not provide for online bets. Lawmakers also can propose their own plan for the ballot.

Like in New York, advocates in Florida disagree about whether legalizing sports betting would require voter approval. In Texas, it's clear that a constitutional amendment would be needed. A bill to put one on the ballot didn't get far in 2019, and the legislature isn't scheduled to meet in 2020.

"For those big states, it just takes longer," said Jake Williams, a vice president at Sportradar, a company that contracts with sports leagues for services including providing data.

How it works: As with other gambling offerings, states vary widely on what they're allowing.

In New Mexico, lawmakers never explicitly allowed sportsbooks, but two Native American tribal casinos are offering it, with

bets being taken only on site. In Arkansas, bets are being taken only at Oaklawn Racing Casino Resort.

By contrast, bets can be made practically everywhere in the nine states where online sports betting is happening. Online wagering has been allowed but not started in another five states plus the District of Columbia.

But the programs work in different ways. In New Jersey and Indiana, anyone who is eligible and within the state's border can sign up online and start betting. In Iowa, Nevada and some other states, bettors must first register in person at casinos. Tax rates range from less than 7% of the books' winnings in Iowa and Nevada to more than 30% in Pennsylvania. In states such as Delaware and Oregon, where the lottery owns sports betting, the state's share is even higher.

In some states, only casinos or racetracks can apply for licenses; in others, online companies such as FanDuel and DraftKings can apply for licenses without partnering with casinos or tracks.

"We're seeing an incredible amount of diversity," said Chris Groves, a managing director with Eilers & Krejcik Gaming. "I suspect that will persist."

How it's doing: From July (the start of most states' fiscal years) through October, sports betting generated about \$50 million in state tax revenue across the country according to an Associated Press analysis of data from the states.

New Jersey accounted for more than \$15 million of that, making sports betting more lucrative for the state than in Nevada, which lost its monopoly after the Supreme Court decision. But states including Rhode Island and West Virginia are falling short of their own projections for revenue.

Rhode Island state Senate President Dominick Ruggerio, a Democrat, the biggest advocate for legalized sports betting in the legislature, is unsure whether the state will hit its \$22.7 million target and worries about potential competition from nearby states. But even if it falls short of projections, sports betting is bringing the state revenue it didn't have before, Ruggerio added.

Sculos, the Rhode Island casino executive, views sports betting as another amenity rather than a windfall for casinos or the states where they're located. But it has drawn people to the casino who had never before visited.

Sculos visited the sportsbook on a recent Sunday when it was full of gamblers clapping and cheering.

"Because all of the television screens are lit up for the NFL games, you have no idea what they're clapping and cheering about, but they were having just the best time," he said. "That environment is really unique. You see it a little bit at a craps table and a roulette table, but craps might have 10, 12, 15 people standing around it. We could have over 200 people here at once. It's a fun place to be."

Chicago Tribune
A+E
 ARTS+ENTERTAINMENT

'CATS' 0 stars

Wrong animal. This film is a dog.

BY MICHAEL PHILLIPS

In a world laden with movies dramatizing the serious, painful divisions threatening so many lives around the world, along comes the film version of "Cats" with the express intention of ignoring all that. It's just out for a little feline diversion, with enough calculated paths for nine lives, let alone one. The songs you may know, at least "Memory"; they're by Andrew Lloyd Webber and various lyricists, chiefly T.S. Eliot, whose volume of 1939 poetry "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats" inspired the virtually plotless musical smash premiering in

London in 1981.

Now we have the film version, directed by Tom Hooper of "The King's Speech" and "Les Misérables." It presents your best and presumably final opportunity to witness Sir Ian McKellen, Jennifer Hudson, Idris Elba and Taylor Swift in whiskers and digital fur.

Is it the worst film of 2019, or simply the most recent misfire of 2019? Reader, I swear on a stack of pancakes: "Cats" cannot be beat for sheer folly and misjudgment and audience-reaction-to-"Springtime for Hitler"-in-"The Producers" stupefaction.

"You just don't like the topic," our 14-year-old told me this morning. True enough. I wouldn't

pin it on the species, necessarily, though I do have a problem or two with the stage version. I have a problem with the score, and with the parts of the show where the cats aren't singing. Other than that I love it.

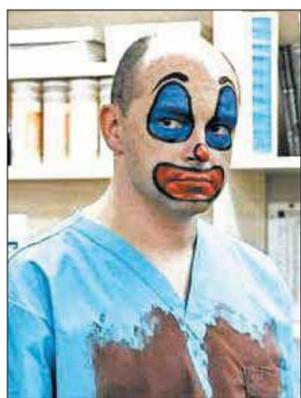
In hindsight, "Cats" on stage is easy enough to assess: It's a two-hour cat video, mysteriously transported back to the pre-cat video era. The film's screenplay by Lee Hall and director Hooper opens up the original show's junkyard setting. We're in a late-1930s/early 1940s alternate universe version of London's West End. Much of the action



UNIVERSAL PICTURES

Taylor Swift as Bombalurina in the film version of the 1980s stage hit "Cats."

Turn to **Film**, Page 4



CARTOON NETWORK

Rob Corddry appears as Dr. Blake Downs on "Childrens Hospital."

MY WORST MOMENT

Functioning with a high fever not easy to do

Corddry performed while very sick in order to save production costs

BY NINA METZ

After five seasons starring on HBO's "Ballers" opposite Dwayne Johnson, Rob Corddry has segued over to "The Unicorn" on CBS playing the sweet knucklehead of a best friend to Walton Goggins' widower, who is clumsily reentering the world of dating with the help of his best pals.

Corddry is also the creator and one of the stars (always in clown makeup) of the cult hit Adult Swim comedy series "Childrens Hospital," and he has a spinoff coming out on Netflix in January called "Medical Police."

"We start and end in the hospital because it was important to us that there was a familiarity for the fans," Corddry said. "So I'm in the first and — oh, maybe I'm not in the last episode because my character's still in a Chinese prison. Spoiler! (Laughs)"

"It's the exact same style or tone of comedy as 'Children's Hospital,' but in every other way it's completely different because it's a half-hour show. And it's told sequentially, where 'Childrens Hospital' was just a 15-minute joke machine where continuity was thrown out the window. Like, gleefully thrown out the window.

"This is actually a medical bio-terrorist mystery, and we wanted to do a show where if you pulled all the comedy out of it, it

Turn to **Moment**, Page 2



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The "Thomas D. Mangelsen - A Life in the Wild" exhibit can be viewed at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum.

From Warhol to Hamilton

The 10 best museum exhibits in Chicago for 2019

BY STEVE JOHNSON

The biggest museum news of 2019 didn't come in the galleries, but over the front door: A Chicago billionaire donated \$125 million to get a South Side institution renamed the Kenneth C. Griffin Museum of Science and Industry.

The Art Institute kept its original name but was busy in 2019, too, announcing a campus makeover, canceling an indigenous pottery exhibition at the last minute over cultural sensitivity concerns, and even hosting a rock festival.

Theater producers bet big — and lost — on a standalone museum exhibition about an American founding father/star of musical theater, but despite its inability to draw crowds "Hamilton: The Exhibition" still ranks highly (very highly) on my best shows of the year list.

Leadership changes were either announced or enacted at top cultural institutions including the Field Museum, Terra Foundation for American Art, Newberry Library, MacArthur Foundation and Renaissance Society.

But the most pleasure, the most insight and the most ambition were on display, as always, in the galleries. In Chicago, it is a treat and a challenge to make this list every year because our exhibition cup not only runneth over, it spillth off the edge of the table. Here are my 10 favorite new or new-to-Chicago museum shows from 2019:

Wildlife photography at the Field Museum through Jan. 12 and at the Notebaert Nature Museum

For pure, all-ages delight, it was tough to top these two collections of expertly shot, beautifully printed images of na-

ture doing what nature does. Whether a lion peeking through reeds or walrus looking noble against the elements, "Thomas D. Mangelsen — A Life in the Wild" at the Notebaert and the British import "Wildlife Photographer of the Year" still running at the Field offer(ed) photos to linger over and a chance to reflect on what we are losing in our ongoing abuse of the planet. As a bonus, the exhibits told us how these shooters are able to capture such breathtaking pictures.

"Manet and Modern Beauty" at the Art Institute

The Michigan Avenue art temple's first big look at Edouard Manet in 50 years made the case for the Parisian master's oft-dismissed later works.

Turn to **Museums**, Page 5

Product Placement.



This exhibition was organized by the Whitney Museum of American Art, New York. Leadership support of Andy Warhol—From A to Z and Beyond is provided by the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts. Major support for the Chicago presentation has been made possible by Caryn and King Harris, The Harris Family Foundation. The American Board of Antiquities of Chicago is the Lead Affiliate Sponsor. Additional funding is contributed by the Stuart Charitable Trust, Museum and Edward Byrne Smith & Family Endowment Fund, Cretaceous and David G. Galtier, Robert L. Schaefer Foundation and Robert Steiner, William and Helga Oberdorfer, Gary and Thelma Berman, William and Elizabeth G. Berman, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Members of the Exhibitors' Trust provide annual leadership support for the museum's operations, including additional exhibition support and other services, as well as educational programming. This exhibition is supported in part by a grant from the National Council on the Arts and the Humanities. ©2019 Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Inc. Photo: Axel Schaller

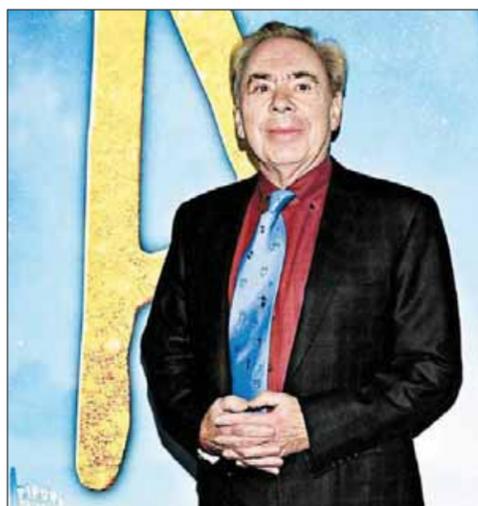


Oct 20 —> Jan 26

By
Warhol.

CELEBRITIES

Tribune news services



EVAN AGOSTINI/INVISION

Andrew Lloyd Webber at the "Cats" premiere.

Purr-fect premiere for 'Cats' creator

NEW YORK — It was a special night for Andrew Lloyd Webber as he walked the red carpet for the world premiere of the film adaptation of his Tony Award-winning stage musical "Cats."

The 71-year old composer called Taylor Swift "absolutely fantastic" as Bombalurina, and beamed with pride while speaking of the unusual journey his award-winning musical has taken.

"This is a most extraordinary night for me in way, because it's been nearly 40 years after it got on the stage first," Lloyd Webber said.

He knew the idea of transforming a series of T.S. Eliot poems into a stage musical with actors playing the feline roles seemed like an unlikely concept. But something clicked, and the musical has become one of his most popular works, playing on stages around the world for the past 40 years. Now, it's come to the big screen with a star-studded film that includes Swift, Jennifer Hudson, Idris Elba and Judi Dench.

"What's interesting to me, now, in this new kind of version of it on the screen, is that this is very much (director) Tom Hooper's 'Cats.' I mean, it's very, very differently conceived to the stage show," he said.

Tony-winning actor and talk show host James Corden, who plays Bustopher Jones, agrees, calling the concept, "incredibly bizarre," though "incredibly unique," and said he was honored to be a part of it.

"It's a bizarre experience when someone's asking you to be a cat," he said. "But, you know, you try your best and you're surrounded by the finest group of actors you can imagine, and I just found the entire thing very creatively inspiring, I have to say."

The film, which opens Christmas Day, also stars Rebel Wilson, Jason Derulo, Ian McKellen, and ballet star Francesca Hayward as the star feline.

— Associated Press



VALERIE MACON/GETTY-AFF

'Royals' on the road: Claire Foy and Matt Smith are bringing their royal act to Brooklyn. The two stars of "The Crown" may have aged out of their roles as Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip, but that's not stopping the pair from reuniting on stage in Duncan Macmillan's "Lungs," at Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) for a limited run starting March 25. It marks the U.S. stage debuts of both actors.

Industry icon: Sean "Diddy" Combs will be the 2020 Grammy Salute To Industry Icons honoree in recognition of his 25-year career and "continuous influence on the music industry and beyond," the Recording Academy announced. The three-time Grammy winner will be celebrated at Clive Davis' pre-Grammy gala Jan. 25, the night before the 62nd annual Grammy Awards. "Clive Davis and Arista Records gave me a chance when I was starting Bad Boy Records, he was one of the first industry executives to really believe in me," Combs said. "I'm forever grateful for him."

Death ruled accident: Drug intoxication caused the Nov. 2 death of actor Brian Tarantina, 60, who played a comedy club emcee in "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel," the New York City medical examiner has ruled. The medical examiner, who declared Tarantina's death an accident, said he died from the combined effects of fentanyl, heroin, diazepam and cocaine.

Dec. 19 birthdays: Actress Elaine Joyce is 76. Actor Tim Reid is 75. Actor Mike Lookinland is 59. Actress Jennifer Beals is 56. Model Tyson Beckford is 49. Actress Alyssa Milano is 47. Actor Jake Gyllenhaal is 39.



ASK AMY

By AMY DICKINSON

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

Lovelorn spouse wants to tidy up

Dear Amy: I've been in a loveless marriage for 15 of the past 22 years. We are basically partners in raising the remaining children at home (ages 16 and 14).

Recently I reached out to my ex-wife to tell her about the passing of my parents. We started corresponding about our lives, where we have been, and what we have been doing for these many years. Quite frankly, I never stopped loving her. I was simply young, dumb, and did not know how to communicate back then.

As it turns out, we are both very unhappy in our marriages. We have expressed that we never stopped loving each other.

My ex-wife has since left her husband and is filing for divorce. I want to follow suit but am having trouble, as I feel I have a mess to tidy up before I leave, i.e., sell the house, get the kids into another home with their mother, and deal with finances.

Should I tell my wife I am leaving for another woman, or simply explain that I am not happy and move out? I don't want my children to think my unhappiness has anything to do with them.

I just need to be happy. I want to feel loved, have intimacy, laugh, and be with the woman I have loved throughout my entire life! How should I proceed, so I can be with the only woman I've ever loved?

— Love Story

Dear Love Story: This is not a mess that will be easily "tidied." Your wife and children will likely be bewildered, and you'll be spreading a lot of hurt

around. NONE of this is their fault. Your choice to leave your family, and to sell the family home and relocate them to another one — all of this — is on you.

You must tell the truth. I mean, come on — don't you think your family will figure this out when you and your ex quickly head off into the sunset?

You should make this disclosure with the help of a couples' counselor, who will assist the two of you to communicate about this in order to break up as well, and as peacefully, as you can.

My advice is for you to take full responsibility for your choices, treat the mother of your children with respect and kindness, do everything possible to stay close to your children, and shelter all of them from your current joy and excitement about leaving.

Telling your wife of over two decades that you have (basically) never loved her should be off the table.

Dear Amy: I was married for 16 years. I have two sons. My ex and I have been separated for 12 years and divorced for six. He and I have remained on friendly terms. We are there for our sons and are polite to each other.

I didn't immediately go back to my maiden name because my boys were still living with me. However, now they are grown, done with college, and are out of the house and living on their own. I talked to my sons about switching back to my maiden name, and my 23-year-old wants me to keep his last name. Your thoughts?

— SQ

Dear SQ: I think you should go by whatever surname you prefer. Your ex-husband can't name you. Your son can't name you. (OK, your birth name presumably came from your father, but that's the name you identify with.)

You get to legally choose, and to go by, the name you prefer.

This might make your son uncomfortable (initially). Between your two sons, your eldest has shared your surname for the longest time; it is logical and understandable that he would prefer that things not change.

You should tell him that you've heard his point of view, but that while you proudly shared his surname while he was a child, you are now (also proudly) reverting to your own. None of this changes who you are — only what you are called.

Dear Amy: I understand the frustration of "Tired and Frustrated," who has a pronounced limp but doesn't want to be "helped" while out and about.

I am one of the "pushy" people who offers help. To everyone. I have been berated by people who don't want help, and I have been thanked with a smile.

I will continue to do what I feel is right, and you are welcome to call me anything you like.

— Helper

Dear Helper: Well, there you go.

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Moment

Continued from Page 1

would still be a compelling mystery?"

Corddry's career has hit many high points, including his time as a correspondent on "The Daily Show." When it came to narrowing down a worst moment, though, he had this to say: "First of all, I was so happy to be asked this question because it is really the worst day of my professional career.

"It's not hard what we do, it really isn't — actors like to say that it's hard because in general we feel guilty that it's so easy to say other people's words believably. But it ain't diggin' holes is what I'm saying. But sometimes it gets really close to digging holes. And this was one of those days."

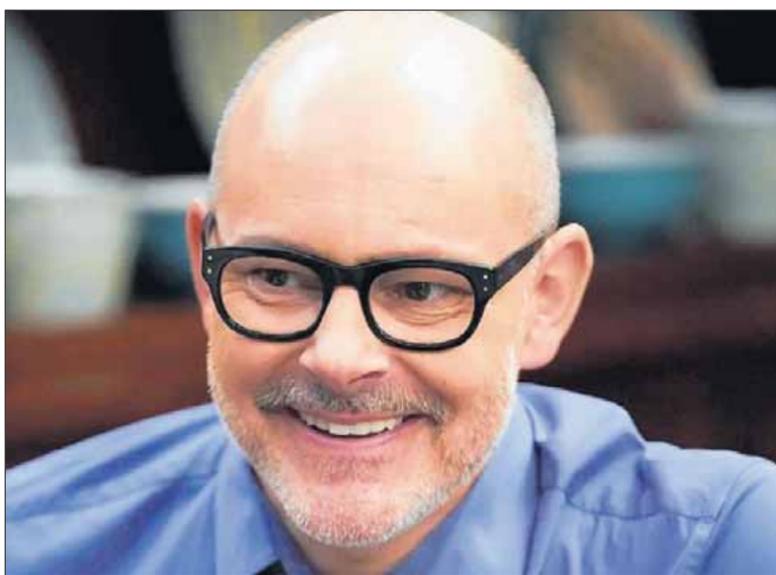
My worst moment ...

"My M.O. on 'Childrens Hospital' was to gather the

funniest people who I love the most in the whole world and basically have a summer camp. I was in a power position where I was able to make decisions, which were based entirely on whether the cast and crew were going to have fun.

"But Season 5 (in 2013) was a very troubled season. And it started with, we weren't able to find a hospital to shoot in. So what we decided was — and this was very much (fellow writer and producer) David Wain's idea, he was like: 'Listen, we might be doing the one show of our careers where we can do anything we want. So let's find a totally different space and we'll say that the team at Childrens Hospital has been hired to live on a U.S. Army based in Japan for a year and tend to the families of soldiers working there.'

"And that's what we did. And it became the hardest season I've ever had to produce. The whole season was really fraught, and we were always behind on



CBS BROADCASTING

Rob Corddry plays the best friend of a widower in CBS' "The Unicorn."

writing. It was a very, very stressful situation and not the way to make good television. I had, like, five jobs on that show and I really thought, 'I can't do this

anymore — I'm done.' I was living like an insane person when we made that season.

"And this all culminated when we were shooting the finale. On the last day there were going to be all these explosions and squibs, people getting shot, lots of running, a lot of screaming. And a lot of slow-motion and a lot of heroics.

"So there I am — in full clown makeup — the day before and I'm writing a scene (for the last day of filming) and sending it up to David Wain to edit. And then, while I'm waiting for his notes, I'm writing jokes for the scene that was being shot in the room next door and having my assistant run them over.

"And as I'm doing that, I start to feel a tickle in the back of my throat. Now keep in mind, the next day I was going to have to do all that running and dodging explosives and pyrotechnics. So I finally got home that night and went to bed. And I woke up the next morning sicker than I have ever felt in my life — and I am not exaggerating. I woke up with a fever of 103. I had every reason to go to the hospital, but I knew that if I didn't work that day we would have lost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

"It's not the best business model, but that's why actors

cannot take a sick day. And my wife understood — she's the one that got me out of bed and dressed me. My assistant came and picked me up because there was no way I could drive (because) I was just falling asleep.

"So I shot the entire day with (a) 103 fever. The best I felt was actually when I was on camera and trying to pretend that I didn't feel like I was dying.

"The medic on set, God bless him, this dude was highly trained, but he looked at me that day and was like, 'Pffft, I don't know man.' (Laughs) I missed that whole boat of the days where you could go to the prop truck and get cocaine, you know? They don't have a Dr. Feelgood come to set and shoot people up with 'vitamins' anymore. That just doesn't happen.

"The only way I got through that day was after every take — luckily we were on a hospital set — I would sort of drag myself over to a gurney and sleep for five or six minutes. And then someone would whisper in my ear, 'Rob, sorry man, but we're ready.'

"It's a pretty good episode looking back on it now from a safe place of health. Probably the best compliment I've ever gotten is that people who have seen the episode telling me they

couldn't tell I was sick."

Ironically the clown makeup probably covered some of Corddry's sickly pallor that day.

"I appreciate you making some lemonade out of this, absolutely! And the clown makeup definitely covered up the dark circles under my eyes — they were deep that season.

"Apparently I had a lung infection of some kind (rueful laugh) — which was the end to my smoking career, thank God — and it turned into either the full-blown flu or I believe now that I probably had some grade of pneumonia. I thought I was dying. I mean, it got dark. I spent at least the next week in bed and I'm sure I must have gone to the doctor, but to tell you the truth my brain was kind of boiled — I don't remember a lot of it.

"You know, it's so cathartic, I'm finding, to be able to tell this story. I never really told it in full before, officially. Only the people who were there really know about it."

The takeaway ...

"It's one of those take-aways that you have to keep learning, and it's this: To really perform at the best of your ability and the top of your intelligence, you have to feel good. You have to be able to get up at 4:30 in the morning sometimes, in the dark — nobody likes waking up in the dark — and get to work and really just be at the top of your game. And it's all in your hands.

"But it's very hard because this job can be stressful at times, like anything else. And it's very easy to have too many glasses of wine the night before a scene and wake up in the morning and spend the day with this sort of half-a-hangover that little naggy headache where you feel laggy? And every time that happens to me — and it doesn't happen very often — but if it does I'm like: You did it again, you haven't really learned. You haven't fully learned."

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2019 books on the attention economy

Reclaiming our focus in a world of distraction

BY LAURA PEARSON

NOTABLE BOOKS OF 2019: Through the end of the year, the Chicago Tribune is revisiting books worthy of further recognition.

In 2017, psychologist Jean M. Twenge published an article in the Atlantic titled “Have Smartphones Destroyed a Generation?” It detailed how the digital habits of Post-Millennials are wreaking havoc on their well-being. Adapted from her book, “iGen,” it warned that this cohort is “on the brink of the worst mental-health crisis in decades,” largely due to “the twin rise of the smartphone and social media.” Distressed about my own screen addiction, I shared the article on Facebook — solemnly noting that “In many ways, we are all ‘iGen’” — and caught some deserved flak for its alarmism.

“Remember when TV ruined a generation? And then video games?” a friend replied. “There’s interesting data here. But we’ve heard all of this before.”

It’s easy to write off critiques of technology as clichéd carping, especially in Twenge’s case. (Also the author of “Generation Me,” a controversial analysis of Millennials, she has made a career of painting with a broad brush.) I don’t think Gen Z doomed but still identify with the notion that reflexive, round-the-clock scrolling has the power to manipulate one’s mood.

For as long as I’ve been consumed by social media and given over to constant Googling, I’ve pondered the deleterious effects of too much screen time. (Cool hobby, I know.) What keeps me in thrall to my iPhone’s blue glow? While I mostly fail at mindful internet use — deleting and redownloading social media apps; deactivating various accounts



ANNEMARIE GORISSEN/GETTY

Several strong books about the attention economy appeared in 2019, including “Trick Mirror” by Jia Tolentino, “Digital Minimalism” by Cal Newport and “How to Do Nothing” by Jenny Odell.

only to log back in with a vengeance — I figure reading more on the topic will help me better understand these behaviors.

Luckily, 2019 books deepened the discourse, offering thoughtful, nuanced perspectives on the attention economy. In the opening essay of “**Trick Mirror: Reflections on Self-Delusion**” (Random House, 320 pages, \$27), New Yorker staff writer Jia Tolentino gives voice to our collective burnout: “I have become acutely conscious of the way my brain degrades when I strap it in to receive the full barrage of the internet — these unlimited channels, all constantly reloading with new information: births, deaths, boasts, bombings, jokes, job announcements, ads, warnings, complaints, confessions and political disasters blitzing our frayed neurons in huge waves of informa-

tion that pummel us and then are instantly replaced. This is an awful way to live, and it is wearing us down quickly.”

Tolentino acknowledges that techno-panic has always accompanied major advancements, whether the printing press, newspapers or radio. “The difference is that, today, there is nowhere further to go,” she writes in “The I in Internet.” “Capitalism has no land left to cultivate but the self.” Citing Tim Wu’s book, “The Attention Merchants,” she considers how the apps that profit from our attention are specifically designed to consume as much of it as possible. Meanwhile, commerce hums along, our personal data “tracked, recorded and resold” by corporations as we compulsively click, “like” and search.

While working for a Silicon Valley startup, tech

writer Anna Wiener recalls helping to roll out a metric literally called Addiction: graphs that showed the frequency with which users engaged. “Every company wanted to build an app that users were looking at multiple times a day,” she writes in her revelatory new memoir, “**Uncanny Valley**” (MCD, 288 pages, \$27), out Jan. 14. “The Addiction charts quantified and reinforced this anxiety and obsession.” Despite taking issue with the product’s branding, she was tasked with ghostwriting an opinion piece for the CEO describing “the desirability of having people constantly returning to the same apps, multiple times an hour.”

As corporate platforms tighten their vice grip on our attention, is there any hope for reclaiming our humanity? Cal Newport, an associate professor of computer science at George-

town University (who doesn’t use Instagram, Facebook or Twitter) thinks so — but warns that “modest hacks and tips” won’t do. In “**Digital Minimalism: Choosing a Focused Life in a Noisy World**” (Portfolio, 304 pages, \$26), he suggests establishing “a full-fledged philosophy of technology use,” laying out exactly what digital tools you’ll use, as well as specific operating procedures. (For instance, “No texting after 8 p.m.”) Ideally, this is preceded by a 30-day “digital declutter,” in which you step away from optional online activities and pursue “high-quality leisure” — journaling, CrossFit, long walks a la Abraham Lincoln — with the goal of reacquainting with your deeply held values and only reintroducing technologies that serve them.

Such intentionality appeals, but Newport’s opti-

mization fixation wears thin. (I’m unlikely to draft both a Weekly Leisure Plan and a Seasonal Leisure Plan to ensure every bit of my downtime is productive.) “For some, there may be a kind of engineer’s satisfaction in the streamlining ... of our entire lived experience,” writes Jenny Odell in “**How to Do Nothing: Resisting the Attention Economy**” (Melville House, 256 pages, \$25.99). And yet, “We still recognize that what gives one’s life meaning stems from accidents, interruptions and serendipitous encounters: the ‘off time’ that a mechanistic view of experience seeks to eliminate.” In what is perhaps my favorite non-fiction book of 2019 — part meandering manifesto, part love letter to the birds of Oakland — the artist and writer advocates for reconnecting with the local, the present and the poetic in a digital world that increasingly ignores these things.

“The villain here is not necessarily the Internet, or even the idea of social media,” she writes. “It is the invasive logic of commercial social media and its financial incentive to keep us in profitable state of anxiety, envy and distraction.”

Odell believes simply logging off is not the answer (and is, in fact, moderately active on Twitter, sharing birdwatching exploits). Rather than prescribe specific behaviors, she braids together art history, labor history, ancient philosophy and personal anecdote to inspire us to redirect our attention to caregiving, community and the natural world around us. “How to Do Nothing” skews a bit academic, but of all the internet-centric books I read this year, it left me feeling the most hopeful. I’m not sure whether I’ll commit to a digital declutter in 2020, but I’ll definitely go look at some birds.

Laura Pearson is a freelancer.

BOOK REVIEW

VanderMeer’s style muddies his story of a wasted world

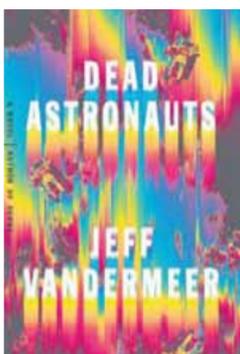
BY CONNOR GOODWIN
The Washington Post

The worlds of Jeff VanderMeer, author of the “Southern Reach” trilogy, are fantastical mutations of our own where the effects of climate change appear in full Technicolor: Strange species — a bat-faced scientist, a humanoid made of moss — roam contaminated ecosystems hostile to life as we know it.

His latest book, “**Dead Astronauts**,” is an expansion of 2017’s “**Borne**” and could read as a bizarre origin story. Layered and complex, the novel follows Grayson, Moss and Chen, the three space travelers of the title, as they try to save the world from the Company, a powerful, reckless organization that polluted Earth beyond recognition. The trio’s quest has sent them to numerous realities where each time they have failed to steer clear of peril. By now, they half-know what to expect and have learned to follow a series of scripted behaviors. But when the newest sequence of events repeatedly goes off script, they realize this time is different.

Uncertainty persistently dogs these characters, but it also looms over the reader in a novel that tells a complex story using complicated, stylized writing.

VanderMeer’s style here, marked by an archaic syntax and clipped sentences, is cumbersome for a reader trying to gain a foothold in this strange, new world. Take, for example, the moment we meet Grayson and her wormholing companions: “A glimmer, a glint, at the City’s dusty edge, where the land between sky and land cut the eye. An everlasting gleam that yet evaporated upon the arrival of the three and left behind a smell like chrome and chemicals.”



‘Dead Astronauts’

By Jeff VanderMeer, MCD, 336 pages, \$27

While the ornamental style complements elements of lore peppered throughout the novel, it hampers narrative momentum. That could be forgiven if the world of “**Dead Astronauts**” were less convoluted, but we are, after all, hopscooting between multiple realities, timelines and character perspectives.

Some clarity arrives midway through the novel when the ever-rotating point of view shifts to Sarah, a homeless woman who can remember a time before the Company, before everything — water, air, even light — was poisoned. Here the narrative is more coherent and the style is more subdued. Aided by Sarah’s memories, we can begin to reconstruct how the world devolved into noxious sludge.

Two notable landmarks in this swath of a wasted world — the “derelict” City and the nefarious Company — are constantly at odds with one another. Inside the Company’s egg-shaped headquarters is a laboratory with a “wall of globes” that once served as a holding pen for Charlie X’s experiments in

biotech. The creatures he designed were sent on dangerous, exploratory missions through space-time to gather data for the Company and often wound up dead or gravely injured.

“Charlie X at twenty-seven might have lived a lifetime already,” Moss thinks. “Heading up a lab, experimenting with form and function, blurring the lines of art and product. Feeling so very powerful as an orchestrator and organizer and manipulator of life.”

Eventually, the creatures he created rebelled and laid waste to the Company and nearly all of mankind. Although Charlie X could be held responsible for dooming Earth, he also created our hero’s companions, Moss and Chen. They appear human for the benefit of Grayson, but, in their natural forms, Moss is a “carpet of moss” and Chen unravels into “ribbons and rips of salamanders.” Moss believes Charlie X “unwittingly orchestrated their resistance” before he went completely mad.

The rebels are led by the Blue Fox, a messianic figure who speaks to us as a “pelt nailed to a wall.” The fox, like the astronauts, once burrowed through space and time “on a mission that could only end in disaster,” though at the behest of the Company, rather than against it. The fox serves as a mouthpiece for morality. After visiting “the very edge of the realities,” the Blue Fox realizes, “if you change the enemy enough, if you wear them down, perhaps losing is good enough.” This notion of hedging expectations is an apt, if sobering, takeaway from this trying parable of climate change.

Connor Goodwin is a writer from Lincoln, Nebraska.

BOOK REVIEW

Dyson explains how Jay-Z embodies American ideals

BY ALLISON STEWART
The Washington Post

When professor and author Michael Eric Dyson began teaching a class on Jay-Z at Georgetown University about a decade ago, not everyone was on board. Although the course, “Sociology of Hip-Hop: Urban Theodicy of Jay-Z,” was one of the most popular on campus, hip-hop was not seen as a field of legitimate scholarly inquiry.

In his new book, “**JAY-Z: Made in America**,” which has its origins in that now-long-running class, Dyson uses the rapper’s life story and lyrics as a lens through which to view America in the 21st century. He argues that Jay-Z is the living embodiment of American ideals, the ultimate hustler in a nation built by hustlers and strivers. “Jay-Z is America at its scrappy, brash, irreverent, soulful, ingenious best,” he writes. “He is as transcendent a cultural icon as Frank Sinatra, as adventurous a self-made billionaire as Mark Zuckerberg, as gifted a poet as Walt Whitman.”

Most hip-hop fans have never known a world without Jay-Z, 50, who has been famous since the first Clinton administration. His origin story is as familiar as that of any superhero: Born Shawn Carter, he spent his childhood in Brooklyn’s Marcy housing projects, his early adulthood as a crack dealer, and the past two decades as hip-hop’s most iconic star and first billionaire.

Dyson writes with the affection of a fan but the rigor of an academic. Using extensive passages from Jay-Z’s lyrics, “**Made in America**” examines the rapper’s role as a poet, an aesthete, an advocate for racial justice and a businessman, but devotes much of its energy to Hova



‘JAY-Z’

By Michael Eric Dyson, St. Martin’s, 224 pages, \$25.99

the Hustler. Hustling is central to the American character, Dyson argues, and in Jay-Z’s transition from dealer to tycoon, “he has willed himself, by dint of his talent, to change from a man who sowed mayhem in his urban community to a man who gives nobler meaning to hustling.”

“**Made in America**” is never better than when dismantling what Dyson refers to as “the politics of black masculinity.” After Jay-Z’s alleged infidelity prompted his wife, Beyoncé, to administer the painful thumping that was “**Lemonade**” in 2016, the rapper responded with the title track to his album “**4:44**” in which he admitted to finally understanding that women were actually people (“**Took for my child to be born, see through a woman’s eyes**”).

Jay-Z’s lyrical evolution from the emotionally walled-up player of his early hit “**Big Pimpin’**” to the apologetic husband of “**4:44**” suggests an “intentional turn away from poisonous patriarchy” that might be instructive to others, Dyson suggests. It’s not the only time

Jay-Z turned away from his worst impulses: “**Made in America**” offers the most professional explanation of the early-2000s war between Jay-Z and Nas that has ever been committed to print. Rap’s most cherished beef probably started when Nas dissed Jay’s taste in luxury cars, although few outsiders know for sure. It continued through the release of Hova’s devastating diss track, “**Super Ugly**,” in which Jay-Z claims to have, Dyson relates delicately, “seduced Nas’ baby’s mother in their luxury car and left condoms on the infant seat.” Things went so far that Carter’s mother, fearing a repeat of the deadly Biggie-Tupac feud, had to tell her son to knock it off.

As Jay-Z enters his sixth decade, there may be minefields ahead: There aren’t many thriving hip-hop artists over 50; Jay-Z’s new alliance with the NFL leaves the rapper, once a vocal backer of Colin Kaepernick, open to charges of hypocrisy; and the public backlash against the super-rich is bound to eventually reach mainstream rap fans.

Dyson argues that Jay-Z’s rise from the projects to the upper echelons of the Forbes list will offer him cover. “Of course, there are those in black life who will contend that Jay’s success is little more than a black face on capitalism, the vicious consequences of which have often ruined black life,” he writes. “That is true. But it is also true that Jay’s ascent is a token of the irrepressible spirit of black folk in the face of impossible odds.”

Allison Stewart writes about pop culture and more for *The Washington Post* and the *Chicago Tribune*.

From All-American to action movies

Former gymnast Bynum becoming star in stunt work

By THUC NHI NGUYEN
Los Angeles Times

The fog clears, the music intensifies and Sadiqua Bynum gets to work.

Wearing a black, hooded trench coat, she fires a single shot from a gun in her right hand before leaping onto the bed of a pickup truck, where an armed masked man awaits. When he tries to escape, she chases him into a bunkerhouse, her gun drawn.

This is Bynum's superhero moment, even though you can't see her face as she cartwheels through the air and throws her nemesis to the ground. The gun is fake and the villain is an actor, but the action is real.

After a decorated gymnastics career at UCLA, Bynum, a three-time All-American, has jumped into the Hollywood stunt world and works as a double for Regina King in HBO's "Watchmen." The 26-year-old is one of the youngest and most successful black stuntwomen in an industry that is just beginning to experience the trickle-down effect of efforts to increase diversity in all of Hollywood.

Being a stuntwoman, she says, is the perfect job.

"I'm constantly thinking that I have the ability ... to bring a different element to film and bring the skills that I have and make them bigger," Bynum said.

In "Watchmen," King portrays Angela Abar, a Tulsa, Oklahoma, cop whose alter ego is Sister Night, a masked vigilante. She makes a show of retiring from police work to open a bakery but remains active on the force and in her secret identity.

Sister Night wears a black cloak, covers her mouth with a mask and obscures her eyes with black spray paint as she assists the local police force. She's a human who excels at combat.

Although the TV show, which aired its season finale Dec. 15, is inspired by Alan Moore and Dave Gibbon's 1986-87 comic book series, the Sister Night character was created specifically for the HBO series. Bynum's cartwheels and kicks help Angela Abar transcend her civilian persona: a mother of three opening a bakery.

Bynum, who graduated in 2016, has a stunt resume that includes appearances in "American Horror Story," and the movies "Black Panther" and "Rampage." But "Watchmen," HBO's most-watched new series since "Big Little Lies," has

been a game-changer.

After "Watchmen" wrapped, Bynum landed a small role in "Richard Jewell," the Clint Eastwood-directed drama about the security guard accused of setting off a bomb at the 1996 Olympics. In the film, which was shot in Atlanta's Centennial Olympic Park, where the original bombing took place, Bynum portrays one of the people standing closest to the explosive device.

Thom Williams, who worked on both projects, knew he wanted to work with her again after seeing her work in "Watchmen."

One of two stunt coordinators on the "Watchmen" pilot, Williams "discovered" Bynum when he came across a short highlight reel of her performing parkour-type stunts. He was dazzled by her ability to leapfrog over mats and transition smoothly into seemingly effortless flips. She combined power with grace and had an athletic build that would match King's.

Bynum, Williams said, was perfect for Sister Night.

"A lot of times when you're watching women's gymnastics, it's so beautiful and graceful, and Sadiqua had that," said Williams, who worked with veteran stunt coordinator Doug Coleman on the pilot. "But she also had this insane power behind it."

At UCLA, Bynum started as a walk-on. As a fifth-year senior, she ranked in the top eight nationally in floor exercise at the end of the regular season, earning her first-team All-America honors.

Bynum flexed her superhero muscles early.

As a toddler who started gymnastics at 2, she wowed coaches at a local rec center by holding her weight up on the still rings with her elbows bent and hands by her ears. At 3, she lifted a couch while looking for something in the living room. The gymnastics classes at the rec center were intended for children up to the age of 8, but Bynum had completed them all by the time she was 4 1/2.

She joined a gymnastics club in Emeryville, California, and progressed through the ranks, always practicing, no matter where she was. In preschool, Bynum pulled herself up on tree branches as if she was performing a bar routine. She did floor routines down the aisles at grocery stores.

Bynum's club career culminated in 2011 when she placed fifth in the all-around competition at the Level 10 state championships, the highest level of competition before elite



KIRK MCKOY/LOS ANGELES TIMES

After a decorated gymnastics career at UCLA, three-time All-American Sadiqua Bynum is now a budding star in the Hollywood stunt world.

(Olympic-level) gymnastics. But talent wasn't the only thing that separated her from the rest of her peers.

In a sport in which competitors are predominantly white, Bynum recalls being one of maybe three or four black people in her gym while she was growing up.

"That was one of the things that made gymnastics really hard at times," she said. "There were times when you realize you're working really, really hard and the girl next to you is working not as hard, but she's getting coached more or she's getting the praises and all that, and you're over here like, 'Why am I not getting the praises?'"

According to a 2007 study by USA Gymnastics, nearly three-quarters of about 19,000 gymnasts surveyed were white; only 6.61% were black. In 2009, only 7.6% of female Division I gymnasts were black, according to the NCAA. That number increased to 9.5% in 2018.

Women's gymnastics didn't have a black Olympic all-around champion until 2012, when Gabby Douglas took the title. Four years later Simone Biles became the second black woman to win the title, and she is now the most decorated gymnast in the sport.

Bynum was adopted by white parents, and her older brother and sister were also adopted. She was always aware of diversity, she said, starting with her own family. Conversations with her mother, Louisa, and club coach Katreece Roberts, who is black, helped keep Bynum focused.

"We spent a lot of time emphasizing that you don't have to compare yourself" against other gymnasts, Louisa said. "You just have to be the best you can be."

Bynum continues to carry that message into her

stunt career, where women and performers of color still work under the shadow of "wiggling" — when male stunt performers wear wigs to perform as women — and "paint-downs" — when white actors are painted and perform as people of color.

Though both practices are condemned by the Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, they aren't obsolete. In 2014, Warner Bros. hired a white stuntwoman for a black actress on the Fox TV show "Gotham," before inquiries from Deadline prompted the studio to recast the stunt performer.

Veteran stuntwoman Deven MacNair filed a complaint to the Equal Employment Opportunities Commission in 2017 after a 2016 incident in which she saw a stuntman wearing a wig double for Kate Bosworth on the set of "The Domestics." The stunt coordinator claimed the stunt was "too unsafe" for a woman, according to the complaint.

"That's what motivates me to be as well-rounded as I can," Bynum said. "I don't want someone to say, 'We don't have a black stuntwoman that can do this.'"

Given her gymnastics background, Bynum specializes in flips, but she is expanding her repertoire. Dave Macomber, the fight coordinator for "Watchmen," worked with her on fighting skills by running the 5-foot-5 gymnast through boxing drills with gloves and bags.

She's learned to ride bareback, controlling a galloping horse with one hand while holding props with the other. After taking special stunt-driving courses, she practices in open warehouse parking lots. Curious security guards sometimes watch from afar as she burns tire

marks into the concrete. Other times they politely ask her to leave.

She admits that expanding her skills isn't always enough to translate into confidence as she navigates the hyper-competitive stunt world. Her body — lean, muscular, with strong shoulders and sculpted legs — was built through years of gymnastics, but she hears whispers among other stuntwomen that skinnier performers can be more successful because they conform with the actresses typically cast in movies and TV. At times, Bynum has wondered if she should try to lose her muscles to get better roles.

Her older sister Zoe will have none of it.

"She has a great body," said Zoe, who is three years older than Bynum. "Anybody would want that body, and people that hate on that body, you don't need them in your life."

"As long as I'm comfortable in my own skin and I'm doing what I can to be happy with how I look, then work will come if it's there," Bynum said. "And if not, if I'm too muscular for [an] actress, then I'll find someone else who I fit better with."

King, 48, said in an email that she made it clear to the "Watchmen" team that she wanted a stunt double who matched her body type and running style.

"They heard me and found Sadiqua," the Oscar winner said. "We met and we knew we were the perfect fit."

Williams said he encountered Bynum's demo reel on the @StuntPOC Instagram account. It was created by Jwaundace Candace, who was the driving double for King in "Watchmen," in an effort to provide exposure for qualified stunt performers of color in the United States and Canada. The Stunt

POC website lists more than 200 stunt performers, coordinators and directors.

"What I have found in the last couple years is there's more training opportunities," Williams said. "There's more people going out there, working hard and making their abilities better and better. So now we have a much larger pool to draw from."

When Williams came across Bynum's highlight reel, he called Natalie Padilla, a 2008 UCLA graduate who worked on "Wonder Woman" and "Justice League," for background information. And Padilla gave her fellow UCLA alumna a rave review.

Bynum impressed the stunt coordinators on the set of "Watchmen" with her ability to pick up choreography quickly. During her first major fight scene of the series, Bynum cartwheels over her target's arm, lands on her feet and then throws a man — who must be 100 pounds heavier than she is — onto the ground as she rolls to her back. After watching different videos for reference, Bynum had the sequence down in five minutes.

"Sadiqua is a peerless athlete, No. 1," said Macomber, the fight coordinator. She "can move and she picks up on things so well and so fast. She's relatively new to the stunt industry ... but her ability to mimic is really fantastic."

Starting out, Bynum's biggest challenge may have been overcoming a gymnast's need for precision. After 20 years of having perfectly straight legs in gymnastics, she needed to learn how to perform "dirty" — no one points their toes as they're thrown across a living room or capturing bad guys.

Bynum's face lights up when she talks about her work. She played her own character in "Black Panther," running through the fields of Wakanda as Dora Milaje, one of the fictional country's female warriors. But she calls "Watchmen" more meaningful because she was "part of something that was building a character."

Even if Sister Night doesn't have superhuman powers, Bynum cherishes the opportunity to portray a strong female character who fights. She's noticed an increase in the number of films featuring women of color such as "Harriet" and "Queen & Slim" and hopes there will be more roles for her. Those who have worked with her are sure of it.

"She's going to be a rock star," Macomber said. "(She's) going to be so in demand, she's never going to stop working."

Did Chicago singer Katie Kadan win Season 17 of 'The Voice'?

By TRACY SWARTZ

Warning: Spoilers ahead

In a shocker, Chicago singer Katie Kadan came in third place on Season 17 of "The Voice." The Jefferson Park neighborhood resident had been the front-runner since she impressed all four celebrity judges on "The Voice" premiere in September. The win went to Tennessee singer Jake Hoot on Tuesday.

Kadan, a 38-year-old Summit native, hugged and congratulated her fellow finalists when she was announced as the third-place singer. "Some (are) surprised by that outcome," host Carson Daly said.

The results were revealed Tuesday in a bloated two-hour live finale that was preceded by an hourlong recap of Monday's performances by the four finalists — Kadan; Hoot, from Kelly Clarkson's team; Massachusetts singer Ricky Duran, from Blake Shelton's team; and Texan Rose Short, from Gwen Stefani's team. Viewers voted for



TRAE PATTON/NBC

Chicago singer Katie Kadan performs during the first part of the live finale of "The Voice."

the favorites after each finalist sang three songs Monday.

Kadan performed "Merry Christmas Baby" with her mentor, John Legend; Aerosmith's "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing," a cover that Shelton called incredible and unbelievable; and a new single, "All Better," which Legend said she sold beautifully with her attitude and energy. On Tuesday, Kadan sang Cher's

"Believe" with "American Idol" alum Adam Lambert, a soulful duet that got a standing ovation from the coaches.

It's unclear what's next for Kadan since she didn't win the grand prize of the recording contract. Kadan has built a Chicago audience by performing in local clubs for about eight years and working as a vocal coach and piano teacher. Watch parties were held in her home-

town of Summit and in Chicago. All the TVs were tuned to "The Voice" Monday on the ground floor of the Wicker Park bar Whiskey Business, which was packed with Kadan fans.

Though she didn't win "The Voice," Kadan gained confidence as a performer. The Moraine Valley Community College alum grew up singing in the church, but experienced self-doubt as a home-schooled teen. Kadan told the Tribune that she broke out of her shell at the age of 30. She initially didn't want to audition for "The Voice" because she didn't want to compete, but pushed aside her negative thoughts and turned all the celebrity coaches' chairs with her performance of Aretha Franklin's "Baby I Love You" on "The Voice" premiere in September.

Duran came in second place, and Short placed fourth. No Chicago contestant has ever won "The Voice," but Season 18 of the NBC network competition is scheduled to premiere Feb. 24.

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Film

Continued from Page 1

takes place inside a theater called the Egyptian. The Jellicle cats are having their annual Jellicle Ball. Wise Old Deuteronomy is working through her annual decision regarding which puss is going to the Heaviside Layer and will be thus reborn into a new and presumably better life, with better musicals.

Old Deuteronomy is played by Dame Judi Dench, although the first sight of her on screen in "Cats" is more like: "Damn! Judi Dench?!"

The digital effects make-up is a lot to work with, or around, even for a sterling veteran such as Dench. McKellen, as Gus the theater cat, mugs so shamelessly in an attempt to yank our heartstrings, it's like impromptu heart surgery performed by a man in a cat suit.

The comedy "additions" to the original material include hairball-horking; close-ups of James Corden eating a lot of realistic-looking garbage in close-up; and an amplified role for the wily antagonist, Macavity (Idris Elba, charisma wasted for the first and presumably last time in his career). The film version hands Macavity a kidnapping plot of sorts, as

MPAA rating: PG (for peril, some thematic elements and rude humor)

Running time: 1:50

he whisks his fellow reality-show competitors for the Heaviside Layer off to a barge on the Thames.

In a smallish role, Taylor Swift cats around as Bombalurina; she also co-wrote the conspicuous new song "Beautiful Ghosts," music by Lloyd Webber. More prominently, the astounding ballet star Francesca Hayward single-handedly gets us through "Cats" alive, as the sympathetic newcomer and audience-identification figure, Victoria.

Hooper is not my man for film musicals. He shoots everything the way he did in his film version of "Les Miz": with a woozy handheld camera for extra "immediacy" and "reality," which is "stupid" in this context.

Audiences unfamiliar with the material may be stunned to learn how little there is to "Cats," not just in terms of narrative but in terms of everything besides narrative.

Michael Phillips is a Tribune critic.

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WATCH THIS: THURSDAY



Guy Pearce

“A Christmas Carol” (6:30 p.m., FX): Charles Dickens’ beloved Christmas ghost story gets a spine-tingling makeover in this new British adaptation from writer Steven Knight, the scribe behind such gritty British dramas as “Peaky Blinders.” Guy Pearce stars as miserly Ebenezer Scrooge, who is about to embark on a dark night of the soul as the tale opens. Others in this remake include Andy Serkis, Joe Alwyn and Stephen Graham.

“Miss America 2020” (7 p.m., NBC): 51 hopefuls from across the United States compete in a series of categories for potentially life-changing scholarships in a pageant held at the Mohegan Sun in Uncasville, Conn. The preliminary competition encompasses private interviews with judges, on-stage interviews, a talent competition and a “social impact pitch.” At the climax of the evening, Miss America 2019, Nia Franklin of New York, will crown her successor.

“iHeartRadio Jingle Ball 2019” (7 p.m., CW): Taylor Swift, Katy Perry, Jonas Brothers, Camila Cabello, Khalid, Sam Smith, Billie Eilish, Lizzo and 5 Seconds of Summer are among the top-tier musical artists leading the all-star performance lineup in this year’s edition of the annual holiday music special that salutes the season with highlights from concerts across the United States. Among the locations featured in the 90-minute special are New York and Los Angeles, among others.

“Prep & Landing: Naughty vs. Nice” (7:30 p.m., ABC): The yuletide adventures of Christmas elves Lanny and Wayne continue with this animated special. With the Big 2-5 fast approaching, Wayne and Lanny must race to recover classified North Pole technology that has fallen into the hands of a Naughty Kid. Wayne seeks out the foremost Naughty Kid expert to aid in the mission.

“Santa’s Baking Blizzard” (8 p.m., 11 p.m., Food): In the season finale, “Santa’s Christmas Eve,” host Casey Webb challenges the three remaining teams of bakers and ice sculptors to execute the ultimate “Night Before Christmas” cake display, one that prominently features the red-clad right jolly old elf himself. Judges Jocelyn Delk Adams, Amanda Freitag and Zac Young evaluate their finished work.

“Gwen Stefani’s You Make It Feel Like Christmas” (9 p.m., NBC): Music superstar and three-time Grammy Award winner Gwen Stefani remains very much in business with NBC, even during those periods when she’s not a regular on “The Voice,” as proven by her headlining of this 2017 offering that offers many favorite songs of the season ... with her distinctive twists.

TALK SHOWS

“Conan” (10 p.m. 11:30 p.m., TBS): Actor Adam Sandler.*

“The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon” (10:34 p.m., NBC): Actress Kate McKinnon; Dua Lipa performs.*

“The Late Show With Stephen Colbert” (10:35 p.m., CBS): Actress Jennifer Hudson; actor Jonathan Pryce; Sharon Van Etten and Norah Jones perform.*

“Jimmy Kimmel Live!” (10:35 p.m., ABC): Actress Margot Robbie; former Gov. John Kasich (R-Ohio); White Reaper performs.*

* Subject to change

Hey, TV lovers: Looking for detailed show listings? TV Weekly is an ideal companion. To subscribe, go to www.tvweekly.com or call 1-877-580-4159

THURSDAY EVENING, DEC. 19

MOVIES

	PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS 2	Young Sheldon ©	(7:31) The Unicorn ©	(8:01) Mom ©	Carol’s Second Act ©	Evil: “Let x 9.” ©		News (N) ▶
	NBC 5	The 2020 Miss America Competition (N) (Live) ©				Gwen Stefani’s You Make It Feel Like Christmas (N) ©		NBC 5 News (N) ▶
	ABC 7	Disney Prep & Landing	Prep & Landing	The Great American Baking Show: Holiday Edition: “Spice and Dessert Week.” ©				News at 10pm (N) ▶
	WGN 9	black-ish ©	black-ish ©	Last Man Standing ©	Last Man Standing ©	WGN News at Nine (N) ©		WGN News at Ten (N) ▶
	Antenna 9.2	Alice ©	Alice ©	B. Miller	B. Miller	Johnny Carson ©		3’s Comp.
	Court 9.3	† Closing Arguments (N)		Closing Arguments with Vinnie Politan ©				
	PBS 11	Chicago Tonight (N)		(7:25) PBS NewsHour & Politico Democratic Debate (N) (Live) ©				
	CW 26.1	iHeartRadio Jingle Ball 2019 (N) ©		Whose Line	Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©	
	The U 26.2	Dr. Phil ©		Tamron Hall (N) ©				
	MeTV 26.3	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Gomer Pyle	Green Acres	Hogan Hero	Hogan Hero	C. Burnett
H&I 26.4	Star Trek ©		Star Trek: Next		Star Trek: Deep Space 9		Star Trek ▶	
Bounce 26.5	The Game	The Game	Every Day But Christmas (NR, '19) Timon Durrett. ©				Baggage ▶	
FOX 32	Last Man Standing ©		Prodigal Son: “Fear Response.” ©		Fox 32 News at Nine		Modern Family	
Ion 38	Chicago P.D.: “Fagin.”		Chicago P.D. ©		Chicago P.D. ©		Chicago ▶	
TeleM 44	El sultán (N) ©		Decisiones: unos (N)		El señor de los cielos (N)		Chicago (N)	
MNT 50	Chicago P.D.: “Descent.”		Law Order: CI		Law Order: CI		Chicago ▶	
UniMas 60	Enamorándonos				Noticiero (N)	Apocalipsis		
WJYS 62	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Joyce Meyer	Robison	Christian	Dn. Carson	Monument	
Univ 66	Ringo (N)		La Rosa de Guadalupe		El dragón (N)		Noticias (N)	
CABLE	AE	Live PD Presents (N)	Court Cam	Court Cam	Live PD: Wanted (N) ©		PD Cam	
	AMC	Four Christmases (PG-13, '08) ** Vince Vaughn. ©			Love the Coopers (PG-13, '15) * ©			
	ANIM	Whale Wars: Watson’s Last Stand (N)			Whale Wars: Watson’s Last Stand (N) ▶			
	BBCA	Star Trek (PG-13, '09) *** Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto. ©				(9:45) Star Trek ***		
	BET	† (5) Harlem Nights (’89) ** Training Day (R, '01) *** Denzel Washington, Ethan Hawke. ©						
	BIGTEN	BTN Football in 60 ©	Big Ten	BTN Basketball in 60 ©		BTN Basketball in 60 ©		
	BRAVO	Project Runway ©		Project Runway (N) ©			Watch (Sea-	
	CLTV	News at 7	News (N)	News at 8	News (N)	SportsFeed ©		Politics
	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)		Cuomo Prime Time (N)		CNN Tonight (N)		Tonight (N) ▶
	COM	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Daily (N) ▶
	DISC	Naked and Afraid ©		Naked and Afraid: “Deadly Aggression.” (N) ©				
	DISN	Music	Roll With It	Gabby	Jessie ©	Coop	Sydney-Max	Raven
	E!	† (5:30) Pretty Woman ***		Knocked Up (R, '07) *** Seth Rogen, Katherine Heigl. ©				
	ESPN	† Wm. Volleyball (N)		Update (N)		Women’s College Volleyball (N)		
	ESPN2	† College Basketball (N)		College Basketball: NC State at Auburn. (N) (Live)				SportCtr (N)
	FNC	Tucker Carlson (N)		Hannity (N) ©		The Ingraham Angle (N)		Fox News
	FOOD	Santa’s Baking Blizzard		Santa’s (Season Finale) (N)		Christmas Cookie		Ginger ▶
	FREE	† Nightmare-Christmas		Toy Story (G, '95) ****		Voices of Tom Hanks. (SAP)		Rise Grd ▶
	FX	† (6:30) A Christmas Carol (Premiere) (N) ©						(9:45) Deadpool ***
	HALL	Christmas Getaway (NR, '17) Bridget Regan. ©				(9:03) Christmas at Dollywood (’19) ▶		
	HGTV	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip (N)	Flip or Flop	Hunt Inti (N)	Hunters (N)	Hunters
	HISTV	Forged in Fire: The 12 Cuts of Christmas: “Top 12 Sharpest Blades.” (N) ©						
	HLN	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic
	IFC	† (5:45) Tommy Boy **		Year Without a Santa		(9:15) Rudolph’s Shiny New Year ©		
	LIFE	A Christmas Winter Song (NR, '19) Ashanti. ©				(9:03) Matchmaker Christmas (’19) ▶		
	MSNBC	All In With (N)		Rachel Maddow Show (N)		The Last Word (N)		11th Hour (N)
	MTV	Floribama Shore (N) ©		Ex on the Beach (N) ©		Floribama Shore ©		Ridiculous.
	NBCSCH	NHL Hockey: Chicago Blackhawks at Winnipeg Jets. (N) (Live)				Blackhawks Postgame (N)		
	NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Paddington (PG, '14) *** Hugh Bonneville. ©				Friends ©
	OVATION	† (6) Christmas Grace (’13)		House of the Year		House of the Year		Grand ▶
OWN	20/20 on OWN		20/20 on OWN		20/20 on OWN		20/20 ▶	
OXY	An Unexpected Killer (N)		Snapped: “William Dennis.”		Snapped ©		Snapped ▶	
PARMT	† (6:30) John Wick: Chapter 2 (R, '17) *** Keanu Reeves. ©						John Wick: Chapter 2 ▶	
SYFY	Star Trek Beyond (PG-13, '16) *** Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto. ©						The Last Witch Hunter ▶	
TBS	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan (N)	
TCM	Topper Returns (NR, '41) ** ©				(8:45) Cry Havoc (NR, '43) *** Margaret Sullavan.			
TLC	Dr. Pimple Popper		Dr. Pimple Popper		Holiday ER		Stories ER ▶	
TLN	IMPACT	Wretched	Christmas Town at the		Life Today		Humanit	
TNT	NBA Basketball: Lakers at Bucks (N Subject to Blackout)				Basketball (N Subject to			
TOON	Apple	Gumball	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Burgers	Burgers	Fam. Guy ▶	
TRAV	Ghost Adventures (N) ©				Ghost Adventures (N) ©		Ghost ▶	
TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Two Men	Two Men	King	
USA	Law & Order: SVU		Temptation Island (Season Finale) (N)		Temptation Island (N)		Chrisley ▶	
VH1	Drumline (PG-13, '02) *** Nick Cannon, Zoe Saldana. ©						Love Don’t ▶	
WE	Growing Up Hip Hop ©		Growing Up Hip Hop (N)		Growing Up Hip Hop ©		Hip Hop ▶	
WGN America	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man ▶	
PREMIUM	HBO	Watchmen ©		(8:10) Hellboy (R, '19) * David Harbour. ©			Well Gro ▶	
	HBO2	Finding the Way Home		(8:10) Watchmen: “See How They Fly.”		The Shop	Day After ▶	
	MAX	Get Carter (R, '00) * Sylvester Stallone.		(8:45) Déjà Vu (PG-13, '06) *** Denzel Washington. ▶				
	SHO	(7:15) A Bad Moms Christmas (R, '17) ** ©				The L Word	Work- Pro.	
	STARZ	† (6:31) Walking Tall **		The Intruder (PG-13, '19) * Michael Ealy.		Holmes & Watson * ©		Friends With Benefits ▶
STZNC	† (6) The Big Lebowski (R)		Burn After Reading (R, '08) ***					

Museums

Continued from Page 1

Rather than being mere confections, they “demonstrate his fierce embrace of beauty and pleasure in the teeth of acute physical suffering,” argued the catalog. Fittingly, the show premiered in spring.

“Wired to Wear,” continuing at the Museum of Science and Industry

“Wearable tech” may be a contemporary middle-class fad that expresses itself primarily in step-counting wristbands, but it also makes for a surprisingly engaging museum show. The MSI’s — the “Griffin’s”? — big survey of technologically advanced garmentry displays safer football helmets, trucker caps that jolt you awake if you start dozing and a prosthetic arm designed by a teenage girl that fires a fusillade of glitter. And, yes, the show has a functional jet pack.

“Virgil Abloh: Figures of Speech” at MCA Chicago

Did a Rockford-raised designer of streetwear-turned-menswear head at a high-fashion house merit a full retrospective museum show? Art-world purists might have blanched at the idea. But the crowds — the younger crowds — the MCA pulled in argued that this expansive view of museum worthiness was exactly the right move. In a world where it’s all too easy to mount another gathering of paintings on walls, this exuberant-to-calculated display of re-shaped denim, mass-market carpets and even a table of Abloh-designed Nike sneakers came as a breath of fresh air.

“Cows Come Home” at Jane Byrne Park

Chicago revisited one of its grand moments of kitsch in the little park around the Water Tower. Whatever grumpiness I had over the original “Cows on Parade,” fiber-glass cows painted by art-



A woman snaps a photo of Edouard Manet’s painting titled In the Conservatory at the Manet and Modern Beauty exhibition at the Art Institute of Chicago.



A photo exhibit, “Thomas D. Mangelsen — A Life in the Wild,” is at the Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum.

ists with varying degrees of craft and cleverness, when they took over downtown Chicago 20 years ago, seeing a selection of them brought out of retirement to mark the anniversary brought a grin-inducing jolt of nostalgia. But, please, please, let’s agree not to paint any more molded plastic figures.

Oriental Institute 100th anniversary makeover, continuing

This great collector of

Egyptian and other ancient near Eastern artifacts on the University of Chicago campus was an inspiration for the Indiana Jones character. It’s also a mini-British Museum in the heart of Hyde Park. Thanks to a thoughtful multimillion-dollar reimaging for its milestone anniversary, it’s now more broadly accessible — without sacrificing the scholarly underpinnings. The OI’s light is no longer hiding under a sarcophagus.

“Lightscape” through Jan. 5 and seasonally at Chicago Botanic Garden

The North Shore cultural destination finally got into the holiday lights game this year, joining the big zoos and the Morton Arboretum. Its series of artful illumination set pieces along a mile-long path surprise and delight and give your (my) lazy carcass a reason to quit the couch in wintertime. But the best of all the “Lightscape” displays needs no plug: Scores of flickering firepots arrayed in the Rose Garden speak to the pagan still lurking in all of us.

“Caravans of Gold: Fragments in Time” at the Block Museum

Far more ambitious than what you typically find in even the best university museums, this Northwestern museum exhibition told the story of the richest man ever to walk the Earth, the 14th-century Mali king Mansa Musa, and of a rich African culture largely

written out of history. Ancient pottery fragments, fully realized metal works and early maps and money helped tell an extraordinary, corrective story.

“Andy Warhol — From A to B and Back Again” through Jan. 26 at the Art Institute

As important as he has been to art history, Andy Warhol’s frosty, arms-length takes on popular culture are hard to love. This first big Warhol retrospective in 50 years, though, brings you closer to Andy the man while the 400 works on display, at minimum, make a coherent case for his genius and prescience in making art bow to commerce and vice-versa.

“Hamilton: The Exhibition” at Northerly Island

It is probably true now that no one will ever again spend \$13 million to make and mount such a fine, full, visually imaginative American history exhibi-

tion. It is certainly true that if they do, they won’t maroon it in a temporary building way out on North-erly Island, a spot more accessible to migratory birds than to tourists and other fans of the “Hamilton!” musical. But even as it only lasted four months before the curtain crashed down, this Quixotic project from the musical’s makers was a great success in artistic terms. Never before has early 1800s monetary policy been made so engaging.

Eight other favorites from 2019: “LaToya Ruby Frazier: The Last Cruze” at the Renaissance Society; “Imagine the Moon” at Adler Planetarium; “A Tale of Today: Yinka Shonibare CBE” at Driehaus Museum; “Tara Donovan: Fieldwork” at Smart Museum of Art; “Tetsuya Ishida: Self-Portrait of Oshida” and “About Face: Stonewall, Revolt and New Queer Art,” both at Wrightwood 659; “Night Coming Tenderly, Black” at the Art Institute; and “Purchased Lives” at Illinois Holocaust Museum.

Horoscopes



Today's birthday (Dec. 19): Accept a growing leadership role and ascend this year. Discipline with money pays off in spades. A rise in winter gold helps to ease a shared financial change. Personal changes next summer inspire a surge into your shared accounts. Take charge with all your heart.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 9. Collaborate. You're especially popular for the next month with Venus in Aquarius. Group activities go well. Get out in public.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 8. Take on more responsibility for the next month with Venus in Aquarius. Watch for opportunities to advance your career. Assume authority. It's easier to advance your agenda.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 8. Travel entices over the coming month. It's easier to venture forth now that Venus is in Aquarius. Set study goals. Explore and discover fresh terrain.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 8. Feed the family kitty. This month is good for saving money. Review numbers with Venus in Aquarius. Increase your assets with organization and attention.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 9. Communication is key. Partnerships flower with Venus in Aquarius for about a month. Compromise comes easier. Share your heart, passions and commitments.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 9. Things could get lucrative. Your health, work and fitness blossom with Venus in Aquarius. Energize your performance. Practice your arts. Infuse love into your labors.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 9. You're especially lucky in love with Venus in Aquarius for a month. Artistic efforts sparkle. Practice skills, talents and hobbies. Give in to romance.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 8. Make your home your love nest. Enjoy domestic arts, crafts and projects with Venus in Aquarius. Focus on home and family. Make household improvements.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 8. Lead with heart. You love learning with Venus in Aquarius. You're especially clever and creative with communications. Write, record and express your views.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 9. Harvest windfall apples. Gather new income with Venus in Aquarius. Enjoy a profitable phase. Discover a professional high-performance zone.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 9. You're in the love light with Venus in your sign. Your charm and charisma shine. Upgrade your personal presentation. Get stylish. Step onstage and smile.

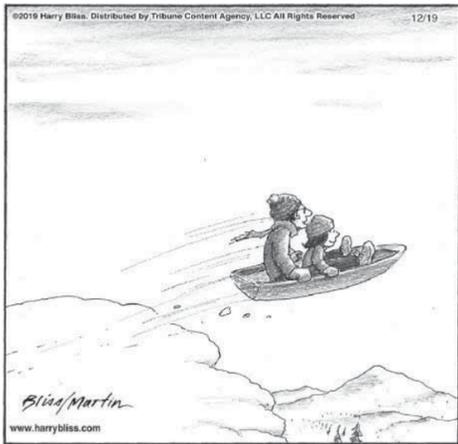
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 8. Savor peaceful privacy. Pursue your own thoughts and dreams with Venus in Aquarius. Nature soothes your spirit. Connect with your passion and compassion.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater



Bliss



Bridge

Neither vulnerable, West deals

North		East	
♠ A Q 7 5	♥ 7 4	♠ K J 10 6 4 2	♥ 9 3
♦ Q 8	♣ A J 8 7 2	♦ J 7 6	♣ 4 3
South		West	
♠ 9 8 3	♥ A 6 5	♠ Void	♥ K Q J 10 8 2
♦ A 6 5	♣ A K 10 3 2	♦ 9 5 4	♣ K Q 10 9
♣ 6 5			

Alan Sontag, of Maryland, has been one of America's leading players for about 50 years. He was South in today's deal.

Sontag ducked the first two hearts and won the third, discarding a club from dummy as East shed an encouraging spade. If that was an honest card, it was bad news for Sontag,

as a successful spade finesse seemed like his only route to nine tricks, assuming five diamond tricks. Sontag led a spade and West had a discard problem. West felt that he had to keep his diamonds in case partner had something like the king-10 doubleton. He chose to discard the nine of clubs. East-West were playing reverse signals, where low encourages. The nine was his low club, but East couldn't read it. Sontag ducked the spade into East, and East returned a diamond. Sontag started to run his diamonds, leaving this position with one diamond to go:

North		East	
♠ A Q 7	♥ Void	♠ K J 10	♥ Void
♦ Void	♣ A J	♦ Void	♣ 4 3
South		West	
♠ 9 8	♥ Void	♠ Void	♥ 10 8 2
♦ 3	♣ 6 5	♦ Void	♣ K Q
♣ 6 5			

Sontag cashed the last diamond, discarding a club, and East was helpless. Should East discard a spade. Sontag would play ace and another spade, setting up the queen. East chose to part with a club, but Sontag led a club to the ace and then a low spade. East had to win and lead a spade into the ace-queen. Nicely played!

— Bob Jones, tcaeditors@tribpub.com

Dilbert



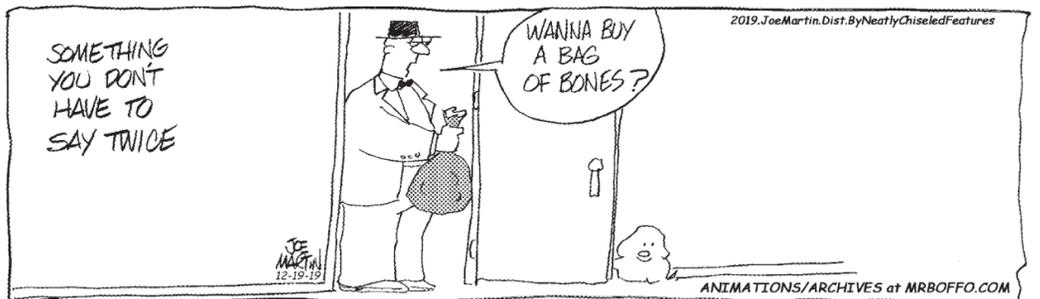
Baby Blues



Zits



Mr. Boffo



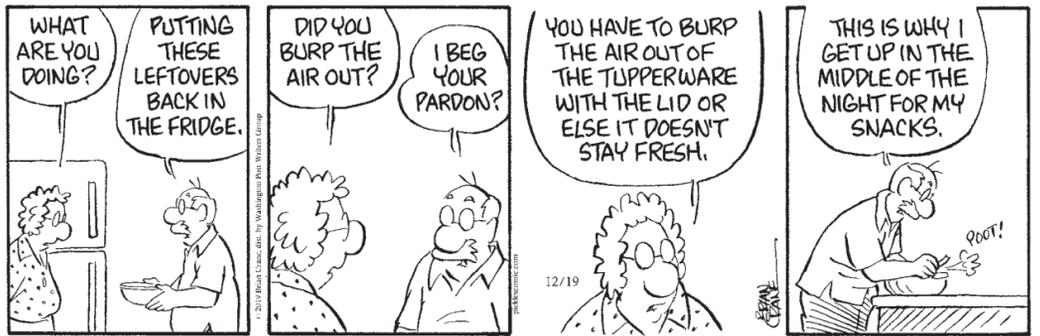
Frazz



Classic Peanuts



Pickles



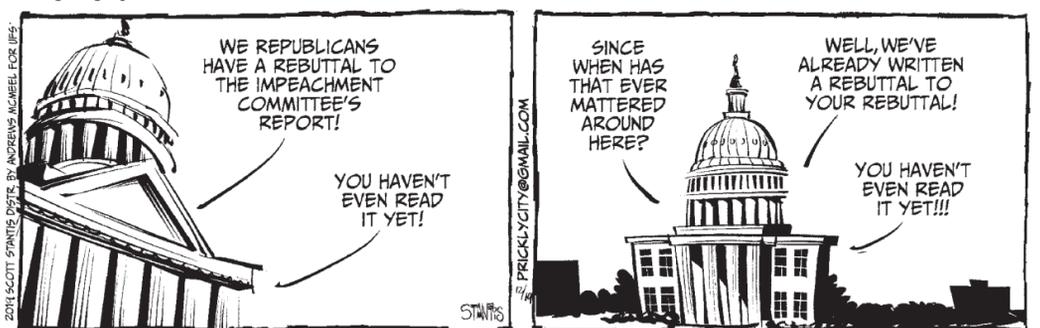
Dick Tracy



Animal Crackers



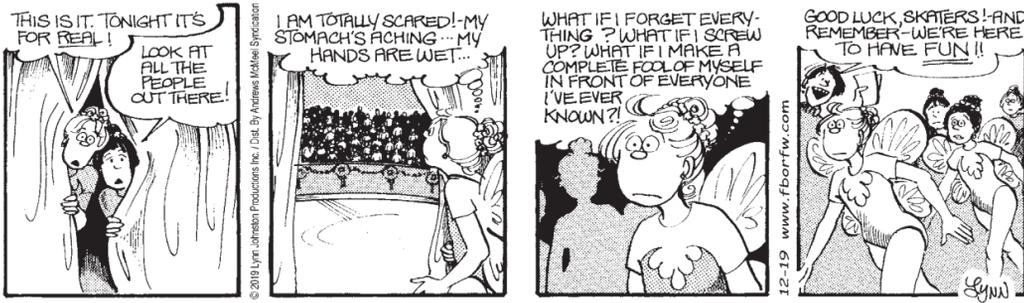
Prickly City



Dustin By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



For Better or for Worse By Lynn Johnston



Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



Hägar the Horrible By Chris Browne



Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



WuMo By Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



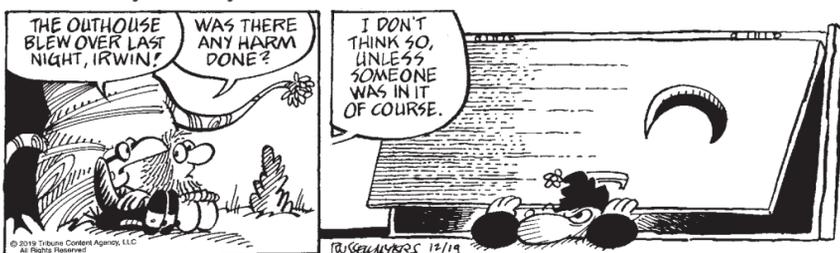
Sherman's Lagoon By Jim Toomey



Brewster Rockit: Space Guy! By Tim Rickard



Broom-Hilda By Russell Myers



Trivia Bits

Which first lady inspired the Highway Beautification Act with the motto "Where flowers bloom so does hope"?
 A) Laura Bush
 B) Mamie Eisenhower
 C) Lady Bird Johnson
 D) Pat Nixon
 Wednesday's answer: Toys for Tots is an official activity of the U.S. Marine Corps.
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Jumble Crossword

12-19-19

CLUE: One of the filming locations for "_____ " was Tunisia.

BONUS ○○○○○ ○○○○○

ANSWERS: 1-A-Lowest 2-D-Whimper 3-D-Scenery 4-D-Tendons 5-C-Star Wars
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 By David L. Hoyt.

Sudoku 1 2 3 4

12/19

			7			4		
	4	6		1	3	7		
			2					1
	8					5	7	
	6						1	
	3	5						6
8						4		
		7	1	9		2		
		4				6		

3	5	6	9	2	8	1	4	7
2	7	8	5	4	1	9	6	3
4	9	1	7	3	6	5	2	8
9	3	5	2	8	4	6	7	1
1	4	7	6	5	9	3	8	2
8	6	2	1	7	3	4	9	5
6	8	9	3	1	2	7	5	4
7	1	4	8	6	5	2	3	9
5	2	3	4	9	7	8	1	6

Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders contains every digit 1 to 9.

Wednesday's solutions

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Jumble

Unscramble the four Jumbles, one letter per square, to form four words. Then arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by this cartoon.

PHIOP ○○○○

YNOEH ○○○○

GIFTHR ○○○○

CCSOUT ○○○○

Answer here

○○○○○ ○○○○○○

Wednesday's answers

Jumbles: GOING BUNCH RETIRE HELIUM
 Answer: The food truck parked along the side of the road was able to — CURB HUNGER

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.



Crossword

12/19

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14							15				16			
17							18				19			
	20						21							
22					23	24						25	26	27
28			29								30	31		
32						33		34	35		36			
						37	38				39			
40	41	42					43				44	45	46	47
48									49		50			
51						52	53	54	55			56		
						57	58				59	60		
61	62										63			64
65							66				67			
68							69				70			

Across

- 1 Troubleshoots, as programs
- 7 Sharp humor
- 10 Rain protection
- 14 Marked by twinkling
- 15 Brian of ambient music
- 16 Diaper cream ingredient
- 17 Like nickels, to dimes
- 18 Flashy accessories for a vagabond?
- 20 Swedish retail giant
- 21 Runs of luck
- 22 "Moonlight" Oscar winner Mahershala
- 23 Most smooth
- 25 Put to use
- 28 Most likely to snap
- 30 One-named singer with 15 Grammys
- 32 "By that logic ..."
- 33 Wrongdoing
- 36 Ventricular outlet
- 37 Barn extension where pack animals sleep?

Down

- 40 Martin Van — "Heavens to Murgatroyd!"
- 44 Trails off
- 48 Astrologer to the rich and famous
- 49 Tasty bites
- 51 Boston's Back —
- 52 French chef's "Ta-da!"
- 56 Years on end
- 57 Potato gadgets
- 59 Crunch at breakfast
- 61 Heckle musician Gordon Sumner?
- 63 Sex therapy subject
- 65 Mom's sister
- 66 Greek letter
- 67 Close soccer score
- 68 Calf-length skirt
- 69 French film ending word
- 70 Packed (in)

- 19 WWII Philippine battleground
- 21 Genre with bite
- 22 Had a bite
- 24 KGB country
- 26 Bottom-row PC key
- 27 Samosa veggie
- 29 Like a designated driver
- 31 Venetian magistrates of yore
- 34 Holiday quaff
- 35 Hindu masters
- 38 Turmoil
- 39 Show that launched Clay Aiken's singing career, familiarly
- 40 Move up and down
- 41 Actress Thurman
- 42 Novelist Chandler
- 45 Warning at a spelling contest?
- 46 Deborah Harry's band
- 47 Tax form ID
- 50 Wisconsin city north of Chicago
- 53 Fence supplier
- 54 Starbucks size
- 55 "In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida" instrument
- 58 Spot of wine?
- 60 Under the covers
- 62 Arles sound
- 61 Corlis assent
- 63 Almost empty
- 64 Ancient

Wednesday's solution

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

By Gary Larson. Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis. © 2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

Want more PUZZLES?
 Go to chicagotribune.com/games

CHICAGO WEATHER CENTER

chicagoweathercenter.com | BY TOM SKILLING AND WGN9



THURSDAY, DEC. 19

NORMAL HIGH: 34°

NORMAL LOW: 20°

RECORD HIGH: 64° (1877)

RECORD LOW: -14° (1983)

Let's start counting down to Christmas warmup

LOCAL FORECAST

HIGH 38 **LOW** 25

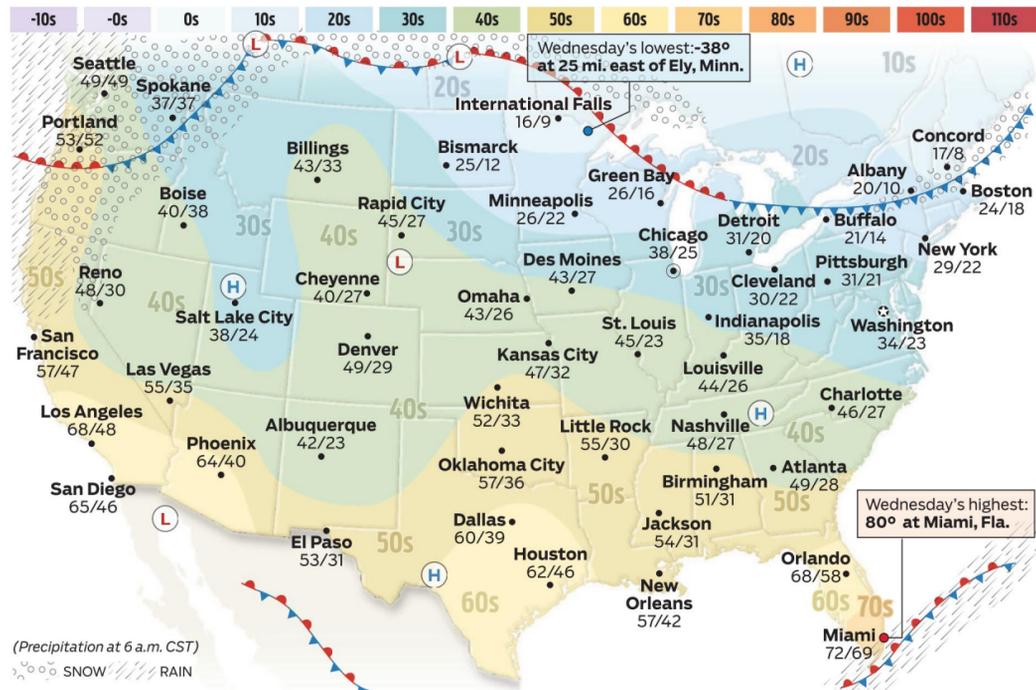
■ As cold high pressure departs to the east, winds pick up out of the southwest initiating the start of milder air flow into Illinois and the Chicago area.

■ Mostly sunny with breezy winds out of the southwest and then west 12 to 20 miles per hour.

■ Not as cold with afternoon highs reaching into the upper 30s – the warming trend begins.

■ Partly cloudy skies overnight as winds become light and variable.

NATIONAL FORECAST



With the center of the cold high pressure overhead during daylight hours Wednesday, afternoon temperatures were in the chilly mid to upper teens. Wednesday's actual high temperature of 27 degrees occurred shortly after midnight with readings slowly falling after that and never fully recovering despite abundant sunshine.

As the center of the very cold high pressure moves off to the east Thursday, southwest winds on the backside of the departing high pressure will start to bring milder air into the Chicago area. Southerly winds are expected to prevail for several days allowing readings to slowly rise into the 40s Friday to the 50s Sunday into Monday.

We don't expect any appreciable precipitation from now until Christmas Day so the odds of a white Christmas are looking slim.

FRIDAY, DEC. 20

HIGH 43 **LOW** 29

Partly cloudy and a little warmer. Afternoon highs in the lower 40s. Scattered clouds overnight. Southerly winds.

SATURDAY, DEC. 21

HIGH 48 **LOW** 33

Mostly sunny - afternoon highs in the upper 40s to around 50-degrees in spots. Generally clear skies at night. Southwest winds.

SUNDAY, DEC. 22

HIGH 53 **LOW** 35

Another mostly sunny day with temperatures climbing into the 50s. Clear skies overnight. Southwest winds.

MONDAY, DEC. 23

HIGH 56 **LOW** 36

Mostly sunny skies and continued unseasonably mild with afternoon highs warming into the middle 50s – over 20-degrees above the normal for this date. Partly cloudy skies overnight. SW winds.

TUESDAY, DEC. 24

HIGH 46 **LOW** 38

Christmas Eve. Partly cloudy with high temperatures in the mid to upper 40s. Mostly cloudy overnight. Southwest winds.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25

HIGH 42 **LOW** 38

Christmas Day. Cloudy skies with a few sprinkles possible. High temperatures in the upper 30s north to upper 40s south. Clouds and chance of showers overnight. Southeast winds.



NOTE: Predicted high/low temps on Tribune weather page are chronological—the "high" refers to maximum reading expected during day and "low" is the minimum reading expected the following night.

ASK TOM

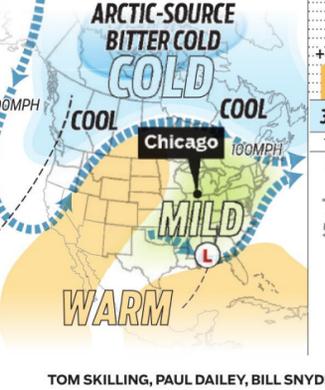
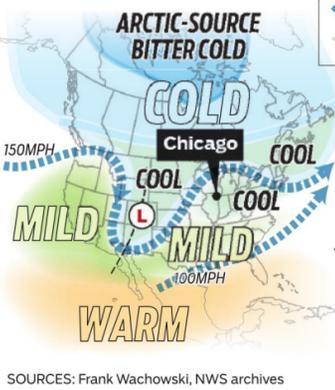
Dear Tom,
Fires now burning in the Amazon jungles remind me of forest fires in Yellowstone National Park in 1988, started by lightning. What's causing the Amazon fires?
Bill Torrence, Chicago

Dear Bill,
Widespread heat and drought in 1988 were the primary factors that set the stage for lightning-induced forest fires during the summer and autumn thunderstorm season in the Rocky Mountains. However, the sole cause of massive fires now burning in the Amazon jungle is the environmentally questionable "slash and burn" technique used there. To clear land, vegetation is cut and allowed to dry, then set ablaze during the summer-autumn dry season.

Unseasonable December warmth ahead

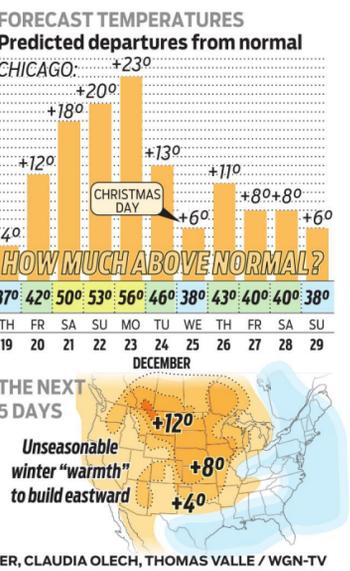
THURSDAY'S SET-UP
Chicago on a warming trend—city in cool air with mild air just to the south. Upper-level low pressure trough over the Rockies will move southeast, triggering weekend rains over the Gulf of Mexico/Florida and part of southeastern U.S.

SUNDAY'S SET-UP
Chicago firmly in mild air. Upper trough that moved out of the Rockies moves along the Gulf Coast triggering widespread rain/t-storms over the Gulf of Mexico/Florida and southeastern U.S.



SOURCES: Frank Wachowski, NWS archives

TOM SKILLING, PAUL DAILEY, BILL SNYDER, CLAUDIA OLECH, THOMAS VALLE / WGN-TV



CHICAGO DIGEST

WEDNESDAY TEMPERATURES

LOCATION	HI	LO	LOCATION	HI	LO
Aurora	24	10	Midway	29	13
Gary	29	16	O'Hare	24	9
Kankakee	26	12	Romeoville	27	12
Lakefront	29	14	Valparaiso	27	17
Lansing	25	14	Waukegan	27	8

CHICAGO PRECIPITATION

PERIOD	2019	NORMAL
Wed. (through 4 p.m.)	Trace	0.07"
December to date	0.09"	1.59"
Year to date	44.25"	38.11"

CHICAGO SNOWFALL

PERIOD	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Wed. (through 4 p.m.)	0.0"	0.0"
Season to date	8.8"	6.9"
Normal to date	5.7"	5.8"

SOURCE: Frank Wachowski

LAKE MICHIGAN CONDITIONS

	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Wind SW/W 15-25 kts.	SW 12-24 kts.	
Waves	3-5 feet	3-5 feet
Wed. shore/creef water temps	na/na	

U.S. SNOW COVER

DEC. 18	2019	2018
Area covered by snow	48.1%	21.8%
Average snow depth	2.7"	1.5"

TRACKING THE COLD

SINCE OCT. 15	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Sub-32° highs	10 days	8 days
Subzero lows	0 days	0 days

CHICAGO AIR QUALITY

Wednesday's reading: Good
Thursday's forecast: Moderate
Critical pollutant: Particulates

SUNSHINE RISE/SET TIMES

Sun: 7:13 a.m. - 4:21 p.m.
Moon: 12:34 p.m.

THURSDAY PLANET WATCH

PLANET	RISE	SET
Mercury	6:18 a.m.	3:31 p.m.
Venus	9:28 a.m.	6:45 p.m.
Mars	4:12 a.m.	2:08 p.m.
Jupiter	7:43 a.m.	4:47 p.m.
Saturn	8:46 a.m.	6:03 p.m.

BEST VIEWING TIME

PLANET	TIME	DIRECTION
Mercury	Not visible	
Venus	5:15 p.m.	12.5° SW
Mars	5:15 p.m.	10° SE
Jupiter	Not visible	
Saturn	5:15 p.m.	7° SW

SOURCE: Dan Joyce, Triton College

Write to: ASK TOM
2501 W. Bradley Place
Chicago, IL 60618
asktomwhy@wgntv.com

WGN-TV meteorologists Mark Carroll, Steve Kahn, Richard Koeneman, Paul Merzlock and Paul Dailey, plus Bill Snyder, contribute to this page.

Hear Demetrius WGN 720
Ivory's weather updates weekdays 3 to 6 p.m. on WGN-AM 720 Chicago.

MIDWEST CITIES

THURS./FRI.	FC	HI	LO	FC	HI	LO
Illinois	su	46	25	cl	48	26
Carbondale	su	35	20	cl	35	22
Champaign	su	38	22	cl	35	22
Decatur	su	38	22	cl	35	22
Moline	su	42	25	cl	43	27
Peoria	su	42	25	cl	43	27
Quincy	su	46	27	cl	45	25
Rockford	su	38	23	cl	41	25
Springfield	su	40	24	cl	41	24
Sterling	su	39	22	cl	41	24
Indiana	su	39	23	cl	43	26
Bloomington	su	44	25	cl	48	29
Evansville	su	38	22	cl	38	27
Fort Wayne	su	35	18	cl	33	22
Indianapolis	su	35	18	cl	33	22
Lafayette	su	33	19	cl	39	23
Louisville	su	36	25	cl	40	26
Wausau	su	36	23	cl	40	26
Wisconsin	su	26	16	sh	36	27
Green Bay	su	38	24	cl	38	27
Kenosha	su	34	24	cl	38	25
La Crosse	su	35	24	cl	38	25
Madison	su	35	24	cl	39	24
Milwaukee	su	36	25	cl	38	27
Wausau	su	36	25	cl	38	27
Michigan	su	31	20	pc	34	25
Detroit	su	32	21	pc	34	25
Grand Rapids	su	32	21	pc	36	27
Marquette	su	25	17	sh	32	26
St. Ste. Marie	su	22	12	sh	26	23
Traverse City	su	32	18	sh	35	29
Iowa	su	40	25	pc	42	22
Ames	su	39	24	pc	41	24
Cedar Rapids	su	43	27	pc	42	24
Des Moines	su	38	23	cl	41	24
Dubuque	su	38	23	cl	41	24

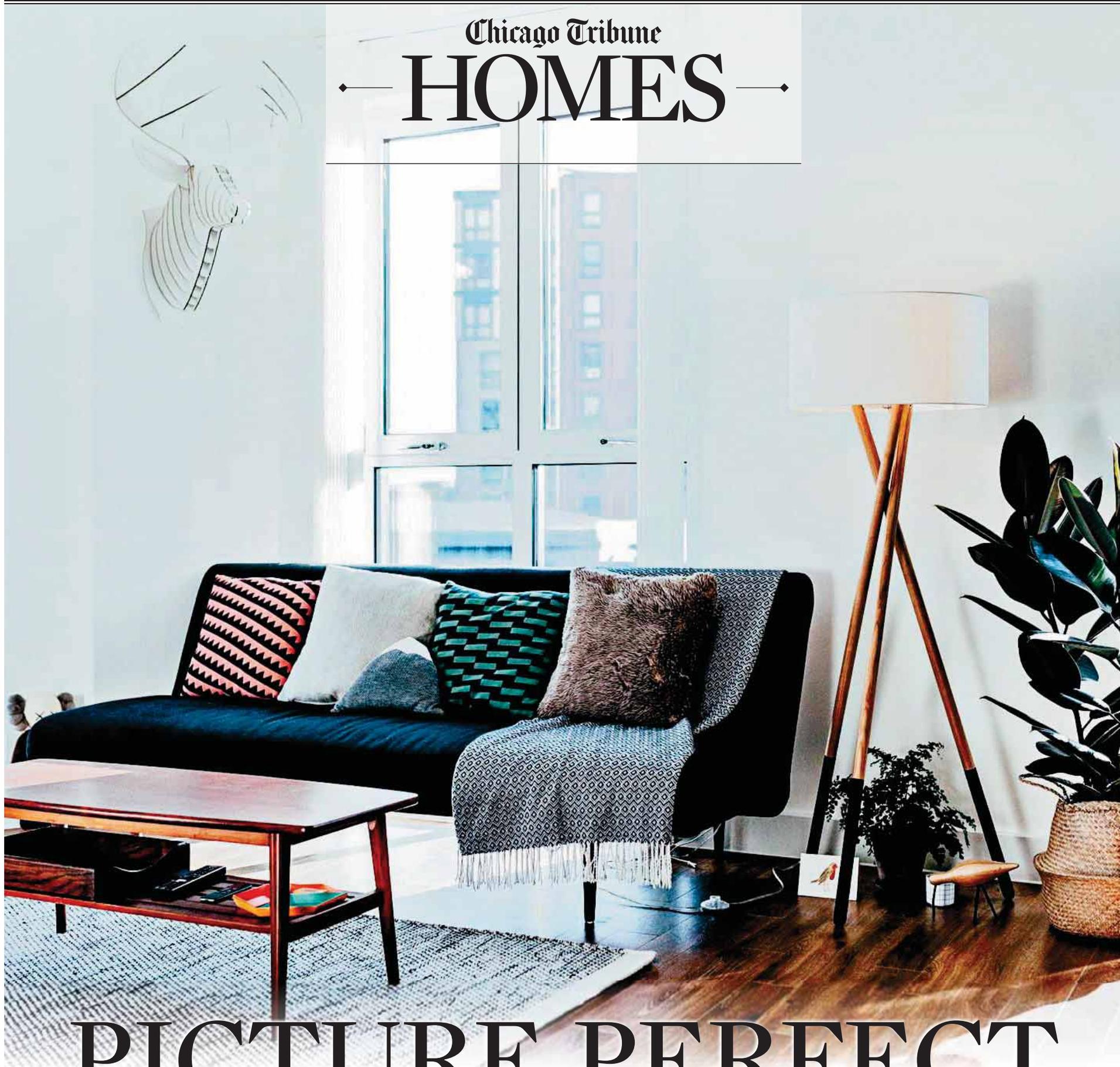
OTHER U.S. CITIES

THURS./FRI.	FC	HI	LO	FC	HI	LO
Albany	pc	20	10	sh	25	6
Albuquerque	pc	42	23	su	46	24
Amarillo	pc	52	24	su	49	23
Anchorage	pc	19	9	pc	12	5
Asheville	su	47	24	pc	53	30
Aspen	pc	32	6	su	36	13
Atlanta	su	49	28	pc	54	39
Atlanta City	su	31	23	su	37	24
Austin	pc	61	43	su	50	42
Baltimore	su	33	23	su	39	26
Billings	su	43	33	pc	48	41
Birmingham	su	51	31	cl	55	41
Bismarck	sh	25	12	pc	30	24
Boise	su	40	38	sh	48	38
Boston	pc	24	18	su	30	17
Brownsville	pc	70	58	sh	69	57
Burlington	sh	21	14	pc	25	15
Charlottesville	su	47	24	pc	53	30
Charlston SC	su	50	33	pc	57	46
Charlston WV	su	37	24	pc	46	27
Chattanooga	su	49	28	pc	54	36
Cheyenne	pc	40	27	su	44	33
Cincinnati	su	40	22	pc	46	26
Cleveland	pc	30	22	pc	37	28
Colo. Spgs	pc	45	24	su	46	26
Columbia MO	su	48	27	pc	44	26
Columbia SC	su	49	27	pc	55	37
Columbus	su	33	19	pc	38	23
Croft Christi	pc	65	56	pc	64	54
Dallas	pc	60	39	sh	49	41
Daytona Bch.	cl	65	59	cl	71	63
Denver	pc	49	29	su	52	31
Duluth	pc	31	18	sh	28	18
El Paso	su	53	31	su	55	29

WORLD CITIES

THURS./FRI.	FC	HI	LO	FC	HI	LO
Fairbanks	pc	-20	-33	su	-29	-33
Fargo	pc	20	12	pc	15	6
Flagstaff	su	41	15	su	45	18
Fort Myers	cl	73	63	sh	76	66
Fort Smith	pc	57	31	pc	53	33
Fresno	pc	60	39	pc	62	43
Grand Junc.	pc	39	18	su	41	20
Great Falls	pc	41	34	pc	51	41
Harrisburg	su	32	21	su	37	21
Hartford	su	23	15	su	32	12
Helena	pc	37	29	pc	46	32
Honolulu	pc	83	73	pc	79	71
Houston	pc	62	46	sh	57	45
Int'l Falls	pc	16	9	sh	25	15
Jackson	su	54	31	cl	56	41
Jacksonville	pc	58	52	cl	64	59
Janeau	rs	36	30	ss	32	28
Kansas City	pc	47	32	pc	44	30
Las Vegas	su	55	35	pc	58	38
Lexington	su	43	26	pc	49	32
Lincoln	pc	46	25	pc	44	18
Little Rock	su	55	30	sh	49	32
Los Angeles	su	68	48	pc	74	52
Louisville	su	44	26	pc	49	30
Macon	su	53	28	pc	57	39
Memphis	su	50	29	cl	51	35
Miami	sh	72	69	sh	75	71
Minneapolis	pc	26	22	pc	32	19
Mobile	su	57	37	cl	60	47
Montgomery	su	53	31	cl	57	43
Nashville	su	48	27	pc	52	32
New Orleans	su	57	42	cl	61	48
New York	su	29	22	su	35	23
Norfolk	pc	37	23	su	46	30
Oklahoma City	pc	57	36	pc		

Chicago Tribune HOMES



PICTURE PERFECT

Selling or renting your home? Pros have smart tips for photographing your space. PAGE 3

Wrap up these home projects before holidays

BY DIANA CRANDALL
HomeAdvisor

The most wonderful time of the year is a whirlwind of cooking, cleaning and holiday cheer.

Want to get a head start on your to-do list? Knock out these tasks to prepare for visitors near and far. If you're traveling rather than hosting, you'll have a cozy space to come back to after a long journey.

1. Finish up outside work.

Could the exterior of your home use a refresh? Consider pressure washing or power washing the facade and driveway, either by yourself or with the help of a professional. Power washing uses heat to remove dirt, grime and mold that can cause permanent damage to your house, while pressure washing uses high velocity, which can tackle concrete,

cinder blocks and brick.

Talk to a pro to decide which will work best for your home. Homeowners typically pay between \$185 and \$385 for this type of service, according to HomeAdvisor's True Cost Guide.

2. Enhance kitchen lighting.

Illuminate the heart of your house in a way that energizes, relaxes and revitalizes both you and your guests. This doesn't mean you have to rip out the overheads; this upgrade can be as simple as varying the intensity of the lightbulbs in your existing fixtures. If you want to add a new detail, consider installing accent or task lighting, which can illuminate attractive features in the space or add functionality to the place where you prepare food.

A licensed pro should



DREAMSTIME

Consider pressure washing or power washing your driveway for a holiday refresh.

always handle electrical work. Homeowners report paying between \$50 and \$100 an hour to hire an electrician, via HomeAdvisor's True Cost Guide.

3. Give structure to spare bedrooms. You likely have a comfortable bed and extra linens ready for your guests, but consider taking their accommodations to the next level. A professional organizer

can help you clear storage in your guest bedrooms to make space for suitcases, a comfortable place for guests to sit and space in the closet to hang their holiday clothing. Homeowners report costs starting at \$255 for this type of work, according to HomeAdvisor's True Cost Guide.

4. Deep-clean the interior. Hiring a professional to help deep-clean your home

is a simple way to take the pressure off. You've cleaned the exterior, added dynamic lighting to your kitchen and made the guest rooms as pleasant as possible. Now, sit back and let a maid service scrub the floors, steam the carpets and help you get ahead on laundry before family arrives. Homeowners report paying between \$115 and \$235 for this type of service, via HomeAdvi-

sor's True Cost Guide.

5. Install holiday lights. Finally, the fun part. Rather than scrambling up a ladder and sacrificing an entire Saturday to hang holiday lights, let the pros dress up the exterior of your house. Homeowners typically pay between \$200 and \$600 for professional holiday light installation, according to HomeAdvisor's True Cost Guide.

Unexpected colors create a festive atmosphere

BY CATHY HOBBS
Tribune News Service

When thinking of the holiday season, what colors come to mind? Perhaps ruby reds and hunter greens, maybe metallics such as silver and gold?

The holidays are a time when bright colors can help set a mood and welcome the festivities. Here are some tips to help make the season festive and bright.

Jewel tones: Vibrant, rich, colors such as sapphire,

ruby and emerald always make a statement.

Lighting: Look for interesting opportunities to bring in color such as lighting.

Accessories: Use portable decor holiday items to incorporate color such as toss pillows, throws and decorative accessory items.

Layers: Consider using different tints, tones and shades of the same color in a space.

Incorporate greenery:

Evergreens as well as hearty berries can help extend the season and allow for holiday color outdoors.

Mix & match: Look for interesting color combinations such as pastel colors paired with neutral colors such as black, white, taupe and gray.

Metallics: Use metallic colors such as silver and gold. These elements can always add a touch of glam

to any holiday decor.

Tabletop: Make a statement with your table setting or tabletop decor. This is an excellent opportunity to incorporate color and texture.

Nature: Bring in interesting organic elements either indoors or outdoors such as branches, twigs and trees.

Brighten up: Consider citrus colors such as yellow, orange, green and red to help warm your space.



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Green paired with pink and yellow creates a warm entry.

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COVER PHOTO BY GETTY



Fresh flowers on the kitchen table add a natural, personal touch to the room.

Take photos of your home like a pro

BY MICHELE LERNER
Philadelphia Inquirer

Whether you're showcasing your home for a rental, sublet, new roommates, or sale, great photos are essential to attract attention online. We asked Alyssa Rosenheck, a photographer, home stylist and author of the forthcoming book "The New Southern," about how anyone can take better photos of their home.

Here are her suggestions for amateur photographers:

Level up

A classic rookie mistake is expecting superstar results from holding the camera by hand. Invest in a simple tripod for your DSLR (digital single-lens reflex) camera or an attachment for your camera phone. Straight lines are like oxygen for clean imagery. The viewer's eye immediately catches and focuses on any crooked lines. But straight lines horizontal and vertical will create a chorus among the composition that sings. Hence, the need to level up and have a tripod.

Think about the lens figuratively and literally

First, set an intention through your own personal and emotional lens. Each room has an energy and a story to tell. This is your chance to share the story of the spaces that have supported you and continue to inspire your path. Second, invest in both a good prime and wide-angle lens. One of my favorite prime angle lenses is a 50 mm because this lens is most representative of what your natural eye sees. My goal as a photographer is to communicate the stillness of space while transporting you into the room with me as I experience it.

A prime lens means you have a fixed focal length, which really motivates you to move around the space and find the perfect frame for the shot. Wide-angle lenses are important in capturing the scale of a space. Renting lenses is a great way to try out a variety and see which feels most natural to you. And for phone photographers, there is a variety of afford-



GETTY PHOTOS

Natural light is essential for capturing the most accurate representation of a room.



Keep the styling simple and neutral, but add small, personal touches in the room. Here, a white bath towel was placed on the tub.

able wide-angle lens accessories for on-the-go.

Let there be light

Natural light, that is. This is essential for capturing the most accurate representation of a room as possible. It is camera vs. eye, and not all cameras are created equal, especially in comparison to the vast dynamic range of our eyes. I am known for bright, crisp images, so it always surprises my clients and followers when I methodically flip off all light switches as we begin

photographing a space. It may be counterintuitive, but it yields the most accurate representation of the room's color and all the beauty within it.

Be a straight shooter. I am a back-to-basics kind of woman in every area of my life, especially when it comes to angles behind the lens. Let's keep things simple and shoot straight-on. This will yield beautiful, clean lines and communicate the composition of the space. Overly complicated angles result in fussy images and confusing focal points.

Layer on

An image is technically flat, but what makes it come to life with great dimension are its "layers." The rooms you are shooting need to communicate to the viewer. So, tangibly, there needs to be an element of visual texture to the space for it to have dimension. Ways to add layers include decorative tabletop accessories, mirrors, layered artwork leaning against a wall, layered rugs, texture-rich throws and fabrics, and flowers picked from the garden. Pro tip: Leave the red roses at the store and stick with a neutral color palette, such as whites, greens and blushes. This color palette will keep an image fresh and attainable without being season-specific.

Prop with proof of life

When styling for shoots, I add an element of practical fantasy to each space, but it's important to keep it as natural and minimally invasive as possible. I call this "proof of life." Use it as an opportunity to highlight the history of the home or

honor the character of the client. Some of my favorite tools for introducing proof of life are an open book on a desk, fresh florals on a kitchen counter, branches to add textural layers to a bedroom, a simple necklace coming out of a jewelry dish to showcase depth, or fruit falling from a bowl as an element of interest.

Keep the composition simple

I find composition to be much more important than the camera you have in your hand. It enables the space's story to be told through object arrangement and placement. I can communicate a particular object of interest through my focal point or, alternatively, introduce a moment of relief by emphasizing the negative space. There are numerous theories behind composition, but at a basic level, your goal should always be to achieve straight lines and balanced layers and let the rule of thirds guide your lens. (The rule guides photographers to place the main subject off-center.)



MORTON ARBORETUM

Emerald moss on a fallen log defies the gloom of winter.

Bringing winter's beauty and colors to your garden

BY BETH BOTTS

On a December night, colored lights disarm the darkness. But even in the gloom of a winter day, the colors of a walk in the woods can lift the heart.

Emerald-green moss gleams along a fallen log. Bright red winterberries are vivid against black bark. Silvery magnolia buds snuggle against the cold in their tiny fur coats.

The needles of a tall bald cypress, lingering on the branches before they fall, glow with gold. The red of a cardinal flashes against the white of birch bark. A ruffly shelf lichen, growing on a stump, has cheerful contrasting stripes. The wine-red bark of dogwood stems stands out against the gold of grasses at a wetland's edge.

"Winter beauty is subtle," said Sharon Yiesla, plant knowledge specialist at The Morton Arboretum in Lisle.

"It's all in the details." You can find that subtle beauty along nature trails,

but you also can bring it home to your garden.

Red-osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea* subsp. *sericea*) and winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) are native to the Chicago region and will do well in many home landscapes, Yiesla said.

Some magnolia cultivars are winter-hardy in Chicago and bring not only silvery buds but the promise of early spring flowers.

Many kinds of evergreen trees and shrubs work well in Chicago-area yards, although they are not all alike.

The different species and cultivars vary in size and form, and in the conditions they need. Some are more disease-prone and troublesome than others.

The Arboretum's Plant Clinic can help you choose an appropriate evergreen plant to bring green to your garden through the winter.

Look for trees and shrubs that have interesting bark. Consider paper-barked maple (*Acer griseum*), a Chinese tree whose peeling bark is the

dark gold of cinnamon.

Exclamation London planetree (*Platanus acerifolia* 'Morton Circle') has bark that peels in patches of silver and olive-green. Gray birch (*Betula populifolia*) has striking chalky-white bark and is a local native species.

"Of course winter interest isn't the only reason for choosing a tree," Yiesla said. "You need to consider whether its mature size and shape and its needs for sunlight and soil type are right for you.

"But that's true whenever you select a plant for your garden."

Red and green, white and silver, shades of gold and amber: Enjoy them in the woods or bring them home to light up your garden through the year.

For tree and plant advice, contact the Plant Clinic at The Morton Arboretum (mortonarb.org/plantadvice, 630-719-2424 or plantclinic@mortonarb.org). Beth Botts is a staff writer at the Arboretum.

How to buy a healthy poinsettia and care for it

BY TIM JOHNSON

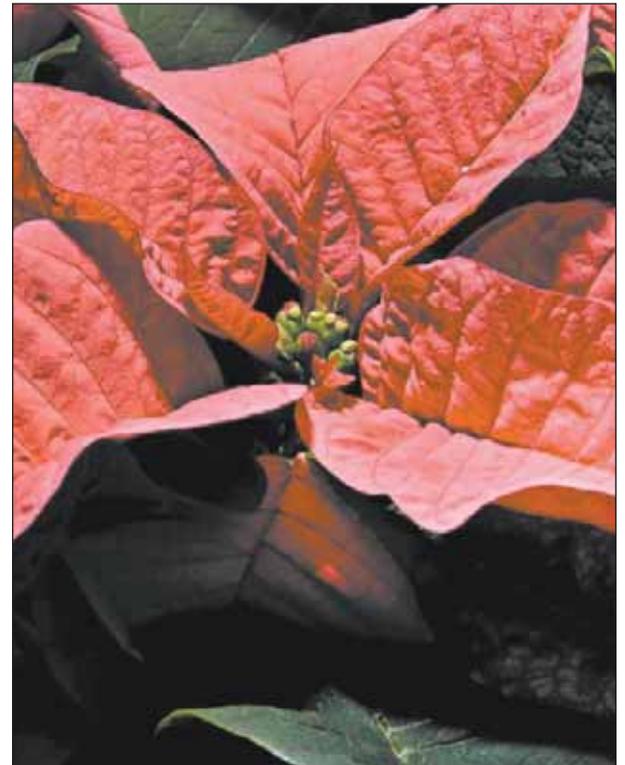
I would like to use some poinsettias for my holiday decorations this year and need some advice on how to get good results.

— Sidney Knudson, Glencoe

Poinsettias are traditional Christmas plants that will last through the holiday season — and later — when healthy plants are purchased and properly cared for. The decorative part of a poinsettia is not its flowers but the cluster of colored bracts (modified leaves) that come in red, pink, white, yellow or multicolored. The following general guidelines are good to use when purchasing poinsettias for your home or office.

Start by choosing a plant with dark green foliage that extends to the top of the pot while avoiding plants that have fallen or yellowed leaves. Ideally, you should not be able to see the growing medium at the top of the pot. Plants with pale green leaves may not have been fertilized enough while being produced. Plants that have been crowded too close together during the production process or on the retail shelf can also develop some yellowed or damaged leaves.

Avoid buying plants that are wilted, as this stress can shorten the quality display time of the plant. If the plants are wilted and the growing medium is moist, then there may be a problem with root rot. Look for insects under the leaves. Check the maturity of the poinsettia by looking at the flowers that are located above the colored bracts. If the flowers are green or red-tipped and fresh looking, then the plants will hold color longer than if yellow pollen is covering the flowers.



CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

Poinsettias like lots of bright, indirect sunlight. They are sensitive to extreme temperatures so keep them away from cold drafts and heat vents.

It is very important to sleeve your new poinsettia before you take it home if outside temperatures are below 60 degrees Fahrenheit. Exposure to low outside temperatures for even a few minutes can chill or even freeze the plants, causing the leaves to droop and fall off. The sleeve will also protect the plant from breaking while it is being transported. Take the plants straight home after purchasing. Once you get the plants home, promptly remove the protective covering, which can also damage the plants if left on too long.

Poinsettias like lots of bright, indirect sunlight. They are sensitive to extreme temperatures, so keep them away from cold drafts and heat vents. Your poinsettia will suffer if positioned near a busy entrance where a door is constantly opening and

closing. Be sure to keep your poinsettia a few inches away from a window, as the cool draft from the window can cause the foliage to wilt or drop. Daytime temperatures of 65 degrees Fahrenheit work well for prolonging the display of the colored bracts, though this is not practical in most homes.

Water the plants thoroughly when soil is dry to the touch. If the pot is wrapped in foil or sits in a decorative container without a drainage hole, remove it prior to watering. Make sure that your poinsettia never stands in water. There is no need to fertilize them during the holiday season.

Tim Johnson is director of horticulture for the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe.

ctc-realestate@chicago.tribune.com

Don't sweat copper, just press it instead

BY TIM CARTER
Tribune Content Agency

Q: Several months ago, you wrote about which plumbing pipe might be better for water lines, copper or PEX. You briefly mentioned a new tool that eliminates the need for soldering copper. I'd like to know much more about this method of making leak-proof copper connections. How does it work, how fast is it and would you depend on a copper connection that doesn't rely on solder?

A: I received several similar questions from readers who were intrigued by my quick mention of this newer method to create leak-proof connections between copper water supply tubing and copper fittings.

For decades the gold standard of making leak-proof joints when installing copper tubing was solder. As a young plumber back in the 1970s, it's what nearly everyone did. The issue is it takes some effort to prepare the copper, heat it up, melt the solder and allow it to cool down. Soldering also is risky. Ask any seasoned firefighter and they'll share at least one story of a house fire created by a plumber or DIYer that allowed the torch to set the house ablaze.

As with many things, new ideas and technology debut and disrupt the landscape. Such was the case about seven or so years ago when I saw the



TIM CARTER

You can rent, or perhaps even borrow, a newer tool that allows you to install copper pipe with no soldering required.

first copper press tool at a conference hosted by a major power tool manufacturer. As a master plumber since age 29, I was all over this tool.

It's called a press tool. The most popular examples of this tool have a set of jaws ranging from a 1/2-inch all the way up to 2 inches. You may be able to find larger jaws for bigger copper tubing, but I doubt you'd ever need that huge size.

Here's the key to how the system works: Fittings such as 90-degree bends, tees, couplings and valves have a

raised ridge, and this formed part of the fitting holds a rubber O-ring.

You cut the copper tubing using a cutting tool that produces a clean cut with no burrs. Never use a hacksaw — or, if you must, file the edges of the cut to remove all burrs as they might cut the O-ring as you slide the tubing into the fitting.

Once you fully insert the tubing into the fitting, you select the tool jaw that matches the size of the piping you're working with. When you open the jaws, they spring back; you

lightly clamp around the raised ridge of the fitting and then squeeze the tool's trigger. In three to five seconds the jaws compress and produce a slight crimping around both the fitting and the tubing.

This compression squeezes the O-ring tightly around the copper tubing, creating a leakproof joint. To do this same operation soldering one end of a fitting to a piece of tubing would take at least two minutes or more.

The cost of the special press fittings is more. While writing this column I

checked the top website I use to buy plumbing supplies, and the cost for a 1/2-inch sweat 90-degree fitting was 39 cents. The same size press fitting was \$1.83. That's a difference of \$1.44, but think about the time you'll save.

There's another huge advantage when it comes to press fittings. You can't solder a copper pipe that's got water in it. The steam and water don't allow the pipe to get hot enough to melt the solder.

You can actually have water flowing out of a pipe at full blast and shut it off

using a press tool. All you have to do is purchase a ball valve that has the press fitting built into the valve. You open the valve up so water is squirting out of it, slide the valve onto the pipe, press the end of the valve that's on the pipe, remove the tool and then close the ball valve to stop the water flow. This is absolute magic when you stop and think about it. Plumbers of old would have given their eye teeth to have this capability to work on dripping pipes.

You may wonder what these press tools cost. They're expensive, as are the jaws. But here's what you can do. There's a very good chance your local tool rental store has them. I know of a plumbing supply house in Maine that will allow you to borrow one for free for the day. They do this as a complimentary service since you buy materials and fittings from them.

These press tools allow you as a DIYer to install copper tubing in your home or to do a repair where otherwise you'd not have the courage to solder. I recently used a press tool to install all the copper tubing that connects my daughter's new high-efficiency combi boiler to the heating manifolds. This same boiler is also a tankless water heater, and I used the press tool to make all the connections of the copper water lines. I saved countless hours and didn't have one leak. Press it, don't sweat it!

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Mortgage Guide

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Institution	30 yr APR	30 yr Fixed	Product	Rate	Points	Fees	% Down	APR	Phone / Website	NMLS # / License #
 Liberty Bank for Savings	3.731% 30yr Fixed APR	Rate: 3.625	20 yr fixed	3.500	0.000	\$999	20%	3.648	847-737-9020 www.libertybankmortgage.com	NMLS# 787575
		Points: 0.000	15 yr fixed	3.125	0.000	\$999	20%	3.314		
		Fees: \$999	10 yr fixed	3.000	0.000	\$999	20%	3.274		
		% Down: 20%	Ask about our NEW early rate lock and verified pre-approval (competes with cash offers). Same great rates for loan amounts up to \$1,500,000. Competitive rates on multi-family properties. Apply online – Fast approval. We service our own loans!							
 Mutual of Omaha Mortgage	3.750% 30yr Fixed APR	Rate: 3.750	30 Yr Fixed FHA	3.250	0.000	\$800	5%	3.320	312-388-2176 https://mutualmortgage.simplenexus.com/ujsyj	NMLS# 110495
		Points: 0.000	30 Yr Fixed Jumbo	3.750	0.000	\$1,250	25%	3.830		
		Fees: \$900	7-1 Arm Jumbo	3.375	0.000	1,250	20%	3.430		
		% Down: 20%	15 Yr Fixed	3.375	0.000	\$800	20%	3.423		
			30 Yr Fixed	3.750	0.000	\$800	5%	3.825		
			10-1 Jumbo	3.625	0.000	\$1,250	20%	3.720		
			30 Yr Fixed VA	3.125	0.000	\$800	5%	3.230		
	Investor 1-4 unit fixed rate and arm options available									
 Gateway Capital Mortgage Inc.	3.575% 30yr Fixed APR	Rate: 3.500	15 yr fixed	3.000	0.000	\$495	5%	3.010	773-572-8130 www.gwcmortgage.com	NMLS# 246585
		Points: 0.000	30 yr FHA	3.125	0.000	\$595	3.5%	3.502		
		Fees: \$495	Get Approved In Minutes Free Mortgage Comparison Tool Lowest Rates With Lowest Closing Costs No JUNK Fees, Free Appraisal, More Programs, CALL NOW!							
	% Down: 3%									

Rate Criteria: The rates and annual percentage rate (APR) are effective as of 12/17/19. All rates, fees and other information are subject to change without notice. RateSeeker, LLC. does not guarantee the accuracy of the information appearing above or the availability of rates and fees in this table. The institutions appearing in this table pay a fee to appear in this table. Annual percentage rates (APRs) are based on fully indexed rates for adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs). The APR on your specific loan may differ from the sample used. All rates are quoted on a minimum FICO score of 740. Conventional loans are based on loan amounts of \$165,000. Jumbo loans are based on loan amounts of \$ 484,351. Lock Days: 30-60. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Payments do not include amounts for taxes and insurance. The APR may increase after consummation and may vary. FHA Mortgages include both UFMIP and MIP fees based on a loan amount of \$165,000 with 5% down payment. Points quoted include discount and/or origination. Fees reflect charges relative to the APR. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. VA Mortgages include funding fees based on a loan amount of \$165,000 with 5% down payment. If your down payment is less than 20% of the home's value, you will be subject to private mortgage insurance, or PMI. "Call for Rates" means actual rates were not available at press time. To access the NMLS Consumer Access website, please visit www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org. To appear in this table, call 773-320-8492.



REALESTATE MARKETPLACE

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RESIDENTIAL FOR SALE SOUTH/SOUTHWEST

PEORIA \$749,900 61615
4402 W. DEERMEADOW DR. SFH



Stunning Frank Lloyd Wright Inspired 3 bed 3.5 bath home, nestled on the spectacular Weaveridge Golf Course, offering lake frontage, mature trees and breathtaking views! Vaulted ceilings, custom kitchen and master bath, curved staircase w/ stone wall accents. Oversized deck w/ 13 person hot tub and private bath/locker area. Expansive 6 car garage and much more! Come take a look today! Contact 309-282-1000

VACATION PROPERTY FOR SALE

LAS LAJAS \$899,000 33881
REP. OF PANAMA SFH



Pacific oceanfront pool estate. Directly on the beach. 4 bed, 6 bath. Located in the country of Panama. Direct flights from Chicago. Private and gated. Email owner at buffyvs2014@gmail.com

Some books are to be tasted, others to be swallowed, and some few to be chewed and digested. --Francis Bacon

VACATION PROPERTY FOR SALE

SPARTA, WI \$419,000 54656
CALL TO SHOW OTHER

4 season resort like 2 BR/2 BA open concept home on 80 acres. Incl. 20x30 wrksop, horse barn, man lodge, tennis courts, 20x20 storage bldg, kennel, Beautifully maint'd gardens/hoop house, direct access to snowmobile/ATV trails, Hunters paradise - plentiful game! Call or email for info: n.vandalsem@gmail.com or 608-633-5358

NATIONAL REAL ESTATE

READING MI \$889000 49274
1720 DIMMERS RD FARM



146 Acre Hunting Estate, Game Bird Hunting Preserve, Woods, CRP Heated Dog Kennels, Indoor Riding Arena, Quality Outbuildings and House, 4 br, 3 bth, Stone Fireplace, Private and Beautiful Place to Live. 10 min. to Hillside Halter Shooting Center, Close to 80/90. 517-357-4443 Zillow

To acquire the habit of reading is to construct for yourself a refuge from almost all of the miseries of life. -- W. Somerset Maugham

APT FOR RENT NORTHWEST

LOGAN SQUARE \$650+ 60647
KEDZIE & FULLERTON APARTMENT
no deposit, studio & 1BD \$650+, sec. 8 ok, free heat/gas/electric, convenient location, laundry, 773-616-1253 or 773-489-9226

ROGERS PARK \$550 60659
PETERSON & DAMEN AND APARTMENT
Kedzie & Lawrence, no deposit, sec 8 welcome, studio, 1, 2, 3, 4/2 \$550+, hardwood flrs, convenient location, 847-401-4574 or 773-642-9899

VACATION PROPERTY FOR RENT

BRADENTON, FL \$2,500 PER MO. 34209
THE LAKES CONDO
Forget Winter. Warm up in a condo, ground floor. 2x2 in Bradenton, FL. Near beaches 941-792-6648.

If we encounter a man of rare intellect, we should ask him what books he reads.
-- Ralph Waldo Emerson

Some books leave us free and some books make us free. --Ralph Waldo Emerson

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La Porte, IN

VILLAS OF BRIAR LEAF - \$339,000
Open floor plan w/ fireplace. Finished basement. Screened porch. 4 bedrooms w/ 2 on the main level and 3 bathrooms. 2 car attached garage. Located on the pond. Plenty of storage. Call Susie Deutscher #452804

CENTURY 21 Affiliated 219-229-9687



La Porte, IN

CUSTOM BUILT RANCH HOME! - \$269,000
Located on 2 wooded lots. 3 BRs, 2 BAs w/ plenty of closets & storage. Open concept kit. w/ breakfast nook area, DR, & LR w/ fireplace. 2 car att. garage. NOVAK TEAM-Randy & Debbie 219-877-7611 #467014

CENTURY 21 Affiliated 219-877-7069



Mazon

TLC NEEDED 2 BEDROOM IN MAZON!! \$68,900
Estate sale being sold "AS IS". 2 Bedroom, 1 bath, dining room, living room & kitchen. 2 car garage. Big lot!! Roof is 6 years old. Small town living at it's best! Call JoEllyn Johnson #10573573

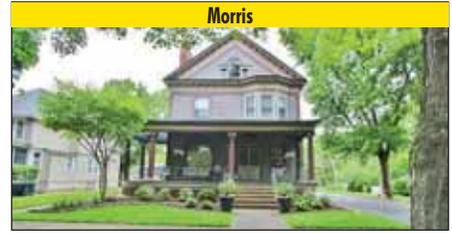
CENTURY 21 Coleman-Hornsby 815-252-1724



Morris

2 1/2 ACRES ON HALF MOON LAKE \$379,900
Ranch w/3 bdrm, 2 bth, newer kit, liv rm, den, fam rm, 1st flr laundry, bsmnt. Deck. Fenced yrd. 2 car garage. 30' x 50' pole bldg. 2 docks. Move right in be ready for spring!! #10560784

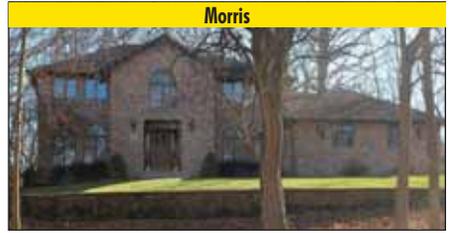
CENTURY 21 Coleman-Hornsby 815-252-1724



Morris

BEAUTIFUL 4 BEDROOM HOME BUILT IN 1895 \$359,000
This home has been lovingly restored and updated. Crown moldings, original hardwood floors and woodwork. Finished basement&swimming pool. In area of grand turn-of-the century homes. Call Shawn Hornsby #10587548

CENTURY 21 Coleman-Hornsby 815-474-6670



Morris

CUSTOM BRICK HOME ON PRIVATE WOODED LOT!! \$335,000
Beautiful all brick 2 story on wooded lot! Eat-In Kitchen with island, Family Room, Fireplace, 4 Bedroom 3 Bath Finished Basement, 3 Season porch, Main level laundry, and 2+ car garage. Betty #10583640

CENTURY 21 Coleman-Hornsby 815-325-7081



Morris

HISTORIC HOME OF EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY \$269,900
All brick 5BR home designed by E.E. Roberts and built in 1911. Located in very desirable neighborhood of historic homes. Near downtown shopping & restaurants, parks, YMCA, and more. Call/text Shawn #10471836

CENTURY 21 Coleman-Hornsby 815-474-6670



Morris

BEAUTIFUL QUEEN ANNE, MOTIVATED SELLERS! \$244,900
4 bedrooms, 2 bath with original wood work & hard wood floors thru out. Pocket doors in library w/built-ins. Dining rm. Finished attic w/exposed brick, bedroom & play room. Call Jo to see this beauty. #10524446

CENTURY 21 Coleman-Hornsby 815-252-1724

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REALEXECUTIVES

www.RobertShutay.com



Country Club Hills \$55,000
Busy fast food bus in great loc! Easy access, plenty of parking, well maintained, turn key operation. MLS# 10545773
Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111



Homer Glen \$374,900
4BR/4BA 2sty has main level mstr & 2nd BR. LL walkout w/2nd ktchn, frplc, 3-season porch, lrg deck. MLS# 10522011
Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111



Orland Park \$1,395,000
Custom all brick 6BR/6BA manor home w/fin w/o on prvt wood-ed lot has resort-like bkyrd & ingrmd pool. MLS# 10387649
Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111



Orland Park \$1,165,000
Spectacular 6BR/5.5BA two-story with full finished walk-out, inground heated pool and 4 car garage. MLS# 10440302
Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111



16343 Emerson Dr, Orland Park \$555,900
Great Architectural design! New Construction 3BR, 2.5BA -HW flrs, full walkout bsmt, Great location! MLS# 10517852
Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111



Orland Park \$509,900
Custom all brick 5BR, 7BA 2sty w/main lvl mstr, offc & laundry. 2000sf fin bsmt w/BR & 2nd kitchen. MLS# 10591621
Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111



16337 Emerson Drive, Orland Park \$495,900
New Construction w/3BR, 2.5BA, cath clngs, HW, 1st flr mstr, offc & ldry, SS appls, FP, walkout bsmt. MLS# 10517549
Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111



Orland Park \$272,000
Spacious 2br, 2.5ba end unit townhome w/SS appls, hdwd, fin LL w/bath. Minutes from Metra & shops. MLS# 10591697
Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111



Orland Park \$219,900
Excellent location in the heart of Orland Park! 2400sf 2sty bldg on corner lot w/parking & garage! MLS# 10406627
Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111



Orland Park \$172,900
2br, 2ba condo in elevator bldg w/Quartz counter tops, new furnace/air, in-unit ldry, indoor garage. MLS# 10592410
Ambassador Robert Shutay 708-349-1111

Ambassador Orland Park • 708-349-1111