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## Hospital CEO's firing costs Cook over \$500K

Severance, search for replacement on health board part of hefty cost

BY HAL DARDICK

The Cook County health board's decision to part ways with its CEO will prove costly to taxpayers, with the tab expected to top \$600,000.

Not only does Dr. John Jay Shannon stand to collect \$542,000 in severance pay and health insurance benefits per the terms of his contract, but his interim replacement got a raise of more than \$40,000. In addition, the county will have to spend tens of thousands of dollars more on a national search for a permanent successor.

The panel, which is appointed by County Board President Toni Preckwinkle, voted in late November to end Shannon's contract. Members indicated they wanted new leadership at one of the nation's largest public health systems, which includes Stroger Hospital and has a \$2.8 billion budget.

The deal Shannon struck in 2014 with a previous health and hospitals board called for him to be paid a year's salary, plus the cost of health benefits for a year, if he were dismissed without cause.

With a \$517,500 yearly salary, Shannon was the highest-paid official in Cook County government. Health system officials said the cost of extending his health

Turn to **Severance, Page 9**

## Google told to turn over year of Jussie Smollett data

Judge ordered info handed over in probe into actor's legal drama

BY MEGAN CREPEAU AND JEREMY GORNER

A Cook County judge has ordered Google to turn over Jussie Smollett's emails, photos, location data and private messages for an entire year as part of the special prosecutor's investigation into the purported attack on the actor.

Two sweeping search warrants, obtained by the Chicago Tribune, provide the first public glimpse at the direction of the probe by special prosecutor Dan Webb more than four months into the investigation.

The warrants, filed last month in Circuit Court, sought a trove of documentation from Smollett and his manager's Google accounts — not just emails but also drafted and deleted messages; any files in their Google Drive cloud storage services; any Google Voice texts, calls and contacts; search and web browsing history; and location data.

Investigators sought a full year's data — from November 2018 to November 2019 — even though the key events in the controversy took place between late January and late March 2019. Authorities could be looking for any incriminating remarks from Smollett or his manager, especially in the

Turn to **Smollett, Page 9**



EVAN VUCCI/AP

President Donald Trump prepares to address the nation Wednesday about the Iranian missile attacks in Iraq. U.S. troops were not injured.

## US, Iran make moves to ease confrontation

Trump vows more sanctions with region on edge after missile strikes

BY ZEKE MILLER  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The U.S. and Iran stepped back from the brink of possible war Wednesday as President Donald Trump signaled he would not retaliate militarily for Iran's missile strikes on Iraqi bases housing U.S. troops. No one was harmed in the strikes, but U.S. forces in the region remained on high alert.

Speaking from the White House, Trump seemed intent on de-escalating the crisis, which spiraled after he authorized the

targeted killing last week of Iran's top general, Qassem Soleimani. Iran responded overnight with its most direct assault on America since the 1979 seizure of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, firing more than a dozen missiles at two installations in Iraq.

Even so, Trump's takeaway was that "Iran appears to be standing down, which is a good thing for all parties concerned and a very good thing for the world."

Despite such conciliatory talk, the region remained on edge. Last week Iranian-backed mili-

**DETAILS:** Democrats seek more information behind the attack on Qassem Soleimani.  
**Nation & World, Page 12**

tia besieged the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad, and Tehran's proxies in the region remain able to carry out attacks such as the one on Dec. 27 that killed a U.S. contractor and set off the most recent round of hostilities.

And there was no obvious path to diplomatic engagement, as Trump pledged to add to his "maximum pressure" campaign of economic sanctions. He said

the new, unspecified sanctions would remain in place "until Iran changes its behavior."

Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, said the overnight strike was not necessarily the totality of Iran's response.

"(Tuesday) night they received a slap," Khamenei said. "These military actions are not sufficient (for revenge). What is important is that the corrupt presence of America in this region comes to an end."

Trump, facing perhaps the

Turn to **Iran, Page 12**



FRANK AUGSTEIN/AP

Plans by Prince Harry and his wife, Meghan, appear to have stunned the royal family.

## A 'step back' from royal roles

Prince Harry, Meghan to split time between Britain, North America

BY MARK LANDLER  
The New York Times

LONDON — In a year of gut punches to Britain's royal family, Prince Harry and his wife, Meghan, delivered a jarring blow of their own Wednesday, announcing that they would "step back" from their official duties.

It was an extraordinary retreat by the popular prince and his American wife, who had

grown increasingly isolated within the House of Windsor since their 2018 wedding.

In a statement, the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, as they are also known, said they planned to divide their time between Britain and North America and would "work to become financially independent."

"After many months of reflection and internal discussions, we have chosen to make

a transition this year to carve out a progressive new role within this institution," the couple said in a post on their Instagram account. "It is with your encouragement, particularly over the last few years, that we feel prepared to make this adjustment."

While the language in the statement was mild and upbeat, the change that Harry, 35,

Turn to **Royals, Page 12**



CHICAGO TRIBUNE

## Lobbyist's email roils Ill. legislators

Lawmakers call for inquiry over an email from lobbyist Mike McClain, above at right, that mentions a cover-up of rape and "ghost workers." **Chicagoland, Page 4**

## Dispensaries say they need weed

A week into recreational pot sales in Illinois, it's still hit and miss whether buyers leave stores happy or empty-handed. **Business**

## Are Bears close to contending?

Once again, the big games go on with the Bears on the outside. How can they get back in the championship hunt? **Chicago Sports**



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A chronicle of the Cubs magical 2016 season written by Paul Sullivan. It starts with the early expectations in spring training, documents key series and personalities and challenges through the regular season, then builds through the playoffs, series by series. Go to [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) to purchase.

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E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2019

State's Attorney Kim Foxx attends a news conference in the lobby of the Leighton Criminal Court Building on Dec. 11.



## JOHN KASS

# Smollett to Burke: Mess keeps stacking for Foxx

Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx's handling of the Jussie Smollett fiasco is already a national joke and embarrassment.

And now, it's getting even worse for Foxx with Bill Conway, her challenger in the March 17 Democratic primary election, publicly pinning notorious and indicted Chicago Ald. Edward Burke, 14th, right on her.

From Smollett to Burke. Uh-oh, Kim.

Burke reportedly held a fancy fundraiser for Foxx at his home, and later, a private client of Burke's property tax reduction business received a \$2 million property tax break through a settlement with Foxx's office.

And the local governments had to eat it. Who ultimately paid the bill, dear Cook County property taxpayers? Do you really have to ask?

If I hadn't been born in Chicago and grown up here, and spent eons charting deals just like this one, I might think it was a coincidence.

But is it a coincidence that Burke's fundraising for Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle helped sink Preckwinkle's campaign for mayor and put Lori Lightfoot in at City Hall?

Foxx is Preckwinkle's political protege. Maybe they just know the same people, like in a Chicago Way Venn diagram.

"It looks like a quid pro quo," Conway told me at his office. "A politically connected person — Burke — got a deal from the (Foxx) administration. Just like you had the situation with Smollett, where a politically connected person got a better deal than someone else. And Foxx doesn't seem to be dealing with the obvious conflicts of interest. We need to remove the influence of politics, stuff like Smollett and Burke and politically connected deals out of that office."

Uh-oh, Kim. Foxx's Smollett problem got worse Wednesday, with the Chicago Tribune reporting that a Cook County Judge has ordered Google to turn over the actor's email, private messages, location and other data to the special prosecutor investigating Foxx's management of the Smollett

case.

That means her famous Jussie Smollett adjustment — dropping a 16-count grand jury indictment accusing the actor of faking a hate crime after quietly talking to Smollett friends with Obama White House connections — won't go away before the primary.

It shouldn't go away, not until special prosecutor in the case, former U.S. Attorney Dan Webb, gets Foxx's phone records to see who she talked to besides Michelle Obama's former chief of staff, Tina Tchen, before Kim ruined her credibility and just let Jussie go.

Now Foxx is lawyering up, but her office wouldn't tell Tribune reporters how much county taxpayers are paying in legal bills.

Isn't that nice? And if that Smollett mess wasn't enough for Foxx, now Conway, a former prosecutor and U.S. naval intelligence officer is lining her up next to Burke.

Burke has been indicted on an extortion charge in the sprawling federal investigation of local political corruption. His case has yet to go to trial. He insists he's done nothing wrong.

But in blistering new TV spot, in interviews and at a news conference on ethics he's scheduled for Thursday, Conway is all about pinning Burke to Foxx for all the voters to see.

The TV spot is based on solid reporting from the Chicago Sun-Times and details the Burke-Foxx relationship.

Foxx has reportedly returned the money Burke gave her personally and donated it to a charity. But she hasn't held a news conference about giving the rest of the Burke fundraiser cash away. She's keeping it.

The Conway TV spot is based in part on a Jan. 12, 2018, Sun-Times story. According to the newspaper, "In August, nine months after she took office, her staff struck a deal with Burke's firm: It settled three lawsuits, agreeing that various local governments Foxx's office was representing would refund nearly \$2 million in property taxes that AT&T had paid

between 2013 and 2015 on a 105-acre campus in Hoffman Estates that now sits vacant."

And local governments, including schools, had to pick up the slack for Burke's clients.

But when local governments spend money, or lose out on funds that were budgeted, who pays? Come on, property taxpayers, don't you know?

It was the largest settlement Foxx's staff approved during her first 11 months as state's attorney, the Sun-Times reported.

Kim? I really don't think any of your Obama Celebrity Friends can help you out of this one.

"To be fair she gave his (Burke's) money to charity, but the money Burke bundled for her — the kind of Burke fundraising that Preckwinkle gave back and other mayoral candidates gave back, she has seemingly chosen not to give back," Conway said.

"The state's attorney of Cook County should be a beacon of public trust and to have such a big appearance of impropriety and not follow the standards set by others just doesn't make any sense," he told me.

During the mayoral race, Lightfoot's campaign got new life when media began hammering on political money that Burke raised for Preckwinkle.

I was one of the journalists doing the hammering. There were many others too, at newspapers, at television and radio news shops, and it was a constant drumming.

With that pinstripe-suited Burke albatross around her neck, Preckwinkle began to sink and Lightfoot became mayor.

Let's see if Conway gets the same media consideration for his argument about Burke and Foxx.

After all, isn't justice supposed to be blind?

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# Trump measures missiles, launches Obama lies



REX W. HUPPKE

President Donald Trump's missile-measuring contest with Iran came to a predictably directionless, disturbingly slurring and likely temporary halt Wednesday morning. Whether the easing of tensions lasts past Thursday is anybody's guess.

Speaking from the White House, flanked by generals reduced to television props, Trump sounded winded and weak, reciting lines from a teleprompter that gave Americans some low-rent John Wayne toughness — “Our missiles are big” — some divisive Trumpian lies — “The missiles fired last night at us and our allies were paid for with the funds made available by the last administration” — and no clear evidence why our impeached president decided, at this precise moment, to launch an attack that could draw American troops into another war in the Middle East.

Maybe it has something to do with that “impeached” qualifier that now comes before “president.” The U.S. airstrike last week that killed Maj. Gen. Qasem Soleimani, a top Iranian commander, took out a dangerous man responsible for the deaths of hundreds of Americans. He won't be missed, at least not around here. But there are plenty of murderous bad guys in the world, and we still haven't been given a clear explanation why Soleimani was targeted right now, at the beginning of an election year and in the middle of an impeachment process.

Trump's reelection campaign wasted no time fundraising off Soleimani's death, sending out an email Sunday with the subject line: “ANOTHER dead terrorist.” And there's no question the strike and Iran's Tuesday night missile attack on Iraqi bases that house U.S. troops — which fortunately resulted in no reported fatalities — drew people's attention away from a looming impeachment trial.

If there was one thing Trump needed to give the American people Wednesday, aside from a promise that he won't start World



WIN MCNAMEE/GETTY

At Wednesday's news conference, President Donald Trump discussed Iran's missile attack on Iraqi bases that house U.S. troops the night before.

War III, it was a cogent explanation of the decision to make this strike and a clear idea of the strategic path forward.

But “cogent” and “strategic” aren't Trump's strong points, as evidenced by the fact that much of the immediate online response to his sluggish speech involved questions about his health and mental state. (Among the trending topics on Twitter were “slurring,” “teleprompter” and “Adderall.”)

So we're left to wonder whether the strike on Iran was a smart military decision and an impactful show of U.S. force or a high-risk distraction aimed in part at making Trump look strong. And while Trump thankfully struck a somewhat conciliatory tone Wednesday, saying America is “ready to embrace peace with all who seek it,” the question, as always with this president, is what will he say tomorrow?

Trump has a rally Thursday night in Toledo, Ohio. That's an important swing state, and the

kind of venue where Trump tends to mouth off unscripted, fueled by his base's incessant chants for a more violent version of American toughness.

The president already threatened that U.S. forces might target Iranian cultural sites, before kind-of-sort-of backing off that threat when he learned doing so would be a war crime. Will that threat resurface in the heat of Thursday night's rally? Will Trump return to rattling his saber and taunt Iran with more missile size boasts?

We don't know. We never know. That's the problem with having a commander in chief unencumbered by honesty or the intricacies of diplomacy and unconcerned with anyone but himself. We can't trust his intentions and we can't believe his claims. He has purged from government most of the people who might give us reassurance that the administration is putting America's interests above Trump's own.

Do you feel safer knowing that Iranian commander is dead? What was he doing that the well-

organized Iranian military won't continue to do? Do you understand the strategic objectives of the airstrike that killed Soleimani and do you feel confident the administration fully considered the reactions in Iran and around the globe?

Do you feel completely confident the president of the United States made that decision in the best interests of the country and without political motivation? Did you watch his speech Wednesday and feel confident that this man is physically and mentally fit to lead?

Whatever your answers to those questions, they probably don't matter, because you're just as likely to see an entirely different Trump in Toledo on Thursday night. He creates crises, draws whatever benefit he can from them and then slips out, taking credit for any good results and blaming bad results on others.

Thus his attempt Wednesday to blame the Obama administration for the Iranian missiles fired at U.S. forces Tuesday night.

It's a false smear, based on the lie that President Barack Obama gave Iran money as part of a 2013 nuclear deal. (The U.S. dropped sanctions that unfroze Iranian money held in banks around the world.)

It's a reminder that nothing is ever Donald Trump's fault. Anything good (Toughness!) comes thanks to him, and the blame for anything bad (Obama paid for those missiles!) goes to others. It's a lunacy as simple as it is perilous.

In our president's mind, the enemy is as much Obama as it is Iran. The enemy is not anyone who dislikes America, it's anyone who dislikes him.

On Thursday night in Toledo, Trump will be among friends, the only Americans he values. His people. His followers.

What he says to them — and what he does next to keep them believing he's a strong leader — is anybody's guess. That's what scares the daylight out of the rest of us.

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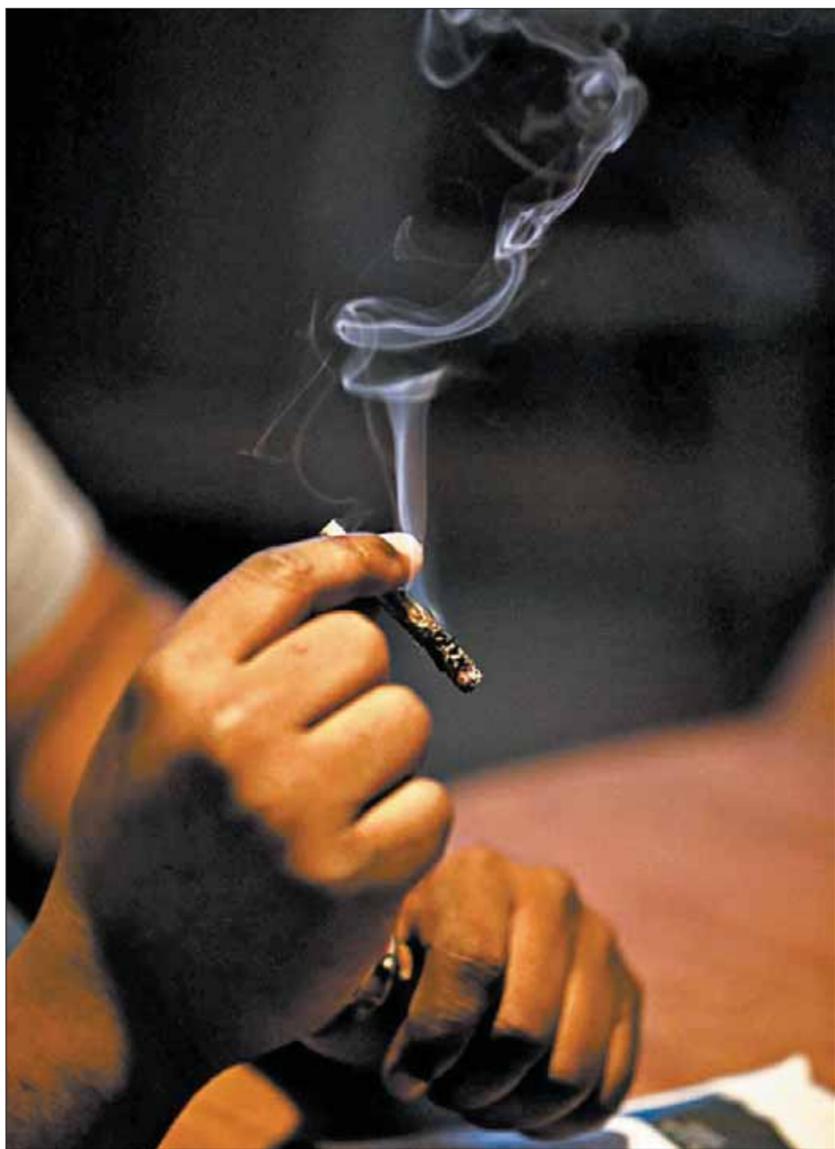
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# Chicago Tribune

# CHICAGOLAND



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A joint with legal marijuana is smoked in a Calumet City home on Jan. 1, the first day of sales in Illinois. The rollout of legal marijuana in the city hasn't been without controversy at City Hall

## Plan for pot smoking in tobacco shops is stalled

Aldermen cite misgivings with mayor's proposal

BY JOHN BYRNE

Mayor Lori Lightfoot's plan for recreational marijuana consumption in Chicago stalled Wednesday, with aldermen not voting on her proposal to allow tobacco stores to host weed smokers.

The License Committee debated Lightfoot's ordinance to let cigar shops, hookah lounges and other locations purchase licenses so people can smoke cannabis inside. Members said they're worried the establishments could become "a party magnet" and questioned the plan's equity.

In the end, North Side Ald. Brian Hopkins, 2nd, recessed the meeting without taking a vote. Hopkins said he believed the votes were there to pass it, but said he didn't want to proceed without talking to Ald. Gilbert Villegas, 36th, the mayor's City Council floor leader.

Villegas said he had months ago promised to take part in a civics class at a school in his Northwest Side ward, and couldn't make it back to City Hall.

Before the break, several aldermen said they have misgivings with the mayor's on-site smoking ordinance, which is circumscribed by the state laws governing legal recreational marijuana consumption.

Hopkins said many residents in his neighborhoods worry the owners of marijuana dispensaries will open tobacco shops next door specifically to cater to people looking for somewhere to smoke the weed they just purchased.

"Then it becomes a party magnet. Then it spills out onto the street. Then it becomes a problem just like a problem

liquor establishment," Hopkins said.

The mayor's plan limits on-premises smoking to specialty tobacco shops that make 80% of their revenue from tobacco-related products.

The license won't be cheap. It would cost \$4,400 every two years, leading some to wonder why business owners would pony up that much simply for the privilege of allowing people to smoke joints they purchased elsewhere.

"I'm trying for the life of me to figure out how on earth someone makes money with this license," said downtown Ald. Brendan Reilly, 42nd, who noted the city was severely restricted by state law on what could be allowed for on-site smoking.

Only businesses in stand-alone buildings with proper ventilation systems would qualify for the licenses. And they wouldn't be permitted in the large swaths of downtown where legal marijuana sales are prohibited.

There are 42 businesses in the city that currently seem to meet those criteria, "mostly on the North Side," said Rosa Escareno, commissioner of the Department of Business Affairs & Consumer Protection.

Reilly pointed to the large upfront costs and the fact that lots of cigar smokers who hang out in tobacco shops "don't have a lot of interest in sharing space with people smoking marijuana" as further reason to believe there won't be many entrepreneurs taking advantage of this new license.

And North Side Ald. Andre Vasquez, 40th, said state lawmakers need to fix the on-site consumption rules so people all over the city have safe, legal places to legally smoke cannabis in public.

"We don't have any public consumption spaces, period," Vasquez said. "An example I

like to cite is Lollapalooza. Lollapalooza will be coming. I'm pretty sure most people that have gone know they're going to be smoking cannabis there. We don't have a place to actually do that legally. So either people will turn a blind eye as that occurs or there will be laws being broken there."

Lightfoot administration officials said they would hold the ordinance to keep working to address aldermen's concerns.

"Despite the lack of a vote based on today's attendance, we are confident that we had and still do have the votes to pass this ordinance," mayoral spokeswoman Lauren Huffman said in a statement. "Based on what we heard today, we will continue working with City Council members to refine the ordinance by working within the confines of the state statute."

Recreational weed sales started in Chicago on Jan. 1 with a bang. \$3.2 million worth of cannabis products were sold to long lines of customers the first day, and by this week some of the city's 10 dispensaries had to shut their doors because they had run out.

But the rollout hasn't been without controversy at City Hall. Black aldermen have complained bitterly that minorities are getting shut out of the lucrative business despite the fact African American and Hispanic residents were most hurt by the war on drugs.

A move by some members of the City Council Black Caucus last month to delay recreational cannabis sales in the city for six months to give more minority entrepreneurs a chance to get in on the ground floor spurred a long, fiery council floor debate before falling by a 29-19 vote.

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## 'Rape,' 'ghost workers' email roils legislators

They urge criminal probe over memo from lobbyist and Madigan confidant

BY JAMIE MUNKS AND DAN PETRELLA

A chorus of lawmakers is calling for a criminal investigation into a possible cover-up of rape and ghost payrolling that was hinted at in an email from a powerful lobbyist and confidant of House Speaker Michael Madigan.

In a July 2012 email to aides to then-Gov. Pat Quinn, lobbyist Mike McClain advocated for state worker Forrest Ashby in a disciplinary matter, saying he "kept his mouth shut" about "Jones' ghost workers, the rape in Champaign and other items. He is loyal to the administration."

The email did not include any other details about the rape, nor was it clear who McClain was referring to in connection to the ghost workers.

Rep. Kelly Cassidy, a Chicago Democrat, issued a joint statement Wednesday with Alaina Hampton and Sherri Garrett, who have both made allegations of sexual harassment within state government and politics, urging an immediate investigation.

They called on Champaign County State's Attorney Julia Rietz and the U.S. attorney's office to open an investigation and seek testimony from McClain and relevant members of the former Quinn administration.

"The only way to end the rape culture that has fully infected our politics in Illinois is to take bold, unequivocal action to root it out, right now," the statement said, in part.

Madigan called the allegations "extremely serious and troubling" in a statement issued Wednesday afternoon.

"I had no knowledge of the incident referenced in the story and only learned of this today," Madigan said. "I encourage those with any information to come forward."

In a followup email to Quinn staffers on Aug. 1, 2012, McClain noted that Ashby's disciplinary hearing had been postponed.

"I do not know what happened but I know nothing happens accidentally," McClain wrote.

McClain's emails were first reported by WBEZ.

Neither McClain nor Ashby could be reached Wednesday for comment.

"This isn't the first disgusting, dangerous and brazen display of misogyny we've seen from Mr. McClain, but that doesn't make it any less outrageous," said the statement from Cassidy, Hampton and Garrett. "If the reports are even partially true, this represents a conspiracy to conceal a criminal sexual assault at the highest levels of state government."

The WBEZ story sparked a flurry of statements and social media posts from lawmakers in both parties condemning the McClain emails and calling for immediate action.

McClain, a former ComEd lobbyist, has been under federal scrutiny for months as part of a far-reaching probe that includes the powerful utility's lobbying practices in Springfield. The Tribune reported in December that FBI agents and prosecutors have been asking about connections between ComEd lobbyists and Madigan, notably McClain.

The probe has rocked Chicago City Hall, the Illinois State Capitol and several south suburban municipalities.

Madigan, the leader of the Democratic Party of Illinois, was named among many others in a subpoena and search warrant executed by the FBI in May at the City Club of Chicago seeking recommendations from the organization's then-president, Jay Doherty, who was also then a ComEd lobbyist. Doherty resigned as the organization's president last month.

Pritzker has tried to distance himself from McClain as he's been drawn into the spotlight by the investigation. After the Tribune reported in November that federal authorities had recorded some of McClain's phone conversations, the governor told reporters in Springfield that he doesn't speak with McClain by phone.

Pritzker's campaign paid Ashby \$47,500 for "political consulting"



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/TRIBUNE

Lobbyist Mike McClain, right, appears outside House Speaker Michael Madigan's office at the State Capitol in 2012.

from April through November 2018, state campaign finance records show.

Campaign spokesman Quentin Fulks said Ashby was hired to consult on "faith-based outreach" at the recommendation of McClain and "faith leaders in central and southern Illinois."

"Mr. Ashby had a resume that the campaign would have hired him without McClain's recommendation," Fulks said.

Ashby went through the same vetting process as all other campaign staffers and consultants, and no red flags were raised, Fulks said. The campaign didn't make any other hires based on recommendations from McClain "to my knowledge," he said.

Before his consulting gig with the Pritzker campaign, Ashby worked for the state departments of Veterans' Affairs, Human Services and Corrections for 30 years, retiring from a \$87,528-per-year job with the prison system in January 2018. He's receiving a state pension of \$5,147.50 per month.

State records show Ashby is being paid \$40 per hour for consulting work for the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board "for corrections curriculum and development updates." He's been paid \$14,460 since October, plus \$133.96 in travel reimbursements.

As recently as Monday, Ashby was listed on agency's website as the "basic correctional officer project coordinator." His name and state email address were removed by Tuesday afternoon.

The governor's office referred a question on Ashby's current state employment status to the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board. The board's executive director said Ashby's contract was suspended Wednesday in light of news stories about McClain's emails.

"The governor's expectation is that all state employees will meet the highest ethical standards for their conduct, and anyone who does not meet that standard will be disciplined to the full extent of the law," Pritzker spokeswoman Emily Bittner said in a statement Tuesday. "The administration's general counsel referred this email to the appropriate investigatory authority, who will make a determination about what next steps can be taken."

The revelations drew the ire of Republicans, who have long been critical of Madigan's firm grip on the levers of power in Illinois.

House Republican leader Jim Durkin of Western Springs said Wednesday that McClain's apparent attempt to protect a state employee for keeping quiet about a pair of possible felonies "probably is one of the most disturbing and shocking set of facts that I have experienced as a member of the legislature."

"Where does that happen? What society allows that to happen?" Durkin said at an unrelated news conference. "It's extremely disturbing, but it casts a shadow upon Springfield that has been brought upon by the power brokers that have existed for the past many decades, who have controlled the legislative process and the passage of bills. There needs to be accountability for what happened."

In a Twitter post Wednesday morning, Senate GOP leader Bill Brady of Bloomington called it "absolutely disgraceful."

"Anyone with knowledge of the rape and coverup referenced in this email must come forward immediately," Brady wrote.

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**"We don't have any public consumption spaces, period. An example I like to cite is Lollapalooza. Lollapalooza will be coming. I'm pretty sure most people that have gone know they're going to be smoking cannabis there. We don't have a place to actually do that legally. So either people will turn a blind eye as that occurs or there will be laws being broken there."**

— Ald. Andre Vasquez, 40th

# Kim Foxx hires outside legal help in Jussie Smollett probe

Cook Co. State's Attorney mum on cost to taxpayers

By JASON MEISNER AND LOLLY BOWEAN

With election season in high gear, Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx and her office have retained some high-powered legal assistance in the ongoing probe of Foxx's controversial handling of the Jussie Smollett case.

Ruben Castillo, the former chief judge of the Northern District of Illinois and now a partner at the politically connected law firm Akerman, has been helping the state's attorney's office for the past three months to vet voluminous materials requested by special prosecutor Dan Webb.

In addition, Foxx has brought in well-known Washington, D.C., attorney Michael Bromwich to represent her personally in the Smollett matter, which has become a flashpoint in the Democratic primary.

Castillo said in a telephone interview Wednesday that his team was retained by the state's attorney's office in October to handle requests from Webb, who was appointed as special prosecutor last year by Cook County Judge Michael Toomin.

"Like any other entity, the state's attorney's office needed representation because of the breadth and scope of Judge Toomin's order that really authorized Webb to look at anything and everything," Castillo said.

Castillo, who worked for Webb as a young prosecutor in the 1980s when Webb was the U.S. attorney, confirmed to the Tribune that his firm has been billing the county a "deeply discounted" hourly rate of \$250 to \$375 for its work on the Smollett case, which he said is less than half what the firm typically charges.

Asked why the firm took the case, Castillo said, "out of a spirit of public service."

"I can tell you that no one is making big money here,"

he said.

He would not venture a guess at how many hours have been put in so far but said he hoped his role would wrap up as soon as possible.

The payments would have to be approved by the Cook County Board of Commissioners.

A spokeswoman for Foxx also would not disclose how much Castillo's firm was being paid but said it was not unusual for the office to retain outside legal counsel, particularly in complex civil cases.

Bromwich, of Steptoe & Johnson, is a former inspector general for the U.S. Department of Justice best known for representing Christine Blasey Ford during the Brett Kavanaugh nomination hearings for the U.S. Supreme Court last fall.

A spokeswoman for Foxx's campaign said Wednesday that Foxx had personally retained Bromwich "because that's what smart lawyers do when they are involved in complex litigation."

But officials would not say how much Bromwich was being paid.

"Neither the taxpayers nor her campaign are paying for Mrs. Foxx's personal legal representation," the spokeswoman said.

Bromwich was unavailable for comment on Wednesday. Foxx's team declined to make her available for an interview.

The hiring of Castillo and Bromwich was first reported Tuesday by Crain's Chicago Business.

Foxx is facing three Democratic opponents in the March primary: former Assistant State's Attorney Bill Conway, former county and federal prosecutor Donna More and former Ald. Bob Fioretti. There are two Republicans running for the position: former Cook County Judge Patrick W. O'Brien and former county prosecutor Christopher Pfannkuche.

Although Foxx has made criminal justice reform and the use of restorative justice practices her focus as a way of offering relief to African Americans and Latinos who

have been historically over-represented in the courts, jails and prisons, her handling of the Smollett case is what has drawn national attention and continues to fuel criticism and calls for her to be replaced.

The actor allegedly staged a hate crime and was accused of hiring two men to pretend to assault him while using racist and homophobic slurs and shouting that he was in MAGA country — a reference to President Donald Trump's campaign slogan. Smollett was charged with faking the crime, but Foxx later dropped all 16 counts filed against the actor, who is best known for his role on the Fox series "Empire."

Her handling of the case drew outrage from then-Mayor Rahm Emanuel and then-police Superintendent Eddie Johnson and is currently under investigation.

The move also rallied Foxx's detractors, who say it is evidence that she's soft on crime, and residents and leaders who said Smollett got special treatment because he is famous and connected.

On Wednesday, Conway said taxpayers shouldn't have to foot the bill for Foxx's office's legal defense.

"Kim Foxx gave a politi-



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Cook County State's Attorney Kim Foxx has hired some high-powered lawyers amid the ongoing probe of her controversial handling of the Jussie Smollett case.

cally-connected celebrity a sweetheart deal," Conway said in a statement.

"Hiring a high-powered criminal defense attorney will never erase that stain," he said. "Now she's forcing the county to cover the costs of defending her two-tiered system of justice without even disclosing how much Chicagoans will end up paying. It's not right to stick taxpayers with the bill for this high-priced legal team to come up with excuses for the inexcusable as she runs for re-election."

Fioretti said he was outraged by the disclosure that Foxx had retained such costly legal representation.

"Kim Foxx is using tax-

payer money again to pay for her own incompetence and dishonesty," Fioretti said through a spokesman. "Kim Foxx has got to go."

Meanwhile, there has been no public indication of when Webb's now 4-month-old probe into the Smollett case may conclude. Earlier Wednesday, the Chicago Tribune reported that Toomin recently ordered Google to turn over a trove of Smollett's emails, photos, location data and private messages for an entire year as part of the investigation.

Castillo, who stepped down as chief judge in mid-2019, would not disclose the exact nature of the

requests he's had to vet on behalf of the state's attorney's office, but said Webb has been "very thorough."

In probing the internal processes that led to the surprise decision to drop the disorderly charges against Smollett, Webb is undoubtedly asking for sensitive communications between Foxx and other top members of her staff, including emails, texts and other documents exempt from disclosure.

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## No bail for man accused of beating, alcohol theft

By KATHERINE ROSENBERG-DOUGLAS AND ROSEMARY SOBOL

Chicago police on Wednesday announced charges against a 51-year-old West Side man in connection with a robbery and attempted murder in which he's accused of using a gardening tool to beat a convenience store worker in order to steal two bottles of alcohol.

The attack happened about 12:50 a.m. Tuesday at a convenience store in the 600 block of West Jackson Boulevard in the West Loop Gate neighborhood, according to Kellie Bartoli, a police spokeswoman.

A 29-year-old man was inside the business when a man came in and started beating the 29-year-old in the head with a metal object, Bartoli said. The weapon later was determined to be a "weed cutting tool with a wooden handle."

The attacker then took two bottles of alcohol, according to police, as well as the victim's personal property.

"Officers were dispatched to an alarm at the business, where they discovered the victim," Bartoli

wrote in an email.

The 29-year-old was taken to Northwestern Memorial Hospital in critical condition with fractures to his head and face, she said.

Surveillance cameras captured the incident, including the robber hurling the tool into the garbage in the back of the store, police said.

About 9:10 p.m. Tuesday, officers were on patrol in the 200 block of South Clinton Street when they saw a man matching the description of the robber, Bartoli said. The man was detained and later identified by the victim, whose condition had improved slightly to serious, she said.

A judge on Wednesday denied bail for Norman, who was charged with attempted murder, aggravated battery causing great bodily harm and armed robbery, according to Cook County state's attorney's office spokeswoman Tandra Simonton.

Norman, of the 700 block of South Karlov Avenue, was to appear in court again on Tuesday, Simonton said.

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## Cubs-backed plan to let Gallagher Way sell booze by Wrigley stays alive

A plan for the Cubs-owned Gallagher Way plaza next to Wrigley Field to continue holding events cleared a City Council committee on Wednesday.

Wrigleyville Ald. Tom Tunney, 44th, agreed to allow the team to sell liquor in the plaza, in addition to the beer and wine that have been sold there for the past three years. And it will be easier for the team to host smaller events there without needing permits, under the proposal.

Cubs official Heather Way Kitzes told aldermen the team still wants people without tickets to be allowed into the plaza on the days of games and Wrigley Field concerts, something Tunney has rejected because tavern owners in the area worry it would pull patrons from their establishments. She also called for the plaza to be open longer following games, but said the Cubs supported the overall plan.

— John Byrne

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# In S. Side visit, Bloomberg sticks to script

In area he calls 'left behind,' he brings generic pitch

BY BILL RUTHHART

Billionaire businessman, philanthropist and former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg brought his late-developing presidential campaign to Chicago for the first time Wednesday morning to criticize President Donald Trump's record on the economy and unveil a jobs plan of his own.

Bloomberg gave his speech on Chicago's South Side to illustrate it as an area that had been "left behind" economically, but his remarks just as easily could have been delivered in Cleveland or Cincinnati. He made virtually no reference to Chicago, the state's March 17 primary or the significance of the venue his campaign chose, Olive-Harvey College. He didn't ask for a single vote or make an appeal for any campaign volunteers either.

Instead, Bloomberg gave a general address aimed at a national audience that repeatedly cast Trump as failing to keep his promises on jobs, trade and infrastructure while offering his business career and three-term tenure as New York's mayor as proof he'd be a better steward of the U.S. economy.

"I know how to create jobs and build businesses, not because I played a business leader on a TV show, but because I've actually been one in real life," Bloomberg said to applause inside an automotive facility at Olive-Harvey, where American flags hung from car lifts. "My strategy starts with the basic premise that the federal government is grossly under-investing in America and Americans."

Bloomberg highlighted his plan to create an "All-In Economy," a proposal that lists a series of goals and initiatives aimed at better preparing an American workforce for an economy of the future, but he has not ascribed a cost to any of the initiatives or identified how they would be funded.

The former mayor's presidential campaign is an unconventional one.

He did not announce his candidacy until late November, just a little more than two months before the Feb. 3 Iowa caucuses that kick off the Democratic nominating contest. As a result, Bloomberg has decided to skip the four early voting states of Iowa, New Hampshire, Nevada and South Carolina, where voters will cast ballots next month, and instead focus on states that vote in the Super Tuesday primaries of March 3 and beyond.

Illinois, with its mid-March primary, falls squarely into that strategy. Bloomberg hopes to make up ground by relying in large part on his vast fortune to flood local airwaves with campaign ads and attract support in a state that awards a high number of delegates. The nation's eighth wealthiest individual, according to Forbes, has pledged to spend \$100 million on ads criticizing Trump alone, in addition to what he'll spend in support of his own bid. So far,



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Democratic presidential hopeful Michael Bloomberg departs following a speech at a campaign stop at Olive-Harvey College on Wednesday.

Bloomberg's campaign has spent \$170 million on TV and digital ads, already a record amount for a presidential candidate.

As in many of the March states, where the majority of the race's delegates will be awarded, Bloomberg has spent fast and furiously in Illinois to hire experienced staff and to air a seemingly constant stream of ads. Still, in his nearly 30-minute speech, Bloomberg didn't offer a single nod to the Illinois primary. He declined interview requests with local media outlets, and he took no questions from reporters while in the state for the first time.

One of the few local touches came at the beginning of the event when Chicagoan AJ Jadduah introduced Bloomberg while

worse. You could be a Knicks fan."

Bloomberg saved the rest of his criticism for Trump, accusing the Republican president of pursuing a nonsensical trade policy with China, failing to deliver the massive infrastructure program he vowed and stifling farmers and factory workers. And in a reference to the rest of the Democratic field, Bloomberg sought to set himself apart as the best positioned candidate to challenge Trump on the economy.

"Others shake their fists and point to scapegoats and make promises they can't deliver on. I think we've had enough of that. I believe we need a president who's actually done it, and knows how to get things done," Bloomberg said. "I think we

lions of dollars to advocate for gun control.

"He's been so successful in everything he's touched, from building a business to being a very effective mayor of New York City, but the other thing is the key issues he cares deeply about are the issues I care deeply about, particularly the gun violence that plagues our urban communities," Rogers said. "His passion around this is something that is so important, and it's moved the needle so successfully that that's the thing that's really inspired me."

Rogers called Bloomberg's approach of skipping the early states "very, very smart" and a "winning strategy." Asked for his reaction on Bloomberg's speech offering little connection to Chicago or Illinois voters, Rogers smiled and noted Jadduah's introduction of the former mayor.

"Well, as a board member of McDonald's, I was thrilled to see the young woman having started her career at McDonald's," he said with a chuckle.

Before the event, Bloomberg met for 45 minutes at a downtown hotel with Mayor Lori Lightfoot, who has yet to make an endorsement in the presidential race, representatives for each confirmed.

Bloomberg delivered his remarks as Trump addressed the nation about Iranian missile strikes Tuesday night at a pair of military bases in Iraq that house U.S. soldiers. Bloomberg said very little about the incident, other than to use it as an opportunity to raise doubts about Trump's temperament.

"The situation is still unfolding, but in any crisis, it's imperative that the commander in chief go through all the implications of his actions or her actions with the help of her or his top advisers and not act irrationally or recklessly, and I

certainly hope the president does that," Bloomberg said. "But as we all know, that's just not in his nature."

After criticizing Trump for spending the last three years "dividing us by party, by race, by ethnicity and by religion," Bloomberg moved onto his jobs proposal.

Under the plan, Bloomberg would place a major emphasis on overhauling and expanding the federal government's job training and re-training programs, an initiative he would place his vice president in charge of on his first day in office.

As part of his plan, states would receive "substantial grants" from the federal government to upgrade job training, including "major new investments in community and technical colleges while partnering with employers," according to the campaign. Bloomberg has not identified how much he would spend on the grants, some of which would be competitive, or how he would pay for them.

Bloomberg did little to connect the policy to Olive-Harvey other than to say, "We have to invest in our community colleges, like this one, so they can connect more Americans to good-paying jobs, and I will do that."

Bloomberg's plan also seeks to expand the number of students enrolled in apprenticeship programs, increase the federal minimum wage to \$15 per hour, expand access to Pell grants, give all workers the right to unionize, launch a \$100 billion research and development initiative to create industry jobs, expand broadband access to rural areas and offer tax credits to attract businesses to locate and hire in "distressed communities."

Much of the South Side would fit that bill, with its large swaths of neighborhoods that have eroded for decades under a lack of public investment, little

economic development, high unemployment, frequent bouts with high crime and, most recently, an ever-growing population loss. Many of those struggles stem from the city's history of segregation and redlining on the predominantly African American South Side, but Bloomberg's plan doesn't address removing racial barriers that stand in the way of creating jobs and businesses. His campaign says that separate effort will be announced at a later date.

In the run-up to his visit, Bloomberg and his campaign noted the historic disinvestment in the city's South Side, but he made no direct reference to it in his speech Wednesday.

The former mayor's visit to Chicago was followed by a stop at a soybean farm in Wells, Minnesota, where Bloomberg highlighted aspects of his plan aimed at rural communities, and a visit to an innovation hub in Akron, Ohio, where he emphasized plans to increase spending on research and development for new jobs.

"I'll be visiting three of the communities our plans are designed to help, the South Side of Chicago, for example, a neighborhood that has long suffered from very high poverty rates in one of the world's wealthiest cities," Bloomberg said in a brief telephone statement to reporters Tuesday before his trip.

Like Bloomberg, the New York-based campaign's news releases also referred to the South Side as a "neighborhood of Chicago," the equivalent of referring to Brooklyn as a village or town instead of a borough.

Chicago, of course, is known as the city of neighborhoods, with dozens of its more than 200 neighborhoods spanning the South Side alone.

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**"I know how to create jobs and build businesses, not because I played a business leader on a TV show, but because I've actually been one in real life."**

— Michael Bloomberg

noting that she had participated in Skills For Chicagoland's Future's "Beyond the Diploma" program that strives to educate and match workers searching for a job with companies that have unmet hiring needs. The program, Jadduah said, landed her a business management job with McDonald's.

After Bloomberg encouraged the crowd of roughly 200 people to applaud her, the notorious anti-obesity advocate couldn't help but note he's "more of a Subway sandwich guy. I could have the BMT every meal for the rest of my life, no oil or cheese or extra vinegar, please." The New Yorker also commiserated from the stage on the Chicago Bulls' struggles this season by proclaiming, "It could be

need to replace Donald Trump. He's counting on the economy to lift him to victory, and he's hoping to face a career politician who's never created any jobs. Well, let me tell ya, I'm going to take him on over the economy, and I won't let him get away with selling the American people more empty promises."

With an "I like Mike!" button fastened to his lapel, John W. Rogers applauded along. The Ariel Investments founder and CEO, who is a close personal friend of former President Barack Obama, originally backed California Sen. Kamala Harris in the race. When Harris dropped out last month, Rogers said he switched to Bloomberg, noting his well-established practice of spending mil-

## Mayor's transportation pick: Red-light cameras 'a deterrent'

Biagi touts reforms to controversial program

BY JOHN BYRNE

Mayor Lori Lightfoot's pick to be the city's Transportation commissioner touted reforms to the city's controversial red light and speed camera systems on Tuesday, while defending their effectiveness in slowing down drivers and stopping short of calling for any of the automated cameras' removal.

Though Lightfoot frequently said during her mayoral campaign that the city needed to re-evaluate regressive fines such as traffic cameras primarily installed to generate money for the city by ticketing motorists rather than for safety reasons, acting Chicago Department of Trans-



STUDIO GANG PHOTO

The full City Council is set to vote on Gia Biagi's appointment to lead the city's transportation department.

portation Commissioner Gia Biagi only would say she would work with aldermen.

"We have a lot of thinking to do together about where red-light cameras go, enforcement. Those kinds of issues are very sensitive and important," Biagi said during a hearing on her nomi-

nation at the City Council Transportation Committee meeting.

"But it's something that both red lights and speed zone indicators — through a study we did with Northwestern I think in 2017 — we know that they are a deterrent, that speeds do reduce anywhere from 10 to 11%, particularly in areas around parks and schools," she added.

Red-light camera operators recently have come under increased scrutiny.

The Tribune has reported federal investigators are focusing on clout-heavy red-light camera company SafeSpeed, which has contracts for the cameras in several suburbs but not Chicago, as part of an ongoing corruption probe.

And, on Monday Illinois Comptroller Susana Mendiza said her office next month will stop collecting

unpaid red-light camera fines for local municipalities. The comptroller's office does not collect for Chicago.

In Chicago, a \$2 million red-light camera bribery scandal at City Hall saw a longtime City Hall insider and former top official in the city Department of Transportation under Mayor Richard M. Daley sent to federal prison in 2016 for accepting money and lavish gifts from contractor Redflex Traffic Systems Inc. The company's CEO also went to prison as part of a plea deal in the scandal.

Biagi said she thinks the situation is under control in Chicago.

"So I think we need to have the — one, on the corruption side, we feel like we've reformed our program, and we think that it's pretty tight, but we'll take a look at it and make sure

everything is kosher," she said.

Red-light camera tickets also disproportionately affect low-income and minority drivers, ProPublica has reported.

Speaking to reporters after the hearing, Biagi wouldn't commit to removing any of the hundreds of automated ticketing cameras in place at traffic lights and in the general vicinity of parks and schools around Chicago.

"We've recently looked at the program and we're going to take another look and make sure it's in as good a shape that we hope it is," she said. "But toward the larger question of how many and where, reductions and additions and all of that, we'll be looking at that, particularly over the next couple of weeks as we think about our capital priorities."

Also Tuesday, Biagi said Chicago needs to look at the congestion fees instituted by other cities to see if Lightfoot's new additional fee on ride-share trips starting or ending in the downtown area during busy times should be expanded to include other types of vehicles too.

"A lot of cities are looking at this," Biagi said. "You look at on one end what Paris is doing, they're looking at delivery trucks. You have other models in Stockholm and Singapore, the different kinds of congestion pricing."

The Transportation Committee approved Biagi's nomination, and the full City Council is set to vote on her appointment next week.

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JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Activists gather near Trump Tower in Chicago on Wednesday to protest the Trump administration for killing an Iranian general.

## At rally near Trump Tower, activists denounce killing of Iranian general

BY JAVONTE ANDERSON

More than 100 activists gathered Wednesday evening across the Chicago River from Trump Tower to denounce the recent killing of an Iranian general by the United States in Iraq and to call for the removal of President Donald Trump from office.

Undeterred by the biting cold, the group chanted over the steady beat of a hollow drum, “No threats, no bombs, no war on Iran!” The rally came on the heels of a military exchange between the United States

and Iran. On Tuesday, Iran fired a salvo of missiles at two military bases in Iraq housing American troops. The attack came a week after an American drone strike killed Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani, the commander of Iran’s Quds Force, responsible for military and covert operations abroad and designated by the U.S. State and Treasury departments as a terrorist organization. No Americans were killed or injured in Tuesday’s attack, Trump said Wednesday morning. “Let’s be very clear who bears the responsibility for

all of the death and destruction that could result from this,” Patrick McWilliams, a Chicago activist, said to the crowd Wednesday evening. “The United States is,” he said.

Carrying signs that read “No war on Iran!” and “U.S. troops out of Iraq,” the boisterous crowd gathered on the northeast corner of Wacker Drive and Wabash Avenue to voice displeasure with America’s attack on Iran, and then the protesters marched through the Loop.

“We have to protest, not relying on those in power to

listen to us,” said Lou Downey, a member of Refuse Fascism, an activist group formed to call for Trump’s removal. “But instead, mobilize millions of people to go into the streets and shut this society down to stop this potential escalating war and to drive out the Trump-Pence regime.”

In an address to the nation Wednesday morning from the White House, Trump appeared to move away from a continued military conflict with Iran as tensions rise.

“Iran appears to be standing down, which is a

good thing for all parties concerned and a very good thing for the world,” Trump said Wednesday morning.

Lucha Bright, a Chicago activist, called the killing of Soleimani an “act of war.”

“The biggest and most dangerous power in the world is destroying the lives of people all over the world,” she said. “And people in this country are turning their faces aside from it and letting it happen.”

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## 2 years in prison for man who claimed to be missing Aurora boy

BY DAN SEWELL  
Associated Press

CINCINNATI — An Ohio man who claimed to be Timmothy Pitzen of Aurora who disappeared at age 6 in 2011 pleaded guilty Wednesday to aggravated identity theft and will serve two years in prison, minus time served.

Brian Michael Rini, 24, of Medina, will be on one year of probation to be served at the end of his sentence, U.S. Judge Michael Barrett told him. Rini will be credited for time served dating to his arrest April 4, 2019.

Rini, now with a neatly trimmed beard, answered Barrett with a soft “Yes, sir,” when asked whether he understood the consequences of his plea.

Prosecutors dropped charges of lying to FBI agents. Barrett ordered a presentencing investigation into Rini’s background, but both sides agreed that the federal identity theft statute requires a two-year sentence and that Rini will remain jailed without bond during the official sentencing.

Rini last year pleaded not guilty to identity theft and lying to FBI agents. He would have faced as many as eight years in prison if convicted of all charges.

Barrett ruled Oct. 31 that Rini was competent to stand trial, after he underwent an evaluation in a federal facility in Chicago. A court transcript of that hearing showed that the defense and prosecution had discussed settling the case.

Police said Rini was wandering the streets of Newport, Kentucky, last April 3. Police said he told them he was Timmothy Pitzen, an Aurora boy who disappeared in 2011 at age 6. Authorities said Rini

claimed he had just escaped captors who sexually abused him.

Federal authorities said they were suspicious after he refused to be fingerprinted. DNA testing quickly revealed his true identity.

Rini had been released from a state prison last March after serving more than a year on burglary and vandalism charges. Prison records show he was accused of making up stories during his time there.

Richard Monahan, a federal public defender, told Barrett that Rini still faces state probation violation charges, among other pending legal matters.

When confronted with the DNA results, Rini said he’d watched a story about Timmothy on ABC’s “20/20” and wanted to get away from his own family, the FBI said. Authorities said he twice earlier portrayed himself in Ohio as a juvenile victim of sex trafficking.

A federal magistrate had cited Rini’s lack of a permanent address, past mental health issues and “a lengthy criminal history” that goes back to age 13. In 2017, Rini was treated at an Ohio center for people with mental health or substance abuse problems, according to court records.

The hoax had briefly raised hope last year among Timmothy’s relatives.

Timmothy vanished after his mother pulled him out of kindergarten in Aurora, took him on a two-day road trip to the zoo and a water park, and then killed herself at a hotel. She left a note saying that her son was safe with people who would love and care for him, and added: “You will never find him.”



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Painted boards shutter the former Crystal Lake home of Andrew Freund, JoAnn Cunningham and their two sons, including AJ, in 2019.

## Firm donates services for demolition of Freund house

Crystal Lake City Council OKs deal, with \$10 price tag

BY AMANDA MARRAZZO

The Crystal Lake City Council on Tuesday approved an agreement with a Chicago demolition company to tear down at virtually no cost to the city the dilapidated house where, authorities say, 5-year-old AJ Freund was killed by his parents.

The council approved a resolution waiving the formal bidding process in which six other companies had bid to complete the task. The bids received by the city ranged from \$18,700 to just over \$45,800.

Green Demolition offered to do the job for free, but to make the deal a binding agreement with the city, the work will carry a \$10 price tag.

In another action the council approved a \$5,500 contract with Environmental Cleansing Corp. to remove asbestos from the home.

The house at 94 Dole Ave., which has been enclosed on, was owned by Andrew Freund and JoAnn Cunningham, the

parents of AJ. In April, Freund made a fake 911 call reporting his son missing. After a weeklong search his body was found wrapped in plastic and buried in a shallow grave in Woodstock.

Cunningham has since pleaded guilty to killing her son, the subject of many police and child welfare checks during his short life. She is awaiting sentencing. Freund is due in court next week.

Mayor Aaron Shepley said the couple, who are being held in the McHenry County Jail on \$5 million bail, or family members would be given an opportunity to go into the home to retrieve personal belongings before demolition.

Mike Brough, owner of Green Demolition, and Laura Brown-Hayes, the company’s controller whose idea it was to offer the demolition services, said doing the work for free was just the right thing to do. They each said they wanted no publicity for it. They watched as the story unfolded on the news and have no personal connection to the family.

Brough said other companies, including a fencing company, land filler and garbage haulers needed to

complete the work, also have donated their services. The demolition could take place in three to six weeks.

Brown-Hayes said on the day the boy’s body was found she happened to be in the area and noticed all the police activity and a roadblock. She asked a police officer if there was an accident and he said no. Having watched the story unfold on the news, she said, she knew they had found the boy.

Brown-Hayes said other contractors had called her asking if they were going to bid on the work. She said she didn’t think anyone should bid on it.

“It should be a gentleman’s agreement,” she said. “We all saw that story. It’s been hurtful, been heartbreaking for everybody. We are able to do it, we have the means to do it, (it’s) just do something good. It’s literally that simple.”

City officials said it would have cost more than \$100,000 to bring the house up to code.

Brown-Hayes believes the land should be used for a park dedicated to AJ’s memory.

Amanda Marrazzo is a freelance reporter.

## No bail for man in death of infant son

Prosecutors: Boy was beaten because he was crying

BY ELYSSA CHERNEY,  
MEGAN CREPEAU  
AND ROSEMARY SOBOL

A Chicago man charged with fatally beating his 9-month-old son told authorities that he hit the boy and pushed his face into a blanket because he wouldn’t stop crying, prosecutors said.

Joshua Juarez, 28, was ordered held without bail on a first-degree murder charge in his first court appearance Wednesday. The death of his son, Josue Juarez, was ruled a homicide, caused by blunt head trauma and child abuse, according to the Cook County medical examiner’s office.

The young boy suffered extensive injuries that indicate a history of abuse, including bruises to both ears “as if someone pulled and bent the ears downward,” old fractures to his arm and back ribs, an adult bite mark and abrasions on his chest that appeared to be in the pattern of a shoe tread, Assistant State’s Attorney James Murphy said.

Juarez reportedly told authorities that he “beats and smacks” the boy and his older brother, who is 1½ years old, according to Murphy. The mother of the boys has an active order of protection against him due to violence against the older sibling in Hammond in 2018, according to Murphy and Indiana court records.

In that case, Juarez was accused of trying to choke the sibling, then 2 months old, by wrapping a blanket around his neck, according to Murphy and court records. Juarez pleaded in Lake County, Indiana, court to a charge of domestic battery in front of a child less than 14 years of age and was sentenced to two years probation, which he was allowed to serve in Illinois, according to online Indiana court records.

In court Wednesday, an attorney representing Juarez said he has two children in his native Puerto Rico in addition to the two in Chicago.

It’s not clear how long Juarez had been living in Chicago when first responders were called to his apartment in the city’s Chicago Lawn neighborhood Saturday night.

The boy’s mother called 911 when she found him unresponsive in his crib, wrapped in a blanket and pale with blue lips, Murphy said.

Juarez allegedly told investigators that he “gets angry and frustrated” when Josue cries, Murphy said. When that happened Saturday night, Juarez was on a bed with the infant and started to beat him until his nose bled, Murphy said. He also made a reference to holding the boy upside down at times to try to stop his crying, Murphy said.

The parents initially told investigators that Josue choked while being fed, police said. When authorities questioned the parents further about the boy’s litany of injuries and bruises, Juarez said that he tripped on the stairs the day before while carrying Josue and his sibling in his arms, police said.

Juarez is on probation for the 2018 domestic violence case in Indiana, according to Cook County prosecutors. He was also convicted in 2012 on a charge of misdemeanor domestic battery.

Illinois child welfare officials said they did not have previous involvement with the family and were not notified about the family’s move to Illinois. The agency is investigating the death and has taken protective custody of the sibling.

Indiana child welfare officials did not answer questions about the 2018 case, citing confidentiality laws.

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# Trump put lives of US troops ahead of his ego



**DAHLEEN GLANTON**

I did not sleep Tuesday night.

Like many Americans who have relatives in the military, we went to bed knowing that the fate of our loved ones was in the hands of a president who is not known for exercising patience or diplomacy.

But Wednesday morning, Donald Trump gave us a gift. And we are grateful.

Instead of retaliating with military force against Iran for bombing an American military base in Iraq, Trump chose to implement harsher sanctions designed to further weaken the country's ability to sustain itself economically.

Trump's decision to stand down rather than initiate a military strike is perhaps one of the most

significant events of his presidency. Regardless of whether it provides only a short-term reprieve, Trump chose to put American lives over his ego.

Of course, he could have done it more gracefully without trying to place responsibility for the debacle he created on former President Barack Obama. But that's a petty side issue that we need not concern ourselves with right now.

Regardless of how we feel about Trump as president or as a human being, for that matter, we should be thankful that on an issue this important, he made a wise decision.

When our nation teeters on the brink of war, Americans go into self-preservation mode. Our husbands, wives, children, grandchildren, brothers, sisters, nieces and nephews are in imminent danger. We need cool heads to prevail in Washington.

My 20-year-old nephew is stationed at a military base that often is among the

first to deploy. He recently married and is the father of a 5-week-old girl. I want him to see her grow up. And when she is old enough to understand the danger and uncertainty of her father's work, I want him there to hold her and reassure her that whatever happens, she is loved.

Military families are used to being on high alert. During the Iraq War, I spent a year following the families of soldiers in the 3rd Infantry Division, the unit from Fort Stewart Army Base that invaded Baghdad.

I got to know these wives, children and parents well, and I gained a greater understanding of what it is like to wait at home helplessly while loved ones fight a war their families barely understand, no matter how closely they monitor the news.

When a loved one is at risk, there is no time to worry about how the risk developed. It is unlikely that most military families

**When a loved one is at risk, there is no time to worry about how the risk developed.**

have spent the last few tumultuous days wracking their brains over whether Trump did the right thing by killing Iranian Gen. Qassem Soleimani.

They prefer to leave such things to the politicians and pundits to ponder. What's most important to these families at this moment is what it means for the person they love. In deployment, the only question that matters is whether that person will return home to them.

For now, these families can breathe a sigh of relief. But they know the reprieve may not last.

Trump's decision to kill

Soleimani has heightened tensions in what has long been the most unstable region of the world. Things will likely get worse before they get better.

With Trump at the helm, there is even more uncertainty than we are used to. He is a volatile president, who says something one day and does something else the next. He chose to stand down against Iran today, but he might decide to rise up tomorrow.

A significant number of Americans have little or no confidence in Trump's leadership ability, nor are we comfortable with most of the people he has chosen to advise him. We do not trust that they always have America's best interests at heart or that they know how to keep us safe.

It scares us to death. But our brave troops are not afraid.

They are trained and equipped to handle any conflict that might arise. And they are willing to step up to the challenge when-

ever the commander in chief calls upon them to do so.

The rest of us are not. Americans are war weary, and we will stand against it at any cost.

We don't know if Iran will keep its promise to stand down militarily, too. Trump chose to take the word of a nation that historically could never be trusted. Regardless, one thing is clear: Iran isn't through with America yet. Regardless of what the government decides, other dangerous factions are out there waiting to step in and do what Iranian officials are not.

But tonight the families of those in the armed forces will not worry about that. We will close our eyes and pray for the best as we do every night that our troops are away from home. And we will hope that someone, somewhere hears us.

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## Smollett

Continued from Page 1

months after State's Attorney Kim Foxx's office abruptly dismissed disorderly conduct charges against the then-"Empire" actor just weeks after his indictment. Smollett, who is African American and openly gay, has declared the dismissal a vindication of his claims that he was the victim of a racist and homophobic attack.

The mysterious reversal by Foxx's office — coming after Foxx herself stepped aside from overseeing the prosecution — sparked a public outcry that ultimately led Judge Michael Toomin to appoint Webb as special prosecutor in late August.

Toomin signed off on the search warrants on Dec. 6, the records show. In doing so, the judge ordered Google and its "representatives, agents and employees" not to disclose his order to turn over the records, saying to do so "may jeopardize an ongoing criminal investigation."

It was unclear from the file if Google has handed over the data on Smollett and his manager. A Google spokesman said he could not comment on specific requests for records from law enforcement.

Toomin gave Webb a broad mandate to investigate all aspects of the case — not only its initial handling by Foxx's office but also whether to criminally charge Smollett again.

The search warrants make clear that Chicago police are assisting in Webb's investigation.

Anthony Guglielmi, a Chicago police spokesman, confirmed that the department is working with the special prosecutor, conducting "follow-ups" on its initial investigation. But Guglielmi declined further comment, referring inquiries to Webb's team.

Webb declined to comment on the search warrants or his broader investigation. Smollett's attorney did not immediately return messages seeking comment.

Smollett reported that two men attacked him near his high-rise apartment in



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

After bonding out, then-"Empire" television actor Jussie Smollett leaves the Cook County Jail in Chicago, Feb. 21, 2019.

the Streeterville neighborhood on a frigid night last Jan. 29, slipping a noose around his neck and shouting racist and homophobic slurs.

Smollett's manager — whose Google account information has also been ordered turned over — called 911 to report the attack and met responding officers in the lobby of Smollett's building. He can be seen on body camera footage reaching toward Smollett to grab the noose around his neck with disdain. "The reason I'm calling (police) is because of this s---," he said.

But Smollett eventually turned from victim to suspect after an intense investigation by Chicago police detectives who used two brothers' cellphone records, internet search history and text messages to corroborate their story that the actor paid them \$3,500 to stage the attack.

Prosecutors alleged that

Smollett staged the attack because he was unhappy with the "Empire" studio's response to a threatening letter he received at work a week earlier. Chicago police took it a step further, accusing Smollett of faking the letter as well.

But just a few weeks after indicting Smollett on 16 counts of disorderly conduct, Foxx's office made the stunning announcement that all the charges had been dropped with little explanation at an unannounced court hearing.

Smollett's attorneys have painted the brothers, Abimbola and Olabinjo Osundairo, who are of Nigerian descent, as homophobic liars who carried out a real attack on Smollett with the help of an as-yet unidentified white co-conspirator. They have long alleged that the brothers' attorney fed them a fabricated story to tell cops in order to avoid charges.

The whole episode has

been costly for Smollett. He now faces a lawsuit from the city of Chicago seeking to recoup \$130,000 in police overtime costs for investigating the incident, and the Osundairos have sued Smollett's attorneys for defamation. Smollett, who reportedly won't return to his role for the final season of "Empire," filed a counterclaim against the city, saying he was the victim of a malicious prosecution that caused humiliation and extreme distress.

The episode has also proved damaging to Foxx, who has faced harsh criticism for her handling of the case as she seeks a second term in office. In a campaign ad in November, Foxx acknowledged she had fallen short in the Smollett matter but was vague on specifics. "Truth is, I didn't handle it well. I own that," she said.

It is unclear if Webb's investigation will be completed before she faces

three Democratic challengers in the March 17 primary.

Foxx recused herself from overseeing the prosecution after revealing she had contact with a member of Smollett's family early in the investigation at the request of Tina Tchen, Michelle Obama's former chief of staff.

Foxx declined to provide details at the time, but communications later made public showed Foxx had asked then-Chicago police Superintendent Eddie Johnson to turn over the investigation to the FBI after she was approached by Tchen, a politically connected lawyer, about the case.

But other communications released to the Tribune after public-records requests showed Foxx claiming she recused herself because of false rumors that she was related to the actor, not any communications she'd had with his relatives.

Foxx also termed as

"bull—" the explanation her own office gave for her withdrawal at the time, the texts show.

Sheila O'Brien, a retired Illinois appellate judge, petitioned Toomin to appoint a special prosecutor to look into the handling of the Smollett investigation. After extensive legal arguments last summer, Toomin ruled that Foxx had the right to withdraw herself from overseeing the prosecution but held no legal authority to then delegate that responsibility to her top deputy.

With that deputy holding no real authority, the Smollett case made its way through the court system without a legitimate prosecutor at the helm, the veteran judge said, indicating that it was invalid from start to finish.

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## Severance

Continued from Page 1

coverage for a year would come to nearly \$25,000. Shannon declined to comment on his severance Tuesday.

M. Hill Hammock, chair of the county Health and Hospitals System, said the board "intends to pay the severance in accordance with the contract."

"Severance agreements are standard operating practice in healthcare," Hammock said in a statement. "They exist as both a recruitment and retention tool in an industry that is highly competitive."

On top of his severance payment, Shannon is eligible to apply for a county pension this year. He worked at the old Cook

County Hospital from 1990 to 2007 before departing to serve as chief medical officer at Dallas' public health system. Shannon returned to Cook County as an executive in 2013 and was elevated to CEO in 2014.

Based on those years of service, Shannon's pension would top \$254,000 a year, according to the county pension fund's online "retirement estimator." County pension beneficiaries also are eligible for health insurance subsidies.

Pension fund officials did not respond to questions Tuesday, but Shannon told the Tribune that he has applied for his pension.

The health system will incur other costs related to Shannon's departure. Debra Carey, Shannon's former deputy, was elevated to interim CEO and given a 10% raise, to \$461,000 a year.

Meanwhile, the health board plans to conduct a nationwide search for a permanent replacement, which is expected to involve hiring a search firm. Such searches typically cost tens of thousands of dollars.

County Commissioner Larry Suffredin, who praised the former CEO for stabilizing the health system upon his departure, nevertheless said he's concerned about the potential for a hefty payout to Shannon and is exploring whether it's legal.

Suffredin noted that a state law that took effect at the start of 2019 limited severance pay for public officials in Illinois to 20 weeks of pay. It's unclear whether that law would apply to Shannon, however.

The law doesn't specifically state that it applies to so-called home rule govern-

ments like Cook County. The law also only applies to contracts approved, renewed or renegotiated after Jan. 1, 2019. Although Shannon's 2014 contract was amended in February 2019, when he received a \$17,500 pay raise, it's not clear whether that would make his severance subject to the state law limitation, Suffredin said.

"Since any payout under the contract would come from Cook County revenues that I would have to vote on, I am trying to determine if any new law and the limitation to 20 weeks apply to this contract," Suffredin said. "I've asked the Cook County Health and Hospitals System to give me their position on the applicability of the new law."

The state law was approved after highly publi-

cized, controversial severance packages of more than \$700,000 were awarded to a series of government officials who exited Metra, the College of DuPage and Northern Illinois University.

Although the health board did not publicly give a reason for Shannon's departure, there was growing concern among county officials about the rising costs of medical care not covered by either private-sector health insurance or Medicaid. This year, the cost of so-called charity care and unpaid debts is expected to reach \$590 million — up from \$314 million in 2014.

That's a reversal of fortune for the health system, which saw significant reductions in unpaid health care under the federal Affordable Care Act, known as Obamacare. Part of the problem was retaining pa-

tients who were insured through Obamacare and under its rules had the option to go to other hospitals — a trend that Shannon acknowledged and was working to reverse through a revamp aimed at improving services and expanding the reach of health care.

Some county commissioners said privately they were concerned about one of Shannon's approaches to that issue, which involved criticizing private hospitals for not doing enough to care for uninsured patients, rather than seeking a cooperative approach.

There also was a pair of insipid general remarks critical of how the health system paid its bills and handed out raises.

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# Chicago Tribune

## NATION & WORLD

# 176 dead in Ukrainian jet crash

Iran denies missile downed plane on outskirts of Tehran

By **MOHAMMAD NASIRI, NASSER KARIMI AND JON GAMBRELL**  
Associated Press

SHAHEDSHAHR, Iran — A Ukrainian airliner carrying 176 people crashed on the outskirts of Tehran during a takeoff attempt Wednesday hours after Iran launched its missile attack on U.S. forces, scattering flaming debris and passengers' belongings across farmland and killing everyone on board.

The Iranian military disputed any suggestion the plane had been blown out of the sky by a missile, and Iranian aviation authorities said they suspected a mechanical problem brought down the 3½-year-old Boeing 737. Ukrainian officials initially agreed but later backed away and declined to offer a cause while the investigation is going on.

The Ukraine International Airlines jet was en route to the Ukrainian capital of Kyiv with 167 passengers and nine crew members from several countries, including 82 Iranians, at least 63 Canadians and 11 Ukrainians, according to officials.

Many of the passengers were believed to be international students attending universities in Canada; they were making their way back to Toronto by way of Kyiv after visiting with family during the winter break.

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy cut short a visit to Oman to return to Kyiv and said a



EFREM LUKATSKY/AP

Relatives of nine crew members mourn Wednesday at an airport memorial outside Kyiv. The plane carried 167 passengers.

team of Ukrainian experts would go to Tehran to help investigate the crash.

"Our priority is to find the truth and everyone responsible for the tragedy," he wrote on Facebook.

In Canada, where the crash ranked among the worst losses of life for Canadians in an aviation disaster, the flag over Parliament in Ottawa was lowered to half-staff, and Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said the country is "shocked and saddened."

He vowed the government will work to "ensure that this crash is thoroughly investigated and that Canadians' questions are answered."

The Tehran-to-Toronto route via Kyiv is an affordable route for Iranian Canadians and international students. There are no direct flights.

The plane had been delayed from taking off from Tehran's Imam Khomeini International Airport by almost an hour. It never made it above 8,000 feet, crashing just minutes after takeoff, according to data from the flight-tracking website FlightRadar24.

Qassem Biniiaz, a spokesman for Iran's Road and Transportation Ministry, said it appeared a fire erupted in one of its engines and the pilot lost control of the plane, according to the

state-run IRNA news agency. The news report did not explain how Iranian authorities knew that.

The pilot apparently couldn't communicate with air traffic controllers in Tehran in the last moments of the flight, said Hassan Razaeifar, head of the air crash investigation committee. He did not elaborate.

Ukraine International Airlines President Yevhenii Dylkne, said the aircraft "was one of the best planes we had, with an amazing, reliable crew."

In a statement, the airline went further, saying: "Given the crew's experience, error probability is

minimal. We do not even consider such a chance."

Gen. Abolfazl Shekarchi, spokesman for the Iranian armed forces, was quoted by the semiofficial Fars news agency as denying the plane has been brought down by a missile.

"The rumors about the plane are completely false and no military or political expert has confirmed it," he said.

Authorities said they found the plane's so-called black boxes, which record cockpit conversations and instrument data. But it was not clear how much access to the information the Iranians would allow.

Aviation experts were

skeptical about Iran's initial claim that the plane was brought down by a mechanical problem.

"I don't see how they would have known that so quickly," said John Hansman, an aeronautics professor at MIT. "They hadn't had time to look at the flight data recorder. They probably hadn't had time to investigate the physical wreckage of the engines. How do you know it was a mechanical issue versus a surface-to-air missile that went in the engine?"

In 1988, a U.S. Navy cruiser mistakenly shot down an Iranian passenger jet over the Persian Gulf, killing 290 people.

The Ukrainian plane, fully loaded with fuel for its 1,430-mile-flight, slammed into the ground near the town of Shahedshahr, causing fires that lit up the darkened fields before dawn.

Din Mohammad Qassemi said he had been watching the news about the Iranian missile attack on U.S. troops in Iraq in revenge for the killing of Gen. Qassem Soleimani when he heard the crash.

"I heard a massive explosion and all the houses started to shake. There was fire everywhere," he said. "At first I thought (the Americans) have hit here with missiles and went in the basement as a shelter. After a while, I went out and saw a plane has crashed over there. Body parts were lying around everywhere."

This was the first fatal crash involving Ukraine International Airlines, which began flying in 1992, according to the Aviation Safety Network.

## As violence soars, time runs out for Afghan interpreters

19,000 still wait for State Department to decide their fate

By **SARAH BLAKE MORGAN**  
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — In a quiet cul-de-sac of this major North Carolina city, two boys kicked a soccer ball as their father tended to the tiny scraped knee of a third. "You're strong," Zia "Booyah" Ghafoori said, scooping up his youngest son.

A U.S. flag fluttered gently from a pole attached to their modest two-story home, the epicenter of the Afghan family's new life in America.

Ghafoori, 36, came to the United States with his pregnant wife and three small children in 2014 on a Special Immigrant Visa. The visa is Ghafoori's reward for his 14 years as an interpreter for U.S. Special Forces or, as Ghafoori calls them, "his brothers." His nickname, Booyah, came from them.

While earning the admiration and respect of the U.S. military, Ghafoori's work made him a traitor in the eyes of some of his fellow countrymen. He

came to the United States to escape possible retribution from the Taliban, the extremist Islamic group that has steadily regained power in the country since being ousted by the U.S. after the Sept. 11 attacks.

Hostility toward the United States has spiked in neighboring Iran and in Iraq in recent days after President Donald Trump ordered an airstrike that killed a top Iranian military leader in Baghdad.

Ghafoori was just a teenager when he signed on as an interpreter for the prestigious Green Berets. He was awarded a Purple Heart for wounds suffered during the Battle of Shok Valley, a six-hour firefight in 2008 and recently passed his citizenship test.

Grateful for his good fortune, he decided last year to launch the Interpreting Freedom Foundation, a nonprofit organization aimed at helping interpreters navigate the Special Immigrant Visa process and settle in the United States.

When he is not caring for his family of six or working late-night shifts at a convenience store, Ghafoori devotes his time to the foundation, answering calls from Afghans awaiting their visa

approval. He has also traveled to Washington, D.C., at his own expense to meet with lawmakers who may be able to help.

According to the State Department, nearly 13,000 Special Immigrant Visas have been granted to Afghan nationals since 2014.

Last February, the Consolidated Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2019 made 4,000 more available, while an additional 4,000 became available through a \$738 billion defense policy bill passed last month. That's hopeful news for the 19,000 Afghans still waiting for the State Department to decide their fate.

One of those is "Ahmad," who was an interpreter alongside U.S. troops in Afghanistan for nearly a decade. The Associated Press is concealing his real name for safety reasons.

"I put my life at risk and also my family's life in order to help the people of Afghanistan as well as the U.S. armed forces, because they came from too far away to help us," Ahmad said in an interview from Afghanistan's capital city of Kabul.

Ahmad was hired in 2006 by now-retired Spe-



SARAH BLAKE MORGAN/AP

Zia Ghafoori stands beside an American flag hanging at his Charlotte, North Carolina, home. The Afghan interpreter spent 14 years working alongside U.S. Special Forces.

cial Forces Maj. David Smyth, a decorated Green Beret who served four deployments in Afghanistan.

"(Ahmad) is one of the most loyal and courageous men I have ever met in my life," Smyth wrote in a letter that the former interpreter included with his application for a special visa in September. That same month, a federal judge ruled that the Trump administration broke the law by not promptly resolving visa applications.

"I have never seen an Interpreter charge towards the sound of guns like (Ah-

mad) did on numerous occasions with my team," Smyth wrote.

Ahmad has received no response from the U.S. government to his application. As he waits, life in Afghanistan is getting potentially more dangerous. Eighteen years after the collapse of the Taliban, the extremist movement controls or holds sway over half the country of 36 million and, along with the Islamic State group, stages near-daily attacks.

As Trump's calls for a full U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan grow louder and

the Taliban pledge more attacks, Ghafoori and Smyth worry time is slipping away for former interpreters like Ahmad.

"I don't think it will be long before the Taliban takes over Afghanistan again," Smyth says. "If that happens, these guys are all targets."

Smyth says the United States owes a debt to the interpreters who put their lives on the line for American military forces.

"They just want the chance to be Americans, too," he said. "And they'll be amazing Americans."



JENNY KANE/AP

Most lung cancer cases are tied to smoking, but declining smoking rates have led to lower rates of diagnoses and deaths.

## US sees biggest 1-year decline in death rate from cancer

By **MIKE STOBBE**  
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Researchers on Wednesday reported the largest-ever one-year decline in the U.S. cancer death rate, a drop they credited to advances in lung-tumor treatments.

The overall cancer death rate has been falling about 1.5% a year since 1991. It fell 2.2% from 2016 to 2017, according to the new American Cancer Society report. That's the largest drop ever seen in national

cancer statistics going back to 1930, said Rebecca Siegel, the lead author.

"It's absolutely driven by lung cancer," which accounts for about a quarter of all cancer deaths, she said. Take lung cancer out of the mix, and the 2017 rate drop is 1.4%, she added.

Government researchers previously reported a slightly lower drop in the cancer death rate for the same period. But the American Cancer Society calculates the death rate differently, and on Wednesday

said the decline was larger — and record-setting.

Most lung cancer cases are tied to smoking, and decades of declining smoking rates led to falling rates of lung cancer illnesses and deaths.

But the drop in deaths seems to have been accelerated by recent lung cancer treatment advances, Siegel said.

Experts mainly credit advances in treatment. Topping the list are refinements in surgery, better diagnostic scanning and more precise

use of radiation.

They also celebrate the impact of newer drugs. Genetic testing can now identify specific cancer cell mutations, which allow more targeted therapy using newer pharmaceuticals that are a step beyond traditional chemotherapy.

Cancer Society researchers also found:

■ The overall cancer death rate fell by nearly 30% from 1991 through 2017.

■ Death rates from one type of skin cancer dropped even more dramatically than

lung cancer — falling 7% a year recently. That decline in melanoma patients is attributed to drugs that came on the market about nine years ago.

■ Declines in the death rates from prostate, breast and colon cancer are slowing, for a range of reasons.

■ The rising liver cancer death rate seems to have leveled off somewhat. That may be related to better treatment of hepatitis C infections, which are tied to about 25% of liver cancer cases, Siegel said.

# A way for the poorest to relieve pain

Rwanda offers relief by making its own morphine

BY CARA ANNA AND CLAIRE GALOFARO  
Associated Press

BUSHEKELI, Rwanda — It was something, the silence. Nothing but the scuff of her slip-on shoes as Madeleine Mukantagara walked through the fields to her first patient of the day. Piercing cries once echoed down the hill to the road below. What she carried in her bag had calmed them.

For 15 years, her patient Vestine Uwizeyimana had been in unrelenting pain as disease wore away her spine. She could no longer walk. Her life narrowed to a dark room with a dirt-floor in rural Rwanda, prayer beads hanging on the wall by her side.

A year ago, relief came in the form of liquid morphine, locally produced as part of Rwanda's groundbreaking effort to address one of the world's great inequities: As thousands die from addiction in rich countries awash with prescription painkillers, millions of people in the poorest nations have no access to opioids at all.

Companies don't make money selling generic morphine to the dying, and most in sub-Saharan Africa cannot afford the expensive formulations like oxycodone, prescribed so abundantly in richer nations that thousands became addicted to them.

Rwanda's answer: plastic bottles of morphine, produced for pennies and delivered to homes across the country by health workers like Mukantagara. It is proof, advocates say, that the opioid trade doesn't have to be guided by how much money can be made.

As a palliative care worker, Mukantagara, 56, has long been a witness to death. She watched her sister die of cancer decades ago, in agony without relief.



Nurse Madeleine Mukantagara, left, uses a monitor to check the health of Vestine Uwizeyimana in Rwanda.

She settled on the edge of Uwizeyimana's bed. Uwizeyimana was feeling better. "Now I think everything is possible," she said. They held hands and prayed.

Uwizeyimana is not the youngest among the 70 patients Mukantagara sees. Many have cancer. Some have HIV. A few have both.

The work is never easy, she said. But with morphine there is a chance for death with dignity.

Twenty-five years ago, the killing of some 800,000 ethnic Tutsis and moderate ethnic Hutus left this country with an intimate knowledge of pain. Those who survived struggled to recover from ghastly machete wounds and cruel amputations.

As Rwanda rebuilt itself, resilience was essential. Pain was to be endured, ideally without showing suffering.

But medical advances meant more people began

living into old age and facing diseases such as cancer. Some thought their pain was punishment from God, recalled Dr. Christian Ntuzimira, a palliative care advocate.

Yet many doctors remained reluctant to use opioids.

In much of the world, the use of opioids was exploding. Consumption has tripled since 1997, according to the International Narcotics Control Board. But the increase was in expensive formulations that are profitable for pharmaceutical companies, according to an AP analysis of INCB data. The use of morphine, the cheapest and most reliable painkiller, stagnated.

The use of morphine for hospice patients is undisputed — when the U.S. Centers for Disease Control issued guidelines in 2016 calling on doctors to cut back on the flood of prescriptions that fed the ad-

diction crisis, it exempted end-of-life patients.

The problem in the United States took hold when companies began campaigning for opioids to be used for chronic conditions like back pain — patients who could be customers for decades, said Dr. Anna Lembke, a Stanford University professor who has been a witness against pharmaceutical companies.

"What makes me mad is the confusion this causes," said Lukas Radbruch, a German doctor and professor of palliative medicine, who fears the American addiction crisis is causing a backlash and the poorest people in the world will suffer.

The INCB reported that about 90% of opioids are consumed by the richest nations, where just 17% of people live. In developing nations, cost, onerous regulation and cultural aversion

to opioids prevents most from accessing them even on their deathbeds.

"People should have medication like an American person," said Diane Mukasahaha, Rwanda's coordinator of palliative care. "We all are human beings. The body is the same."

Stefano Berterame, chief of narcotic control for the INCB secretariat, said the agency has implored pharmaceutical companies to help.

Commercially made morphine is on average nearly six times more expensive in many poor counties than it is in wealthy ones, the INCB has reported. Experts attribute it in part to countries with low opioid consumption lacking the negotiating power to import drugs at bulk prices.

So some African countries — Rwanda, Kenya, Malawi — began to make morphine on their own.

They looked to Uganda, where the nonprofit Hospice Africa Uganda was making liquid morphine in a process so basic it was mixed for two decades at a kitchen sink.

But the Ugandan operation relies so much on donor support that it nearly shut down this year, founder Dr. Anne Merriman said.

By putting production and distribution under government control and covering the costs for patients, Rwanda has become the new model for Africa. The liquid is produced from imported powder, said Richard Niwenshuti Gatera, a pharmacist and director of the production facility.

Like all opioids, morphine can be addictive. But the government has control over the supply to prevent what happened in the United States, pills were shipped to tiny towns in quantities far exceeding justifiable medical need, said Meg O'Brien, whose Treat the Pain organization helps poor nations produce morphine. The drug is reserved for the sickest people and there is no marketing effort to expand use.

There have been no reports of abuse, said Mukasahaha.

The movement is spreading slowly across Africa: Twenty-two of 54 countries now have affordable morphine, according to Hospice Africa Uganda.

At a rural home, Mukantagara carried a bottle to 52-year-old Faina Nyirabaguiza, who has cancer. Each of her movements signaled pain. She settled on a wooden bench, rubbing her wrist.

Mukantagara poured the green liquid into the bottle cap. Nyirabaguiza drank three.

"Maybe it will help me," she said. "My wish is to die. Really, I'm suffering."

On the nurse's ride back to the hospital, her vehicle passed a pickup truck with a coffin in the back. Women ran alongside it and sang.



People wait for food Wednesday at a shelter in earthquake-ravaged Ponce, Puerto Rico.

## Puerto Ricans left homeless in wake of worst quake since 1918

BY DANICA COTO  
Associated Press

GUANICA, Puerto Rico — Cars, cots and plastic chairs became temporary beds for hundreds of families who lost their homes in southwest Puerto Rico as a flurry of earthquakes struck the island, one of them the strongest in a century.

The magnitude 6.4 quake that struck before dawn Tuesday killed one person, injured nine others and knocked out power across the U.S. territory. More than 250,000 Puerto Ricans remained without water Wednesday, and another half a million were without power, which also affected telecommunications.

In addition, more than 1,000 people were staying in government shelters in the island's southwest region as U.S. President Donald Trump declared an emergency and Puerto Rico Gov. Wanda Vazquez activated the National Guard.

The hardest-hit municipality was the southwest coastal town of Guanica. More than 200 people had taken shelter in a gymnasium after a quake Monday, only for the latest shake to damage that

structure — forcing them to sleep outside.

Among them was 80-year-old Lupita Martinez, who sat in the dusty parking lot with her 96-year-old husband by her side. He was sleeping in a makeshift bed, a dark blue coat covering him.

"There's no power. There's no water. There is nothing. This is horrible," Martinez said.

The couple were alone, lamenting that their caretaker had disappeared and was not answering their calls. Like many Puerto Ricans affected by the quake, they had children on the U.S. mainland who urged them to move there, at least until the earth stops shaking.

While officials said it was too early to estimate the total damage caused by the string of quakes that began the night of Dec. 28, they said hundreds of homes and businesses in the southwest region were damaged or destroyed. Just in Guanica, a town of roughly 15,000 people, nearly 150 homes were affected by the quake, including three schools, including one three-story structure whose first two floors were completely flattened.

"We are confronting a crisis worse than Hurri-

cane Maria," said Guanica Mayor Santos Seda, referring to the 2017 storm that devastated the island. "I am asking for empathy from the federal government."

He said officials believe the homes of 700 families in his municipality are close to collapsing.

Tuesday's quake was the strongest to hit Puerto Rico since October 1918, when a magnitude 7.3 quake struck near the island's northwest coast, unleashing a tsunami and killing 116 people.

More than 950 quakes and aftershocks have been recorded in the area of Tuesday night's event since Dec. 31, though most were too weak to be felt, according to U.S. Geological Survey. The USGS said that while it's virtually certain there will be many aftershocks in the next week, the chance of a magnitude 6 quake or stronger is around 22 percent.

In Guanica, some people dragged mattresses outside their homes or set up small tents. Authorities were trying to figure out where to shelter them all as they handed out blankets, food and water to families gathered at the gymnasium for a second night in a row. A handful of people slept in their cars, in chairs or on the ground as cots ran out.

## McConnell rebuffs Pelosi on impeachment trial terms

BY NICHOLAS FANDOS  
The New York Times

WASHINGTON — Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell flatly refused Wednesday to negotiate with House Speaker Nancy Pelosi on the terms of the Senate's impeachment trial of President Donald Trump and accused the speaker of playing politics with a solemn process at a time of possible war.

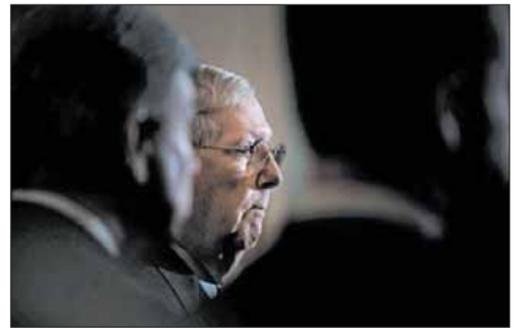
A day after he announced that he had the votes to conduct a trial without agreeing to Democrats' demands for witnesses, McConnell said the House had no choice now but to end "shameless game-playing" and transmit the two articles of impeachment against Trump that it approved last month.

"There will be no haggling with the House over Senate procedure," McConnell, R-Ky., said on the Senate floor. "We will not cede our authority to try this impeachment. The House's turn is over. The Senate has made its decision."

Pelosi, D-Calif., has been withholding the charges in a bid to help Democrats press their case that any fair trial must include the guarantee of new witnesses and documents. On Tuesday evening in a letter to House colleagues, she demanded that McConnell make public his proposed rules for the proceeding before she delivered the articles so that Democrats could "see the arena in which we will be participating."

But McConnell appeared in no rush to do so. Citing the heightened tensions in the Middle East — where Iran fired missiles at U.S. forces in Iraq early Wednesday — the Senate leader charged that the speaker was playing a dangerous game on impeachment at the worst possible time.

"At the very same time a



Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said Wednesday that there "will be no haggling ... over Senate procedure."



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has held back the articles of impeachment while negotiating the terms of the Senate trial.

global crisis was unfolding in real time, she published another "Dear colleague" letter saying she intends to keep our commander in chief in this limbo indefinitely," McConnell said.

McConnell's objective in the current battle is to bring about a speedy acquittal of the president, belittling the House's case in the process.

Pelosi, having carefully orchestrated the impeachment vote in the House, does not want to allow the Senate to quickly bury the matter without delving into additional witness accounts or documents.

And if she cannot force McConnell to agree to those terms, she is determined at least to convince the public that the Senate trial is illegitimate — and, by extension, that Trump's

acquittal was rigged from the start.

The latest comments from McConnell came in response to a letter from Pelosi to House colleagues late Tuesday in which she accused the Senate leader of putting his loyalty to the president above the Constitution.

The impeachment charges stem from a House inquiry that concluded Trump pressured Ukraine to investigate his political rivals in a bid to boost his reelection campaign and then sought to conceal his actions from legislative oversight.

On Wednesday, McConnell reiterated that he intends to follow the model of President Bill Clinton's 1999 impeachment trial, delaying any consideration of additional witnesses or evidence not included in the House inquiry until opening arguments are complete and senators have a chance to question the prosecution and defense.

Although at least three Senate Republicans have indicated they are open to potentially calling witnesses like John Bolton, the former national security adviser who said this week he would be willing to testify, Democrats would have to find a fourth Republican willing to join with them to muster the majority needed to do so.



SAMUEL CORUM/GETTY

Anti-war protesters head to the White House amid tensions between the U.S. and Iran.

# Demos seek more details behind Soleimani attack

Some lawmakers skeptical of timing of deadly US strike

BY DEB RIECHMANN  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration made its case on Capitol Hill for killing a powerful Iranian general, but Democrats said Wednesday's classified briefings were short on details and left them wondering about the president's next steps in the volatile Mideast.

Democrats said that by not disclosing many details of the threat that prompted the U.S. to kill Iranian Gen. Qasem Soleimani, President Donald Trump is asking the American public to trust the intelligence reports that he has often disparaged.

Top administration officials have repeatedly stressed that the undisclosed intelligence about imminent threats to Americans in the Mideast required action — that the president would have been negligent not to strike Iran.

But Democrats want

more information about what led Trump to kill Soleimani — a man whose hands were “drenched in both American and Iranian blood,” according to Trump.

“Trust us. That's really what it all boils down to,” Rep. Eliot Engel, D-N.Y., chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said after the classified briefing by top administration officials.

“But I'm not sure that ‘trust me’ is a satisfactory answer for me,” Engel said. He added that his committee would hold hearings next week “to try to get to the bottom of this.”

Democrats also are skeptical of the timing of the strike, which comes in the run-up to a Senate impeachment trial and at the start of a presidential election year. It's the same skepticism some Republicans expressed in 1998 when they accused President Bill Clinton of using military strikes on Iraq to interrupt and delay a pending impeachment resolution against him.

Trump administration officials this week gave the

top four leaders in the House and Senate and the chairmen and vice chairmen of the intelligence committees of both chambers a classified briefing about the intelligence that prompted Trump to order the fatal strike against Soleimani.

Other lawmakers, including Engel, received less-detailed, classified briefings Wednesday. A top defender of the president, Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., said afterward that “there's no question” the killing was justified.

Democrats weren't convinced.

Rep. Bonnie Watson Coleman, D-N.J., said she learned nothing from the briefing about Trump's strategy in the region.

“I heard more historical perspective as opposed to being able to give us the evidence of what was the reason for reacting as they did, now?”

Rep. Gerry Connolly, D-Va., called the briefing “profoundly unconvincing” and said “no case was made” that the Iranian attacks were imminent. “I leave this (briefing) more trou-

bled than I went into it.”

The White House also has ignored calls to declassify the written notification that Trump sent to Congress after the military operation, as required by the 1973 War Powers Act. Some lawmakers have said it was “vague” and inconsistent with details other administrations have provided Congress about military operations. They wondered why it had to be classified in the first place.

One lawmaker, who has read the classified notification Trump sent Congress, and another individual familiar with it said the two-page document did not describe any imminent, planned attacks or contain any new information. The lawmaker, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the letter gave an historic account of past attacks that have been reported publicly.

It's unclear if more detailed information about the intelligence that led to the strike on Soleimani will ever be publicly released.

The lack of casualties from Iran's retaliatory strikes Tuesday on Iraqi

bases housing American troops could tamp down Democrats' demand for more information, but it might not silence critics who think Trump only embraces U.S. intelligence that fits his agenda.

Trump has repeatedly disagreed or refused to accept U.S. intelligence assessments on Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election, Iran's compliance with the nuclear deal and the role of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in the 2018 assassination of journalist Jamal Khashoggi.

Meanwhile, Speaker Nancy Pelosi announced the House would vote Thursday to force Trump to wind down military action against Iran unless he is given explicit authorization from Congress.

The measure stands little chance in the GOP-controlled Senate, but it is certain to ignite a debate over Trump's strategy on Iran and Congress' role in curtailing a president's ability to wage war.

*The New York Times contributed.*

## Iran

Continued from Page 1

biggest test of his presidency, credited the minimized damage to an early warning system “that worked very well” and said Americans should be “extremely grateful and happy” with the outcome.

The strikes had pushed Tehran and Washington perilously close to all-out conflict and left the world waiting to see whether the American president would respond with more military force. Trump, in his nine-minute, televised address, spoke of a robust U.S. military with missiles that are “big, powerful, accurate, lethal and fast.”

But then he added: “We do not want to use it.”

Iran for days had been promising to respond forcefully to Soleimani's killing, but its limited strike on two bases — one in the northern Iraqi city of Irbil

and the other at al-Asad in western Iraq — appeared to signal that it, too, was uninterested in a wider clash with the U.S.

Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif tweeted that the country had “concluded proportionate measures in self-defense.”

Trump, who is facing reelection in November, campaigned for president on a promise to extract the United States from “endless wars.”

On Wednesday, he said the United States was “ready to embrace peace with all who seek it.” That marked a sharp change in tone from his warning a day earlier that “if Iran does anything that they shouldn't be doing, they're going to be suffering the consequences, and very strongly.”

Members of Congress were briefed on the Iran situation Wednesday afternoon in closed-door sessions on Capitol Hill,

where Democrats expressed dissatisfaction with the administration's justifications for the drone strike on Soleimani.

Rep. Jim Himes, D-Conn., said he asked Secretary of State Mike Pompeo if the administration had a Plan B in case tensions with Iran continued to escalate.

“He had no answer about Plan B,” Himes said.

Trump opened his remarks at the White House by reiterating his promise that “Iran will never be allowed to have a nuclear weapon.” Iran had announced in the wake of Soleimani's killing that it would no longer comply with any of the limits on uranium enrichment in the 2015 nuclear deal crafted to keep it from building a nuclear device.

The president, who had earlier pulled the U.S. out of the deal, seized on the moment of calm to call for negotiations toward a new agreement that would do more to limit Iran's ballistic



WIN MCNAMEE/GETTY

President Trump said new, unspecified sanctions would remain in place “until Iran changes its behavior.”

missile programs and constrain regional proxy campaigns like those led by Soleimani.

Trump also announced he would ask NATO to become “much more involved in the Middle East process.” While he has frequently criticized NATO as obsolete and has encouraged participants to increase their military spending, Trump has tried to push the military alliance to refocus its efforts on

modern threats.

Like the U.S. troops in the region, NATO forces have temporarily halted their training of Iraqi forces and their work to combat the Islamic State.

Soleimani's death on Friday in an American drone strike in Baghdad prompted angry calls for vengeance.

The Iranians fired a total of 16 missiles in the latest strikes, two U.S. officials said.

## Looking to space to save whales

Project will use data to monitor and protect them

BY PATRICK WHITTLE  
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Maine — An aquarium and an engineering firm in Massachusetts are partnering on a project to better protect whales by monitoring them from space.

New England Aquarium of Boston and Draper of Cambridge say whale conservation needs new, higher-tech solutions to protect whales from extinction. So, the pair is working together using data from sources such as satellites, sonar and radar to keep a closer eye on how many whales are in the ocean.

The effort has an easy to understand name for a project involving complex data and surveillance — the aquarium and firm are calling the project “Counting Whales From Space.” That's about the only simple thing about the project, said John Irvine, chief scientist for data analytics with Draper.

The work will involve gathering data from sources ranging from European space agencies to amateur radio operators to create a probability map of where in the ocean the whales might

**The goal is a “global watch on whale movement.”**

— John Irvine, chief scientist for data analytics, Draper

be, Irvine said. Conservation groups will then be able to monitor whales and their movements, he said.

“If whales are moving out of one area and into another, what's the reason for that? Is it due to ocean warming?” Irvine said. “Is it changes in commercial shipping lanes? These are all questions we'll be able to start answering once we have the data.”

The partners have committed a combined \$1 million to the effort. The project is expected to develop over several years.

Aerial surveys are currently the most frequent method to count whales, partners on the project said. However, that approach is expensive, subject to bad weather conditions and can be dangerous, they said.

Project members said the goal of their work is to develop new technology that uses specially designed algorithms to process all the data they acquire and use it to monitor whales. Exactly what the final product could look like is a work in progress, Irvine said, but the goal is a “global watch on whale movement.”

The technology could potentially be used to monitor whales anywhere in the world's oceans, but some of the most pressing need for monitoring is just off New England, said Vikki Spruill, president of New England Aquarium. The region's waters are home to the endangered North Atlantic right whale, which numbers only about 400 and is declining. Better data and surveillance tools could help inform conservation of the species, Spruill said.

Especially since whales rarely respect international boundaries.

## Royals

Continued from Page 1

and Meghan, 38, his wife are embarking on is momentous. Although he is sixth in the line of succession to Queen Elizabeth II, Harry has exerted an outsize hold on the public imagination ever since his days as the mischievous younger son of Prince Charles and Princess Diana.

For the duke and duchess to forsake Britain and relinquish their royal duties, even for part of the year, will

be a jolt to one of the nation's most immutable institutions.

It continues the convention-defying ways of Harry, who enthralled millions of Britons and angered others when he decided to take an American actress, with a biracial background, as his bride.

Buckingham Palace issued a terse two-day statement Wednesday evening, suggesting that the couple's announcement had caught the royal family off guard, if not totally blindsided it.

“Discussions with the Duke and Duchess of Sus-

sex are at an early stage,” the statement said. “We understand their desire to take a different approach, but these are complicated issues that will take time to work through.”

Among those issues, one royal watcher said, was how a partial self-exile would work. Other members of the family have been exiled because of divorce, abdication or their own behavior. But no one has attempted the half-in, half-out arrangement that Harry and his wife appear to be pursuing.

It also raises questions

about how they would support themselves, since British taxpayers fund their security, among many other expenses.

Wednesday's announcement came amid persistent rumors of tensions between Harry and Meghan and his brother, Prince William, and his wife, Kate, which have been eagerly dissected by the tabloid press in London.

In October, during a trip to South Africa, the Sussexes opened up to TV interviewer Tom Bradby. The duchess said she was struggling with being a roy-

al and a new mother. Harry kindled rumors of a rift by saying that he and William were on “different paths at the moment.”

On Wednesday, the duke and duchess said they would continue “to fully support Her Majesty the Queen” and would still support charities with which they are affiliated.

But they said they wanted to give their 8-month-old son, Prince Archie, “geographic balance” in his upbringing. Spending part of the year outside Britain, they said, would provide their family

with “the space to focus on the next chapter, including the launch of our new charitable entity.”

The couple did not say where in North America they planned to live, but royal watchers said they expected it to be Canada.

The couple spent several weeks during the holidays at a house in Vancouver, and the duchess — who was raised in Los Angeles and attended Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, graduating in 2003 — lived in Toronto for several years, where her television series, “Suits,” was filmed.

# Church forced to learn to fight back

Deadly plot against Ga. congregation uncovered in time

BY AUDRA D.S. BURCH  
The New York Times

GAINESVILLE, Ga. — The tiny white church has new locks, peepholes and brass plates. While its parishioners pray, the sanctuary is bolted shut and a police officer is now stationed outside. Soon, surveillance cameras will be installed, and the 47-member congregation will participate in active-shooter training.

This is the next chapter for the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, which the authorities said was targeted in mid-November. Gainesville police charged a 16-year-old white girl with planning a racially motivated knife attack to kill the black worshippers, a plot they said bore eerie similarity to a 2015 massacre at a storied African American church in Charleston, South Carolina.

In Gainesville, a small city of 40,000 residents in the heart of Georgia's poultry industry, the police chief has urged church members to use low-tech force to protect themselves. They should hurl Bibles or hot coffee, chairs or fire extinguishers, anything, he said, that can be weaponized if they are under attack and cannot safely escape.

"It's a shame that we live in a world today where we have to protect our institutions of worship, our schools, but evil knows where we are most vulnerable," Chief Jay Parrish told church leaders during a recent introduction to the active-shooter training. "The lightning bolt got too close this time."

Faced with a rise in attacks on houses of worship, the Rev. Michelle Rizer-Pool, the pastor of Bethel, and other religious leaders across the country are fortifying their build-



The Rev. Michelle Rizer-Pool hugs congregants at the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church, in Gainesville, Georgia.



A peephole was added to the Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church after a deadly plot was uncovered.

ings and preparing for the possibility of mass shootings. Some have also turned to armed security and organized law enforcement patrols.

Last week, a gunman opened fire during Sunday service at a Texas church, killing two congregants before an armed member of the church's volunteer security team fatally shot him. And over the past two years, gunmen have targeted worshippers at synagogues in Poway, California, where one person died, and in Pittsburgh, where a man shouting anti-Semitic slurs gunned down 11 people, and

at a Baptist church in Sutherland Springs, Texas, where 26 people were killed and 20 more were wounded.

"Unfortunately, this is what it has come to. We have to be ready to fight back," said Rizer-Pool, a retired Army major who has led Bethel for about 18 months. "We are having to get our arms around this idea of praying and praising our God in what is supposed to be a place of peace, but having to be watchful and on the lookout."

Faith groups have responded to the growing threat of hate crimes and

violence, in part, by offering specialized training and producing safety guides. The Council on American-Islamic Relations published a safety manual for religious institutions and began holding training sessions after a mass shooting at a Sikh temple in Wisconsin in 2012.

"Our thinking is, if you substitute 'mosque' for 'church' or 'synagogue' or 'temple,' the concerns are the same, so we made the guide available to the entire faith community," said Ibrahim Hooper, national communications director for the group.

After a gunman stormed the small church in Sutherland Springs in November 2017, a Dallas-area megachurch organized an active-shooter training session, which more than 600 church leaders from across the country attended. Since then, the church and the Southern Baptists of Texas Convention have provided training and security assessments at 150 churches in Texas, Oregon and Missouri. Texas legislators responded, too, by passing laws that allow anyone with

a concealed-carry license to bring firearms into churches.

In Gainesville, 55 miles northeast of Atlanta, the police department has conducted training and security assessments across the city since a gunman stormed an elementary school in Newtown, Connecticut, and killed 26 people, including 20 children, in 2012.

At Bethel on one recent dreary Saturday morning, after the hymn, the prayer and the scripture reading, Parrish and Sgt. Kevin Holbrook talked to the church's leadership about fear — and fighting back. They had gathered in a backroom to discuss the creation of a security team and response plan to protect the congregation.

The new reality, the police officers said, calls for adding a layer of vigilance to the church's general culture and spirit of inclusion. Now, parishioners need to know alternate exits. They need to make eye contact with visitors. They need to set up patrol details.

But the most important strategy, the officers said, is knowing how to react if

attacked: Run, hide or fight. Run to safety; hide from the attacker; or, as a last resort, fight back with anything available.

"A fire extinguisher makes a huge cloud, and if it gets in your eyes, it blinds. And if you get hit in the head with it, it will knock you out," Parrish said. "If you have to fight, know you're fighting for your life."

The Gainesville High School student arrested a few weeks before this training session was on a mission to kill Bethel church members, the authorities said. In a carefully orchestrated plan, they said, the teenage girl acquired butcher knives, researched online, took meticulous notes and had scouted the church's location on Mill Street.

On the day she went to the church — either to launch the attack or to collect more information, the police said — she found an empty building. Authorities said the girl's plan was likely inspired by Dylann Roof, the convicted white supremacist who murdered nine worshippers during Bible study at a church of the same denomination, Emanuel AME, in Charleston, South Carolina.

The Gainesville plot was foiled by classmates who told a high school counselor about the girl's notebook, which contained the chilling plans. Police said the level of detail in her notes may have saved Bethel.

The student, who has not been identified by the authorities, was charged with criminal intent to commit murder.

Though police said her plan was racially motivated, she was not charged with a hate crime because the state is one of four across the country with no such law. But after the planned attack was made public, a group of black legislators announced that they would continue to push for a bill to create stiffer penalties for crimes motivated by hate.

## Mexicans join the asylum line at the US border

More seek refuge amid surge from Central America

BY PATRICK J. McDONNELL  
Los Angeles Times

MATAMOROS, Mexico — Emma Sánchez waited patiently in line at the foot of a bridge leading across the Rio Grande and into Texas, one of tens of thousands of people stuck on Mexico's northern border seeking political asylum in the United States.

"They cut my husband to pieces and dumped his body by the road," Sánchez said matter-of-factly as she showed a visitor a link to a news article about the grisly demise of her spouse, a former taxi driver who, his widow said, refused to pay protection money to the local mob.

"Now I'm afraid they are coming after me and my kids," she added, explaining why she had fled to Matamoros with her four daughters.

It is the kind of haunting account heard frequently in this Mexican border town, where hundreds of Central American asylum-seekers who say they are fleeing

gang violence await court dates in the United States. They mostly spend their days in a rough tent city along the Rio Grande, relying largely on charity from donors from the United States and Mexico for food, medical care and other essentials.

But Sánchez is not from Central America. She is a native of Acapulco — once a beach destination for Hollywood movie stars and other high-rolling vacationers, now a sun-splashed Pacific Coast battleground where rival Mexican factions battle for control of drug trafficking and other illicit enterprises.

She is also illustrative of a relatively new — and, from the Trump administration perspective, troubling — trend: The convergence along the border of escalating numbers of Mexican nationals seeking asylum in the United States.

Word about Central Americans and others gaining U.S. footholds via the asylum process has spread to violence-racked areas of Mexico, prompting many to head north to border towns, from Matamoros on the Gulf of Mexico to Tijuana on the Pacific.

"First we heard about the

caravans, then we heard that the Central Americans were getting asylum in the United States," said José Antonio Mendoza, 28, another asylum hopeful here from Guerrero, the western Mexican state where Acapulco is also situated. "And then we heard that asylum was also a possibility for Mexicans."

Mendoza has been waiting here for two months with his wife and two children, ages 3 and 7.

The number of Mexican asylum-seekers arriving at the southwestern border has been steadily rising in recent months — even as the ranks of Central Americans and others seeking U.S. refuge have slowed in the face of crackdowns and policy shifts in both Mexico and the United States.

Mexican nationals now account for slightly more than half the 21,000 or so people on various asylum waiting lists in Mexican border towns, according to a study last month by researchers at the University of Texas and UC San Diego. A year ago, relatively few Mexican nationals were in the bulging border asylum queues.

"People hear through friends, through social media, through the news that



Children play at an encampment of Mexican asylum seekers by the Paso del Norte International Bridge in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.

Mexicans can come to the border and get asylum in the United States," noted Gladys Cañas, who heads a non-profit group aiding migrants here. "Some sell their homes or land to finance the trip, but they end up getting stuck here. So far, asylum is more of an illusion than a reality for many Mexicans."

Here, as at other crossings along the Rio Grande, blue-uniformed officers from U.S. Customs and Border Protection are stationed mid-bridge and stop many asylum-seekers from proceeding into U.S. territory. U.S. officials defend the process as necessary because of staff shortages. But immigrant

advocates call the practice illegal, possibly sending Mexicans back to their deaths, and have sued to stop it.

For U.S. officials, the Mexican influx poses a special challenge: Unlike Central Americans and other Spanish-speaking asylum aspirants, Mexicans cannot be dispatched back to Mexico to await future court hearings, the fate of more than 50,000 asylum applicants under the Trump administration's "Remain in Mexico" policy. International law has long banned sending people back to countries where they may face persecution.

Instead, according to Mexican asylum-seekers and advocates, U.S. authorities have adopted a policy of allowing only a trickle of Mexican asylum-seekers to enter the United States, a process called "metering."

And that policy could soon become more restrictive: Recently, Ken Cucinelli, acting deputy secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, said Mexican nationals seeking asylum in the United States might be shipped to Guatemala rather than being allowed to wait in the United States for the conclusion of asylum cases, which can drag on for months or years.

## Panama Canal marks 20 years of US handover amid water crisis

BY JUAN ZAMORANO  
Associated Press

PANAMA CITY — Panama marked the 20-year anniversary Tuesday of the turnover of the Panama Canal, now amid a water crisis that threatens the viability of the waterway.

Declining rainfall and rising temperatures have reduced the level of freshwater lakes that fill the locks of the Panama Canal and allow boats to transit between the Pacific and the Atlantic.

While Panama has been successful at running — and expanding — the canal after the U.S. handed over control, it now must face a new challenge: to find a new source of water for the locks.

The anniversary of the Dec. 31, 1999, handover comes amid months of water-depth restrictions that limit what the cargo ships using the waterway can carry.

Changes in climate — and a recent expansion to allow bigger ships to pass — may

have finally caught up with the canal's 105-year-old design, in which the artificial Gatun Lake functions as part of the ship passage and also provides drinking water for about half the country.

"The rainfall over the canal watershed is just not enough to keep the expanded canal operating, much less any further expansion," said analyst and hydroelectric dam expert Jose Isabel Blandon. "Panama has to start looking at this problem, because the

lakes also provide drinking water for 2 million people."

All that doesn't mean that Panamanians aren't happy about the handover, and their anniversary. President Laurentino Cortizo hoisted a giant Panamanian flag outside the canal headquarters Tuesday.

The handover, Cortizo said, "demolished a barrier that divided the country," a reference to the fact the canal runs through the middle of Panama. "What our people achieved was union."



Small boats sit Tuesday near the Bridge of the Americas at the entrance to the Panama Canal in Panama City.

## NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

### Second day of jury selection wraps in Weinstein's rape trial

NEW YORK — A second day of jury selection in Harvey Weinstein's rape trial wrapped up Wednesday with 30 people invited back next week for additional questioning. In all, 66 prospective jurors have advanced to the next stage in what is expected to be a lengthy selection process.

Weinstein is charged in New York with raping a woman in a hotel room in 2013 and sexually assaulting another in 2006. If convicted, he could be

sentenced to life in prison. Weinstein's lawyers asked the judge to step aside Wednesday after he threatened to jail the disgraced movie mogul for texting in the courtroom after being previously warned.

A letter from the defense team to Judge James Burke said his comments Tuesday were "prejudicial and inflammatory" and raised questions about his impartiality. Burke has not ruled on the request.

### EU chief warns Britain must compromise to get trade deal

LONDON — Three weeks before Britain is due to leave the European Union, the president of the European Commission warned Wednesday that the U.K. won't get the "highest quality access" to the European Union's market unless it makes major concessions.

In a friendly but frank message to the U.K., Ursula von der Leyen said negotiating a new U.K.-EU trade deal will be

tough. She also said the end-of-2020 deadline that Prime Minister Boris Johnson has imposed on negotiations makes it "basically impossible" to strike a comprehensive agreement in time.

Von der Leyen, who took over as head of the EU's executive branch Dec. 1, met Johnson at 10 Downing Street in London on Wednesday for the first time since his election victory last month.

### Leaders of Turkey and Russia urge Jan. 12 cease-fire in Libya

BRUSSELS — Turkey and Russia called for a Jan. 12 cease-fire in war-torn Libya on Wednesday while European Union officials intensified diplomatic efforts to cool tensions in the North African nation by holding talks with its prime minister.

In a related diplomatic push in Rome, Italian Premier Giuseppe Conte met with Libya's Gen. Khalifa Hifter, whose eastern-based forces have

launched a fresh offensive against Prime Minister Fayez Sarraj's U.N.-backed government in Tripoli.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Russian President Vladimir Putin called for the Jan. 12 cease-fire after the two met in Istanbul.

The fighting has threatened to plunge Libya into violent chaos rivaling the 2011 conflict that ousted and killed longtime dictator Moammar Gadhafi.



LISA MAREE WILLIAMS/GETTY

**A volunteer caretaker** feeds an injured koala joey Wednesday at Australia's Kangaroo Island Wildlife Park, which has been treating and housing close to 30 koalas a day after nearby catastrophic wildfires have burned more than 383,000 acres since Saturday.

### Gunman given life sentence in 'Fast, Furious' border killing

TUCSON, Ariz. — A man convicted of shooting a U.S. Border Patrol agent nine years ago in a case that exposed a botched federal gun operation known as "Fast and Furious" was sentenced Wednesday to life in prison.

U.S. District Judge David Bury sentenced Heraclio Osorio-Arellanes to the mandatory life sentence after hearing tearful statements from the sisters of Brian Terry, the agent who was fatally shot while on a mission on Dec. 14, 2010.

Osorio-Arellanes is one of seven defendants who were charged in the slaying

of Terry. Osorio-Arellanes was convicted of first-degree murder last year after being extradited from Mexico in 2018.

Terry's death exposed the "Fast and Furious" operation, in which U.S. federal agents allowed criminals to buy firearms with the intention of tracking them to criminal organizations. But the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives lost track of most of the guns, including two found at the scene of Terry's death.

Terry, 40, was part of a four-man team in an elite Border Patrol unit staking

out the southern Arizona desert on a mission to find "rip-off" crew members who rob drug smugglers. They encountered a group and identified themselves as police.

The men refused to stop, prompting an agent to fire bean bags at them. They responded by firing AK-47-type assault rifles. Terry was struck in the back and died soon after.

Osorio-Arellanes was the shooter that night.

Five of the seven men charged in Terry's killing are serving prison sentences after pleading guilty or being convicted.

### Man in GoFundMe scam faces new indictment

NEWARK, N.J. — A New Jersey man who has already pleaded guilty in state court to participating in an online donation fraud scheme involving a homeless veteran was indicted Wednesday on federal charges.

Mark D'Amico faces a total of 16 counts of con-

spiracy, wire fraud and money laundering, the U.S. attorney's office said in a release. Federal investigators initially leveled the charges against the 40-year-old Bordentown resident in October.

Last month, D'Amico pleaded guilty in state court to misapplication of en-

trusted property and will serve a five-year term.

D'Amico, his ex-girlfriend Katelyn McClure and homeless veteran Johnny Bobbitt made up a story in late 2017 about Bobbitt giving \$20 to help McClure when her car ran out of gas in Philadelphia, prosecutors said.

### Equal Rights Amendment window shut, the DOJ says

BOSTON — The Justice Department has thrown a roadblock into efforts to revive the Equal Rights Amendment, finding that expired deadlines set by Congress on ratification of the measure means it's too late for additional states to ratify it now.

The memo by Assistant Attorney General Steven Engel comes as Virginia is poised to become the decisive 38th state to approve the ERA nearly four decades after Congress sent it to states in 1972, attaching a 1979 ratification deadline to it.

That deadline was later extended to 1982. During that time just 35 states ratified it — three short of the 38 needed.

"Because three-fourths of the state legislatures did not ratify before the deadline that Congress imposed, the Equal Rights Amendment has failed of adoption and is no longer pending," Engel wrote.

**In Wisconsin:** One of two Milwaukee children who were shot by a man because they threw a snowball at his car said he didn't expect the driver to retaliate.

"I didn't think twice," 13-year-old Nicholas Johnson told "CBS This Morning" on Wednesday. Johnson said he didn't see the driver react to the snowball hitting his vehicle Saturday night. "He just got out of the car and started shooting."

Johnson was shot in the arm and a 12-year-old girl was also wounded. Both are expected to survive. They were among a group of children who were throwing snowballs at passing cars on the north side of Milwaukee.

Investigators said they are looking for the driver of a white Toyota.

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## EDITORIALS



ERIC BARADAT/GETTY

President Donald Trump speaks about the situation with Iran on Wednesday at the White House.

## Pressuring Iran, Trump adds diplomacy to deterrence

After the United States killed Iranian Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani, and Iran responded by launching missiles at U.S. military bases in Iraq, what would President Donald Trump do? We were as unsettled as anyone at the prospect of Trump exacerbating dangers by letting his ego and emotions rule.

**That didn't happen — at least not immediately.** In a televised address Wednesday the president sensibly signaled that the current military confrontation could be over.

Trump sounded tough on Iran over its nuclear ambitions, but he replaced, or at least supplemented, threats of further U.S. military action with something we rarely hear from him: the steady language of diplomacy. Trump said Iran appeared to be standing down, that he didn't want to order the U.S. back into battle and that he wanted Europe's help, and NATO's participation, in an effort to draw Iran back into negotiations over its nuclear and ballistic missile programs. Trump said he wants a deal "that allows Iran to thrive and prosper and take advantage of its enormous untapped potential."

Those would be prudent moves by any U.S. president who has the world's most powerful armed forces at his disposal but is focused on giving an adversary the opportunity to de-escalate. "We do not want to use it," Trump said of America's military might. "American strength, both military and economic, is the best deterrent."

In fact, the language of Trump's TV address would have sounded familiar, boilerplate even, if uttered by a conventional president. That's not Trump. He routinely insults his political foes and once threatened North Korea with "fire and fury," taunting Kim Jong Un by calling him "Little Rocket Man." Trump's political recklessness got him impeached. We'll hand out no extra credit points to Trump for behaving responsibly at a moment of international crisis — one he created by ordering a drone attack on Soleimani.

**Instead, the focus turns to the viability of Trump's strategy** for reining in Iran. He took out Soleimani, commander of the Revolutionary Guards' Quds Force, because he was the architect of Iran's asymmetrical mayhem. In response, Iran launched missiles at two Iraqi bases that house American troops, causing no casualties. That was followed by an Iranian announcement that its retaliation had "concluded." U.S. forces had acted quickly to keep their personnel out of harm's way. They also were lucky every missile apparently landed with a thud.

This provides Trump with a window of opportunity to rally U.S. allies to his side in order to restart the difficult process of negotiating a broader international nuclear deal with Iran. That deal also should address Iran's support for terrorist groups and its ballistic missile program.

Trump would put himself in a much stronger position if he could coax the United Kingdom, Germany and France to join him. They recently signaled an interest, given recent Iranian attacks in the Persian Gulf. They also were put off by the killing of Soleimani. Maybe European leaders heard enough from Trump on Wednesday to further engage. In his

speech, the president made a pitch for international cooperation, including seeking NATO involvement. That could help lower tensions in Iraq, where Shiite politicians want to evict America's military.

**The long-running standoff with Iran is by no means over.** Trump kicked up some new dirt by declaring Iran would never be allowed to have a nuclear weapon on his watch; he doesn't want to tolerate yet another North Korea. Trump also promised to impose additional economic sanctions on Iran. If the mullahs in Tehran feel backed into a corner, they could lash out. If Trump feels emboldened, or sees a potential political advantage at home, he could ratchet up tensions again.

This president is not temperamentally suited for the delicate art of diplomacy. On Wednesday, though, he delivered.

**"We do not want to use it," Trump said of America's military might. "American strength, both military and economic, is the best deterrent."**

## Another Ill. scandal: Did a 'loyal' Democrat conceal rape to protect his political allies?

*But, Gary, for Gods (sic) sake do not let this disciplinary meeting get out of hand. This man is a good compliance person, as I have told you. The AG's office and the Sheriff's love working with him. He has kept his mouth shut on Jones' ghost workers, the rape in Champaign and other items. He is loyal to the Administration."*

— Excerpt of a 2012 email from clouted Springfield lobbyist Michael McClain to two top aides of Gov. Pat Quinn, asking lenience for a state worker in a disciplinary case.

The politically soiled request is outrageous, its nonchalance about rape astonishing. On Tuesday, Chicago's WBEZ dropped a bombshell story about former legislator and lobbyist Michael McClain. He's a close ally of House Speaker Michael Madigan and one subject of a federal investigation of Commonwealth Edison's lobbying at the state Capitol.

If you live here, if you vote here, take note of McClain's evident access to power — and his cover-up attitude toward sexual assault: This email suggests that one of Springfield's most influential insiders felt comfortable requesting — from top aides of the governor — special treatment for a Democratic loyalist who allegedly had "kept his mouth shut" about a rape, ghost workers and "other items."

**What an infuriating message from the crony of Speaker Madigan**, who also happens to head the Illinois Democratic Party. McClain essentially told Quinn's lieutenants: *This state employee allegedly concealed a rape and you guys should be grateful for that. He covered up other bad acts too. But he's loyal to the Democratic governor's administration. So your office should reward his fealty by protecting him.*

WBEZ also reported that, a day later, McClain thanked Quinn's aides for what McClain said was the abrupt postponement of a hearing in the case, telling them, "Nothing happens accidentally." The employee is identified in the news story as Forrest Ashby, then an administrator at a Department of Human Services facility in downstate Rushville and now a \$40-an-hour consultant with the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board.

Per WBEZ: "He left the state payroll as a full-time worker in 2018. But Ashby almost immediately landed a new gig — as a \$5,000-a-month political consultant to (J.B.) Pritzker's campaign for governor in that year's election, state records show. McClain recommended Ashby for the job, the Pritzker campaign said this week."

**Quinn told us Wednesday** that he knew nothing of Ashby, or of McClain's request to the governor's office, until the radio station recently contacted him for comment. We don't know whether Quinn's aides — legislative affairs liaison Gary Hannig and chief of staff Jerry Stermer — reported the email to authorities or otherwise reacted to McClain's outreach; the two men did not respond to the reporters' calls and emails.

We expect law enforcement officers, prosecutors and state officials to pursue this infuriating email wherever it leads. The point isn't to further immerse this state's long-victim citizens in the Illinois culture of political sleaze. The point is to learn what happened and hold any wrongdoers accountable.

The questions here practically ask themselves: Did the cover-ups alleged in the email actually occur? If so, who benefited — politically, or by protection from criminal prosecution? And most important, what are the full implications of the phrase "the rape in Champaign"?

Some members of Madigan's caucus expressed anger over what they've read in McClain's email. If any of them called for new leadership of their caucus or of the Illinois Democratic Party, we missed that. On Wednesday his office issued this statement in Madigan's name: "These are extremely serious and troubling allegations. I had no knowledge of the incident referenced in the story and only learned of this today. I encourage those with any information to come forward."

**Which raises one other question we hope every Democrat** in the legislature and state offices will ask: Who bestowed so much hubris on Michael McClain that he would ask the governor's office to reward the cover-up of a rape?

### WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

The division in the Democratic Party today isn't so much about ideology. It's more about strategy: Should the party be a coalition or a movement?

What's the difference? A coalition brings together voters with diverse interests who agree on one thing: President Donald Trump has to go.

The current Democratic primary campaign for president, with its focus on issues like a wealth tax and a Green New Deal, often sounds esoteric and irrelevant to voters.

One candidate, former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg, is spending hundreds of millions of dollars on social media and television ads to remind voters of what the election is really about. One Bloomberg ad features a Michigan voter saying, "All this effort and all this money and none of it goes to help the one election that really matters" — meaning the referendum on Donald Trump.

Right now, about 55% of voters have an unfavorable personal opinion of the president. What Democrats have to do is hold the anti-Trump coalition together. The message of the Bloomberg ads is: If you don't like Trump for any reason — personal, ideological, policy-related — you're one of us. No further questions.

What the ads have not yet done is convince people that Michael Bloomberg is the candidate to do it.

Bill Schneider, The Hill

### EDITORIAL CARTOON



MICHAEL RAMIREZ/THE LAS VEGAS REVIEW-JOURNAL

Chicago Tribune  
**PERSPECTIVE**



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

# My struggle to stay sober with the smell of weed all around me

BY TIMOTHY J. HILLEGONDS

On Jan. 1, when Illinois became the 11th state to legalize recreational marijuana, nearly \$3.2 million worth of weed was sold that first day. Lines of people akin to those normally encountered at the Apple store on an iPhone launch day, or at Six Flags Great America in mid-July, stretched around blocks as people waited for each of Chicago's nine dispensaries to open. News photos from that first day show a diverse mix of people chatting with one another as they wait, many of them smiling, many of them about to get high.

And yet, as the celebration continues unabated, I can't help but feel something less than happiness and excitement, something closer to anxiety, a feeling that has absolutely nothing to do with the long-argued-and-now-resolved issue of whether or not marijuana should be legal in Illinois.

As a Gen Xer, I came of age during Nancy's Reagan's "Just Say No" campaign and was taught the seminal lesson of "gateway drug theory": If I smoke a joint or drink a beer on Friday, I have a much greater chance of snorting cocaine on Saturday. At the time, I laughed off the lesson, which seemed absurd and alarmist. And then like most everyone else I knew, I completed the D.A.R.E. program, got the T-shirt and then promptly went to the park to smoke a bowl while wearing it.

The problem for me, which I now see as humorous irony, albeit darkly

humorous irony, is that even though gateway drug theory has largely been debunked (even D.A.R.E. now acknowledges that not everyone who uses marijuana will transition to using heroin or other drugs), drinking beer and smoking weed *actually did* lead me to harder drug use: crystal methamphetamine, acid, mushrooms, cocaine, ecstasy and whatever pain pills I could find and pilfer. The addict switch that exists inside me was flipped on sometime in my teens, and everything from that point forward became about sustaining the feeling that substances gave me.

What came after that switch was flipped will feel familiar to anyone who's ever been or known an addict: I was expelled from high school, amassed a pages-long list of misdemeanor crimes and picked up a felony for trying, and, unfortunately, failing to outrun the police in a borrowed car. (Who knew real-life police chases were so difficult?)

Fifteen years ago, though, I got sober. I was given a painfully effective ultimatum and then shipped off, begrudgingly, to a 12-step-based rehabilitation program that was centered around the idea of abstaining from all substances. I hated sobriety at first, and then hated it a little less and then, as time passed, I began to enjoy it. I spent years making amends and rebuilding my life, while also constructing a recovery framework that insulated me from substances and situations that might be taxing on my sobri-

ety: I stayed away from bars and clubs; I kept my home free of vodka and cocaine; I told just about anyone who would listen that I was an addict and alcoholic.

But the legalization of marijuana has presented me with a conundrum I never saw coming and don't exactly know how to deal with. I've found that it's increasingly harder for me to escape marijuana's pungent atmosphere. I smell it incessantly — when I walk to the train in the morning on the way to my office; when I ride the elevator in my apartment building as I return home; when I take my aging pit bull for his nightly walk around the neighborhood. Weed permeates my life, still, in a way that alcohol and other substances no longer do. Even in sobriety, even though I've built a substance-free existence, it's now suddenly ever-present, which means I'm constantly reminded of a time in my life where I used whatever I could — especially weed — to escape or enhance whatever it was that I was feeling.

It's certainly not anyone else's job to protect me from myself, but I wonder where legal weed culture leaves people like me who've adopted a recovery model based on abstinence and avoidance. It's fairly easy to stay away from cocaine and ecstasy and virtually every other substance with which I used to engage, but weed is everywhere, all the time, and there's a sometimes overwhelming sensory aspect to it, a smell that reminds me of rolling joints and listening to music, of summer nights

on a high-rise balcony passing a bowl, of feeling like nothing in the world could hurt me, not even myself.

For an addict like me, that feeling was never enough, and so much could and did hurt me, *especially* myself. After the baggie was empty and the roach was smoked, I inevitably searched for highs that lasted longer, were more euphoric and got me faster to that place where the universe ceased to matter.

Being reminded of that time in my life while I'm on the way to work in the morning, when I least expect it, when I'm least prepared for the dangerous, nostalgic feeling that often arrives right before a relapse is, quite simply, tough.

Like many of those women and men standing in line on Jan. 1 to cop their first bag of legal weed, I live in this beautiful, progressive, Purple Haze-filled city. It's a city that I love, overflowing with people I love, a city that's constantly striving to be a more inclusive, less oppressive, more aware version of itself. I don't want any of that to change.

What I'm asking for is simply more of what we already seem to have in abundance: understanding. An understanding that while it's true that a long-awaited party is finally beginning for most people, for me and others like me, it unexpectedly ended a while back.

Timothy J. Hillegonds is the author of "The Distance Between."

OP-ART JOE FOURNIER

## FOREWARNED IS...

BY JOE "BUT YOU SAID PRESIDENT BUSH GOING INTO THE MIDDLE EAST WAS THE 'WORST SINGLE MISTAKE EVER MADE IN THE HISTORY OF OUR COUNTRY'" FOURNIER



## PERSPECTIVE



SAUL LOEB/GETTY-AFP

President Donald Trump leaves after speaking about Iran in the Grand Foyer of the White House on Wednesday.

## War averted (for now), Trump should overhaul Iran strategy

BY IVO DAALDER

Iran's missile attack on two U.S. air bases in Iraq was the latest step bringing the United States and Iran to the brink of war. Yet, rather than escalating after the attack, President Donald Trump decided to back away from further military confrontation.

That was the right decision. Further escalation would only lead to a war neither side wants.

But having come close to war, this is the right time for the administration to reassess its overall strategy toward Iran. For not only did its strategy bring us close to war, it also failed in achieving its larger strategic objectives.

That strategy was laid out by the administration in May 2018 when Trump announced that the United States would abandon the nuclear deal that the previous administration had negotiated with Iran. Trump's objections to the deal (which also included Britain, France, Germany, China and Russia as signatories) was that it had failed to address Iran's destabilizing regional behavior and its main provisions would expire in 10 to 15 years.

Instead, Trump opted for a strategy of "maximum pressure" designed to bring Tehran to heel.

He reimposed the stringent economic sanctions that had been lifted as part of the nuclear agreement and threatened foreign countries and corporations with sanctions if they continued to do business with Iran.

The economic consequences for Iran have been severe. As oil exports plummeted, Iran's economy went into deep recession, with its GDP falling by 5% in 2018 and an additional 10% in 2019.

Yet, far from giving in to this maximum pressure, Iran offered "maximum resistance" through a series of escalatory steps of its own (or through its proxies). It

**The latest turn in events shows that more pressure alone is not going to bring Iran around; it only risks a war.**

mined the narrow waterways of the Strait of Hormuz, hitting a number of foreign oil tankers. It downed an unarmed U.S. drone. It attacked Saudi oil production facilities. And, most worryingly, it steadfastly walked away from the limits imposed by the nuclear deal.

Trump opted not to respond to any of these provocations — until, that is, Iranian-backed militias attacked U.S. forces and stormed the U.S. Embassy in Iraq.

In response, he ordered the killing of Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani, Iran's most senior and revered military commander — the most extreme of the military options the Pentagon had presented to him.

It proved a fateful decision. For not only did it provoke Iran's retaliatory missile attacks, it also set back Washington's strategic objectives in the region more broadly.

Iraqis, who only weeks before were demonstrating against Tehran's growing influence in their country, now rallied in opposition to the U.S. military presence on their territory.

The government is now demanding the withdrawal of U.S. forces. Should that happen, Iranian influence inside Iraq will grow even greater and the U.S.-led campaign against Islamic State would be dealt a terrible blow.

Moreover, far from weakening hard-line forces in Iran, the killing of Soleimani unified a previously divided nation and strengthened the hold of Iranian hard-

liners on its political future. Leaders across the Iranian political spectrum have now made clear that their singular focus will be to bring the U.S. presence in Iraq and the region to an end. And they've also made clear that Iran will no longer abide by any of the limitations in the 2015 nuclear agreement. As a result, the prospect of an Iranian nuclear bomb is now more real than it has been in years.

The latest turn in events shows that more pressure alone is not going to bring Iran around; it only risks a war. A new strategy is urgently needed — one that relies more on diplomacy and includes other countries to help pressure Tehran.

It starts with reengaging our European allies to try and forge a common front. One important step would be to address some of the shortcomings of the original nuclear deal — including its failure to address Iran's ballistic missiles and destabilizing regional behavior and the expiration of key limits on its nuclear program. In return for European agreement to take a much tougher line on these issues, including an agreement to do what it takes to keep Iran more than a year away from being able to build a bomb, Washington should agree to come back into the deal.

Such an agreement would confront Tehran with a difficult choice: either return to the nuclear deal in exchange for a relaxation of sanctions or face even more severe economic pressure from a newly reunited U.S.-European front.

After President John F. Kennedy had stood at the brink of nuclear war in 1962, he opted for a new approach to Russia — one that focused on negotiations to manage nuclear arms. Now that Trump has come close to war with Iran, Trump would do well to follow Kennedy's example.

*Ivo Daalder is president of the Chicago Council on Global Affairs and a former U.S. ambassador to NATO.*

## VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

### US should tread carefully in Middle East

Letter writer Henry J.H. Wilson's denunciation of just-assassinated Iranian Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani probably is applauded by most of us ("Iranian commander deserved his fate," Jan. 4). Soleimani was indeed a major saboteur of peace in that chaotic part of the world, fomenting mischief, shedding much blood and demanding the destruction of Israel. However, Wilson's denunciations seem not to consider much that led to today's conflicts, inseparable from the overarching context, which includes the modern world's dependence on oil.

First came the Middle Ages' bloody Crusades, which still inflame resentment in the Middle East, where history is alive in consciousness the way the history of our Civil War is still alive among Southerners — only worse.

Nor do we even appreciate the impact resulting from England and France carving up the Middle East for their own benefit with oil as the prize, rearranging ancient boundaries, under the Sykes-Picot agreement in 1916.

Nor do we remember that in 1953, our CIA overthrew Iran's democratically elected president, Mohammad Mossadegh, during the Eisenhower administration. We replaced him with the ultimately hated Shah Reza Pahlavi, a puppet tyrant Iranians overthrew in '79. It turned them permanently against us. Had they done that to us, would our attitude be any different?

Moreover, Wilson wrongly called Soleimani a "coward," when news reports say he won respect from Iran's troops by joining them in the front-line trenches during the Iran-Iraq war, just as our Gen. Anthony McAuliffe did during World War II's Battle of the Bulge.

As imperative as it is to secure our interests here and now, which included killing Soleimani when the opportunity arose, we would do well never to be surprised by the weight of history hovering over all, by strategizing accordingly and not in a vacuum as seems typical of much of Washington's decision-making. Example: Our crushing of Saddam Hussein's Iraq failed to anticipate how it would usher Iran in to, in effect, take covert control of Iraq — a gift to Iran's mullahs, a setback for peace.

Taking on a world shrunken by intercontinental ballistic missiles, spy satellites, terrorist capabilities, digital warfare capability and ever more efficient ways of killing, may require a more nuanced approach. No matter how overmatched, it is human nature for other nations to insist that respect be a two-way street. Such an approach may yield better results, leaving outright crushing belligerence as a last resort.

— Ted Z. Manuel, Chicago

### Everything is lost with war

President Barack Obama said: "We will extend a hand if you are willing to unclench your fist." He accomplished forging the nuclear deal with Iran. It was not the best deal, it was not the worst deal. He accomplished enacting Obamacare. It was not the best care, it was not the worst care.

Everything is gained with peace. It is the best quid pro quo. Everything is lost with war.

God bless America.  
— Raffaele Di Zenzo, Westchester

### Trump's record on truth telling

Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani was probably evil. He may have been planning an imminent attack on the United States. I don't know. But what is clear is that President Donald Trump has lied constantly (over 15,000 times since his inauguration, according to some estimates), so how can anyone know that he was telling the truth this time?

— Len Woelfel, Oswego

### Is Iraq an ally of the US or not?

While the killing of Iranian Maj. Gen. Qassem Soleimani — it was not an assassination, he was a combatant — was certainly a bold act by the Trump administration, I ask myself how Iran would have reacted if an American general, after our attacks on Iranian-directed militias, had showed up at Tehran's airport for a meeting with Iranians who wanted to change the direction of Iran's government. Any idea?

That said, the message that I draw from this is not simply a message to Iran; it is perhaps a stronger message to the government of Iraq, which certainly must have known in advance of Soleimani's visit and exactly whom he would meet with, and the message is this: We are your ally or we are not. Which is it? Fully accommodating this visit, by someone you know has been responsible for targeting American military for years, says you are not. Please respond, government of Iraq.

— Neil Gaffney, Chicago

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## Through war or diplomacy, US must be in it to win

BY CAL THOMAS

Just before Iran's missile attacks Tuesday on U.S. bases inside Iraq, Secretary of Defense Mark Esper said, "We are not seeking war with Iran, but we are prepared to finish one." Esper said the U.S. prefers a "diplomatic" solution to the latest escalation.

Yes, that would be ideal, but a diplomatic solution would require Iran to reverse course, no longer fund and practice terrorism, stop developing a nuclear weapon and cease its repeated threats to destroy Israel.

Never at a loss to make political hay out of a serious foreign conflict with American troops in danger, Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi criticized the president in a mixed message: "We must ensure the safety of our service members, including ending needless provocations from the administration and demanding that Iran cease its violence. America and the world cannot afford war."

Pelosi said nothing about the endless provocations by Iran, the world's No. 1 sponsor of terrorism.

In an appearance Wednesday at the White House, President Donald Trump said: "As long as I am president of the United States, Iran will never be allowed to have a nuclear weapon." He called for a greater involvement by NATO in the Middle East without spelling out what

that would look like. And he promised more "punishing" economic sanctions on Iran, whose economy is already teetering on the brink.

That the president did not announce or threaten new specific military operations against Iran was significant and offers Tehran an opportunity to de-escalate the conflict.

I have written this before, but it bears repeating. Iran's theocratic leadership believes war is the path to revealing the "12th imam," their version of the Christian second coming. The mullahs of Iran are true believers who it appears are willing, even eager, to die for their cause, or more accurately have others die in their place.

Here is the formula the "no more war" crowd doesn't get or refuses to accept. Iran and its proxies kill U.S. troops, along with Iranian and foreign civilians, and we are supposed to take it. If America responds to Iran, as President Trump has done (unlike Barack Obama and Bill Clinton), we are the enemy of peace and guilty of "escalating" the conflict. War is never a one-way street, unless one side preemptively surrenders. Victory must be our goal and should be defined.

Perhaps feckless European nations, Saudi Arabia and other countries will see clearly now that we have been at war with these fanatics at least since 1979 when Iranian college students belonging to the Muslim Student Followers of the

Imam's Line seized the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and held 52 U.S. citizens hostage for 444 days until the inauguration of Ronald Reagan when the hostages were released. Maybe the Iranians feared Reagan would do then what Trump has done now, which is to punch back when attacked.

Yes, Iran must not be allowed to create nuclear weapons. Most in the West and Israel believe that. The question is how to stop them. There are multiple ways, short of armed conflict. There will not be an invasion of Iran, but cyberattacks, computer viruses, targeting missile sites and increased sanctions are all options. So is supporting those inside Iran who hate their government and wish to replace it.

Perhaps Iran's retaliatory attack was about "saving face" for the Iranian regime. Since no Americans were killed, and President Trump has said that is a red line for him, this could be the end of the latest conflict. It will most assuredly not be the end of this war. But no one should be under any illusion that what the U.S. and the West does short of surrender will affect the stated goals of the fanatics, who are in it to win it.

The ultimate question is, are we?

Tribune Content Agency

Cal Thomas is a syndicated columnist.



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# Chicago Tribune BUSINESS



ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE  
McDonald's global headquarters is seen in Chicago's West Loop on Dec. 19.

## Two execs file lawsuit against McDonald's

### Fast food giant accused of racial discrimination, derogatory comments

BY ROBERT CHANNICK

Two African American executives filed a lawsuit against McDonald's alleging they were passed over for promotions, subjected to a hostile work environment and ultimately demoted due to "pervasive" racial discrimination at the Chicago-based fast food giant.

In the lawsuit, filed Tuesday in Chicago federal court, Victoria Guster-Hines and Domineca Neal, who work out of the company's Dallas office, cited a "hostile and abusive work environment" that included threats, derogatory racial comments and impediments to advancement for African Americans within the company.

McDonald's demoted both Guster-Hines and Neal from vice president to senior director positions in July 2018 as part of a broader corporate restructuring under former CEO Steve Easterbrook, which the lawsuit alleges was a "ruthless purge" of African Americans from the ranks of its senior executives.

Easterbrook, who was fired in November over an admitted consensual relationship with an employee, was named as a defendant in the lawsuit along with current CEO Chris Kempczinski and Charles Strong, the Chicago-based west zone president for McDonald's.

"In shocking ways difficult to overstate, McDonald's under Easterbrook and Kempczinski declared war against the African American community," the lawsuit said.

McDonald's issued a statement Wednesday addressing the lawsuit and disputing its allegations.

"At McDonald's, our actions are rooted in our belief that a diverse, vibrant, inclusive and respectful company makes us stronger," the company said, noting that 45% of its corporate officers and all 10 of its field vice presidents are people of color. "While we disagree with characterizations in the complaint, we are currently reviewing it and will respond to the complaint accordingly."

Carmen Caruso, a Chicago-based attorney representing Guster-Hines and Neal in the lawsuit, said Wednesday both employees are on a leave of absence from their positions at

Turn to **Lawsuit, Page 2**

## After one week, Ill. dispensaries say they need more weed, workers

Stores hope to restock quickly after running out of supplies

BY ALLY MAROTTI

A week into recreational marijuana sales in Illinois, some stores have restocked their shelves and restarted sales while others hope to in the coming days.

But as the weekend nears, it's still hit and miss whether buyers will leave stores happy or empty-handed.

"It's very stressful," said Gorgi Naumovski, principal officer at Thrive dispensaries in Anna and Harrisburg, which both ran out of recreational products Friday and expect to start selling again Thursday.

NuMed Chicago started selling recreational weed again Tuesday after running out last week. But its East Peoria and Urbana loca-



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Customers wait to enter after long lines on the second day of recreational cannabis sales last Thursday outside Sunnyside in Lakeview.

tions ran out of recreational product on Wednesday. More product should be in stores by the weekend, said Jonah Rapino, director of marketing.

The Herbal Care Center on the

Near West Side expects to restart recreational sales on Friday, said general manager Michael Madera. It halted them last weekend, and never sold flower, or the popular dried marijuana buds

that can be smoked, to recreational customers.

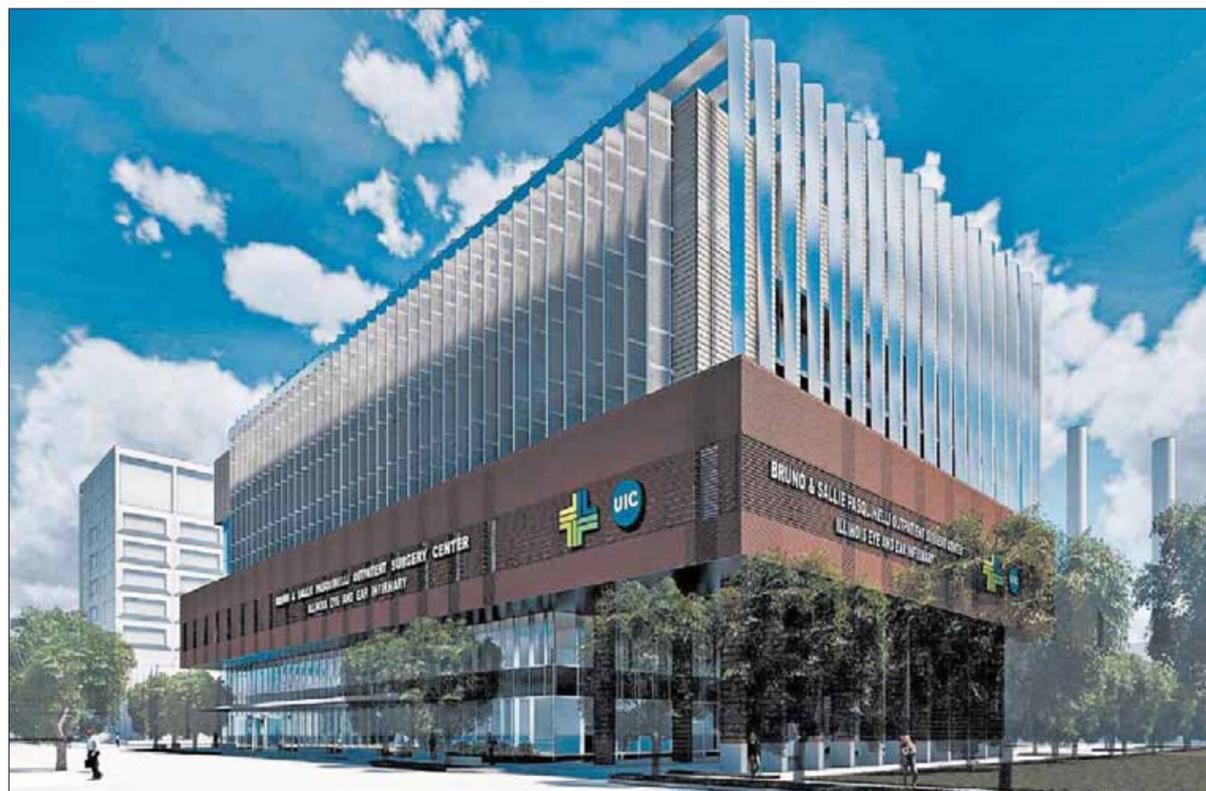
The past week has been educational for store owners who've learned, among other things, when to cut off the line. It's also given operators time to add employees as they become certified by the state.

The state collects fingerprints and runs background checks on potential new hires. Then, when an employee is approved, he or she is issued an agent card, which is mandatory for dispensary workers. Some training also is required.

Paul Isaac, deputy to the secretary of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, said the state received an influx of new agent applications.

"The Department is working as quickly as possible within the statutorily mandated timeframe

Turn to **Supplies, Page 2**



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS HOSPITAL AND HEALTH SCIENCE SYSTEM

The proposed \$191 million outpatient facility on the University of Illinois Hospital and Health Science System campus in Chicago.

## U of I hospital seeks to build \$191M outpatient facility

University looking for approval from state to add to its main campus on city's West Side

BY LISA SCHENCKER

The University of Illinois Hospital and Health Science System is seeking approval from the state to build a \$191 million, six-story outpatient building on its main hospital campus on the city's West Side.

The 200,000-square-foot building would house clinics, a pharmacy, imaging services and areas for procedures, according to an application submitted by the hospital system to the Illinois Health Facilities and Services Review Board, which must approve such

projects. A bridge would connect the outpatient building to the main 462-bed hospital near the intersection Taylor and Wood streets.

The project, which comes amid a national trend of hospitals expanding their outpatient services, would allow the hospital system to "provide selected outpatient services in a more efficient manner than is currently possible," given the hospital's space constraints," the system said in its application to the state. About half of the hospital system's surgical cases are now done on an outpatient basis, meaning without an overnight stay.

The hospital system is also seeing about 5% annual growth in many types of outpatient surgeries, said Mike Zenn, CEO of University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics, in a statement.

"The new outpatient surgery and multi-specialty procedure floors are designed to meet this demand in a much more efficient and patient friendly setting," Zenn said. "It will also allow for expanding the number of complex inpatient surgeries being performed in the main hospital's surgery facility, for which there is also a growing demand."

The project would be funded through a private-public partnership. The nonprofit Provident Resources Group plans to finance most of the cost through bonds and then lease the facility to the health system. The project would also be partially paid for with a \$10 million donation from Bruno and Sallie Pasquinelli.

Turn to **Facility, Page 2**

## Girl Scouts launch annual sales, offer new cookie

Replacement snack aims to promote female entrepreneurship

BY ABDEL JIMENEZ

The Girl Scouts launched cookie sales this month with a new lemony treat baked with empowering messages meant to promote female entrepreneurship.

The crispy Lemon-Ups cookie will come with eight messages, including "I am a go-getter" and "I am an innovator" baked into the top. The new cookies replace Savannah Smiles, a lemon wedge cookie topped with powdered sugar. Girl Scouts started selling cookies Jan. 1.

The Girl Scouts of the United States of America also updated

the cookie packaging this year with images featuring current scouts camping, canoeing, exploring space science, designing robots and helping improve their local communities. The images on the boxes are meant to show how proceeds from cookie sales are used.

The cookie-selling process promotes female entrepreneurship, said Britney Bouie, spokeswoman for Girl Scouts of Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana.

"Apart from the cookies being delicious, it's a great opportunity ... to learn financial literacy skills, customer service experience and leadership skills," Bouie said. "It becomes an opportunity they can take beyond selling cookies."

The Girl Scouts will continue to sell well-known varieties like



GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA

Lemon-Ups Girl Scout cookies with messages that are designed to promote female entrepreneurship.

Thin Mints, Samoas, Tagalongs and Do-si-dos. Each box of cookies sells for \$5, the same price as last year. Sales for the local season run until March 23.

Little Brownie Bakers bakes the cookies sold by the local Girl Scout council. The council and

the baking company decide which cookies are available locally based on customer preferences, sales and council traditions, Bouie said.

In an email, Bouie said the local council "works closely with licensed bakers to update cookie

recipes and bring new ones into the mix based on sales, flavor trends and consumer preferences. We wanted to keep the same lemon flavor consumers know and love but introduce a new take on it, complete with messages inspired by Girl Scout Cookie entrepreneurs!"

Last year, the Girl Scouts in the Greater Chicago and Northwest Indiana council sold about \$23 million in cookies, when there were 36,740 Girl Scouts registered to sell, Bouie said.

Each troop decides how to use proceeds from the cookie sales. Some troops use the money to pay for activities like camping, traveling and coding programs, she said.

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# Kraft Heinz hire Campbell's exec to head US business

BY ALEXIA ELEJALDE-RUIZ

Kraft Heinz announced Wednesday that it has named veteran packaged food executive Carlos Abrams-Rivera to lead its U.S. business, marking the completion of a new senior leadership team tasked with improving sales at the processed food giant.

Abrams-Rivera takes over the U.S. business, which makes up 70% of Kraft Heinz's revenues, from CEO Miguel Patricio, who added the role to his global responsibilities when he took the helm of the company in July and shuffled the C-Suite.

Paulo Basilio, who had been U.S. president until then, was named chief financial officer. The company said at the time that Basilio's appointment was a "strategic decision to shift a seasoned veteran" into the role. Basilio replaced David Knopf, who was 29 when he was named CFO in 2017.

"My team is now in place," Patricio said in an interview Wednesday.

Abrams-Rivera, 52, joins Kraft Heinz, co-headquartered in Chicago and Pittsburgh, after five years at Camden, N.J.-based Campbell Soup Company. Most recently he served as executive vice president of Campbell Snacks, a recently created division whose combined portfolio of Snyder's-Lance and Pepperidge Farms brands includes Goldfish, Milano, Snyder's of Hanover, Lance, Kettle Brand and Cape Cod. The snacks division, representing 50% of sales, has been growing as Campbell has struggled with years of falling sales of its namesake soups.

A native of Puerto Rico, Abrams-Rivera previously worked at Deerfield-based Mondelez International, maker of Oreos and Chips Ahoy, where he was president of Mondelez Mexico and president of gum and candy for Mondelez Latin



KRAFT HEINZ

Kraft Heinz has named Carlos Abrams-Rivera to lead its U.S. business.

America, among other roles. He started his food career 20 years ago as a senior brand manager at Northfield-based Kraft Foods Group, where he spent more than a decade before the company split into Kraft and Mondelez.

Patricio said he was seeking a U.S. president who would "define the strategy with me, translate the strategy to action and be successful" as the maker of iconic ketchup and macaroni and cheese brands tries to right its ship. Abrams-Rivera, who helped turn around Mondelez's Mexico business and the Pepperidge Farms brand at Campbell, brings a "very good commercial mindset and good consumer-centric mindset," Patricio said.

# Condo owners sue to block sale of Gold Coast tower



RYAN ORI  
On Real Estate

Gold Coast condo owners want a judge to halt a planned \$92 million sale of their 38-story tower to a developer that plans to convert the entire building to rental apartments, complicating what would be the second-largest deal of its kind in Chicago.

The lawsuit involving the 304-unit tower at 2 E. Oak St. is the latest example of residents fighting back against the condo deconversion trend that has swelled in the city in recent years amid soaring rental demand.

In a complaint filed Dec. 24 in Cook County Circuit Court, owners of five units in the building sued the condo association, leaders of its board and the building's management firm. The firm that has agreed to buy the tower, ESG Kullen, is not named as a defendant.

The condo owners allege there were improprieties in the voting process to sell the building and misuse of building reserve funds, among other allegations.

In addition to halting the sale, they seek balloting records from the vote to sell, legal costs and other expenses.

A hearing in the case is scheduled for Thursday before Judge Anna Helen Demacopoulos.

The lawsuit is the latest twist in ESG Kullen's long-running effort to take control of 2 E. Oak, in what would be the second-highest price for a Chicago deconversion project.

The New York-based firm just completed the largest deal, paying \$107 million in December for the 391-unit tower at 1400 N. Lake Shore Drive.

Chicago's largest condo deconversion deal by number of units was a \$90.5 million purchase of the 449-unit, Bertrand Goldberg-designed River City

complex along the Chicago River south of downtown in 2018. That deal, by Marc Realty Capital and the Wolcott Group, was the second-highest by price so far in Chicago.

Deconversions are controversial because the acquisition process often causes fighting among neighbors, and residents who are outvoted can be forced to sell and move. Proponents say deconversions can allow individuals to sell at above-market prices, and a bulk sale provides an exit for owners in an outdated building facing costly repairs.

The City Council in September passed an ordinance requiring an 85% vote in favor of a sale, an increase from the state-mandated 75% ownership requirement.

Condo associations in some buildings have taken additional defensive steps, such as amending bylaws to limit the number of units that can be owned by an individual or company and restricting the total percentage of units that can be rented.

One of Chicago's best-known condo towers, the 70-story Lake Point Tower near Navy Pier, approved two such amendments in recent months. The condo association said the separate votes in August and September were geared specifically toward averting a deconversion attempt.

The residents who filed the lawsuit are Colleen Soto, Igor Thomas, Christina Koclanis, Dorothy Ellis and Carmen Camm. Their lawyer, Berton Ring, declined to comment beyond the complaint.

Defendants include the condo board's president, Krystofer Drogoszewski; the vice president, Jane Regnier; and the secretary, Criston Matherly. Also named are the entire condo board, the condo association and the building's manager, Chicagoland Community Management.

The defendants' lawyer, Kelly Elmore, declined comment.

The condo board accepted ESG Kullen's \$92 million offer in March.



COSTAR GROUP

Gold Coast condo owners at 2 E. Oak Street want a judge to halt a planned \$92 million sale of their 38-story tower to a developer that plans to convert the entire building to rental apartments.

The complaint alleges the condo board leaders' terms expired at the end of July, with no elections to replace them. The complaint also accuses the board members of refusing to turn over records of the vote to sell the building and spending \$1 million in building reserves for repairs at the request of ESG Kullen.

Because ESG Kullen has requested extensions and changes to the original purchase offer, taking place after the city implemented the 85% vote requirement for deconversions, a new vote should be conducted, the lawsuit says.

The sale to ESG Kullen is scheduled to close Feb. 20, according to the complaint.

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# Supplies

Continued from Page 1

to process those applications and ensure applicants undergo a background check and meet the requirements for licensure," Isaac said in an emailed statement.

Some new dispensary employees have been waiting for the go-ahead for more than a month. NuMed, for example has seven employees waiting to start, Rapino said.

Cresco has 65 retail employees who have been waiting since early or mid-December to get their agent cards from the state, company spokesman Jason Erkes said. Once they're on board, it will double the company's retail workforce

in Illinois.

The wait is frustrating dispensary owners, who are losing potential staff members to other jobs.

Thirty-seven dispensaries around the state started selling recreational marijuana Jan. 1. Some extended operating hours to accommodate the long lines of customers, who made more than 271,000 purchases — totaling more than \$10.8 million — in the first five days of sales.

Product shortages are expected to persist at least for the next several months, though operators say it is unclear how severe they will be. Many of the state's 21 growing facilities are expanding capacity, but construction takes time, as does growing marijuana. Many dispensaries instituted buying or spending

limits to deal with the shortage and stretch their dwindling supplies.

"We're doing our best to feed the market as we can," said Paul Chialdikas, vice president of sales and marketing at Bedford Grow, which has a cultivation facility in Bedford Park that supplies dispensaries around the state.

Consumers are expected to spend \$420 million in Illinois dispensaries this year, Brightfield Group predicts. In 2023, marijuana sales in the state could reach \$1.3 billion. Overall, U.S. cannabis sales are expected to reach \$22.7 billion by 2023, including \$16.8 billion in recreational sales.

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# Lawsuit

Continued from Page 1

McDonald's.

Guster-Hines and Neal also filed charges of discrimination with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Caruso said.

The lawsuit, which recounts years of alleged racial discrimination, is seeking undisclosed monetary damages, but cites over \$2 million in lost pay and benefits for Guster-Hines and "hundreds of thousands of dollars" for Neal.

Guster-Hines, who has an MBA from Indiana Wesleyan University, joined McDonald's in 1987 as a management trainee, according to the lawsuit. She rose through the ranks to become a regional director of operations, among other roles, but was repeatedly passed over for higher-level executive promotions at McDonald's by an "unwritten policy of racial discrimination that impeded her rise," the lawsuit alleges.

For example, the lawsuit cites a racial slur allegedly directed at Guster-Hines by an Ohio regional vice president in 2005. She reported the incident to her superi-

ors, but McDonald's did "absolutely nothing" in response, the lawsuit alleges.

In 2013, Guster-Hines was "finally" promoted to vice president of franchising and operations for the Houston office, but hit a "glass ceiling," the lawsuit alleges. The hostile work environment continued, the suit alleges, with west zone president Strong allegedly labeling her and other African American employees as "angry black women."

Guster-Hines alleges the environment was so stressful she took a 12-week medical leave of absence in September 2017, according to the complaint.

Neal, who has an MBA from the University of Michigan, joined McDonald's in 2012 as a director trainee in Chicago. In 2015, she was named director of operations for the Indianapolis region and was promoted two years later to vice president of franchising and operations, according to the complaint.

In July 2018, Guster-Hines and Neal were demoted to directors in the restructuring initiative by McDonald's, which reduced the number of field offices serving the fran-

chised restaurants, according to the complaint. Both were relocated to the company's Dallas office.

Guster-Hines and Neal allege their demotions were retaliation for their support of the National Black McDonald's Owners Association in ongoing internal protests against the restaurant chain over a "startling decrease" in the number of restaurants owned by African Americans during the Easterbrook/Kempczinski era, according to the lawsuit.

More broadly, the lawsuit alleges white officers were not dismissed or demoted in the same proportions as African Americans during the restructuring, and that in the three years prior to that, McDonald's "demoted or severed ties" with 31 out of 37 African American officers.

A McDonald's spokeswoman said in an email Wednesday that the company has reduced the number of officer level positions over the last five years, and that any decrease in African American officers is proportional to the overall reduction.

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# Facility

Continued from Page 1

Bruno Pasquinelli was the president and co-founder of a large home building company based in Burr Ridge, and Sallie Pasquinelli co-founded the Village Artists art studio in the south suburbs in the 1960s. Pasquinelli Homebuilding filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy in 2011.

The third floor of the new facility, which is slated to include eight operating rooms, would be named the Bruno and Sallie Pasquinelli

Outpatient Surgery Center. The outside of the building would also bear their name.

The new building would occupy what's now an open space. Construction is expected to start this year and wrap up in 2022.

The state board is scheduled to vote on the proposal April 7.

In recent years, many hospitals have been working to adapt to a shift toward more outpatient services. More procedures can be done on an outpatient basis than in the past, leaving hospitals competing to attract outpatients and their dollars, especially as de-

mand for overnight stays weakens.

Rush, also on the city's West Side, is in the process of building a \$450 million, 10-story outpatient care center and a 900-space parking garage. That project is expected to be complete in 2022. And Bronzeville's historic Provident Hospital gained state approval last year to replace its existing facility with a new \$240 million building that will have fewer beds for overnight patients but 70 outpatient exam rooms.

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# Major TikTok security flaws found, experts say

## Chinese firm says app's vulnerabilities fixed in December

BY RONEN BERGMAN, SHEERA FRENKEL AND RAYMOND ZHONG  
The New York Times

TEL AVIV, Israel — TikTok, the smartphone app beloved by teenagers and used by hundreds of millions of people around the world, had serious vulnerabilities that would have allowed hackers to manipulate user data and reveal personal information, according to research published Wednesday by Check Point, a cybersecurity company in Israel.

The weaknesses would have allowed attackers to send TikTok users messages that carried malicious links. Once users clicked on the links, attackers would have been able to take control of their accounts, including uploading videos or gaining access to private videos. A separate flaw allowed Check Point researchers to retrieve personal information from TikTok user accounts through the company's website.

"The vulnerabilities we found were all core to TikTok's systems," said Oded Vanunu, Check Point's head of product

vulnerability research.

TikTok learned about the conclusions of Check Point's research Nov. 20 and said it had fixed the vulnerabilities by Dec. 15.

The app, whose parent company is based in Beijing, allows users to post short, creative videos, which can easily be shared on various apps.

It has also become a target of lawmakers and regulators who are suspicious of Chinese technology. Several branches of the U.S. military have barred personnel from having the app on government-issued smartphones.

TikTok has exploded in popularity over the past two years, becoming a rare Chinese internet success story in the West. It has been downloaded more than 1.5 billion times, according to the data firm Sensor Tower.

But new apps like TikTok offer opportunities for hackers looking to target services that haven't been tested through years of security research and real-world attacks. And many of its users are young and perhaps not mindful of security updates.

"TikTok is committed to protecting user

data," said Luke Deshotels, the head of TikTok's security team.

One vulnerability allowed attackers to use a link in TikTok's messaging system to send users messages that appeared to come from TikTok. The Check Point researchers tested the weakness by sending themselves links with malware that let them take control of accounts, uploading content, deleting videos and making private videos public.

The researchers also found that TikTok's site was vulnerable to a type of attack that injects malicious code into websites. Check Point researchers were able to retrieve users' personal information.

Deshotels said there was no indication in customer records that a breach or an attack had occurred.

TikTok's parent company, ByteDance, is one of the world's most valuable tech startups. But TikTok's popularity and its roots in China, where no large corporation can thrive outside the good graces of the government, have prompted intense scrutiny of the app's content policies and data practices.

# Tensions in Middle East affecting airlines

BY EMILY SCHMALL  
Associated Press

NEW DELHI — Commercial airlines are rerouting flights throughout the Middle East to avoid potential danger during heightened tensions between the United States and Iran.

Jumbled schedules could affect as many as 15,000 passengers per day, lengthen flight times by an average of 30 to 90 minutes, and severely bruise the bottom line for airlines, industry analysts said.

There is anxiety that the conflict between the longtime foes could intensify following Iranian ballistic missile strikes Wednesday on two Iraqi bases that house U.S. troops.

At least 500 commercial flights travel through Iranian and Iraqi airspace daily, Dubai-based aviation consultant Mark Martin said.

Poland's national carrier, PLL LOT, said Saturday that it was changing routes to bypass Iran's airspace.

Other European carriers followed Wednesday, and the restrictions were expected to "further depress" air travel between Iran and Western Europe, which saw strong growth after the Iran nuclear deal but a sharp dive when President Donald Trump pulled the U.S. out of the agreement and reimposed sanctions, according to the Sydney-based Center for Aviation consultancy.

Air France and Dutch carrier KLM both said Wednesday that they had suspended all flights over Iranian and Iraqi airspace indefinitely. German airline Lufthansa and two of its subsidiaries also canceled flights to Iraq.

The Russian aviation agency, Rosaviatsia, issued an official recommendation for all Russian airlines to avoid flying over Iran, Iraq, the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman "due to existing risks for the safety of international civil flights."

Asia-Pacific carriers were also expected to be hit hard, Martin said.

## BUSINESS BRIEFING

### Takata recalling 10M more inflators

DETROIT — Takata is recalling 10 million more front air bag inflators sold to 14 different automakers because they can explode with too much force and hurl shrapnel.

The recall is the last one the bankrupt company agreed to in a 2015 settlement with the U.S. safety regulators. It could bring to a close the largest series of automotive recalls in U.S. history.

The inflators are part of the 70 million in the U.S. that Takata was to recall as part of the agreement with National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Vehicles made by Audi, BMW, Honda, Daimler Vans, Fiat Chrysler, Ferrari, Ford, GM, Mazda, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Subaru, Toyota and Volkswagen are affected.

### Pharmacies reject opioid crisis blame

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Doctors and other health care practitioners who write prescriptions bear ultimate responsibility for improper distribution of opioids to patients, not pharmacists who are obliged to fill those prescriptions, a series of pharmacy chains argued in federal court.

The filings, which were submitted this week to the federal judge in Cleveland who has been overseeing the national opioid lawsuits, asked the judge to reject claims brought by some Ohio counties. The judge has scheduled an October trial for claims against CVS, Rite Aid, Walgreens, HBC and Discount Drug Mart.

The counties allege that pharmacies contributed to the crisis by filling prescriptions for an "excessive volume" of opioids.



CARRIE ANTLINGER/AP

Amy Carter gives CBD to her epileptic dog Bentley. Federal regulations for CBD potency and dosage have not yet been established.

# Researchers: Beware of CBD

## As veterinary use grows, experts touch on faulty marketing, regulation

BY MARY ESCH  
Associated Press

Companies have unleashed hundreds of CBD pet health products accompanied by glowing customer testimonials claiming the cannabis derivative produced calmer, quieter and pain-free dogs and cats.

But some of these products are all bark and no bite.

"You'd be astounded by the analysis we've seen of products on the shelf with virtually no CBD in them," said Cornell University veterinary researcher Joseph Wakshlag, who studies therapeutic uses for the compound. "Or products with 2 milligrams per milliliter, when an effective concentration would be between 25 and 75 milligrams per milliliter. There are plenty of folks looking to make a dollar rather than produce anything that's really beneficial."

Such products can make it to the shelves because the federal government has yet to establish standards for CBD that will help people know whether it works for their pets and how much to give.

Still, there's lots of individual success stories that help fuel a \$400 million market that grew more than tenfold since last year and is expected to reach \$1.7 billion by 2023, according to the cannabis research firm Brightfield Group.

Amy Carter of St. Francis, Wisconsin, decided to go against her veterinarian's advice and try CBD oil recommended by a friend to treat Bentley, her epileptic Yorkshire terrier-Chihuahua mix. The little dog's cluster seizures had become more frequent and frightening despite expensive medications.

"It's amazing" Carter said. "Bentley was having multiple seizures a week. To have only six in the past seven months is absolutely incredible."

But some pet owners have found CBD didn't work.

Dawn Thiele, an accountant in Oak Creek, Wisconsin, said she bought a \$53 bottle of CBD oil from a local shop in hopes of calming her 2-year-old Yorkshire terrier during long car trips.

"I didn't see a change in his behavior," said Thiele, who nonetheless remains a believer.

"The product is good. It just didn't work for my dog," she said.

Short for cannabidiol, CBD is a non-intoxicating molecule found in hemp and marijuana. Both are cannabis plants, but

only marijuana has enough of the compound THC to get users high. The vast majority of CBD products come from hemp, which has less than 0.3% THC.

CBD has garnered a devoted following among people who swear by it for everything from stress reduction to better sleep. Passage of the 2018 Farm Bill, which eased federal legal restrictions on hemp cultivation and transport.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is developing regulations for marketing CBD products, for pets or people. This year, it has sent warning letters to 22 companies citing violations such as making claims about therapeutic uses and treatment of disease in humans or animals.

"It's really the Wild West out there," said S. David Moche, founder of Applied Basic Science, a company formed to support Colorado State University's veterinary CBD research and now selling CBD online. He advises consumers to look for a certificate of analysis from a third-party testing laboratory to ensure they're getting what they pay for.

"Testing and labeling is going to be a critical part of the future of this industry," Moche said.

Wakshlag said products must be tested not only for CBD level but also to ensure they're free of toxic contaminants such as heavy metals and pesticides.

# Fugitive Ghosn calls his arrest in Japan a plot

BY ZEINA KARAM AND SARAH EL DEEB  
Associated Press

BEIRUT — Nissan's fugitive ex-boss, Carlos Ghosn, said Wednesday that his arrest in Japan, from which he escaped last month, was a plot against him and described his detention conditions as a "travesty" against human rights.

In his first appearance since his daring and improbable escape from Japan, Ghosn said during a 2 1/2-hour news conference in Beirut that the decision to flee "was the most difficult of my life."

He was due to stand trial for alleged financial misconduct at the automaker and on Wednesday again dismissed all allegations against him as untrue.

With a five-part slide presentation projected behind him, Ghosn brought his case to global media and said that his thought before fleeing was: "You are going to die in Japan or you are going to get out."

He quickly added, however, that he would not address the details of his escape, which has perplexed and embarrassed Japanese authorities.

Media reports have said that he left his Tokyo residence alone, skipping out on his \$14 million bail despite supposedly rigorous surveillance. He met two men at a hotel, and then took a train to Osaka before boarding a private jet, hidden inside a musical equipment case. He flew to Istanbul and was then transferred onto another plane bound for Beirut, where he arrived Dec. 30.

Ghosn portrayed his arrest as a plot linked to a decline in the financial performance of Nissan. Ghosn had been in favor of merging Nissan with industry ally Renault, of which he was also chairman.

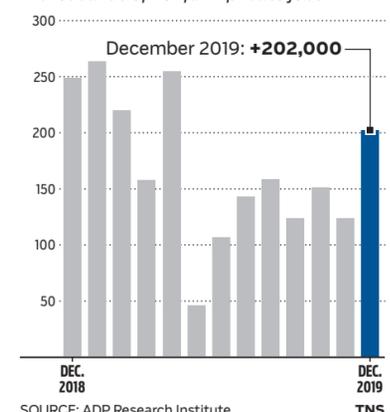
"Unfortunately there was no trust. And some of our Japanese friends thought that the only way to get rid of Renault in Nissan is to get rid of me," he told a room packed with journalists.

"I should never have been arrested in the first place," he said. "I'm not above the law and I welcome the opportunity for the truth to come out and have my name cleared."

In a swift reply, the Tokyo public prosecutor's office said: "Defendant Ghosn's allegations that the prosecution was conspired by Nissan and Public Prosecutors Office is categorically false."

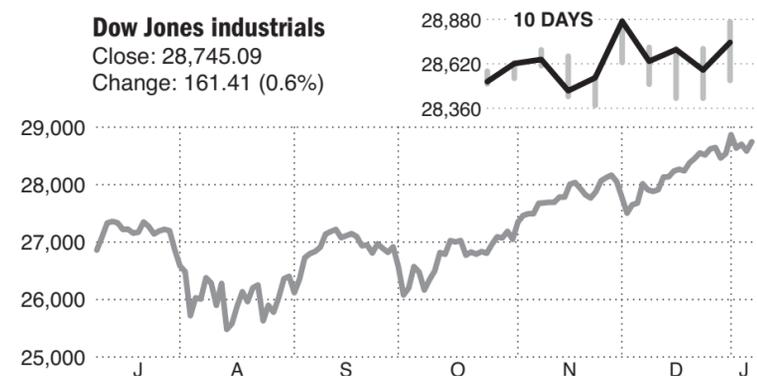
## Changes in employment

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# MARKET ROUNDUP

**Dow** High: 28,866.18 Low: 28,522.51 Previous: 28,583.68



Nasdaq	S&P 500	Russell 2000
+60.66 (+.67%)	+15.87 (+.49%)	+5.28 (+.32%)
Close: 9,129.24	Close: 3,253.05	Close: 1,663.59
High: 9,168.89	High: 3,267.07	High: 1,669.29
Low: 9,059.38	Low: 3,236.67	Low: 1,658.23
Previous: 9,068.58	Previous: 3,237.18	Previous: 1,658.31

10-yr T-note	Gold futures	Yen	Euro	Crude Oil
+0.05 to 1.87%	-14.40 to \$1,557.40	+69 to 109.22/\$1	+0.0027 to .9000/\$1	-3.09 to \$59.61

## Major market growth and decline

5-day % change			30-day % change			1-year % change		
DOW +.72	NASD +1.75	S&P +.69	DOW +2.99	NASD +5.49	S&P +3.55	DOW +20.38	NASD +31.22	S&P +25.85

COMMODITY	AMOUNT-PRICE	MO.	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	SETTLE	CHG.
WHEAT (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 20	549.50	555.75	545.25	552.75	+2.50
CORN (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Mar 20	384	385.50	382.25	384.25	-.25
SOYBEANS (CBOT)	5,000 bu minimum- cents per bushel	Jan 20	936.25	940	935.75	938.25	+3.25
SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)	60,000 lbs- cents per lb	Jan 20	34.50	34.50	34.25	34.27	-.19
SOYBEAN MEAL (CBOT)	100 tons- dollars per ton	Jan 20	295.90	297.60	295.70	296.90	+5.0
LIGHT SWEET CRUDE (NYMX)	1,000 bbl.- dollars per bbl.	Mar 20	62.84	65.65	59.15	59.61	-3.09
NATURAL GAS (NYMX)	10,000 mm btu's, \$ per mm btu	Feb 20	2.153	2.185	2.115	2.141	-.021
NY HARBOR GAS BLEND (NYMX)	42,000 gallons- dollars per gallon	Feb 20	1.7222	1.8011	1.6289	1.6488	-.0734

Source: The Associated Press

## LOCAL STOCKS

Stocks listed may change due to daily fluctuations in market capitalization. Exchange key: N=NYSE, O=NASDAQ

STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.	STOCK	XCHG.	CLOSE	CHG.
Abbott Labs	N	86.21	+35	Envestnet Inc	N	72.98	+13	McDonalds Corp	N	205.91	+3.28
AbbVie Inc	N	89.52	+63	Equity Commonwith	N	32.28	...	Middleby Corp	O	108.83	+5.5
Allstate Corp	N	112.50	+31	Equity Lifesty Prop	N	69.78	+72	Mondelz Intl	O	54.05	+1.3
Aptargroup Inc	N	113.22	+31	Equity Residential	N	80.00	+17	Morningstar Inc	O	152.74	+1.7
Arch Dan Mid	N	44.61	-50	Exelon Corp	O	41.36	+33	Motorola Solutions	N	165.89	+1.7
Baxter Inc	N	331.37	+1.24	First Indl RT	N	66.79	+23	Nisource Inc	N	27.66	+0.3
Boeing Co	N	331.37	-5.91	Fortune Brds Hm&Sec	N	94.85	+13	Nthn Trust Cp	O	106.79	+9.7
Brunswick Corp	N	57.77	+48	Gallagher AJ	N	341.41	+3.57	Old Republic	N	22.24	+1.2
CBOE Global Markets	N	117.01	-1.21	Grainger WW	N	54.75	+6.12	Packaging Corp Am	N	105.72	+8.7
CDK Global Inc	O	54.98	+13	GrubHub Inc	N	113.75	+6.4	Payload Hldg	O	130.22	-.82
CDW Corp	O	140.71	-21	Hill-Rom Hldgs	N	47.78	-4.9	RL Corp	N	89.40	-.05
CF Industries	N	45.79	+21	IAA Inc	N	172.18	+1.37	Stericycle Inc	O	61.86	-.77
CME Group	O	206.10	+1.11	IDEX Corp	N	178.74	+9.3	TransUnion	N	90.02	+9.9
CNA Financial	N	44.60	+19	ITW	N	91.31	-4.1	US Foods Holding	N	40.88	+3.8
Cabot Microelect	O	148.41	+2.28	Ingredion Inc	N	170.42	-2.29	United Airlines Hldg	O	87.30	+5.3
Caterpillar Inc	N	147.68	+1.30	Jones Lang LaSalle	N	76.41	+3.1	Veritas Inc	N	56.90	-.28
ConAgra Brands Inc	N	31.87	-.45	Kemper Corp	O	30.59	-1.7	Walgreen Boots Alli	O	55.83	-3.46
Deere Co	N	175.90	+2.16	Kraft Heinz Co	O	34.59	-0.8	Waltrust Financial	O	70.30	+6.8
Discover Fin Svcs	N	82.37	+88	LQ Corporation	O	191.82	-1.1	Zebra Tech	O	247.64	-8.83
Dover Corp	N	116.38	+27	Littelfuse Inc	O						

## MOST ACTIVE STOCKS

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Chesapck Engy	.83	-.08
Gen Electric	11.94	-1.11
Ford Motor	9.25	-1.1
Bank of America	34.97	+3.35
Uber Technologies	33.93	+1.12
Aurora Cannabis Inc	1.74	-.09
AT&T Inc	39.37	+1.2
Macy's Inc	18.10	+4.3
Nokia Corp	4.02	+0.7
Yamana Gold Inc	3.71	-.22
Sthwstn Energy	2.17	-.19
Vale SA	13.22	-.01
Transocean Ltd	6.42	-.47
Itau Unibanco Hldg	8.75	-.13
Petrobras	15.70	-.36
EnCana Corp	4.50	-.38
CenturyLink Inc	12.98	+2.5
Brist Myr Sqb	63.86	-.07
Ambev S.A.	4.64	+0.1
Callon Petrol	4.42	-.31
Freepport McMoRan	13.18	+1.3
Banco Bradesco ADS	8.71	-.14
Wells Fargo & Co	52.82	+1.6
GrubHub Inc	54.75	+6.12

## LARGEST COMPANIES

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
AT&T Inc	39.37	+1.2
Alibaba Group Hldg	218.00	+3.7
Alphabet Inc C	1404.32	+10.98
Alphabet Inc A	1405.04	+9.93
Amazon.com Inc	1891.97	-14.89
Apple Inc	303.19	+4.80
Bank of America	34.97	+3.35
Berkshire Hath B	225.99	+0.7
Exxon Mobil Corp	69.23	-1.06
Facebook Inc	215.22	+2.16
HSBC Holdings pRA	27.05	+0.9
JPMorgan Chase	136.94	+1.06
Johnson & Johnson	144.96	-.02
MasterCard Inc	305.10	+5.29
Microsoft Corp	160.09	+2.51
Procter & Gamble	122.51	+5.2
Taiwan Semicon	58.75	+4.3
Visa Inc	191.92	+3.23
WalMart Strs	116.16	-.40

## LARGEST MUTUAL FUNDS

FUND	NAV	CHG	1-YR %RTN
American Funds AMCPA m	34.01	+1.6	+24.5
American Funds AmrnBAlA m	28.61	+0.6	+18.2
American Funds CptWldGrInCA m	52.54	+1.2	+23.7
American Funds CptInclBldrA m	63.28	+0.3	+15.8
American Funds FdmTllvnsA m	62.59	+2.9	+25.8
American Funds GrfAmrCA m	52.09	+3.6	+26.2
American Funds InvCAMrCA m	39.89	+1.3	+22.7
American Funds InvCAMrCA m	47.70	+1.8	+28.1
American Funds WAMTInvSA m	48.28	+1.3	+23.5
Dodge & Cox Inc	14.06	...	+9.8
Dodge & Cox IntlStk	43.66	-1.4	+18.7
Dodge & Cox Stk	196.25	+7.6	+22.1
DoubleLine TtlRetBdI	10.67	-.01	+6.3
Fidelity 500ldxnsPrm	112.84	+5.5	+28.9
Fidelity Contrafund	14.00	+1.0	+28.3
Fidelity InvMGradeBd	11.59	-.02	+9.8
Fidelity TtlMktldxnsPrm	91.21	+4.3	+27.8
Fidelity US500ldxnsPrm	11.94	-.02	+8.8
Franklin Templeton IncA1 m	2.34	...	+12.6
Metropolitan West TtlRetBdI	10.94	-.03	+5.1
PIMCO IncI2	12.05	...	+7.8
PIMCO IncInstl	12.05	...	+7.9
PIMCO TtlRetns	10.36	-.03	+8.3
Schwab SP500ldx	49.75	+2.4	+28.9
T. Rowe Price BCGr	127.56	+9.7	+28.6
T. Rowe Price GrStk	75.22	+6.1	+29.2
Vanguard 500ldxAdmrl	300.31	+1.48	+28.9
Vanguard BalldxAdmrl	39.44	+0.8	+20.8
Vanguard DivGrInv	30.70	+1.9	+29.8
Vanguard EqInAdmrl	79.27	+2.3	+22.2
Vanguard GrldxAdmrl	95.75	+7.2	+35.8
Vanguard HCAdmrl	87.90	+4.9	+20.2
Vanguard InTrTEAdmrl	14.55	+0.1	+7.1
Vanguard Inslldxns	292.34	+1.44	+28.9
Vanguard InslldxnsPlus	292.36	+1.44	+28.9
Vanguard InstlSMInPls	69.14	+3.2	+27.8
Vanguard IntlGrAdmrl	104.51	+3.4	+29.9
Vanguard MDCpldxAdmrl	221.29	+5.6	+28.9
Vanguard PrmCpAdmrl	145.61	+8.0	+25.6
Vanguard STInvMGrAdmrl	10.74	...	+6.0
Vanguard SmCpldxAdmrl	79.38	+2.0	+21.2
Vanguard TrgtRtr2020Inv	32.64	+0.3	+16.3
Vanguard TrgtRtr2025Inv	19.92	+0.2	+18.0
Vanguard TrgtRtr2030Inv	36.59	+0.5	+19.1
Vanguard TrgtRtr2035Inv	22.61	+0.4	+20.3
Vanguard TtBMDlxAdmrl	11.07	-.02	+9.0
Vanguard TtBMDlxns	11.07	-.02	+9.0
Vanguard TtInBldxAdmrl	22.69	-.03	+8.3
Vanguard TtInBldxns	34.04	-.05	+8.3
Vanguard TtInSldxAdmrl	29.88	...	+18.4
Vanguard TtInSldxns	119.47	-.03	+18.5
Vanguard TtInSldxnsPlus	119.50	-.03	+18.5
Vanguard TtInSldxInv	17.86	-.01	+18.3
Vanguard TtSMldxAdmrl	80.25	+3.8	+27.8
Vanguard TtSMldxns	80.26	+3.8	+27.8
Vanguard TtSMldxInv	80.22	+3.8	+27.6
Vanguard WngntAdmrl	75.07	+1.6	+13.3
Vanguard WsllyAdmrl	66.21	-.02	+15.7
Vanguard WndsrldAdmrl	65.12	+3.2	+26.6

## TREASURY YIELDS

DURATION	CLOSE	PREV.
3-month disc	1.52	1.52
6-month disc	1.52	1.51
2-year	1.57	1.53
10-year	1.87	1.82
30-year	2.36	2.30

## SPOT METALS

	CLOSE	PREV.
Gold	\$1557.40	\$1571.80
Silver	\$18.088	\$18.316
Platinum	\$959.00	\$966.00

## INTEREST RATES

Prime Rate	4.75
Discount Rate Primary	2.25
Fed Funds Target	1.50-1.75
Money Mkt Overnight Avg.	0.50

## FOREIGN EXCHANGE

A U.S. Dollar buys ...	
Argentina (Peso)	59.8193
Australia (Dollar)	1.4552
Brazil (Real)	4.0519
Britain (Pound)	.7633
Canada (Dollar)	1.3028
China (Yuan)	6.9463
Euro	.9000
India (Rupee)	71.421
Israel (Shekel)	3.4652
Japan (Yen)	109.22
Mexico (Peso)	18.8011
Poland (Zloty)	3.81
So. Korea (Won)	1161.10
Taiwan (Dollar)	30.01
Thailand (Baht)	30.35

## NASDAQ STOCK MARKET

STOCK	CLOSE	CHG.
Adv Micro Dev	47.83	-.42
NY Mortgage Trust	6.18	-.07
Biocept Inc	.36	-.01
FuelCell Energy	2.29	+2.1
Apple Inc	303.19	+4.80
Tesla Inc	492.14	+23.08
Plug Power Inc	4.08	+2.7
Micron Tech	57.52	-.75
Microsoft Corp	160.09	+2.51
Zion Oil & Gas Inc	.29	-.09
Cisco Syst	47.52	+0.3
SmileDirectClub Inc	10.60	+4.6
Intel Corp	58.57	+0.4
Verastem Inc	1.72	+4.6
Luckin Coffee Inc	39.46	+4.35
Midatech Pharma plc	1.04	+3.6
Sirius XM Hldgs Inc	7.06	-.01
Amarin Corp	19.46	-.62
Beyond Meat Inc	81.48	-2.41
Comcast Corp A	45.39	+4.6
Zynga Inc	6.59	+1.0
Walgreen Boots Alli	55.83	-3.46
Clovis Oncology Inc	10.78	+2.31
Facebook Inc	215.22	+2.16

## FOREIGN MARKETS

INDEX	CLOSE	CHG./%
Shanghai	3066.89	-37.9/-1.2
Stox600	418.36	+7.7/+2
Nikkei	23204.76	-371.0/-1.6
MSCI-EAFE	2036.24	+4.7/+2
Bovespa	116247.00	-414.9/-0.4
FTSE 100	7574.93	+1.1/+0
CAC-40	6031.00	+18.7/+3

## OBITUARIES

**ROBERT WAGNER** 1954-2019

# Former mayor sought to rein in uncontrolled residential growth

By **BOB GOLDSBOROUGH**

McHenry County lawyer Robert J. Wagner was mayor of Crystal Lake in the late 1990s, when he sought to rein in what he saw as uncontrolled residential growth by demanding greater financial input from developers.

"Bob was a brilliant guy who was very public service-oriented," said Crystal Lake attorney H. Case Ellis, who shared office space with Wagner for 21 years. "He was a real proponent of fighting for the little guy and was not big on big, corporate America."

Wagner, 64, died of heart failure on Dec. 13 at Northwest Community Hospital in Arlington Heights, three days after having a heart attack, said his wife of 33 years, Nancy. He had been a Crystal Lake resident since 1987 and previously had lived in Oak Park.

Born Robert John Wagner in Evergreen Park, Wagner grew up on the South Side and then in Westchester. He graduated from St. Joseph High School in Westchester and then earned a bachelor's degree in biology from Marquette University in 1976 and a law degree from DePaul University in 1980.

Wagner worked in private legal practice in Chicago from 1980 to 1986, then joined a law firm in Crystal Lake. He started a solo practice in 1999.

Wagner handled all manner of cases as a general practitioner. That included criminal defense work, and he won a first-degree murder acquittal in 1988 of Cynthia Iandola, a McHenry County woman who had admitted shooting her husband 14 times after years of abuse and threats. Iandola had contended that she killed her husband in self-defense, and a jury agreed.

Wagner also won a \$120 million judgment in 2005 for 6,000 Blue Island residents in a class-action lawsuit against the owners of a shuttered Clark Oil refinery at 131st Street and Kedzie Avenue. Neighbors of the plant long had complained of noxious gas, ash and dust spewing from the facility, damaging homes and causing health problems.

"The judicial system



CANDICE C. CUSIC/  
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Robert Wagner, shown in 1998, a year before he left the Crystal Lake mayor's office.

works, and it struck a blow for the little guy," Wagner told the Tribune in 2008, after an Illinois appeals court reinstated the judgment, which had been set aside by a Cook County judge. "They've been waiting a long time for justice, and it's right around the corner."

"Bob was one of the great old-time general practitioner lawyers who could do extensive research and handle very complex cases that would normally go to a specialist," said lawyer Joseph Witkowski, a longtime friend and colleague. "He was not afraid to go against the so-called expert lawyers because he was so well-prepared."

Retired Cook County Circuit Court Judge John A. Ward, a friend dating back to college, called Wagner "courageous, focused on fairness and unflinching professional with the courts and his opponents."

"Bob had a legal career of great accomplishment, passion and character," Ward said. "He could have been a successful downtown (Chicago) lawyer, but his aspiration was to be a small-town community lawyer."

In 1991, Wagner was elected a Crystal Lake park commissioner. Four years later, he decided to run for mayor, and he won a landslide victory, soundly defeating incumbent first-term Mayor George Wells to become the leader of the largest city in what at the time was the state's fastest-growing county.

"I kept repeating the Ross Perot line that you got to run government like a business,"

Wagner told the Tribune after he was sworn in. "You stress customer service and proper attitude toward the public."

Wagner's platform included annexing commercial businesses to the city and raising the city's impact fee on new homes. However, Wagner's single term as mayor was anything but calm. He dealt with significant opposition from the City Council, which at that time consisted of just five people.

"He had a gentle demeanor about him, and he was always looking for a way to build consensus," said former council member Howard Christensen, who now lives in Florida. "There was a bit of contentiousness, and he dealt with it as best as he possibly could. But the meanness that came out against Bob was heartbreaking to me."

Under Wagner's leadership, Crystal Lake extended water and sewer lines to 161 homes in the city's seven-block North Shore area in 1997, in a \$2 million project that was aimed at improving an area at risk from aging wells and septic systems.

Mayoral appointment powers for boards and commissions were another area of dispute between Wagner and the council, which ultimately voted in 1997 to strip him of some of his appointment powers. He later sued to regain those powers but lost.

In 1999, Wagner decided not to seek reelection as mayor. However, he remained involved in community service, including serving from 2013 to 2017 as a township trustee in Grafton Township, which covers parts of Crystal Lake, Huntley, Lake in the Hills, Algonquin and Lakewood. He also joined the McHenry County Historical Society's board in 2018 and became its president in 2019.

In addition to his wife, Wagner is survived by a daughter, Jamie Petersen; three sons, Charlie, Johnny and Robbie; two brothers, James and Dan; two sisters, Janice DeWolf and Patti Owens; and four grandchildren.

Services were held.

*Goldsborough is a freelance reporter.*

## Chicago Tribune Death Notices

Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

[chicagotribune.com/deathnotice](http://chicagotribune.com/deathnotice)

### In Memoriam

#### Ray Parker

05/15/1950 to 01/08/2018

Ray is survived by his wife, Michelle; son Jonathan Parker (Shahar Hendler); and sister Lauri Parker (Bill Schuh). You are in our hearts every day.

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### Death Notices

#### Auston IV, Captain Gene M.

Captain Gene M. Auston IV was born October 1st, 1957 and passed away on December 28th, 2019. He was raised in Chicago, traveled the world and became a U.S. Army Captain, Registered Nurse, and later a lawyer. He is survived by his loving children, siblings and a host of other relatives, friends and coworkers.

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#### Barton, Dr. John J.

Dr. John J. Barton, age 86, passed away peacefully

Monday, January 6, 2019 at his home in Rockford. Dr. Barton was born on March 19, 1933, in Pekin, IL. He was the son of David and Helen (Fox) Barton. He attended St. Thomas High School in Rockford (Class of '50), served in the US Marine Corps ('50-'55), earned a BA in history at the University of Illinois - Champaign Urbana ('57) and an MD at the University of Illinois Chicago ('61). He worked as an intern and resident at Cook County Hospital. He chaired the Dept. of Obstetrics and Gynecology at Illinois Masonic Medical Center for over 30 years, retiring in 2001. His volunteer efforts included stints at the Claremore and Fort Defiance Indian Hospitals and work with the Red Cross/Red Crescent in Beirut and Egypt. Over the years he served on numerous advisory panels. When he wasn't working he enjoyed his animals, his books and his close friends. Dr. Barton is survived by his daughters Kathy (Matt) and Karen (Phil), grandchildren Alex (Caitlin), Sara (Justin), Annie (David), John (Kelsey), Olivia (Max) and Tommy, his close friends Tobey and Laurie and his beloved dogs Scrapy and Takeya. The family is grateful to Heartland Hospice staff and his caregivers Niki and Leimute for the excellent care they provided in his last months. Donations may be made in memory of Dr. Barton to Diabetes Youth Families ([www.dyf.org](http://www.dyf.org)), Epilepsy Foundation ([www.epilepsy.com](http://www.epilepsy.com)) or to The Hope After Loss Clinic at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. A Memorial Service will be held at The Cathedral of St. Peter, 1243 N. Church Street, Rockford, IL at 10 AM on Monday, Jan 13, 2019. To send online condolences, please visit [www.fitzgeraldfh.com](http://www.fitzgeraldfh.com)

Sign Guestbook at [chicagotribune.com/obituaries](http://chicagotribune.com/obituaries)

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#### Claudia, Ann Aho Hoogasian

Claudia Ann Aho Hoogasian, 76, beloved wife of the late Judge Jack Hoogasian, loving mother of Sara (Louis) Pickus, Amy Hoogasian, Mary Hoogasian, and Gregory (Jennifer) Hoogasian; devoted grandmother of Rachel, Jack, and Charlie Pickus, and Hunter Hoogasian, cherished sister of Connie Hughes and David (Suzanne) Aho. Preceded in death by her parents Tagne and Taisto Aho.

Claudia was born in Waukegan, IL, on February 18, 1943, and received a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin - Madison. After marrying the love of her life in 1965 and then having four children, she earned her Juris Doctorate degree from The John Marshall Law School-Chicago. Claudia was a strong advocate for family and children's rights. This was the primary focus of her legal career that expanded over 25 years while in private practice and later as a Chief Assistant State's Attorney in the Lake County State's Attorney's Office. She was a lifelong Lake County resident and lived in Lake Forest where she and her late husband raised their family.

Claudia led a long life of philanthropic work including Church of the Holy Spirit's Native American Partnership with St. Michael's Mission located on the Wind River Indian Reservation-Wyoming, United Way of Lake County, Order of Eastern Star, Lake County YMCA, Camp Jörn YMCA, Clearwater Camp for Girls, Stephen Ministries, and PEO Chapter KV of Lake Forest, IL. She was active with many professional organizations including National District Attorneys Association, Jefferson Inns of Court, Association of Women Attorneys, Illinois Department of Public Aid Child Support Advisory Committee, and several bar associations.

Claudia was an avid reader, talented knitter and adventurous world traveler. Besides traveling regularly with her late husband, children, grandchildren, and friends, Claudia always cherished her annual trips and great memories with close childhood friends, the 'Grape Girls'. Claudia was extremely passionate about her Finnish roots and enthusiastically embraced Jack's rich Armenian heritage and culture in many aspects passing down family traditions to her children and grandchildren. She loved spending time at her homes in northern Wisconsin, where she was active in the communities and served on many non-profit boards.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, February 1, 2020, at 2:30 PM, at The Church of the Holy Spirit, 400 E. Westminster Road, Lake Forest, IL.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to PEO Foundation (a philanthropic organization supporting the advancement of women through educational scholarships) at PEO-Chapter KV, c/o Shelly Holmstrom, 90 Franklin Place East, Lake Forest, IL 60045. Donations may also be made to: Church of the Holy Spirit-Mission & Outreach, 400 E. Westminster Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045.

For additional information contact **Reuland & Turnbough Funeral Directors of Lake Forest** [www.RTfunerals.com](http://www.RTfunerals.com) or (847) 234-9649.

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#### Cortilet Jr., Frank P.

age 93, of Chicago, South Holland, and Hazel Crest IL., passed away Wednesday, January 8, 2020; Beloved brother of late Margaret "Peg" (late Joseph) Stevens, Mary Helen (late James) Cahill, late George (late June) Cortilet, late Barbara (late William) Maloney, late Ann, late Peter, and late Michael Cortilet; Brother-in-law of Carol (Vic) Risser and Ruth Cortilet; Kind uncle and great-uncle of many nieces and nephews; Loving son of the late Frank and Margaret Cortilet; Frank was a veteran, a pharmacist, a sailor, and a friend, amongst many other things; Visitation Saturday 10:30 a.m. until time of Chapel Prayers 12:00 noon at **Curley Funeral Home**, 6116 W. 111th St., Chicago Ridge, IL., Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery; For Funeral info 708-422-2700 or [www.curleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.curleyfuneralhome.com).

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#### Feldhaus, Edward J.

Edward J. Feldhaus, age 88. U.S. Army veteran. Beloved husband of the late Marlene (nee Traksel). Devoted father of Lynn (Mark) Riegling and Laurie (David) Sutor. Loving grandfather of John, Ann, Emily, Matt and Alex. Dear brother of the late Augie and Dorothy. Also survived by many loving relatives and friends. Visitation Friday 3-9 PM at the Palos-Gaidas Funeral Home, 11028 Southwest Hwy, (7700W) Palos Hills. Funeral Saturday 9 AM from the funeral home to Sacred Heart Church for 10 AM Mass. Interment St. Casimir Lithuanian Cemetery. Express your thoughts and memories in the online Guest Book at [www.palosgaidasfh.com](http://www.palosgaidasfh.com) (708) 974 4410

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#### Ferracane, Liborio J. 'Libby'

Liborio "Libby" J. Ferracane, age 85, of Deer Park IL. Beloved husband to Evelyn nee Tarica, for 64 wonderful years. Devoted father to Jack (Patricia) Ferracane, Donna (Donald) MacCrimble, and Joann (Brent) Johnson. Cherished Grandpa and Papa to Lucas (Hall), Christopher (Ariel), Zachary, Matthew (Amy), Clayton (Ashleen), Rebecca, Jack, Claudia, and the late Lauren and Tyler. Devoted Great-Papa to Cooper, Hudson, Greyson, Coleson, Liborio, and Eliodoro. Loving son of the late Jack and Anna Ferracane. Dear brother to the late Victor (Margherita) Ferracane. Libby was very involved in multiple church and community organizations in Deer Park and very proud of his 63 years as a Certified Public Accountant at Square D Corporation and Ferracane and Johnson PC. He will be dearly missed by his family and friends. Visitation will be Thursday, January 9, 2020, at **Smith-Corcoran Funeral Home**, 185 E. Northwest Hwy. Palatine IL from 4:00-8:00PM. There will be a visitation on Friday January 10, at St. Anne's Catholic Community, 120 N. Ela Street Barrington, IL from 10:00AM until mass at 11:00AM. Interment St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Cemetery, Palatine IL. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Debra of America, 75 Broad St. Suite 300, New York NY 10004 or [www.Debra.org](http://www.Debra.org). For more information please visit Liborio's Memorial at [www.smithcorcoran.com](http://www.smithcorcoran.com) or call 847-359-8020.

**Smith-Corcoran**  
 Funeral Homes  
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#### Fritz, Frances 'Fanika'

Frances "Fanika" nee: Podbevsek (84). Formerly of Chicago, Carillon Lakes of Crest Hill, IL, and Burgess Square of Westmont. Beloved wife of the late Edward A. Fritz and the late Mirko Oblak. Loving mother of Michael (Kristie) Oblak and the late Claudia (Philip and Eva) Videckis. Cherished grandmother and great-grandmother. Dear sister and aunt to many and a friend to all. Visitation: Lying in State 11:30a.m. Saturday January 11, 2020 until time of Mass at 12:30p.m. at St. Mary's Slovenian Catholic Mission Church, 14246 Main Street, Lemont, IL. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to The Slovenian Catholic Cultural Center, 14252 Main Street, Lemont, IL 60439. Arrangements entrusted to Debbie Zefran-Jerry. Please celebrate Fanika's life at [www.newtraditionfunerals.com](http://www.newtraditionfunerals.com) ph#630-230-8399.

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#### Greene, Patric D., AIA

Age 69, unexpectedly passed away peacefully on December 25, 2019; Proud father of Patric Jr. and Kristopher (fiancée Anna) Greene; longtime companion of Tracie Jurmu; Brother of Michael Greene, William Kallal, Thomas, George, John and the late Susan Green and Carol Armstrong; Devoted son of the late Helen Greene (nee Claus) and Jess Green; Visitation Friday 3:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at **Curley Funeral Home**, 6116 W. 111th Street, Chicago Ridge, IL.; Funeral Saturday family and friends will meet directly at Holy Name Cathedral, 730 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago IL. 60611, for Mass at 9:00 a.m.; Interment St. Mary Cemetery; For Funeral info 708-422-2700.

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#### Hannigan, John M. 'Jack'

John M. Hannigan "Jack" age 91 of Lemont, Devoted husband of the late Carol. Loving father of Andy (Linda), John (Bridgette), Michael (Molly) and Bob (Denise). Proud Grandfather of 13, dear great grandfather of 8. Jack was a 70 year member of Local 597 pipe fitters. Visitation Friday, January 10th, at 10:00 am at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Lemont. Funeral Mass at 11:00 am. Interment private. [www.brianmarkfh.com](http://www.brianmarkfh.com)

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#### Hyland, Dolores 'Lynn'

Dolores "Lynn" Hyland, age 70, at rest January 8, 2020; Devoted wife of Robert for 44 years; Loving mother of Brad, Colleen, Rob and Laura (Kevin) Hyland; Dear sister of Richard (Karen) and Dennis Liston; Dearest sister-in-law of James, Richard (Maryellen), Dorothy (Wally), Sheila, Mark (Shelly), the late Mary Dee, the late Patrick, the late Michael, the late Thomas, and the late Terrence; Fond aunt of many nieces and nephews; Visitation Friday 3:00 to 9:00 p.m. Funeral Saturday, 8:30 a.m. from **Curley Funeral Home**, 6116 W. 111th Street, Chicago Ridge to St. Linus Church, 10300 S. Lawler Ave, Oak Lawn; Mass 9:30 a.m.; Interment Holy Sepulchre Cemetery; In lieu of flowers, donations would be appreciated to the American Cancer Society; For Funeral info 708-422-2700, or [www.curleyfuneralhome.com](http://www.curleyfuneralhome.com)

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## Chicago Daily Tribune

ON JANUARY 9 ...

In 1788, Connecticut became the fifth state to ratify the U.S. Constitution.

In 1861, Mississippi seceded from the Union. Also in 1861 the "Star of the West," a merchant vessel bringing reinforcements to federal troops at Fort Sumter, S.C., retreated after being fired on by a battery in the harbor.

In 1964, anti-U.S. rioting broke out in the Panama Canal Zone, resulting in the deaths of 21 Panamanians and three U.S. soldiers.

In 1968, the Surveyor 7 space probe made a soft landing on the moon, marking the end of the American series of unmanned explorations of the lunar surface.

In 1987, the White House released a memorandum prepared for President Ronald Reagan in January 1986

that showed a definite link between U.S. arms sales to Iran and the release of American hostages in Lebanon.

In 1995, in New York, the trial of Sheik Omar Abdel-Rahman and 11 other defendants accused of conspiring to wage a holy war against the United States began. (All the defendants were convicted of seditious conspiracy, except for two who had reached plea agreements with the government.)

In 2002, the Bush administration and the auto industry agreed to promote development of pollution-free cars and trucks powered by hydrogen fuel cells.

In 2003, North Korea withdrew from the Nuclear Non-proliferation Treaty.

In 2004, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge an-

nounced that the nation's threat level had been lowered from orange to yellow.

In 2005, Mahmoud Abbas, the No. 2 man in the Palestinian hierarchy during Yasser Arafat's rule, was elected Palestinian Authority president by a landslide.

In 2007, Apple released the first iPhone.

In 2012, Bill Daley announced his resignation as President Barack Obama's chief of staff after a little more than a year in the position. Daley cited wanting to spend more time with his family in Chicago.

In 2014, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie apologized and fired a top aid after emails surfaced showing a plan targeting the mayor of Fort Lee with a scheme to tie up traffic in his town as punishment for not supporting Christie for re-election. "I am embarrassed and humiliated," Christie said in a nearly two-hour news conference.

In 2015, two brothers wanted for a bloody attack on the offices of French satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo were killed when anti-terrorist police stormed their hideout, while a second siege at a kosher grocery store in Paris ended with the deaths of four hostages and a gunman.

In 2018, President Donald Trump's discussed immigration with 12 Republican and eight Democratic lawmakers at a White House meeting that was broadcast live for nearly an hour.

### WINNING LOTTERY NUMBERS

**ILLINOIS**  
Jan. 8  
Powerball ..... 2 47 43 56 / 22  
Powerball jackpot: \$258M  
Lotto jackpot: \$2.75M  
Pick 3 midday ..... 016 / 1  
Pick 4 midday ..... 0154 / 0  
Lucky Day Lotto midday .....  
13 21 25 33 38  
Pick 3 evening ..... 263 / 9  
Pick 4 evening ..... 5329 / 2  
Lucky Day Lotto evening .....  
12 15 21 26 34

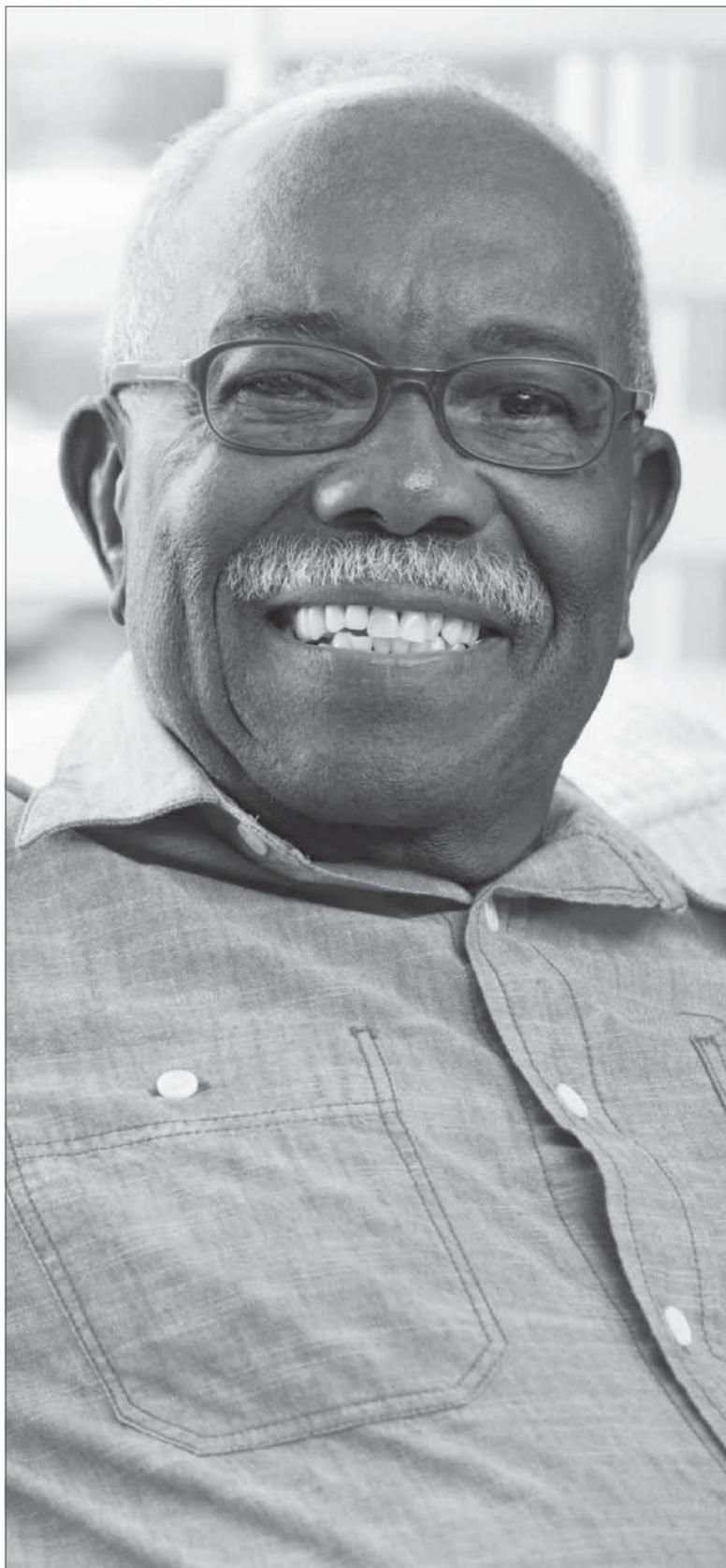
Jan. 10 Mega Millions: \$80M

**WISCONSIN**  
Jan. 8  
Megabucks ..... 5 12 22 23 31 38  
Pick 3 ..... 506  
Pick 4 ..... 5703  
Badger 5 ..... 5 11 14 28 31  
SuperCash ..... 6 20 27 29 35 37

**INDIANA**  
Jan. 8  
Lotto ..... 5 10 27 31 33 43  
Daily 3 midday ..... 518 / 9  
Daily 4 midday ..... 1298 / 9  
Daily 3 evening ..... 940 / 5  
Daily 4 evening ..... 0243 / 6  
Cash 5 ..... 18 19 31 32 43

**MICHIGAN**  
Jan. 8  
Lotto ..... 7 10 28 34 38 44  
Daily 3 midday ..... 968  
Daily 4 midday ..... 4356  
Daily 3 evening ..... 828  
Daily 4 evening ..... 1022  
Fantasy 5 ..... 7 12 13 20 22  
Keno ..... 3 4 5 7 8 11 16 26  
27 29 35 39 42 43 48  
50 53 54 60 62 72 73

More winning numbers at [chicagotribune.com/lottery](http://chicagotribune.com/lottery)



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life story  
deserves  
to be told.

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chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

**Kay, Victor**

Victor Kay, born October 2, 1929 lived life to the fullest for 90 years. Loving and devoted husband to Lorraine, nee Pruszyński, for almost 65 years, loving father to Karen (Mark) Skorczewski, adoring grandfather to Lisa (James) VanOverbake, Sara (Efren) Galvan, and Kelly Skorczewski, doting Papa to Lukas and Nolan VanOverbake, Gianna, Noah Victor, and soon to be Kalea Galvan. Youngest of 4 children of John & Bernice Ksiazkiewicz: the late Adeline (the late Frank) Smolka, the late Edmund (the late Irene) Kay, Lottie (the late Edward) Pilarski.

Vic was raised and received sacraments at Good Shepherd National Catholic Church in Chicago. Due to difficult economic times, the family moved to and lived on their farm in South Haven, Michigan for 5 years. Moving back to Chicago, he worked in the family Royal Blue grocery store. He proudly served in the United States Marine Corps in Korea from 1951 to 1952. After being honorably discharged, he returned to Chicago. He met his wife, Lorraine, through church choirs. After a little over a year of courtship, they married on June 12, 1955.

He then started working as a teller for Liberty Savings, working his way up to Vice President. He left Liberty to open Kay Realty, Inc. which later became Century 21 Kay Realty, Inc., with his brother Edmund on Harlem Avenue in Chicago. Later, opening a second office in Park Ridge. In 1977, he became sole owner of the company. Eventually, he sold the Harlem Avenue office and operated the office in Park Ridge until the company merged with Century 21 Langos and Christian in Mount Prospect until he retired from real estate.

Vic led an active life with lifetime membership in the 1st Marine Division Association-Chicago Chapter serving as Treasurer, Chicago Society, Kiwanis, Freemasons, as well as many real estate related organizations and committees.

Vic and Lorraine lived in Chicago, Niles, Park Ridge. In 2002, they moved to and enjoyed life at Friendship Village Retirement Community, in Schaumburg. He enjoyed playing endless Monopoly games with his granddaughters and attending their sport events and dance recitals. He also made many happy memories traveling to Mexico, Poland, Russia, Hawaii, Washington DC as well as Disneyland and Disney World, with frequent trips to South Haven. Having spent 5 years on a farm as a youngster, he enjoyed gardening, watching and feeding the birds (and a few unwelcome squirrels). He liked to read, watch war movies on TV, play solitaire on his iPad, and make weekly shopping trips to the local grocery stores. He also looked forward to spending time with family members' "fur-babies".

In lieu of flowers donations to Semper Fi Fund, All Saints Cathedral Parish "Good Samaritan Fund" or the American Heart Association would be greatly appreciated. Envelopes for all three will be available at the funeral home.

Visitation will be on Friday, January 10 from 3PM to 9PM at **Morizzo Funeral Home**, 2550 Hassell Road (NE corner of Barrington Road & Hassell Road), Hoffman Estates. On Saturday, January 11, visitation will take place at All Saints Cathedral National Catholic Church, 9201 W. Higgins Road, Chicago starting at 10AM until Mass at 11AM. Burial will be at All Saints Cemetery adjacent to the Church. For information please call 847-752-6444.



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**Kobitta, C.S.S.F., Sr. Mary Ruthilia**

Sister Mary Ruthilia Kobitta, C.S.S.F. Died January 3, 2020 in Swedish Covenant Hospital, Chicago, IL. Beloved member of Felician Sisters Community for 72 years. Beloved daughter of the late Henry and the late Rose. Beloved sister of the late Henry (Phyllis) Kobitter and the late Eleanor (the late Robert) Wisniewski.

Close friend to the Diane and Edward Pieczynski family. Many nieces and nephews. Visitation will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 11, 2020 at the Mother of Good Counsel Convent, 3800 West Peterson Avenue, Chicago, IL. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m. following the visitation. Commendation will follow at St. Adalbert Cemetery, Niles, IL. In lieu of flowers, donations to Felician Sisters' Retirement Fund, 3800 West Peterson Ave., Chicago, IL 60659 would be appreciated. INFO 847-337-4209 Thomas K. Moore, Director.

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**Lacina, Joseph J. "Joe"**

Joseph R. "Joe" Lacina age 87 of Geneva. Beloved father of Sandy (Don) Fowler and the late Raymond; former husband of the late Beverly nee Visus; fond grandfather of Patrick Burke and Craig and Paige Fowler; devoted brother of Robert and Victor (Arlene) Cejka; cousin of Betty Horacek; and many dear nieces, nephews, and friends. Visitation Saturday from 3:00 pm until memorial service at 6:00 pm at **Malone Funeral Home**, 324 E. State St/Rt 38, Geneva. Private burial. Memorials to Pulmonary Fibrosis Foundation or stopsarcoidosis.org. Info 630-232-8233 or malonefnh.com.

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**Lisnek, Seymour**

Seymour Lisnek, age 94, beloved husband of the late Sandy Lisnek; loving father of Rick (Judy) and Paul Lisnek; cherished Poppy of David, Michael (Lindsay), Danielle, Jackie, Alex and Zach; adored great-Poppy to Ella and Parker; treasured uncle and great-uncle to several nieces and nephews. Seymour had a great sense of humor. In later years he enjoyed playing cards and bingo with friends. Chapel service Thursday, January 9, 3:00 at Beth Shearim Mausoleum, Shalom Memorial Park, 1700 W. Rand Road, Arlington Heights. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Alzheimer's Association. For information and condolences: 847-255-3520 or [www.shalom2.com](http://www.shalom2.com)



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**Mandolini, Dana**

Dana Mandolini, nee Michel, age 60, of Bolingbrook. Beloved wife of Dave for 38 beautiful years. Loving mother of Robyn (Patrick) Fardy, Kelley Mandolini, and DJ Mandolini. Caring Mimi to Aria and Cole. Devoted daughter of the late Robert and Marjorie Michel. Dear sister to Candice (Phil) Michel, Gregory (Stephanie) Michel, and Margie (Mark) Pinte. Cherished aunt, cousin, and friend to so many. Visitation 3-9 p.m. Friday January 10th at **Hallowell & James Funeral Home**, 301 75th St., Downers Grove. Prayers 8:30 a.m. Saturday January 11th from the funeral home to St. Dominic Church, 440 E. Briarcliff Rd., Bolingbrook for Mass at 9:30 a.m. Information: [www.hjfunerals.com](http://www.hjfunerals.com) or 630-964-6500

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**Milano, Michael Dominick**

79, son of Peter and Ella (deceased); brother of Bart (Pat) (deceased); beloved partner of Irene Kul; loving father of Cathy (Mark) and Pete (Kim); loving grandfather, of Michael and Mia; dear uncle and cousin to many. Michael spent most of his life in Chicago after he graduated from Lake Forest College where he was an All American in football. Michael loved to cook, go for walks on the beach in Florida, follow Chicago sports, work crossword puzzles, read mystery books but above all he loved to spend time with his family. Visitation will be held January 11, 2020 at 10am until time of service at 11am at Church of the Ascension, 1133 N. LaSalle, Chicago, IL. In lieu of flowers memorial donations can be made to ALS Foundation Chicago [www.als.net/chicago](http://www.als.net/chicago) or The American Lung Association. For information please call 847-685-1002 or visit [www.cooneyfuneralhome.com](http://www.cooneyfuneralhome.com)

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**Mugica, Margarita 'Margo'**

Margarita "Margo" Mugica (nee Bustos) age 81. Beloved wife of the late Alfred Mugica. Devoted mother of Philip (Balinda) Mugica, Katherine (Sonny) Shiffer, Dolores Robinson and William (Katie) McMahan. Loving grandmother of 10 and great grandmother of 7. Dear sister of Graciela Bustos Mora, Nelida Bustos Mora, Otilda Bustos Mora and the late Fernando Bustos Mora. She had many close friends due to her loving ways and she was beautiful inside and out. Memorial visitation Saturday, January 11, 2020, 10 AM until time of service 2 PM at the Palos-Gaidas Funeral Home, 11028 Southwest Hwy. (7700W) Palos Hills. Express your thoughts and memories in the online Guest Book at [www.palosgaidasfh.com](http://www.palosgaidasfh.com)



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**Nourie, Cary F**

Cary F. Nourie, 59, cherished husband of 19 years to Brigid Cashman; adored father of daughter Briona; beloved son of Mary Lou and the late Donald, passed away unexpectedly January 2, 2020. He was preceded in death by his sister Christine, and is survived by his loving brothers Tim (Karen), Ted (Vera Chan), sister Jill Eberhardt and Colin (Sarah Singer-Nourie); cherished uncle of Trevor, Catie, Chris, Camille, Conner, Brennan, Rae, Zoe, Micah, Isabella, Delia, Maeve and Liam; dear in-law of the Cashman family, Thomas Joseph, Jacquie, Thomas Francis, John, Brendan (Danielle Burgeson) and Meghan Grace; loving companion of Sophie Louise, the family dog. Visitation Saturday from 9 AM until time of mass 11 AM at Old St. Patrick's Church, 700 W. Adams. Interment Private. In lieu of flowers, please consider contributing to one of the following charities: Children at the Crossroads Foundation, Geneva Lake Water Safety Patrol, Rescue Tails Animal Welfare, Old St. Patrick's Church Foundations Program, or the Briona Nourie Educational Fund. Arrangements entrusted to **Gibbons Family Funeral Home**. For info 773-777-3944 or [www.GFFH.com](http://www.GFFH.com)

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**Odorizzi, David T.**

David Odorizzi Jr.76, of Bourbonnais. Retired employee of U.S. Steel. Dear brother of Shirley (Charles) Sueppel, Dolores Vogt, and the late Ruth Odorizzi; devoted companion of Tanis Landry; uncle and great-uncle to many. Visitation from 12:00 Noon until the 2:00 p.m. funeral service on Saturday, January 11, 2020 at **Clancy-Gernon Funeral Home**; 295 Main St. NW, Bourbonnais. Memorials to Kankakee Humane Foundation or Hospice of Kankakee Valley. Sign guestbook at [www.clancyger-non.com](http://www.clancyger-non.com). Info. 815.932.1214.

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**Peto, Warren**

Warren Peto, 82, of Elgin, peacefully passed away at Advocate Sherman Hospital on January 5, 2020, surrounded by loving family.

Warren was born in Elmhurst, IL and raised in Addison, IL. He studied education and earned his B.A. from Illinois State University and M.A. from Northern Illinois University.

He taught social studies and reading at Addison Trail High School in Addison. He also taught in the G.E.D. Department at E.C.C. He shared his love of learning with individuals with limited reading ability as a volunteer with Elgin's Literacy Connection.

Warren was a passionate Christ-follower; he shared his love of scripture with students in Awana Club and in Kids' World, both held at Christ Community Church - St. Charles. He was a servant leader who also worked with men in CCC's Men's Ministry, where he was known for his attention to detail and preparedness. Friends from CCC admired his love of children and his commitment to stand up for his convictions.

The way he passionately poured himself into the lives of others was exemplary; he made friends wherever he went.

Warren is remembered as a devoted husband and father. He is survived by his college sweetheart and loving wife of 50 years, Carole (nee Loman) Peto; their three children, Ted (Sarah Remus) Peto, Stephanie Peto, and Gregory (Adoree Bryant) Peto; and four grandchildren, Sophie Peto, Andrew Peto, Ethan Peto, and Charlie Peto.

He was preceded in death by his parents Louis and Emma Peto of Addison, IL, and his siblings, Eugene Peto of Burlington, Everett Peto of Roselle, and Marlene Peto Andrews of Glendale Heights.

Visitation will be 5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m. Friday, January 10, 2020 at Christ Community Church, 37W100 Bolcum Rd., St. Charles, IL. Funeral Service will be 12:30p.m. Saturday, January 11, 2020 at Christ Community Church, Pastor Jack Goldthwaite officiating. Interment, with military honors, to follow at Bluff City Cemetery, 945 Bluff City Blvd, Elgin, IL 60120.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to: Christ Community Church; RockSteadyBoxing.org (support for those with Parkinson's); or Literacy Connection, 270 N. Grove Ave., Elgin, IL 60120. Final arrangements entrusted to Symonds-Madison Funeral Home, 305 Park St., Elgin, IL 60120. For more information call 847-741-1128 or visit [www.symondsmadisonfuneralhome.com](http://www.symondsmadisonfuneralhome.com)

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**Plesha, Frank P.**

Frank P. Plesha, age 90, longtime resident of the East Side passed away on January 7, 2020. Beloved husband of the late Jeanne (nee Dever). Loving father of Mark (Louise) and Gregory (Cheryl) and the late Timothy Plesha. Devoted grandfather of Brendan, Jason and Lauren. Dearest brother of Rose Nastav, Ann Carnavacciolo and Nicholas Plesha. Preceded in death by brothers; Joseph, Michael, George and John Plesha. Fond uncle of many nieces and nephews. Veteran U. S. Army Korean War. Retired employee of Republic (LTV) Steel. Visitation Friday, January 10, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. until time of funeral services at 1:00 p.m. at the Elmwood Chapel 11200 S. Ewing Ave. Chicago, IL 60617. Cemetery private. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions to the Tinley Park Paws in Frank's name would be appreciated. 773-731-2749. www.elmwoodchapel.com.

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**Pontrelli, Albert J.**

Albert J. Pontrelli, 83, of Oak Brook; beloved husband of JoAnn, Nee Wellner, for 55 years; loving father of Ralph (Gina) & James (Paige) Pontrelli and the late Linda (Steve) Nasser; dear grandfather of Michael, Jenna, Bianca, Albert, Nicole, Gia, Anna, Jessica and Joey; fond brother of Lorraine (the late Ronald) Rubin, the late Mary (the late Frank) Vesconte, the late Michael (Darlene) Pontrelli, & the late Bettina (the late Fred) Ruffolo; fond uncle of many. Visitation Friday 3-9 p.m. at **Hursen Funeral Home & Crematory** SW corner of Roosevelt & Mannheim Rds., Hillside/Westchester. Prayers Saturday 8:15 a.m. from the funeral home to Visitation Church, Elmhurst. Mass 9:15 a.m. Interment Queen of Heaven Cemetery. Info: 800-562-0082 or www.hursen.com



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**Satherlie, Timothy J**

Timothy J. Satherlie, age 76; passed away January 5, 2020, at Glenbrook Hospital in Glenview, IL, surrounded by his loving family and friends. Beloved Husband to Terry (Londis) Satherlie; loving Father to Stacey (Greg) Kruzczek, Shawn (Nancy) Satherlie, Dawn Knox, Rick (Brekken) Holtrop and Megan (Doug) Reid; preceeded in death by Grandson Alex (14), proud Grandfather to Sianna, Austin, Luke, Emma, Tessa and August; Great-Grandfather to Seth, Levi and Ellie; fond Brother to Gregg (Chelin) Satherlie and loving Uncle and friend to many. Memorial service will be held Saturday, January 18, 2020 at 10:30am at Pilgrim Lutheran Church, 4300 N. Winchester Ave., Chicago, IL 60613. In lieu of flowers, memorials in Tim's honor to, Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, pancan.org are appreciated.

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**Schloerb, Robert Gransden**

Robert Gransden Schloerb, 95, died peacefully on December 19, 2019 at his home in Hyde Park. Bob was born in Naperville, Illinois to Rolland Walter Schloerb and Edith (née Gransden) Schloerb on March 5, 1924. He moved with his family to Hyde Park at the age of 4 and was a life long resident of that neighborhood.

A member of the "greatest generation", Bob served with the 99th Infantry Division in World War II in Europe from the fall of 1944 through the end of the war. The 99th Division fought bravely in the Battle of the Bulge 75 years ago, where Bob was surrounded by the enemy during the Christmas season of 1944. He received the Purple Heart during his time of service.

During military training before his departure to Europe, Bob met the love of his life, Mary Jean Wegner, in Lincoln, Nebraska at the home of her parents, who were classmates of Bob's parents at North Central College in Naperville. Bob and Mary were married on January 20, 1951 and were together for 68 years until Bob's death.

Bob returned from the War to complete his undergraduate education at Oberlin College in 1948. He received his law degree from the University of Chicago in 1951, where he was Editor of the Law Review in 1949-1950. Bob was admitted to the Bar in 1951. He joined the law firm of Peterson, Lowry, Rall, Barber, and Ross and remained with that firm throughout his career. He served as Managing Partner when the firm was known as Peterson, Ross, Schloerb, and Seidel, and he was later Of Counsel to the firm when it became Peterson & Ross.

Bob was a devoted supporter of the University of Chicago serving on the University Board of Trustees from 1983-1994 and thereafter as an Emeritus Trustee. He was also a Trustee of the University of Chicago Medical Center. He was especially active with the Baptist Theological Union, where he served on the Board, and the University of Chicago Divinity School. Bob and his wife Mary established the Rolland Walter Schloerb Ministry Fellowship, in honor of Bob's father, to support ministry students at the Divinity School. He was recently named an Honorary Trustee by the Baptist Theological Union.

Bob was an avid golfer and member of the Chicago Golf Club in Wheaton, Illinois and the Wilderness Country Club in Naples, Florida. He was an enthusiastic participant in 40 golfing trips to Scotland with friends from Chicago Golf, as well as trips to famous golfing venues throughout the United States.

Bob will be missed as a wonderful mentor and "second father" to a number of young people in the legal profession and in his neighborhood in Hyde Park. He is survived by his wife Mary and his sons F. Peter Schloerb of Amherst, Massachusetts, David W. Schloerb of Cambridge, Massachusetts, and John M. Schloerb of Chicago. He has three grandchildren, Amy Schloerb May of Studio City, California, and Anna and Jonah Schloerb of Chicago, and one great-grandson, W. Hollison May of Studio City, California.

A memorial service will be held on Saturday February 15, 2020 at 2 pm at the Hyde Park Union Church, 5600 S. Woodlawn Avenue. A memorial reception will take place on Sunday, February 16 from 2-4 pm at Montgomery Place, 5550 S. Shore Drive. The family requests donations to the Rolland Walter Schloerb Ministry Fellowship at the University of Chicago Divinity School in lieu of flowers.

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**Straczek, Zbigniew J.**

Zbigniew J. Straczek age 74, of Mount Prospect passed away January 7, 2020. Loving husband of Maria for 49 years. Dear father of Christine (Fred) Bittner, Barbara (Dan) Miles, Richard, and Johnny (Candice). Proud grandfather of Skyler, Caitlyn, Jordyn, Kara, Benjamin, Bradley and Brody. Fond brother of Stanley. Visitation Friday January 10, 2020 from 3:00pm until 9:00pm at Matz Funeral Home 410 E. Rand Road Mount Prospect. Prayers at the funeral home Saturday 9:30am proceeding to Saint Emily Church Mass 10:00am. Interment All Saints Cemetery. For info: (847) 394-2336 or www.matzfuneralhome.com

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**Strong, William "Bill"**

William "Bill" Strong, 87 of Crystal Lake, IL passed away January 3, 2020. Visitation will be Saturday, January 11, at 10:30am followed by Funeral Mass at 11:30am at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, 1023 McHenry Ave., Crystal Lake, IL. Luncheon to follow. Private interment. For more information, visit [www.davenportfamily.com](http://www.davenportfamily.com) or call 815-459-3411.



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**Unger, David**

David Unger, age 85, of Riverwoods, IL passed away, surrounded by family, on January 7th, 2020. He led an exemplary life of living and loving.

He was a graduate of Northwestern University's Engineering School ('56) and The Harvard Business School ('58). Alongside generational colleagues, he expanded and modernized the family business (Midwesco, MFRI, Thermal Care, Perma Pipe Holdings, Inc), offering products and services for energy and environmental control. He loved to read, swim, ski, hike, play tennis, travel, and most of all, be surrounded by family. In the last three years of his life, he stayed connected with family and friends by travelling to Alaska, Orcas Island, New Orleans, Bethesda, Newtown, and Israel.

His marriage to Maxine Simon Unger was a shining example of the greatest love and lasted from their teen age until her death on their sixtieth anniversary. He enjoyed legendary friendships, some lasting 81 years, with memories that linger blissfully on. He was a hero to many, generous beyond compare, and continues to be an inspiration to all who were fortunate to enter his sphere.

He is survived by his children Judith (Jeffery) Golden, Rebecca Unger (Isak) Fishman and Michael Unger (Janet Metz-Unger); his grandchildren Emily Fishman, Charlotte Golden, Joseph Fishman, Nathaniel Unger, and Phoebe Unger; his sister (Sara Rosenbluth); and many beloved in-laws, nieces, and nephews.

Funeral services will be held on Friday January 10th at 11AM at Makom Solel Lakeside, 1301 Clavey Rd., Highland Park, IL 60035. Interment Private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Makom Solel Lakeside Library, [www.mymakom.org](http://www.mymakom.org). Arrangements by **Chicago Jewish Funerals** - Skokie Chapel, 847.229.8822, [www.cjinfo.com](http://www.cjinfo.com).

**CHICAGO JEWISH FUNERALS**

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**Vasile, Richard F.**

Richard F. Vasile, age 83; beloved husband of Judith C. Vasile, nee Bolling; loving father of Susan (Donald) Duncan, Ronald (Jennifer) Vasile and Michael (Donna) Vasile; cherished grandfather of Ashley (Daniel) Parisi, Nicole Duncan, Samuel (Delynn) Vasile, Daniel Vasile, Katherine Vasile and Anthony Vasile; great grandfather of Olivia Parisi. Visitation Friday 4:00PM to 8:00PM. Funeral Saturday 10:30AM at **Adams-Winterfield & Sullivan Funeral Home**, 4343 Main St., (1 blk. So. of Ogden Ave.) Downers Grove. Interment Holy Family Cemetery. 630-968-1000 or [www.adamswinterfieldsullivan.com](http://www.adamswinterfieldsullivan.com)



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**Wisniewski, Dolores L.**

Dolores L. Wisniewski, nee Baschetti, beloved wife of William R. Wisniewski; loving sister of Anthony (the late Sandra), the late Larry and Jules Baschetti; dearest aunt of Rick, Jerry and Marc (fiancé, Tracy) Baschetti; great aunt of Anthony. Visitation Saturday, January 11, 2020, 10 AM until time of Mass 11:00 AM at St. Bernadette Church, 9343 S. Francisco Ave., Evergreen Park, IL. Interment Private at St. Mary Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorials to the ALS Association ([www.alsa.org](http://www.alsa.org)) will be appreciated. Arrangements entrusted to **Chapel Hill Gardens South Funeral Home**. Info. 708-636-1200.

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**Wright, Nancy**

Nancy Wright, nee Solomon, age 62, beloved wife of Mark; devoted mother of Lainie and Thomas Wright; dear sister of Steven Solomon; loving daughter-in-law of Joan Silar and Sidney Wright. Services Friday 11 a.m. Congregation Etz Chaim, 1710 South Highland Ave., Lombard, 60148. Interment Jewish Oakridge Cemetery, Hillside. Remembrances may be made to the Giant Steps School For Autism Education, 2500 Cabot Dr., Lisle, IL 60532. Info: **Chesed v'Emet Funeral Home**, Rudy Lerner, Funeral Director, 847-577-0856 or [www.chesedvemet.com](http://www.chesedvemet.com).

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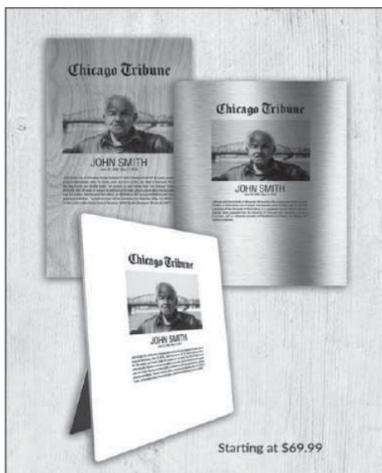
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LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

MEETING OF THE RETIREMENT BOARD OF THE COUNTY EMPLOYEES' AND OFFICERS' ANNUITY AND BENEFIT FUND OF COOK COUNTY AND EX OFFICIO FOR THE FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT EMPLOYEES' ANNUITY AND BENEFIT FUND OF COOK COUNTY 2020 Board Meeting Schedule

RESOLVED, The Retirement Board of the County Employees' and Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County and the Forest Preserve District Employees' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Cook County does hereby direct that the Retirement Board shall meet at 9:30 a.m. in Suite 1925, 70 West Madison, Chicago, Illinois, on the following dates:

Table with 2 columns: Date, Day. Rows: January 9, 2020 Thursday; February 6, 2020 Thursday; March 5, 2020 Thursday; April 2, 2020 Thursday; May 7, 2020 Thursday; June 4, 2020 Thursday; July 9, 2020 Thursday; August 6, 2020 Thursday; September 3, 2020 Thursday; October 1, 2020 Thursday; November 5, 2020 Thursday; December 3, 2020 Thursday

Note: Above meeting dates are proposed and subject to change. 1/9/2020 6564788

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 Antwain Riles MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF Camille Barnes (Mother) JUVENILE NO.: 19JA00918

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Unknown (Father), respondents, and to All Whom It May Concern, that on August 20, 2019, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by KIM FOX in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge Andrea Buford in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON 01/30/2020 at 10:00 AM in CALENDAR 4 COURTROOM D, 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 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 10, 2019 6562219

ASSISTANT STATE'S ATTORNEY: A. Clark, Chicago 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 December 12, 2019 6552405

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 Arianna Strickland MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF Ariel Strickland (Mother) JUVENILE NO.: 19JA00352

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Unknown (Father), respondents, and to All Whom It May Concern, that on April 09, 2019, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by KIM FOX in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge Nicholas Geanopoulos in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON 01/17/2020 at 10:30 AM in CALENDAR 17 COURTROOM K, 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 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 19, 2019 6566192

ASSISTANT STATE'S ATTORNEY: S. David, C. Castro 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 December 11, 2019 6543214

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF Genesis Thomas MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF Deovenna Thomas (Mother) AKA Deovonna Thomas JUVENILE NO.: 19JA00424

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Jason Walker (Father), respondents, and to All Whom It May Concern, that on April 25, 2019, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by KIM FOX in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge Shannon O'Malley in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON 01/30/2020 at 1:30 PM in CALENDAR 6 COURTROOM F, 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 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 January 9, 2020 6562016

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF Jalin Thorn AKA Jalin Thornton Jaqwan Lanier MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF Tiesha Lanier (Mother) JUVENILE NO.: 19JA00729 19JA00730

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Javell Thorton (Father), Unknown (Father), respondents, and to All Whom It May Concern, that on July 11, 2019, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by KIM FOX in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge Robert Balanoff in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON 01/30/2020 at 9:30 AM in CALENDAR 12 COURTROOM L, 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 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 5, 2019 6562028

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF Jehheim E Vassar AKA Janheim Vassar A MINOR NO. 2019JD01487

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION Notice is given you, Jullian Vassar (Father), respondents, and TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, that on September 17, 2019, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by KIM FOX, STATE'S ATTORNEY OF COOK COUNTY through Assistant State's attorney in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge Linda Pael in the 1100 South Hamilton, Chicago, Illinois on 01/23/2020 at 9:00 AM in CALENDAR 60 COURTROOM 12 ,

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 or judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief asked in the petition.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF COURT December 12, 2019

ASSISTANT STATE'S ATTORNEY: A. Clark, Chicago 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 December 12, 2019 6552405

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 Justin K Thomas AKA Justin J Thomas A MINOR NO. 2019JD01754

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION Notice is given you, Michael Thomas (Father), respondents, and TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, that on November 02, 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 Kristal Royce Rivers in the 1100 South Hamilton, Chicago, Illinois on 01/23/2020 at 9:00 AM in CALENDAR 56 COURTROOM 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.

Unless you appear at the hearing and show cause to the contrary, an order or judgment by default may be entered against you for the relief asked in the petition.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF COURT December 11, 2019

ASSISTANT STATE'S ATTORNEY: S. David, C. Castro 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 December 11, 2019 6543214

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF Natalie Mae Short MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF Shelita Rose (Mother) JUVENILE NO.: 19JA01270

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Shelita Rose (Mother), Cornelius Short (Father) Any And All Unknown Fathers, respondents, and to All Whom it May Concern, that on October 31, 2019, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by KIM FOX in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge Andrea Buford in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON 01/30/2020 at 9:30 AM in CALENDAR 4 COURTROOM B, 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 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 12, 2019 6562214

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF Jalin Thorn AKA Jalin Thornton Jaqwan Lanier MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF Tiesha Lanier (Mother) JUVENILE NO.: 19JA00729 19JA00730

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Javell Thorton (Father), Unknown (Father), respondents, and to All Whom It May Concern, that on July 11, 2019, a petition was filed under the Juvenile Court Act by KIM FOX in this court and that in the courtroom of Judge Robert Balanoff in the Cook County Juvenile Court Building, 1100 So. Hamilton Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, ON 01/30/2020 at 9:30 AM in CALENDAR 12 COURTROOM L, 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 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 12, 2019 6562214

ASSISTANT STATE'S ATTORNEY: S. David, C. Castro 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 December 12, 2019 6552405

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES Joseph J. Henderson & Son, Inc., 4288 Old Grand Ave., Gurnee, IL 60031, (847) 244-3222 is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer seeking Minority-Owned, Women-Owned, Small Business Enterprise, and Veteran-Owned businesses for the Gravity Concentration Tank Rehabilitation at the Calumet Water Reclamation Plant, Contract 18-803-32 project in Chicago, Illinois for the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago for subcontracting/supplying opportunities in the following areas (but not limited to): Cranes; Hazardous Material Handling; Demolition; Painting; SCADA; and Electrical. All interested Minority-Owned, Women-Owned, Small Business Enterprise, and Veteran-Owned businesses should contact IN WRITING (certified letter and return receipt requested), Marc Gilman, to discuss the subcontracting opportunities. All negotiations must be completed prior to the bid opening date of January 28, 2020. Proposals will be evaluated based on scope of work and price, and subcontracts will be awarded to the lowest responsive and qualified bidder. 01/09/2020 6564993

NOTE TO DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES Granite Construction Company, 2215 Sanders Road, Suite 400, Northbrook, IL 60062, (847) 919-8200, is seeking disadvantaged businesses (DBE) for the Chicago Department of Transportation Project B-5-157, 43rd Street Pedestrian Bridge Over South Lake Shore Drive. Subcontracting and supplier opportunities may include, but are not limited to: Landscaping, Concrete, Bearings Expansion Joints, Rebar, Demolition, Electrical, Environmental, Excavating, Drainage, Fence & Guardrail, HMA, Painting, Pavement Markings, Traffic Control, Signage, Structural Steel, Survey. All disadvantaged businesses should contact Keith Martin (847) 777-7516 to discuss subcontracting opportunities and link to plans/specs. All negotiations for this project must be completed no later than Monday, January 27th by 5:00 PM. Bids will be evaluated based on performance, qualifications, experience and price. Please fax quotes and DBE certification to (847) 272-5930 or keith.martin@grc.com. Granite Construction Company, an equal opportunity employer. 1/9, 1/13/2020 6566461

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LEGAL NOTICES

ADVERTISEMENT FOR NOTIFICATION OF BID FOR PROVISO SCHOOL DISTRICT - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1 - SEQUENCE 1 Gilbane Building Company, Construction Manager, for and acting on behalf of the Board of Education of Proviso Township High School District 209, is receiving pre-qualification applications from interested contractors for the Proviso School District Capital Improvements Project Phase 1 - Sequence 1. This includes sitework, new culinary arts space, and health and life safety work at Proviso East High School. Sitework, exterior facade repairs, new advanced manufacturing lab, and health and life safety work at Proviso West High School. As well as sitework at the Proviso Math & Science Academy. The work will include site work, site utilities, structural and miscellaneous steel, masonry, carpentry, curtainwall, windows, doors, roofing, ceilings, framing, flooring, painting, kitchen equipment, plumbing, mechanical and electrical. The architect for this project is Perkins & Will.

BP # DESCRIPTION 06A General Trades Work - Proviso East 06B General Trades Work - Proviso West 11A Food Service Equipment Work 22A Plumbing Work - Proviso East & West 23A HVAC Work - Proviso East & West 26A Electrical Work - Proviso East, West & Math & Science Academy 31A Site Paving Work - Proviso East 31B Site Paving Work - Proviso West & Math & Science Academy 31C Storm Trap Purchase - Proviso East 31D Storm Trap Installation - Proviso East 31E Site Utilities Work - Proviso East, West & Math & Science Academy

The bid documents will be distributed to pre-qualified bidders on or about Friday, January 10, 2020. A Pre-Bid Conference (non-mandatory) will be held on Monday, January 20, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. local time at Proviso East High School, 807 South 1st Avenue, room 129, Maywood, IL 60153. Site visits for Proviso West and Proviso Math & Science Academy to follow immediately after pre-bid meeting. Sealed bids are due Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. local time, at Proviso Math & Science Academy, 8601 Roosevelt Road, Forest Park, IL 60130.

To bid this project, bidders must be qualified by Gilbane Building Company. The prequalification application is to be completed online at www.bidpro.com. Questions regarding the prequalification application procedure should be directed to Ariana Alvarez - 773/695-3579 or AAvarez@gilbaneco.com.

Bid security in the form of a bid bond in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the base bid is required from all bidders. Guarantee Bonds in the form of a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the bid will be required from the awarded bidder.

The work will be done in accordance with the Contract Documents. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS INVITATION TO BID MAY RESULT IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF THE BIDDER.

This contract calls for the construction of a "public work," within the meaning of the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act, 820 ILCS 130/01 et seq. ("the Act"). The Act requires contractors and subcontractors to pay laborers, workers and mechanics performing services on public works projects no less than the "prevailing rate of wages" (hourly cash wages plus fringe benefits) in the county where the work is performed. For information regarding current prevailing wage rates, please refer to the Illinois Department of Labor's website at: https://www2.illinois.gov/ido/ Lwms-Rules/CONMED/Pages/Rates.aspx. All contractors and subcontractors rendering services under this contract must comply with all requirements of the Act, including but not limited to all wage, notice and record keeping duties.

The Proviso Township High School District 2019 and Gilbane Building Company reserve the right to reject any or all bids. All information submitted as part of this process shall be considered public information under the State Freedom of Information Act unless specifically disclosed on the applicable information by the Bidder. Challenges to such exemptions shall be defended solely by the Bidder.

Bidders who are not pre-qualified in accordance with this Advertisement will have their bids returned unopened. 1/9/2020 6566896

LEGAL NOTICES

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID Triton College will receive sealed proposals at 2000 Fifth Avenue, River Grove, IL 60171 for the following project.

SOFTBALL FIELD RESTROOM & PRESSBOX ADDITION - EAST CAMPUS NO PRE-BID MEETING Bid opening Thursday 1/23/2020 11:00 AM Specifications will be issued to prime bidders, which may be obtained from the Purchasing Department or by visiting www.triton.edu/rfp. Bid proposals will be received up to the hours and dates listed above in room A 306, Finance Office located in the Learning Center building at Triton College. Immediately after the closing hour for receiving bids, they will be publicly opened and read aloud in room A-300.

All questions pertaining to construction documents should be sent to Arcan & Associates, Inc., attention Gaspare Pirello (630) 495-1900. Ext. 210 or email gpirello@arconassoc.com 1/9/2020 6564757

LEGAL NOTICES

ADVERTISEMENT FOR NOTIFICATION OF BID FOR PROVISO SCHOOL DISTRICT - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PHASE 1 - SEQUENCE 1 Gilbane Building Company, Construction Manager, for and acting on behalf of the Board of Education of Proviso Township High School District 209, is receiving pre-qualification applications from interested contractors for the Proviso School District Capital Improvements Project Phase 1 - Sequence 1. This includes sitework, new culinary arts space, and health and life safety work at Proviso East High School. Sitework, exterior facade repairs, new advanced manufacturing lab, and health and life safety work at Proviso West High School. As well as sitework at the Proviso Math & Science Academy. The work will include site work, site utilities, structural and miscellaneous steel, masonry, carpentry, curtainwall, windows, doors, roofing, ceilings, framing, flooring, painting, kitchen equipment, plumbing, mechanical and electrical. The architect for this project is Perkins & Will.

BP # DESCRIPTION 06A General Trades Work - Proviso East 06B General Trades Work - Proviso West 11A Food Service Equipment Work 22A Plumbing Work - Proviso East & West 23A HVAC Work - Proviso East & West 26A Electrical Work - Proviso East, West & Math & Science Academy 31A Site Paving Work - Proviso East 31B Site Paving Work - Proviso West & Math & Science Academy 31C Storm Trap Purchase - Proviso East 31D Storm Trap Installation - Proviso East 31E Site Utilities Work - Proviso East, West & Math & Science Academy

The bid documents will be distributed to pre-qualified bidders on or about Friday, January 10, 2020. A Pre-Bid Conference (non-mandatory) will be held on Monday, January 20, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. local time at Proviso East High School, 807 South 1st Avenue, room 129, Maywood, IL 60153. Site visits for Proviso West and Proviso Math & Science Academy to follow immediately after pre-bid meeting. Sealed bids are due Thursday, February 6, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. local time, at Proviso Math & Science Academy, 8601 Roosevelt Road, Forest Park, IL 60130.

To bid this project, bidders must be qualified by Gilbane Building Company. The prequalification application is to be completed online at www.bidpro.com. Questions regarding the prequalification application procedure should be directed to Ariana Alvarez - 773/695-3579 or AAvarez@gilbaneco.com.

Bid security in the form of a bid bond in an amount equal to ten percent (10%) of the base bid is required from all bidders. Guarantee Bonds in the form of a Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond in an amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the bid will be required from the awarded bidder.

The work will be done in accordance with the Contract Documents. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS INVITATION TO BID MAY RESULT IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF THE BIDDER.

This contract calls for the construction of a "public work," within the meaning of the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act, 820 ILCS 130/01 et seq. ("the Act"). The Act requires contractors and subcontractors to pay laborers, workers and mechanics performing services on public works projects no less than the "prevailing rate of wages" (hourly cash wages plus fringe benefits) in the county where the work is performed. For information regarding current prevailing wage rates, please refer to the Illinois Department of Labor's website at: https://www2.illinois.gov/ido/ Lwms-Rules/CONMED/Pages/Rates.aspx. All contractors and subcontractors rendering services under this contract must comply with all requirements of the Act, including but not limited to all wage, notice and record keeping duties.

The Proviso Township High School District 2019 and Gilbane Building Company reserve the right to reject any or all bids. All information submitted as part of this process shall be considered public information under the State Freedom of Information Act unless specifically disclosed on the applicable information by the Bidder. Challenges to such exemptions shall be defended solely by the Bidder.

Bidders who are not pre-qualified in accordance with this Advertisement will have their bids returned unopened. 1/9/2020 6566896

LEGAL NOTICES



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Chicago Tribune

Legal Notice Pace Suburban Bus Division of the RTA Public Hearings on the Proposed Restructuring of Fixed-Route Service in North Cook County

Route 210 Lincoln Avenue Route 215 Crawford-Howard Route 225 Central-Howard Route 226 Oakton Street Route 421 Wilmette Avenue Route 422 Linden CTA/Glenview/Northbrook CTA Route 423 Linden CTA-The Glen-Harlem CTA

# Chicago Tribune CHICAGO SPORTS

Chicago's best sports section, as judged by the Associated Press Sports Editors

## Want to talk for real?

In this edition of 'Real Talk,' our reporters make a clear distinction: The Bears *might* earn a return to the postseason in 2020, but they're far away from maintaining that level.

(This year's playoff field, below, has a combined 61 postseason appearances since 2011, by the way.)

### SUSTAINED SUCCESS?

Playoff appearances for the Bears compared with this year's playoff field (since 2011)



BY DAN WIEDERER AND RICH CAMPBELL

Once again, January has become an empty month in Chicago. The NFL playoffs continue with eight teams still eyeing the Super Bowl. Yet, once again, the season's biggest games go on with the Bears stuck on the outside and with a passionate fan base left to deal with its frustration and envy.

The rival Packers? They're awaiting a visit from the Seahawks.

The Vikings? Their road upset of the Saints on Sunday sends them to San Francisco for the divisional round.

Patrick Mahomes and Deshaun Watson? The two quarterbacks Bears general manager Ryan Pace passed over three years ago in the draft will reunite in a highly anticipated postseason duel in Kansas City.

So how can the Bears get back in the championship hunt? How can they rediscover the formula that propelled a 12-4 season in 2018?

Most importantly, in this edition of "Real Talk," Tribune Bears writers Dan Wiederer and Rich Campbell tackle one of the biggest big-picture questions: Are the Bears close?

Turn to **Real Talk**, Page 4

## Heisman hype on high for Ravens-Titans

BY DAVID GINSBURG  
Associated Press

OWINGS MILLS, Md. — The top prize for individual excellence in college football is the Heisman Trophy. For the first time in the Super Bowl era, five winners of that prestigious keepsake are expected to suit up in the same game, each in pursuit of the NFL's most coveted team award — the Vince Lombardi Trophy.

The Ravens will bring three Heisman winners (Lamar Jackson, Mark Ingram, Robert Griffin III) into Saturday night's playoff game against the Titans, who have a pair of players (Marcus Mariota, Derrick Henry) who accepted the trophy presented annually to the most outstanding performer in college football.

"Five? I didn't even think about that," said Lamar Jackson, who won the 2016 Heisman with Louisville. "It's going to be incredible."

Turn to **Heisman**, Page 4

**5.1**

Average number of playoff appearances in the last nine seasons for this year's field

### BLACKHAWKS

## 'He can be more of a shooter'

Blackhawks rookie is doing it all — except finding the scoresheet

BY JIMMY GREENFIELD

Kirby Dach has done everything the Blackhawks have asked of him without complaint since being the No. 3 pick in the NHL draft last summer.

When they asked him to participate in the NHL Prospect Tournament in Traverse City, Mich., before training camp, he went.

When Dach suffered a concussion during the tournament, he

worked with the Hawks medical staff and patiently waited to get back on the ice.

When he finally made his NHL debut on Oct. 20, he moved from line to line, getting comfortable with new teammates and showing off a work ethic and skill set that quickly led the Hawks to realize they weren't sending him back to his junior team. Ever.

The only thing Dach hasn't done is score a whole lot. But the Hawks haven't asked him to score — at least not yet.

The points will come later. At least they had better.

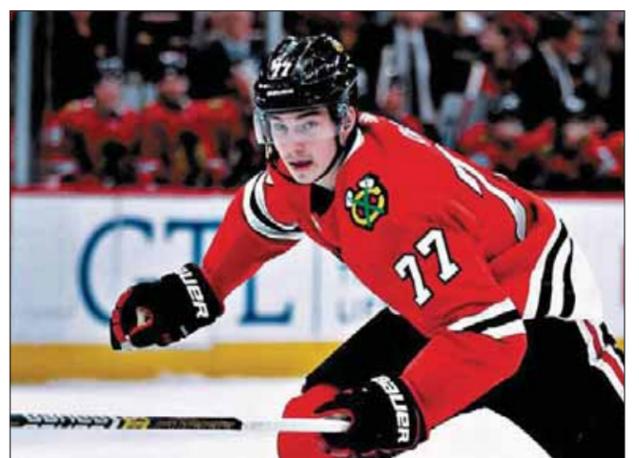
No. 3 picks aren't drafted to be

role players. But no one in the Hawks organization expects that out of Dach, who at 18 is just getting his feet wet and contributing in ways other than filling the scoresheet.

At 6-foot-4 with a long reach, Dach has been a tireless fore-checker and effective at carrying the puck into the offensive zone.

His most recent linemates, Alex DeBrincat and Dylan Strome, have taken it from there. Since Colliton put the trio together six games ago, DeBrincat has five points and Strome six while the line has only allowed one defensive goal.

Turn to **Dach**, Page 8



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Blackhawks center Kirby Dach chases the puck during a game against the Flames on Tuesday night at the United Center.

# TOP OF THE SECOND

TIM DAHLBERG

## Black coaching hires at dismal level

A year ago, Richard Lapchick was at least willing to consider it might be cyclical. Not any longer.

Not after all but one of the NFL coaching vacancies have been filled. Not after — in a league in which 70% of players are minorities — blacks have been hired for only two of the 19 open head coaching spots over the last three years.

“It’s very discouraging that this continues to happen,” said Lapchick, director of the Institute for Diversity and Ethics in Sport at Central Florida. “It’s not like there are no qualified candidates. These people are out there and ready.”

They may be ready, but NFL owners apparently aren’t. Despite the adoption of the Rooney Rule in 2003 to increase the number of black head coaches, there are only three among the four minority head coaches (the Redskins’ Ron Rivera is Hispanic) currently employed in the league.

And with only the Browns still looking, that number won’t be changing much — if at all.

“There’s not much to be optimistic about from this year’s results for sure,” said Lapchick, who annually gives sports leagues grades on their efforts to diversify. “This is a serious cause for concern that we’ve now gone three years with the lowest numbers we’ve had in a long time.”

Just why those numbers are so low is open to debate, especially since the NFL has made efforts over the last two decades to promote minority hirings. The Rooney Rule not only mandated that teams interview coaches of color for vacancies, but also was later updated so that the general manager job was included.

And before last season, the rule was toughened so that teams couldn’t skirt the requirements with sham interviews.

Still, the number of black head coaches stands at three, down from a peak of eight. The situation in the GM’s office is even more bleak, with just one black general manager.

Not exactly the type of progress envisioned when former Steelers owner Dan Rooney spearheaded the minority hiring rule nearly 20 years ago. The numbers are so bad on the GM side that Lapchick gave the league an F grade in that category for racial and gender hiring practices as part of an overall B grade.

“It’s a serious problem,” Lapchick said.



Mike Tomlin of the Steelers is one of four active NFL head coaches of color.

“It’s fair to say nobody is feeling pressured to diversify, especially at the club level.”

If it’s a problem, it’s one that doesn’t get a lot of attention outside of the annual head coach hiring season. That might be, Lapchick said, because players have been relatively silent on the subject even while speaking out on social issues outside the league.

It’s also true that as recently as 2018, there were eight black head coaches before five of them got fired.

NFL defenders point to that stat and argue that the latest hirings are indeed cyclical and the low current number of minority coaches is an aberration. NFL owners are so desperate to win, they say, that they would hire their worst enemy if they thought he had the best chance of getting them to a Super Bowl.

But while the Rooney Rule requires interviews, it doesn’t require hirings. It also doesn’t cover the offensive and defensive coordinator positions that have traditionally been stepping stones to the head coaching job and, on the offensive side at least, have traditionally been white.

And like it or not, the NFL remains a closed society where the good ol’ boy

network remains powerful.

It’s still somewhat startling that the league didn’t hire its first black head coach of the modern era until 1989, when Al Davis named Art Shell coach of the Raiders. It took 13 more years before Ozzie Newsome became the first black general manager with the Ravens.

Not a great history to defend, and the lack of minority head coaches is just as indefensible.

Indeed, the NFL deserves low grades for its hiring practice both on the sidelines and in the executive offices. The league is failing the very players who make billionaire owners even richer, and at some point the players are going to decide they want to have a say about it.

There’s no debate that coaching is a brutal business no matter what color your skin is. Coaches are hired to be fired, and all but the most successful eventually lose their jobs for not winning enough.

What isn’t debated is this: There’s plenty of good black coaches out there.

And they deserve a chance to succeed.

*Tim Dahlberg is a national sports columnist for the Associated Press.*

### LET’S PLAY 2

	<b>Thursday</b> Predators 7:30 p.m. NBCSCH	<b>Saturday</b> Ducks 7:30 p.m. NBCSCH+
	<b>Friday</b> Pacers 7 p.m. NBCSCH	<b>Saturday</b> @Pistons 6 p.m. NBCSCH

### THURSDAY ON TV/RADIO

<b>NBA</b>		
<b>6 p.m.</b>	Celtics at 76ers	TNT
<b>8:30 p.m.</b>	Rockets at Thunder	TNT
<b>MEN’S COLLEGE BASKETBALL</b>		
<b>5 p.m.</b>	Drexel at Towson	CBSSN
<b>6 p.m.</b>	Memphis at Wichita State	ESPN2
<b>6 p.m.</b>	La. Tech at Tex.-San Antonio	ESPNU
<b>6 p.m.</b>	Purdue at Michigan	FS1
<b>7 p.m.</b>	Hofstra at Northeastern	CBSSN
<b>8 p.m.</b>	Arizona at Oregon	ESPN
<b>8 p.m.</b>	Minnesota at Michigan St.	ESPN2
<b>8 p.m.</b>	Murray St. at Jacksonville St.	ESPNU
<b>8 p.m.</b>	Washington at Stanford	FS1
<b>10 p.m.</b>	BYU at Saint Mary’s	ESPN2
<b>10 p.m.</b>	Arizona St. at Oregon St.	ESPNU
<b>WOMEN’S COLLEGE BASKETBALL</b>		
<b>10 a.m.</b>	Quinnipiac at Rider	ESPNU
<b>4 p.m.</b>	Austin Peay at Tenn. Tech	ESPNU
<b>5 p.m.</b>	Michigan at Ohio State	BTN
<b>6 p.m.</b>	Baylor at Connecticut	ESPN
<b>7 p.m.</b>	Maryland at Iowa	BTN
<b>GOLF</b>		
<b>6 p.m.</b>	PGA: Sony Open	Golf
<b>10 p.m.</b>	Asian: Hong Kong Open	Golf
<b>4 a.m. (Fri.)</b>	Euro: South African Open	Golf
<b>NHL</b>		
<b>7:30 p.m.</b>	Predators at Hawks	NBCSCH WGN-AM 720
<b>TENNIS</b>		
<b>2 a.m. (Fri.)</b>	Auckland & Brisbane	Tennis

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### NFL NOTES

## Brady: ‘Still have more to prove’

Associated Press

Whether Tom Brady will return as quarterback of the Patriots next season is still an open question. But the 42-year-old on Wednesday gave another indication that he isn’t done playing football.

In an Instagram post to fans, Brady said “I still have more to prove” following a season that ended with the Patriots failing to reach the Super Bowl for the first time since 2015.

“In both life and football, failure is inevitable,” he wrote. “You don’t always win. You can, however, learn from that failure, pick yourself up with great enthusiasm, and place yourself in the arena again.”

The Patriots’ season ended with a 20-13 loss in the wild-card round to the Titans on Saturday night.

A six-time Super Bowl champion, four-time MVP of the NFL title game and three-time winner of the league MVP, Brady could become an unrestricted free agent for the first time in his career when his contract ends in March.

That has placed team owner Robert Kraft and coach Bill Belichick on the clock to either bring back Brady for his 21st season or watch the franchise’s greatest player depart from the only team he’s called home.

Belichick said this week that there isn’t an established timeline to resolve Brady’s status, but he acknowledged that his case is unusual.

“Everybody’s situation is different,” Belichick said. “Certainly, Tom is an iconic figure in this organization. And nobody respects Tom more than I do.”

**Vikings’ Thielen hurting:** Vikings wide receiver Adam Thielen has an ankle injury that limited him Wednesday in practice.

Thielen was on the field with the team for the start of the workout and added to the injury report afterward, a sign that he was hurt during practice.

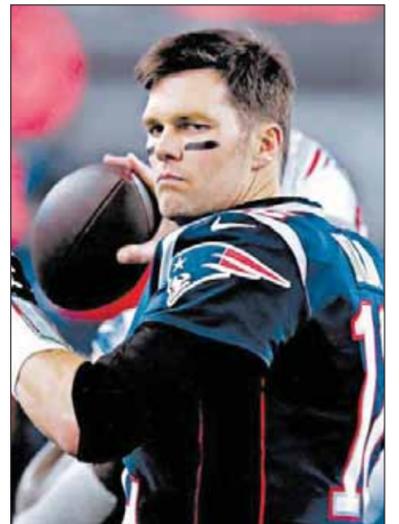
The two-time Pro Bowler was sidelined for close to half of the regular season because of a hamstring injury, before his seven-catch, 129-yard performance in the team’s NFC playoff win over the favored Saints last weekend. The Vikings visit the top-seeded 49ers on Saturday.

Wide receiver Stefon Diggs missed practice for the second straight day because of an illness, but coach Mike Zimmer said “he will be fine” and expects him to play.

Nickel cornerback Mackensie Alexander, who was sidelined against the Saints, remains out with a knee injury.

**49ers defense getting healthy:** The 49ers defense is about to be almost whole again at just the right time of the season.

Key starters Kwon Alexander, Dee Ford and Jaquiski Tartt are slated to return to the lineup for Saturday’s game against the Vikings after injuries took a toll on the unit over the second half of the season.



CHARLES KRUPA/AP

Patriots QB Tom Brady may become an unrestricted free agent for the first time.

“It’s kind of a confidence boost,” linebacker Fred Warner said. “It’s been a while since we had all those guys back on the field together. The more weapons we have the more powerful we’ll be.”

The returns bode well for the postseason because few teams were as dominant as the 49ers were defensively over the first eight weeks of the season when the defense was mostly healthy.

The 49ers allowed only 0.86 points per drive during that span, ranking second best in the league. That number grew to 2.08 over the final nine weeks, ranking 30th.

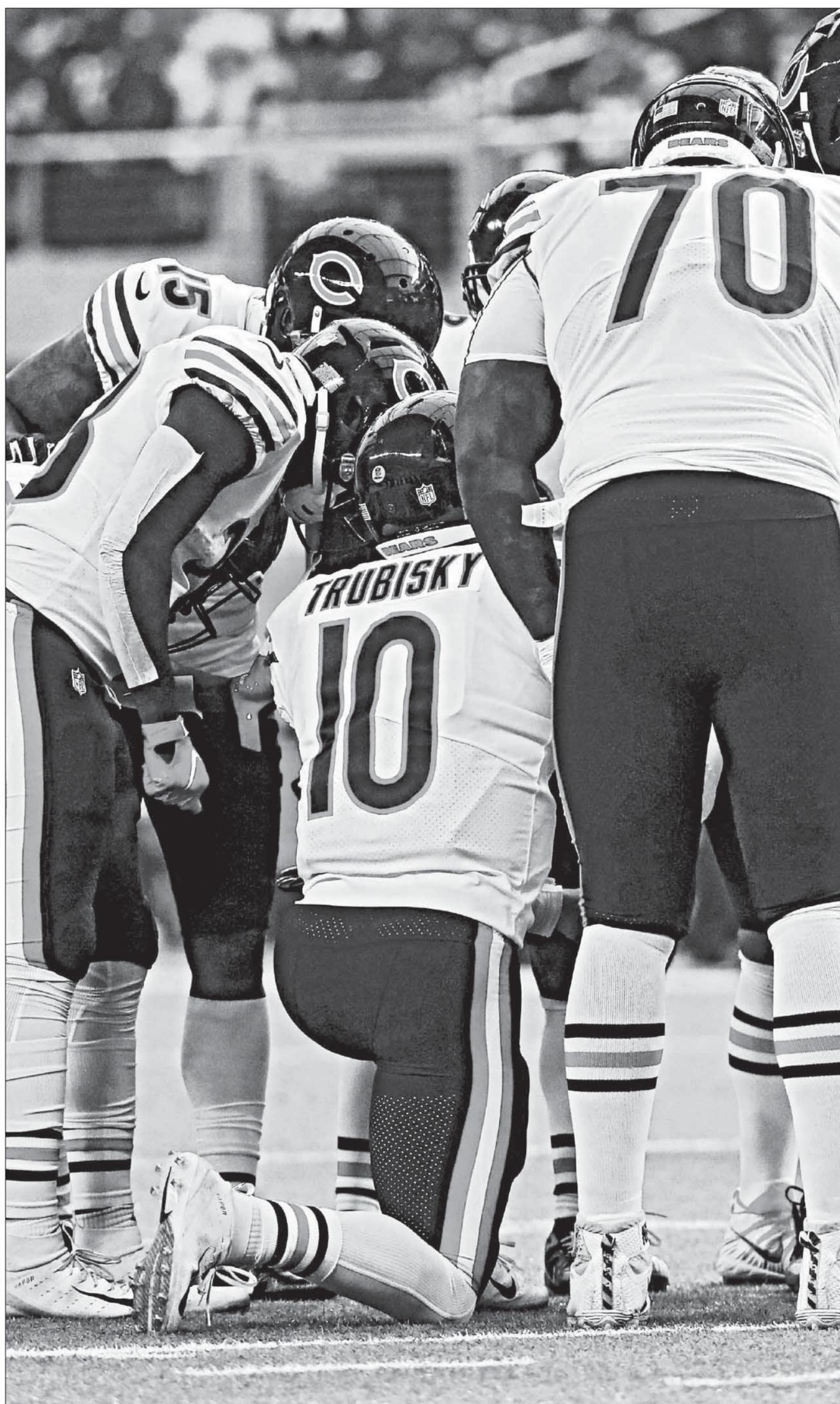
While the competition did get tougher in the second half, the defense for the 49ers also wasn’t nearly as potent with speedy linebacker and emotional leader Alexander going down with a torn pectoral muscle in Week 8, speed rusher Ford limited to four snaps over the final seven games because of a bum hamstring and versatile safety Tartt missing the final four games with injured ribs.

Having that trio back should provide a big boost against Kirk Cousins and the Vikings. The impact is already apparent on the practice field.

“It’s just fun to watch,” tight end George Kittle said. “Sometimes in practice when the defense is up, the offense is off and you’ll be talking about plays and stuff. This week when we have all our guys back, you just want to watch because it’s fun to see them work together again.”

The 49ers won’t be completely healthy on defense with run-stuffing defensive tackle D.J. Jones and reserve defensive end Ronald Blair out for the season, but this will be as healthy as the team has been since its dominant stretch early in the season.

## BEARS



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

## FILL IN THE BLANK

# Other than improved QB play, the Bears' biggest need on offense is \_\_\_\_\_.

BRAD BIGGS

## A playmaker

Other than Allen Robinson, the Bears didn't have a player who could challenge defenses in the middle of the field. Other than glimpses from Taylor Gabriel, they lacked a receiver who could take the top off the defense and be a consistent vertical threat. Whatever avenue they choose, be it a tight end or wide receiver, they have to upgrade the offense. As former defensive coordinator Vic Fangio once bluntly put it, "We've got to get our so-called good players playing better." The Bears' so-called playmakers, outside of Robinson, haven't produced enough, and that group needs an upgrade.

RICH CAMPBELL

## The interior line

The line is an independent position group, as opposed to a position such as running back. With improved line play, the Bears' rushing game would be more effective. Achieving that upgrade in 2020 is essential to complementing a playoff-caliber defense. Plus, Mitch Trubisky is much more accurate and timely when he trusts the pocket. Coach Matt Nagy said Trubisky needs to get better at climbing the pocket and remaining a threat to pass and run. That would be easier with improved interior blocking. The Bears are committed to left guard James Daniels (2018 second-round pick) and center Cody Whitehair (signed an extension in 2019), both of whom were too unreliable in 2019.

COLLEEN KANE

## A better running game

The Bears finished 27th in the NFL in rushing yards per game (91.1) and yards per carry (3.7). And that's after they dumped Jordan Howard in favor of rookie David Montgomery. It's going to take better play from the offensive line, whose regression Ryan Pace stressed was detrimental in 2019. And it's going to take a better commitment from Nagy, whose team ran the ball seven times against the Saints. Even though it felt as if offensive coordinator Mark Helfrich and offensive line coach Harry Hiestand were taking the fall for much bigger problems when they were fired last week, it makes sense to seek new voices to try to solve both of those problems.

DAN WIEDERER

## Tight end production

Consider this a photo finish with more reliable offensive line play. But it's hard to deny that the inability to establish any continuity or get any meaningful production at tight end was a major handicap in 2019. The Bears' leader in receiving yards by a tight end was J.P. Holtz, who was claimed off waivers after the Redskins cut him in Week 2 and who contributed seven catches and 91 yards. So, yeah, a big-play tight end is needed right away. With two second-round picks, Pace, Nagy and the talent evaluation staff need to start dialing in on the college tight ends who best fit their system.

# Bears extend Jackson smartly

Safety gets \$58.4M but cap number still manageable

BY BRAD BIGGS

The Bears were able to sign free safety Eddie Jackson to a lucrative contract extension without a big cap number in 2020 when the team will be tight against the salary cap unless a new collective bargaining agreement can be reached between the NFL and the NFL Players Association.

Jackson agreed to an impressive four-year, \$58.4 million extension Friday, four days after players from the 2017 draft class were first eligible to receive new deals, and signed the contract Saturday.

The two-time Pro Bowl performer received a \$12 million signing bonus, and while he will earn \$13.15 million this year, his salary-cap number for 2020 is only \$3,716,452, according to documents provided by an NFL source.

That's significant with the Bears projected to be snug against the salary cap, which the NFL has estimated will be about \$200 million in the event a new CBA is not reached.

The current collective bargaining agreement is set to expire at the end of the 2020 season. A new agreement, if reached before the start of the new league year March 18, could significantly raise the cap for the 2020 season.

The average salary of the four-year extension at \$14.6 million is the highest in the NFL for the position. Folding in the fifth year of the contract, as Jackson was signed through 2020, the average of the \$60.55 million deal is \$12.11 million, which ranks fifth among safeties leaguewide behind Kevin Byard (14.1 million), Landon Collins (\$14 million), Tyrann Mathieu (\$14 million) and Earl Thomas (\$13.75 million).

The contract is guaranteed for injury at \$33 million and fully guaranteed at \$22 million.

Here's a breakdown of the deal:

### 2020

- \$12 million signing bonus
  - \$1.05 million base salary
  - \$100,000 workout bonus
  - Cash total \$13.15 million
  - Cap figure \$3,716,452
- Fully guaranteed for injury. Guaranteed for skill/cap if on 90-man roster on Feb. 5. Includes \$8 million NFL Honors escalator, which is unlikely to be earned in order to comply with the NFL's 30% rule (money from a renegotiation/extension can't increase more than 30% per year).

### 2021

- \$8.95 million base salary
  - \$100,000 workout bonus
  - Cash total \$9.05 million
  - Cap figure \$11.45 million
- Fully guaranteed for injury. Guaranteed for skill/cap if on 90-man roster on Feb. 5, 2020. Includes \$2 million NFL Honors escalator, which is unlikely to be earned in order to comply with the 30% rule.

### 2022

- \$11 million base salary
  - \$100,000 workout bonus
  - Cash total \$11.1 million
  - Cap figure \$13.5 million
- Fully guaranteed for injury. Guaranteed for skill/cap if on 90-man roster on third day of 2022 league year.

### 2023

- \$13 million base salary
- \$100,000 workout bonus
- Cash total \$13.1 million
- Cap figure \$15.5 million

### 2024

- \$14.05 million base salary
- \$100,000 workout bonus
- Cash total \$14.15 million
- Cap figure \$16.55 million

## NFL

# Not quite 'close' to contention

Real Talk, from Page 1

**Dan Wiederer:** Close. It's an interesting and open-ended adjective. But it's the one quarterback Mitch Trubisky chose after the Bears ended their 8-8 season on Dec. 29 in Minneapolis. Trubisky said he believes these Bears are indeed close. "I feel like we've got the pieces," he said. "We just need to put it all together."

When pressed for reasons he senses the Bears are close, Trubisky emphasized his team's resolve and competitive grit.

"We could have easily just cashed it in," he said. "But we didn't. We never gave up, all the way to the last minute. We have guys who will battle and stick with you through thick and thin."

You know where I stand on this, Rich. I'm with Trubisky that a team's unity and persistence mean *something*. Sure. Those are important qualities that are prerequisites for the climb up the mountain.

But at this level, those qualities alone don't denote a team that is close to achieving and sustaining high-level success. They simply provide reassurance that the Bears are no longer a bottom-tier mess vulnerable to debilitating division and dysfunction.

**Campbell:** You and I are — ahem — close on this point, Dan. The Bears' chemistry, harmony and functionality in finishing .500 get a golf clap from me. Worthy of applause, indeed, yes, OK. But I'll save the roar for when they make the long putt.

Consider the Eagles. In late October, someone within the team anonymously and publicly criticized quarterback Carson Wentz. That was before they lost three straight games to fall to 5-7. The Bears never reached that level of dysfunction.

But the Eagles beat the Bears, dominating them in the first half of that 19-14 game in Philly on Nov. 3. They finished with a winning record. They won their division and hosted a playoff game.

Which team was "closer" to the ultimate goal this season?

Oh, you say the Eagles played in a lousy NFC East? Well, the Bears finished 8-8 with five of their wins against quarterbacks Case Keenum, Jeff Driskel, Daniel Jones, David Blough and Sean Mannion.

It's about winning. And you mentioned the word I'm fixated on: sustaining. The Bears certainly could jump back into the playoffs in 2020. But how close are they to sustaining success?

**Wiederer:** Bingo. And that's where the most important leaders in the organization have to step back and be honest with themselves. There has to be an aversion to the self-congratulatory vibes that always seem to accompany the occasional exhilarating triumph. One 12-win season can't leave everyone at Halas Hall feeling intoxicated and believing a Super Bowl is truly within reach when the roster still has so many major flaws.

Think about the offseason shopping list for Ryan Pace. The offensive line needs an upgrade. The tight end position needs an overhaul. A backup quarterback who can become a starter if necessary is a must. The Bears may also have to find starting-caliber secondary replacements for Ha Ha Clinton-Dix and Prince Amukamara. They have to decide what to do with linebacker Danny Trevathan and Nick Kwiatkoski.

Their pass rush needs a boost. Their offense was bottom five in many of the most meaningful categories.

It doesn't feel like we're describing a team that is close to *sustaining* excellence.

You know exactly how I feel about a third-place team breaking out the disco ball and strobe light for a shrug win. Think bigger. Have higher standards. Understand exactly what it is you want to be "close" to.

**Campbell:** Let's sound it out, then. What does it take to sustain success?

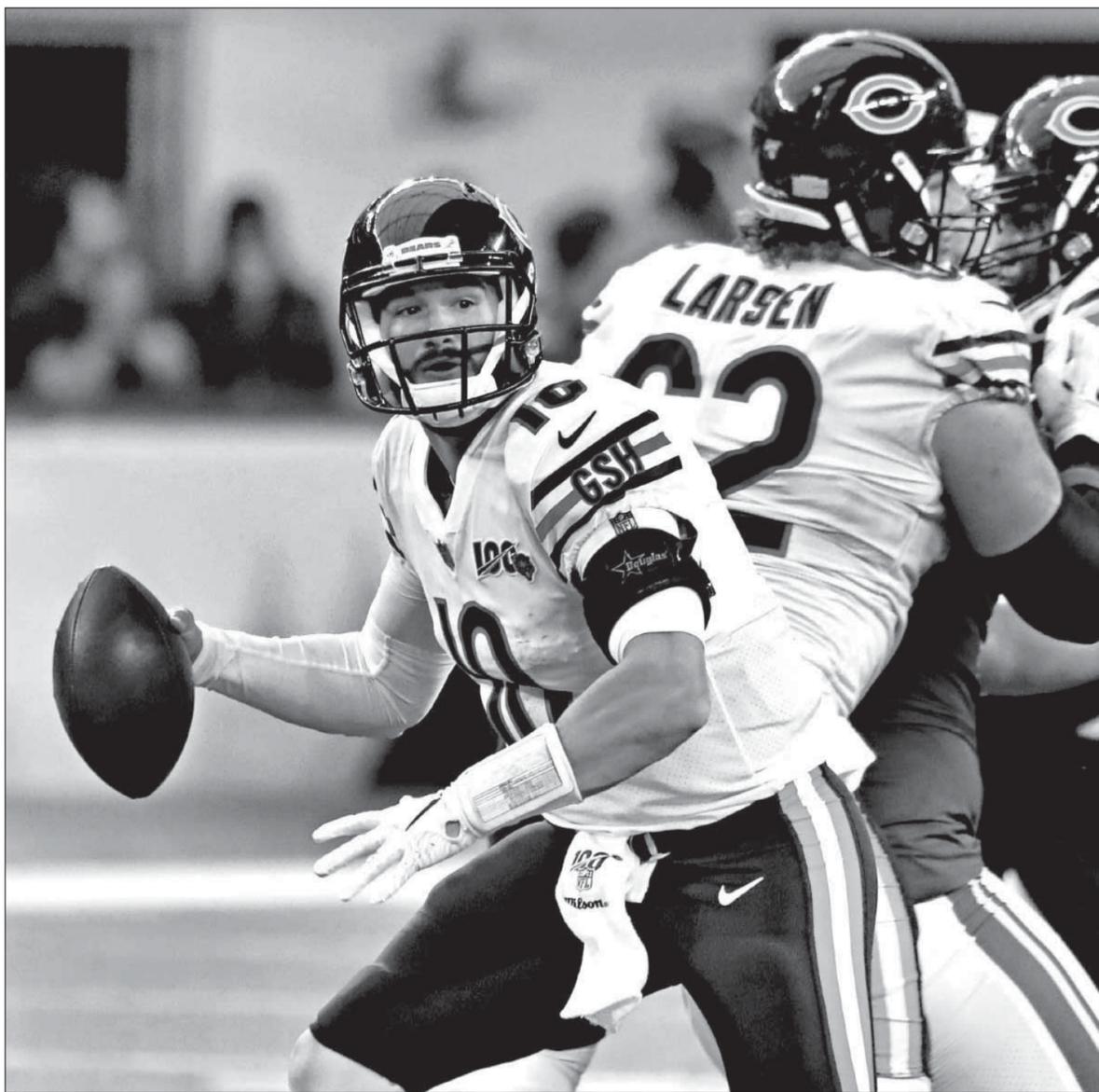
A wise football philosopher once said: "You don't achieve greatness in this league without great quarterback play."

(Checks notes)

Ah, yes. Those were Pace's words after boldly trading up to draft Trubisky.

Well, three years later, Trubisky's body of work falls well short of "great quarterback play." The flashes of greatness have been too few and far between. Even Pace, Trubisky's greatest champion, has acknowledged the quarterback's insufficient performance level, albeit tepidly.

So maybe one way to go about this is to ask ourselves: How close are the Bears to getting great quarterback play? It's a loaded question with uncomfortable answers.



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bears quarterback Mitch Trubisky looks to throw against the Vikings on Dec. 29.

**Wiederer:** And maybe that is the heart of the matter, even with as much as the fixation on quarterback performance can sometimes feel like overkill.

Still, if it's widely accepted that great quarterback play is the most reliable catalyst for sustaining success, the Bears probably aren't really close to anything. The two NFC teams with the most playoff appearances in the 2010s are the Packers and Seahawks, who coincidentally will meet Sunday at Lambeau Field in each team's eighth postseason appearance of the last 10 seasons. Neither team has spent much time second-guessing its starting quarterback. Nor have they had to invest valuable energy and resources in troubleshooting the position.

Meanwhile, the Bears have a three-year starter they are tutoring to become, in Matt Nagy's vision, "a master at understanding coverages." Along with that, there is a push to get Trubisky to trust the pocket better; to polish his footwork to help the timing of the passing game; to improve his touchdown-to-checkdown mentality. That's a lot of heavy lifting.

**Campbell:** Pocket presence, playmaking savvy — those question marks get at Trubisky's instincts. If Trubisky has them, why hasn't he shown them more consistently by now? Does he need everything to be perfect around him for them to shine on game days? How realistic is that? It's particularly worrisome entering Year 4.

**Wiederer:** Pace has acknowledged Trubisky's troubling inconsistency but downplayed his own worry on the matter: "There's just a growth process we're watching take place."

Pace has emphasized how Trubisky made only 13 starts in college and how he had to learn a new offensive system after his rookie season. But the former factor should have been part of the Bears' pre-draft evaluation process. And Pace had control of the latter, pairing Trubisky in 2017 with a coaching staff he knew likely wouldn't be around to see the development through.

So now a sixth-year GM and fourth-year quarterback are hoping patience and hard work can provide a significant breakthrough? That's a "Proceed With Caution" warning if ever there was one.

**An argument could be made that the Bears are just as close to starting over at quarterback, general manager and head coach as they are to winning a Super Bowl. So again, proceed with caution with how you invest your hopes.**

**Campbell:** It's a tough sell, too, given the regression in 2019. Maybe Trubisky pushes himself forward next season. But without evidence improvement is imminent, counting on that would put the Bears on thin ice.

Of course, the quarterback in the better-quarterback-play equation doesn't necessarily have to be Trubisky.

For them to get back to the playoffs in 2020, they could pair average quarterback play with a strong defense. The Vikings succeeded with that type of chicken-wire-and-gum approach with Case Keenum in 2017.

But for the Bears to sustain success, they need stability at the position. And that gets to a question at the heart of Pace's offseason. What can he do to build around Trubisky? Three times in the opening minutes of the postseason news conference, he referenced shortcomings on offense around his handpicked quarterback, a potential clue about the upcoming player-acquisition cycle.

Pace can add a backup quarterback who is capable of winning games. The Bears also must figure out why all five offensive linemen regressed, understanding they've committed significant resources to four of them. As for the fifth spot, an upgrade at right guard is crucial for an interior trio that struggled mightily. Tight end is a black hole too.

I'm taking a see-it-to-believe-it approach on whether the Bears can improve in each of those areas. But they'll take their swings.

**Wiederer:** Sure. Pace has never been afraid to take those swings. It's just that the range of results on the biggest ones — from Khalil Mack and Allen Robinson to Trubisky and Kevin White — have been extreme.

My suggestion for the Bears to up their odds of succeeding in what promises to be a critical offseason is that they do their best to replace wishful thinking with critical thinking. As we've mentioned, this organization tends to grow easily enamored with flashes of promise rather than the full body of evidence.

It's why Pace continues to put more weight on Trubisky's occasional "Aha!" moments than he does on a three-season stretch defined by inconsistency.

It's why Chairman George McCaskey and team President Ted Phillips are convinced that the 12-4 division-championship season of 2018 is this team's true identity as opposed to the 8-8 disappointment they all just lived.

So are the Bears close? To another playoff appearance? As soon as next year? Perhaps.

But the organization hasn't enjoyed back-to-back winning seasons since 2005 and 2006. And the Bears haven't made three consecutive playoff appearances since 1988.

An argument could be made that the Bears are just as close to starting over at quarterback, general manager and head coach as they are to winning a Super Bowl.

So again, proceed with caution with how you invest your hopes.

**Campbell:** In that sense, 2020 feels like a crossroads for the Bears. Do they rebound like the Vikings did this season? Or do they fall all the way back into irrelevance like the Jaguars have since their 2017 breakthrough?

Part of sustaining success is elevating your floor. Look at the Super Bowl favorite Ravens. In 12 seasons since John Harbaugh became coach, they've finished with a losing record one time. Once!

As you mentioned, it has been too long since the Bears have sustained anything resembling that success. If they returned to the playoffs next season, at least they would have better evidence that this year's 8-8 record is their new floor. That, to me, is the only way to prove they're close.

## Heisman

Continued from Page 1

For all he accomplished at Louisville during that amazing season three years ago, Jackson would gladly trade his statue for the opportunity to hoist the trophy in Miami on Feb. 2.

"That's the trophy I want," Jackson said. "That's the best trophy you can get playing football."

"That's what I want, that's what the team wants, that's what we're going to get."

Jackson hopes to receive help from Ingram (Alabama, 2009) and backup quarterback Robert Griffin III (Baylor, 2011).

Griffin will start on the bench against the Titans and Ingram is questionable with a calf injury, but earlier this season all three were in the backfield for what was dubbed "The Heisman Package."

Could we see it again this weekend?

"It could resurface but that's not my decision," Griffin said.

"I know we're focused on beating the Tennessee Titans, and if the Heisman package is part of that, that's what we're going to do."

Griffin chuckled when asked about the significance of having the Ravens' Heisman trio being joined at the stadium Saturday by Mariota (Oregon, 2014) and Henry (Alabama, 2015).

"I wouldn't say we're getting dressed and going out on the field and saying, 'Oh man, there's five Heisman Trophy winners out there.' But it is a cool aspect of the game," Griffin said.

"Maybe we'll get a picture after the game, but I know that's not what we're thinking about right now."

The Titans benched Mariota in mid-October after the former managed only one touchdown in a 10-quarter span and was coming off a shutout loss in Denver. Since being replaced by Ryan Tannehill, Mariota has been playing the role of the opposing quarterback on the scout team, this week doing his best imitation of Jackson for the Tennessee defense.

Mariota has played in each of the past two games, however, throwing a 24-yard pass to A.J. Brown in the regular-season finale win in Houston and a 4-yard toss to Dion Lewis in last week's playoff win over the Patriots. Mariota will hit the free-agent market in March.

Henry and Ingram both surpassed 1,000 yards rushing this year. The former Crimson Tide stars won't necessarily have to seek each other before Saturday's game because they just recently spoke.

"I talked to Mark the other day, and we were just catching up," Henry said.

Winning the Heisman Trophy automatically makes the recipient part of a very special club. That's why the modern football world has never before seen five Heisman winners in uniform at the same NFL game.

"There are only so few of us, and every year there's only one more," Griffin said. "So this game, it's something that you'll reflect on later in life and think, 'That was a really cool moment.' But when you're in the moment, it's not as if we're all walking around with HEISMAN on the back of our shirt or carrying our Heisman Trophies."

### NFL PLAYOFFS: DIVISIONAL ROUND



#6 Titans at #1 Ravens  
7:15 p.m. Saturday, CBS-2



#4 Texans at #2 Chiefs  
2:05 p.m. Sunday, CBS-2



#6 Vikings at #1 49ers  
3:35 p.m. Saturday, NBC-5

#5 Seahawks at #2 Packers  
5:40 p.m. Sunday, FOX-32

Like Jackson, Griffin wasn't even aware he was on the brink of sharing in a historic moment.

"If no one told me there were five Heisman Trophy winners in the game, it wouldn't click for me," RG3 said. "But yeah, now that people have been saying it, I'm honored to be part of that."

AP Sports Writer Teresa M. Walker in Nashville, Tennessee, contributed.

**COLLEGES**

**ILLINOIS 71,  
WISCONSIN 70**

**Dosunmu's heroics take down UW**

Late 3 gives Illinois 1st 'W' in Madison since 2010

By **TAMIRA MADSEN**  
Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. — Ayo Dosunmu scored 18 points — including a 3-pointer with 46 seconds left — to rally Illinois to a 71-70 victory over Wisconsin on Wednesday night at the Kohl Center.

The win snapped a 15-game losing streak in the series for the Illini (11-5, 3-2 Big Ten), who hadn't beaten the Badgers since 2011 and hadn't won in Madison since 2010.

Freshman 7-footer Kofi Cockburn scored 15 points and reserve guard Alan Griffin added 12, including 4-of-5 shooting from 3-point range.

Kobe King scored a game-high 21 points for Wisconsin (9-6, 2-2), which had its four-game winning streak snapped.

King drained a 3 with 22 seconds left to pull Wisconsin to 71-70, but when the Badgers got the ball back after a missed free throw by Illinois forward Giorgi Bezhaniashvili, D'Mitrik Trice missed a go-ahead bucket with three seconds left.

Micah Potter scored 13 points with nine rebounds and two blocks for Wisconsin. Potter, an Ohio State transfer playing in his fourth game since becoming eligible in late December, made all eight of his foul shots.

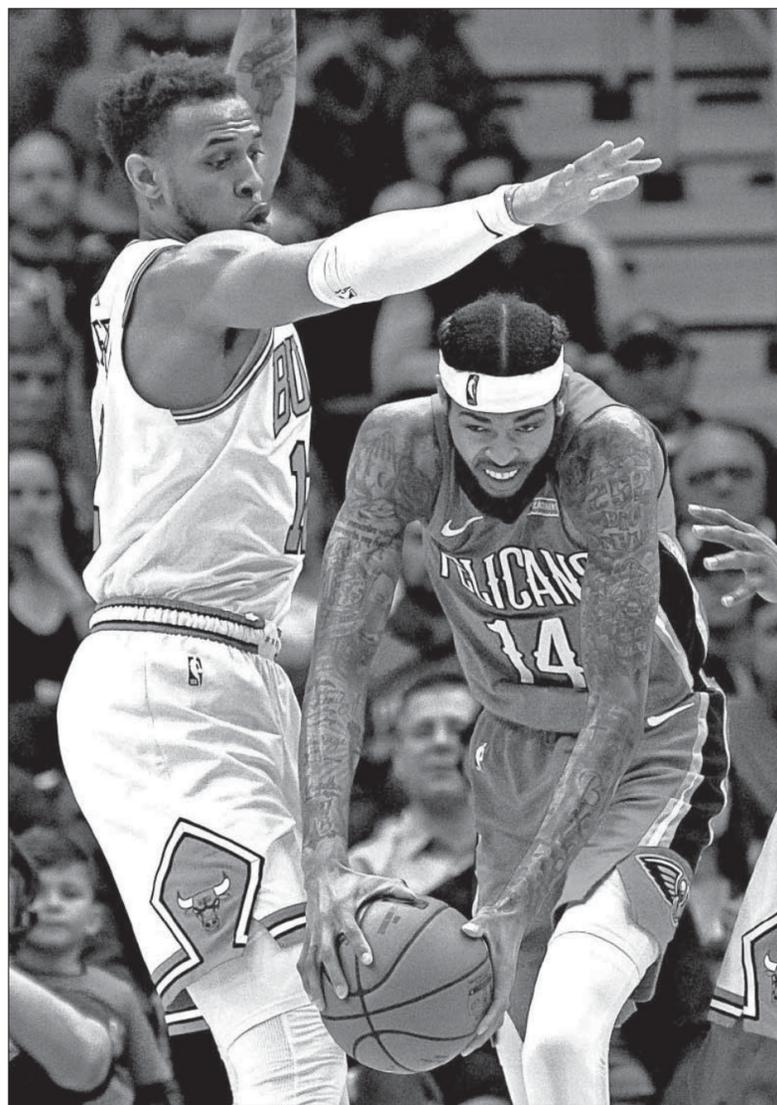
The teams traded the lead 10 times in the first half until Potter and King collaborated on a 9-1 Wisconsin run — capped by a King 3-pointer — that extended the Badgers' lead to 28-21 with 3:57 left in the half.

King, who was 8 of 11 shooting, delivered eight of the Badgers' first nine points to open the second half.

Illinois pulled within 54-52 with 9:50 left on a dunk by Cockburn, who picked up his fourth foul 17 seconds later.

The Badgers maintained a slim lead late in the second half but didn't score a basket for nearly two minutes. The Illini tied the game at 63 on back-to-back 3s by Griffin with 3:22 left.

**BULLS**



MATTHEW HINTON/AP

**PELICANS 123, BULLS 108**

**Third-rate**

The Bulls turned a halftime tie into an insurmountable deficit Wednesday night in New Orleans, losing 123-108 to the Pelicans after a disastrous third quarter that saw the hosts outscore the Bulls 44-27. The Bulls have struggled to start the second half for much of the season. This time they led by six until a 15-3 run put the Pelicans in front for good as the Bulls suffered their season-high fifth straight loss. Zach LaVine scored 32 for the Bulls, and Thaddeus Young scored 18 in his return to the city where he was born. Brandon Ingram, above, had 29 points, 11 assists and eight rebounds, JJ Redick hit six 3-pointers on his way to 24 points and rookie Jaxson Hayes had 14 points, 12 rebounds and four blocks to help the Pelicans win for the seventh time in 10 games. For more, go to [chicagotribune.com/sports](http://chicagotribune.com/sports)

**SOCCER**

**FIRE**

**Club hires director of performance**

Fire add Donachie from EPL's AFC Bournemouth

By **JEREMY MIKULA**

The Chicago Fire added another member to their staff Wednesday, announcing the hiring of Ben Donachie from Premier League club AFC Bournemouth to be the Fire's director of performance.

Donachie, who served as the lead strength and conditioning coach at Bournemouth from 2012-19, will oversee sports performance and training for the Fire's first team and youth academy.

He is the latest hire by Fire sporting director Georg Heitz, who also brought in Raphael Wicky as head coach and Sebastian Pelzer as technical director in the last few weeks.

"Ben has worked with players at the highest level in world football," Heitz said in a statement.

"His expertise in sports performance will play an important role in the development of our first team and academy players.

"We look forward to having Ben on our technical staff as we continue to build a world-class organization."

The Fire said Donachie will tie up loose ends with Bournemouth before coming to Chicago before players report for testing on Jan. 18.

"After speaking with Georg and Raphael, it didn't take long for me to decide that I wanted to come on board," Donachie said in a statement. "Their vision for this incredible club is very motivating and it's an exciting time to join the Fire."

"I can't wait to get started." Donachie, who holds bachelor's and master's degrees in exercise science, already has some previous knowledge of Chicago.

He met his wife, Grayson, in Chicago in 2016 and the two got engaged last year in Streetsville.



Donachie

**INDIANA 66,  
NORTHWESTERN 62**

**Wildcats waste lead; skid hits 5**

By **MICHAEL MAROT**  
Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — Trayce Jackson-Davis made the tie-breaking free throws with 1:57 left and scored eight of Indiana's final 10 points Wednesday to cap a late rally, giving the Hoosiers a 66-62 victory over Northwestern.

Indiana trailed by 10 midway through the second half and trailed 59-54 with 3:20 to go. But Jackson-Davis, who finished with 21 points and seven rebounds, delivered on offense for the Hoosiers (12-3, 2-2 Big Ten).

Northwestern (5-9, 0-4) scored only three points on 1-of-6 shooting the rest of the game.

Pat Spencer had 15 points, five assists and four rebounds to lead the Wildcats, who have lost five straight. A.J. Turner and Miller Kopp each scored 12.

Turner returned to the lineup after missing the previous game with a lower-body injury. Ryan Young added 10 points and seven rebounds.

For the Hoosiers, it was another brutal night for the offense.

But after Northwestern took a 50-40 lead on Spencer's short jumper with 12 minutes remaining, Jackson-Davis, Justin Smith and Aljami Durham bailed out the Hoosiers by combining for 10 straight points to tie the score at 50 with 7:38 to go.

And when the Wildcats retook the lead, Smith tied it with a three-point play, Jackson-Davis broke the tie with two free throws and punctuated the victory with an alley-oop dunk that made it 63-59 with 1:22 left.

Northwestern never recovered and couldn't close out its first win in Bloomington since 2014. Coach Chris Collins is 0-4 in conference play for the first time in his seven seasons in Evanston.

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# SCOREBOARD

## NBA

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	PCT	GB
Boston	25	10	.714	-
Toronto	25	13	.658	1½
Philadelphia	24	14	.632	2½
Brooklyn	16	20	.444	9½
New York	10	28	.263	16½

### SOUTHEAST

Miami	27	10	.730	-
Orlando	18	20	.474	9½
Charlotte	15	25	.375	13½
Washington	12	25	.324	15
Atlanta	8	30	.211	19½

### CENTRAL

Milwaukee	33	6	.846	-
Indiana	23	15	.605	9½
Detroit	14	24	.368	18½
Chicago	13	25	.342	19½
Cleveland	10	27	.270	22

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

SOUTHWEST	W	L	PCT	GB
Houston	25	11	.694	-
Dallas	23	14	.622	2½
San Antonio	16	20	.444	9
Memphis	16	22	.421	10
New Orleans	13	25	.342	13

### NORTHWEST

Denver	26	11	.703	-
Utah	25	12	.676	1
Oklahoma City	21	16	.568	5
Portland	16	22	.421	10½
Minnesota	14	22	.389	11½

### PACIFIC

L.A. Lakers	30	7	.811	-
L.A. Clippers	26	12	.684	4½
Sacramento	15	23	.395	15½
Phoenix	14	23	.378	16
Golden State	9	30	.231	22

### WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS

Miami 122, Indiana 108  
San Antonio 129, Boston 114  
Toronto 112, Charlotte 110, OT  
Orlando 123, Washington 89  
Denver 107, Dallas 106  
Houston 122, Atlanta 115  
New Orleans 123, Chicago 108  
Utah 128, New York 104  
Milwaukee 107, Golden State 98  
**THURSDAY'S GAMES**  
Boston at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.  
Cleveland at Detroit, 6 p.m.  
Portland at Minnesota, 7 p.m.  
Houston at Oklahoma City, 8:30 p.m.

### PELICANS 123, BULLS 108

**CHICAGO:** Dunn 6-11 0-0 15, Young 7-16 1-2 18, Markkanen 4-13 4-5 14, LaVine 13-24 3-4 32, Satoransky 2-6 1-2 6, Gallford 0-2 0-0 0, Kornet 1-1 0-0 3, Hutchison 0-4 3-6 3, Arcidiacono 2-4 0-0 5, Harrison 1-1 0-0 2, Valentine 0-0 0-0 0, White 5-10 0-2 10. Totals 41-82 12-21 108.  
**NEW ORLEANS:** Hart 4-8 3-4 13, Ingram 7-19 11-12 29, Favors 5-6 2-2 12, Ball 4-11 3-4 11, Redick 7-14 4-4 24, Hayes 7-10 0-0 14, Melli 1-4 1-3 3, Alexander-Walker 4-8 1-3 11, Jackson 0-0 0-0 0, Moore 2-7 1-2 6. Totals 41-87 26-32 123.

**3-Point Goals**—Chicago 14-35 (Dunn 3-6, LaVine 3-7, Young 3-7, Markkanen 2-8, Arcidiacono 1-2, Satoransky 1-2, White 0-2), New Orleans 15-44 (Redick 6-12, Ingram 4-11, Alexander-Walker 2-5, Hart 2-5, Moore 1-4, Melli 0-2, Ball 0-5). **Fouled Out**—Satoransky. **Rebounds**—Chicago 39 (White, Young 6), New Orleans 50 (Hayes 12). **Assists**—Chicago 22 (Dunn 7), New Orleans 31 (Ingram 11). **Total Fouls**—Chicago 23, New Orleans 16. A—15,324 (16,867)

## NHL

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Boston	25	8	11	61	146	113
Tampa Bay	25	13	4	54	156	127
Toronto	24	15	6	54	162	145
Florida	22	16	5	49	153	146
Buffalo	19	17	7	45	127	135
Montreal	18	19	7	43	139	143
Ottawa	16	22	5	37	118	149
Detroit	11	30	3	25	96	168

### METRO.

W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA	
Washington	30	10	5	65	163	133
N.Y. Islanders	27	12	3	57	120	108
Pittsburgh	26	12	5	57	146	116
Carolina	25	16	2	52	145	123
Philadelphia	23	15	6	52	140	136
Columbus	21	15	8	50	117	121
N.Y. Rangers	20	18	4	44	138	141
New Jersey	15	20	7	37	109	148

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	27	10	7	61	138	121
Dallas	25	14	4	54	117	105
Colorado	25	15	4	54	159	130
Winnipeg	24	16	4	52	137	134
Minnesota	20	17	6	46	133	144
Nashville	19	16	5	45	144	143
Chicago	19	19	6	44	128	143

### PACIFIC

Arizona	25	16	4	54	133	114
Vegas	24	16	6	54	147	137
Edmonton	23	17	5	51	137	142
Calgary	23	17	5	51	125	151
Vancouver	22	16	4	50	143	134
San Jose	19	22	4	42	121	151
Anaheim	17	21	5	39	113	136
Los Angeles	17	24	4	38	113	142

2 pts for win, 1 pt for shootout/OT loss  
**WEDNESDAY'S RESULTS**  
Philadelphia 3, Washington 2  
Winnipeg 4, Toronto 3, SO  
Dallas 2, Los Angeles 1  
**THURSDAY'S GAMES**  
Winnipeg at Boston, 6 p.m.  
Vancouver at Florida, 6 p.m.  
Edmonton at Montreal, 6 p.m.  
New Jersey at N.Y. Rangers, 6 p.m.  
Arizona at Tampa Bay, 6 p.m.  
Buffalo at St. Louis, 7 p.m.  
Nashville at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.  
Minnesota at Calgary, 8 p.m.  
Dallas at Anaheim, 9 p.m.  
Los Angeles at Vegas, 9 p.m.  
Columbus at San Jose, 1930 p.m.

### FLYERS 3, CAPITALS 2

Washington 2 0 0 - 2  
Philadelphia 2 1 0 - 3  
**FIRST PERIOD:** 1, Philadelphia, Konecny 14 (Coururier), 3:24. 2, Washington, Backstrom 9 (Wilson), 7:11. 3, Washington, Vrana 19 (Kempry, Kuznetsov), 12:34. 4, Philadelphia, Hagg 1 (Raffi, Myers), 19:18.  
**Penalties:** Eller, Was (Tripping), 17:09; Panik, Was (Misconduct), 17:09.  
**SECOND PERIOD:** 5, Philadelphia, Hayes 13, 17:59 (st).  
**Penalties:** Myers, Phi (High Sticking), 2:40; Vorobeyev, Phi (Delay of Game), 14:56; Coururier, Phi (Slashing), 17:33.  
**THIRD PERIOD:** None. **Penalties:** Coururier, Phi (Slashing), 8:49; Myers, Phi (Slashing), 14:30; Orlov, Was (Hooking), 17:24.  
**SHOTS ON GOAL:** Washington 81-99-28. Philadelphia 13-31-11-27.  
**POWER PLAYS:** Washington 0 of 5; Philadelphia 0 of 2.  
**GOALIES:** Washington, Holtby 18-8-4 (27 shots-24 saves). Philadelphia, Hart 14-10-3 (28-26). A: 18,595 (19,543). T: 2:23.  
**Referees:** Dean Morton, Dan O'Halloran.  
**Linesmen:** Scott Driscoll, Jesse Marquis.

### GOALTENDING LEADERS

WANTS	TM	GP	W	L	OL
Frederik Andersen	Tor	34	21	8	4
Andri Vasilevskiy	TR	31	20	9	2
Jordan Binnington	STL	31	20	7	4
Connor Hellebuyck	Wpg	36	19	12	4
David Rittich	Cgy	33	18	10	5
Marc-Andre Fleury	Vgs	31	18	9	3
Braden Holtby	Was	30	18	7	4
Joonas Korpi	CBJ	32	17	10	4
Carey Price	Mon	35	16	15	4

### LOSSES

TM	GP	W	L	OL	
Jonathan Quick	LA	29	11	16	2
John Gibson	Ana	32	13	16	3
Martin Jones	San	31	13	15	2
Carey Price	Mon	35	16	15	4
Jimmy Howard	Det	17	2	14	1
Corey Crawford	Chi	22	7	12	2
Jonathan Bernier	Det	27	9	12	2
Jacob Markstrom	Van	30	15	12	3
Sergei Bobrovsky	Fia	33	15	12	4
Connor Hellebuyck	Wpg	36	19	12	4

through Tuesday; nhl.com

## COLLEGE BASKETBALL

### HOW MEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED

1. **Gonzaga** (16-1) did not play. Next: at San Diego, Thursday.  
2. **Duke** (14-1) beat Georgia Tech 73-64. Next: vs. Wake Forest, Saturday.  
3. **Kansas** (12-2) beat Iowa State 79-53. Next: vs. No. 4 Baylor, Saturday.  
4. **Baylor** (12-1) did not play. Next: at No. 3 Kansas, Saturday.  
5. **Auburn** (14-0) beat Vanderbilt 83-79. Next: vs. Georgia, Saturday.  
6. **Butler** (14-1) did not play. Next: at Providence, Friday.  
7. **San Diego State** (16-0) beat Wyoming 72-52. Next: vs. Boise State, Sat.  
8. **Michigan State** (12-3) did not play. Next: vs. Minnesota, Thursday.  
9. **Oregon** (12-3) did not play. Next: vs. No. 24 Arizona, Thursday.  
10. **Florida State** (14-2) beat Wake Forest 78-68. Next: vs. No. 18 Virginia, Wednesday.  
11. **Ohio State** (11-4) did not play. Next: at Indiana, Saturday.  
12. **Maryland** (13-2) did not play. Next: at Iowa, Friday.  
13. **Louisville** (12-3) did not play. Next: at Notre Dame, Saturday.  
14. **Kentucky** (11-3) did not play. Next: vs. Alabama, Saturday.  
15. **Dayton** (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. UMass, Saturday.  
16. **Villanova** (11-3) did not play. Next: vs. Georgetown, Saturday.  
17. **West Virginia** (12-2) did not play. Next: vs. No. 22 Texas Tech, Saturday.  
18. **Virginia** (11-3) did not play. Next: vs. Syracuse, Saturday.  
19. **Michigan** (10-4) did not play. Next: vs. Purdue, Thursday.  
20. **Penn State** (12-3) did not play. Next: vs. Wisconsin, Saturday.  
21. **Memphis** (12-2) did not play. Next: at No. 23 Wichita State, Thursday.  
22. **Texas Tech** (10-4) did not play. Next: at No. 17 West Virginia, Saturday.  
23. **Wichita State** (13-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 21 Memphis, Thursday.  
24. **Arizona** (11-3) did not play. Next: at No. 9 Oregon, Thursday.  
25. **Colorado** (12-3) did not play. Next: vs. Utah, Sunday.

### WEDNESDAY'S SCORES

**EAST**  
American U. 68, Army 60  
Binghamton 79, UMBC 75  
Boston U. 84, Lehigh 67  
Colgate 92, Loyola (Md.) 70  
Duquesne 78, Saint Joseph's 66  
Georgetown 87, St. John's 60  
Hartford 80, Mass.-Lowell 68  
Lafayette 82, Holy Cross 64  
Marist 70, Fairfield 58  
Navy 60, Bucknell 56  
New Hampshire 57, Maine 51  
Rhode Island 69, Davidson 58  
Stony Brook 81, Vermont 77  
UConn 67, Tulane 61  
UMass 77, La Salle 69  
York (NY) 80, CCMY 77  
**SOUTH**  
Alabama 90, Mississippi St. 69  
Campbell 64, UNC Asheville 62  
ETSU 64, UNC Greensboro 57  
LSU 79, Arkansas 77  
Longwood 74, Charleston So. 56  
NC State 73, Notre Dame 68  
New Orleans 86, Cent. Arkansas 78  
Pittsburgh 73, North Carolina 65  
Radford 67, Gardner-Webb 64  
SC-UPstate 83, Hampton 73  
St. Bonaventure 61, George Mason 49  
W. Carolina 97, VMI 85  
Winthrop 79, High Point 57  
**MIDWEST**  
Bradley 72, Evansville 52  
Cincinnati 75, Tulsa 44  
Illinois 71, Wisconsin 70  
Indiana 66, Northwestern 62  
Purdue Fort Wayne 77, W. Illinois 69  
Saint Louis 63, George Washington 58  
Seton Hall 83, Xavier 71  
**SOUTHWEST**  
McNeese St. 87, Abilene Christian 84  
Nicholls 61, Lamar 52  
Oklahoma 72, Texas 62

### HOW WOMEN'S AP TOP 25 FARED

1. **UConn** (12-0) did not play. Next: vs. No. 6 Baylor, Thursday.  
2. **Oregon** (12-1) did not play. Next: at Arizona State, Friday.  
3. **Oregon State** (14-0) did not play. Next: at No. 18 Arizona, Friday.  
4. **South Carolina** (14-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 21 Arkansas, Thursday.  
5. **Stanford** (13-1) did not play. Next: vs. California, Friday.  
6. **Baylor** (11-1) did not play. Next: at No. 1 UConn, Thursday.  
7. **Louisville** (14-1) did not play. Next: at Miami, Thursday.  
8. **UCLA** (14-0) did not play. Next: at Utah, Friday.  
9. **N.C. State** (14-0) did not play. Next: at North Carolina, Thursday.  
10. **Texas A&M** (14-1) did not play. Next: vs. LSU, Thursday.  
11. **Florida State** (14-1) did not play. Next: vs. Georgia Tech, Thursday.  
12. **Indiana** (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. Purdue, Thursday.  
13. **Mississippi State** (14-2) did not play. Next: at Missouri, Thursday.  
14. **Kentucky** (12-2) did not play. Next: at Alabama, Thursday.  
15. **DePaul** (13-2) did not play. Next: vs. Seton Hall, Friday.  
16. **Gonzaga** (14-1) did not play. Next: vs. Saint Mary's, Thursday.  
17. **Maryland** (11-3) did not play. Next: at Iowa, Thursday.  
18. **Arizona** (13-1) did not play. Next: vs. No. 3 Oregon State, Friday.  
19. **West Virginia** (12-1) beat Kansas 68-49. Next: vs. Texas, Saturday.  
20. **Missouri State** (12-2) did not play. Next: vs. Drake, Friday.  
21. **Arkansas** (13-2) did not play. Next: at No. 4 Baylor, Thursday.  
22. **South Dakota** (15-2) did not play. Next: vs. Omaha, Saturday.  
23. **Tennessee** (11-3) did not play. Next: at Mississippi, Thursday.  
24. **Michigan** (11-3) did not play. Next: at Ohio State, Thursday.  
25. **Princeton** (12-1) did not play. Next: at Pennsylvania, Saturday.

### WEDNESDAY'S SCORES

**EAST**  
American U. 73, Army 57  
Binghamton 61, UMBC 43  
Bucknell 61, Navy 34  
Colgate 76, Loyola (Md.) 74  
Fair, Dickinson 56, St. Francis (Pa.) 47  
George Washington 65, Duquesne 60  
Holy Cross 57, Lafayette 56  
Lehigh 51, Boston U. 34  
Maine 67, New Hampshire 50  
Mass.-Lowell 68, Hartford 63  
Sacred Heart 66, CCSU 58  
Saint Louis 77, La Salle 51  
St. Francis Brooklyn 88, LIU 63  
Stony Brook 67, Vermont 49  
Towson 86, Chestnut Hill 49  
UMass 62, St. Bonaventure 52  
**SOUTH**  
Abilene Christian 90, McNeese St. 73  
Cincinnati 73, Memphis 66  
Davidson 74, Fordham 62  
Incarnate Word 69, North Western St. 67  
SMU 55, E. Carolina 47  
Sam Houston St. 84, Southeastern 69  
Troy 72, Louisiana-Monroe 65  
Tulane 64, Tulsa 62  
VCU 47, Saint Joseph's 40  
**MIDWEST**  
Ball St. 86, Bowling Green 80  
Cent. Michigan 73, Ohio 71  
Dayton 59, George Mason 55  
E. Michigan 74, Kent St. 69  
Miami (Ohio) 66, N. Illinois 64  
Toledo 71, Buffalo 50  
W. Michigan 56, Akron 51  
W. Virginia 68, Kansas 49  
**SOUTHWEST**  
New Orleans 49, Cent., Arkansas 37  
Oklahoma 77, Oklahoma St. 75  
Oral Roberts 70, N. Dakota St. 62  
Stephen F. Austin 66, Texas A&M-CC 44  
Temple 61, Houston 58  
Texas Tech 80, TCU 76  
**WEST**  
Air Force 62, Utah St. 45  
CS Bakersfield 66, California Baptist 61  
UNLV 66, Boise St. 65

## NFL

### DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS SATURDAY'S GAMES

Minnesota (11-6) at San Francisco (13-3), 3:35 p.m. (NBC)  
Tennessee (10-7) at Baltimore (14-2), 7:15 p.m. (CBS)  
**SUNDAY'S GAMES**  
Houston (11-6) at Kansas City (12-4), 2:05 p.m. (CBS)  
Seattle (12-5) at Green Bay (13-3), 5:40 p.m. (FOX)  
**CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**SUNDAY, JAN. 19**  
AFC, 2:05 p.m. (CBS)  
NFC, 5:40 p.m. (FOX)  
**PRO BOWL**  
**Sunday, Jan. 26 in Orlando, Fla.**  
AFC vs. NFC, 2 p.m. (ESPN)  
**SUPER BOWL**  
**Sunday, Feb. 2 in Miami Gardens, Fla.**  
AFC vs. NFC champs, 5:30 p.m. (FOX)

### COLLEGE FOOTBALL

**BOWL SCHEDULE**  
**MONDAY**  
**CFP Championship (New Orleans):** LSU (14-0) vs. Clemson (14-0), 7 p.m.  
**FCS CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**Saturday, Toyota Stadium, Frisco, Texas**  
North Dakota State (15-0) vs. James Madison (14-1), 11 a.m.  
**CONFERENCE BOWL RECORDS**

CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct.
Southeastern	7	2	.778
Independents	2	1	.667
Sun Belt	3	2	.600
American Athletic	4	3	.571
Mountain West	4	3	.571
Pac-12	4	3	.571
Big Ten	4	5	.444
Mid-American	3	4	.429
Atlantic Coast	4	6	.400
Conference USA	3	5	.375
Big 12	1	5	.167

### ODDS

**NBA**

at	SP	O/U	THURSDAY
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## BLACKHAWKS



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Blackhawks goaltender Corey Crawford (50) tries to deny the Flames from scoring in the second period of a game at the United Center on Tuesday.

## BLACKHAWKS TAKEAWAYS

# Penalties hold Hawks back despite power-play kills

BY JIMMY GREENFIELD

The Predators already had lost. The Canucks also finally lost, got blown out even, after winning seven in a row.

All the Blackhawks had to do was take care of business at home against the Flames, and it would have been a perfect night for them in the Western Conference wild-card race.

But they failed to hold an early lead and failed to score the tying goal despite a late push, falling to the Flames 2-1 on Tuesday night at the United Center.

With a win the Hawks would have leaped in front of the Predators, pulled into a tie with the Wild and moved within four points of a playoff spot. Instead, they're deeper in a hole after one more chance at two points evaporated.

The standings aren't at the forefront of Duncan Keith's mind, but he's certainly paying attention to them.

"I don't know about every night, but, yeah, definitely aware (of the standings)," he said. "Have to have some awareness of our situation. It's going to be a tight one all the way."

Not if the Hawks, one of five teams whose home points percentage is .500 or lower, keep losing at the United Center.

Here are two takeaways from Tuesday's loss.

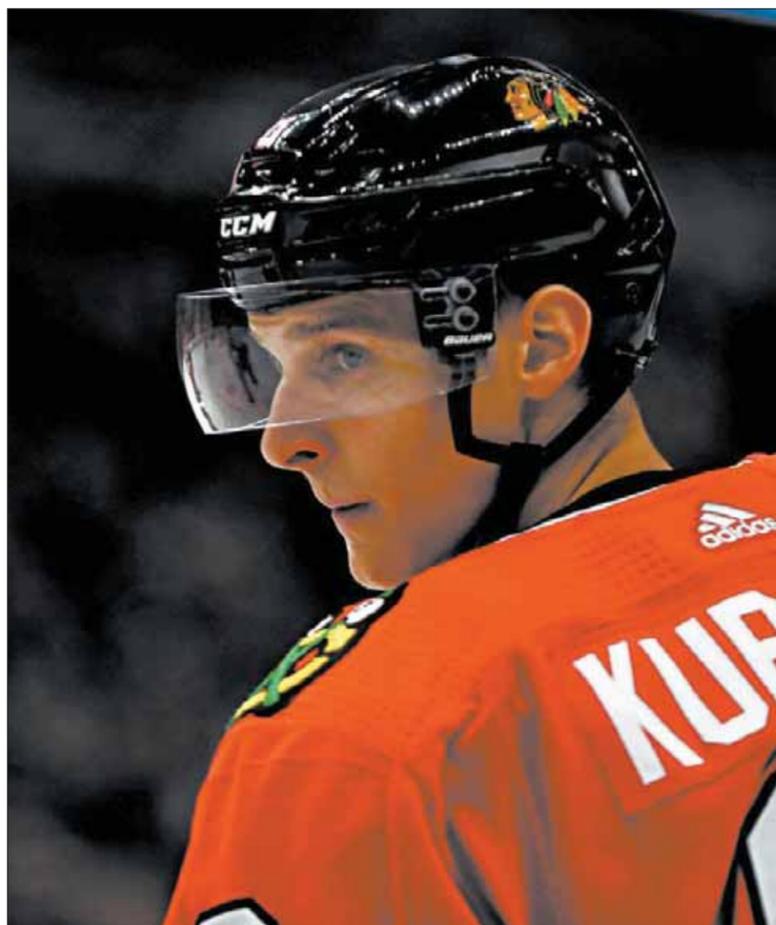
## 1. Penalties hurt the Hawks, even if they didn't give up any power-play goals.

It's hard to kill any five-on-three power plays, but when a team has to kill two of them — and both are well over a minute long — it takes its toll.

The Hawks managed to keep the Flames from scoring in the second period when they had 1:05 with a two-man advantage and again in the third when they had 1:17 with a five-on-three. But with the Hawks already down a man with Dylan Strome out of the game, it wasn't possible to regain the momentum they had during the first period.

The Hawks had 14 shots in the first period, when they took a lead on Dominik Kubalik's 13th goal, but managed just 18 over the final two periods.

"Obviously, it's huge to kill it because it kept us in the game, but it's hard on the guys we're using," coach Jeremy Colliton said. "It was a game where we seemed to need every bit of energy."



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Blackhawks left wing Dominik Kubalik has had a nice stretch of late.

## 2. Besides Patrick Kane, Dominik Kubalik has been the Hawks' best position player the last two weeks.

When Brandon Saad injured his right ankle in the second period against the Jets on Dec. 19, Kubalik didn't waste any time helping to fill the void.

Kubalik scored in the third period to help spark a 4-1 comeback win over the Jets, and he has 10 points (five goals, five assists) in his last nine games while Saad has been out.

The Hawks may need Kubalik even more if Strome is out for an extended period.

Kubalik had their only goal Tuesday against the Flames when his deflection of an Adam Boqvist shot gave the Hawks a 1-0 lead late in the first period.

Kubalik's confidence is soaring, not that it ever took much of a hit this season. With Tuesday's tally, he's second among rookies in goals behind the Sabres' Victor Olofsson and sixth in points with 23.

"Your confidence is going higher when you're producing, so right now I feel really good and I'm just trying to build on it," Kubalik said.

## Lehner ready to return from knee injury

BY JIMMY GREENFIELD

The Blackhawks finally received some good news on the injury front Wednesday.

The team sent goalie Kevin Lankinen back to Rockford, paving the way for Robin Lehner to return after he sat out two games with a right knee injury suffered last week against the Canucks.

How much time Dylan Strome will miss after spraining his right ankle in Tuesday's 2-1 loss to the Flames is still a bit murky. Strome was at the United Center on Wednesday and walking around without crutches, but Hawks coach Jeremy Colliton said he will not play Thursday against the Predators.

"It's still pretty soon after," Colliton said. "We'll know more as we get a little further away."

The Hawks are already without forwards Andrew Shaw (concussion), Brandon Saad (right ankle) and Drake Caggiula (concussion). There isn't a timetable for Shaw's return, but Colliton said Saad is "getting better" and the initial target of playing in mid-January hasn't changed.

Colliton also said Caggiula was "close" to playing after being out since Nov. 10.

Lehner will be available to play against the Predators after Corey Crawford went 1-1 while stopping 45 of 49 shots in starts against the Red Wings and Flames.

Lehner initially believed his knee was fine after the Canucks' Tanner Pearson fell into him late in the third period on Jan. 2, but it became worse over the next couple of days before subsiding.

"Thought it was going to be a few weeks at least," Lehner said after Wednesday's practice at the United Center. "But it's good."

## Dach

Continued from Page 1

"Ever since we put them together they've been arguably the best line," Colliton said.

Dach, however, hasn't scored in those six games. In fact, the center has just one point in his last 23 games, a beautiful goal he swept in from a nearly impossible angle to help the Hawks to a comeback win against the Avalanche on Dec. 21.

Remarkably, Dach doesn't have an assist since Nov. 19 despite playing in every game and averaging 14 minutes, 9 seconds of ice time. To put that into perspective, 11 NHL goalies have had assists since Dach last had one — and the Lightning's Andrei Vasilevskiy has had three in that span.

"I think he can produce more," Colliton said. "He can be more of a shooter, take the puck inside, take the puck to the net. But I also think he's been a big part of the goals

that his line has scored. A lot of those goals, he's an integral part of scoring. He just doesn't get a point.

"We have to evaluate the whole picture of his game and we're pretty happy with it."

Dach has been on many lines, and it looks as if — at least temporarily — he'll have another new linemate with Strome out for at least one game after suffering a right ankle injury Tuesday against the Flames.

"There's going to be a little bit of an adjustment period when you lose one of your linemates, and you've got to find new chemistry with guys," Dach said. "At this point, everybody is comfortable playing with everybody in this locker room, and you've just to find the right fits in each line."

When Dach was playing his final season with the Western Hockey League's Saskatoon Blades, he had 25 goals and 48 assists in 62 games, which was 30th in the league and well behind Dylan Cozens (34 goals, 50 assists), whom the Sabres selected four picks after Dach.

But Cozens is back in the WHL for another season while Dach is with the Hawks learning how to make it in the NHL.

"The only thing I really need to do more to help myself offensively is maybe shoot the puck more," Dach said. "There's times in the game where I could just put a puck on net, and that's why the guys who lead the league in points and goals every year are the guys who shoot the puck the most."

"You're going to get a bounce here and there, and it's going to go your way. I've just got to do that a little bit more and keep playing the way I'm playing, and hopefully they'll go in."

Dach has 11 points (five goals, six assists) in 38 games. DeBrincat had 13 goals and 12 assists in his first 38 games during rookie season of 2017-18, but he wasn't asked to play a 200-foot game like Dach and was a year older.

"He's been doing a great job with helping our line, helping the team really get that depth back," DeBrincat said of Dach. "Can't

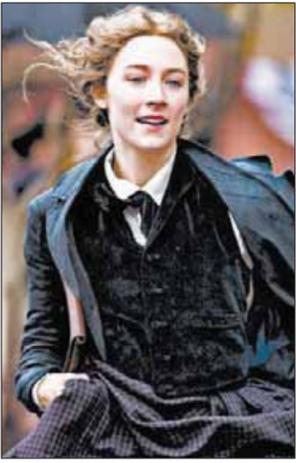
really worry about (not scoring) too much. It's a tough league. He's 18 years old. It's not going to go in every night, so you've just got to handle it the best you can. It's tough going from junior and scoring every night to coming in here and not doing the same."

It might be tough but it doesn't seem to be taking its toll on Dach, who credits advice from veterans Brent Seabrook, Patrick Kane and Jonathan Toews, among others, with helping him adjust to life in the NHL.

"Each game I've taken a step more confidently and being better and focusing on playing a good 200-foot game," Dach said. "I take a lot of pride in being a plus player and not being scored on. I've tried to improve my defensive game and, at the same time, contribute offensively. I've got a find way to do both."

He does need to find a way. But for now, with his whole hockey life still ahead of him, Dach believes the points will come.

At least they had better.



WILSON WEBB/COLUMBIA PICTURES

Saoirse Ronan plays Jo March, the heroine in director Greta Gerwig's period piece "Little Women."

## 5 reasons teenage boys should see 'Little Women'

Wholesome story about lives of 4 plucky sisters teaches lifelong lessons

BY NARA SCHOENBERG

What kind of mother would take her two 16-year-old sons to see "Little Women?"

This one, as it turns out. My husband and I were going, and seeing as the boys were on vacation, we thought it was a good excuse to spend time together. There was some eye-rolling when the true nature of the movie became clear, and I had a moment of doubt myself: Nothing ruins a long-awaited movie more effectively than a teenager in open rebellion.

But then the lights went down, the eager heroine began pitching her writing to a skeptical publisher and I was lost in a story I loved as a girl.

I laughed, I cried a little and I was so, so thrilled that I was having this experience with my boys, one of whom ended up loving it. (The other survived intact and in good humor.) Part of my satisfaction was the simple justice of the situation: I've sat through a lot of "Mission Impossible," "Lord of the Rings" and "Star Wars" movies in my time. It felt right that my sons were making a similar accommodation.

Even more importantly, though, I found myself happy — just so, so happy — that my boys were seeing what I was seeing, a movie that put girls and young women front and center in ways you rarely experience on the big screen.

Among the things that made my mom heart sing:

**Women's problems.** As 19th century women from a respectable but cash-strapped family, Jo and her sisters have few professional options beyond marriage and teaching. It doesn't matter that Beth is talented and devoted to her music, that Meg can act, that Amy can paint, that Jo is a gifted and determined writer. The March girls are female, so they will have to marry or struggle financially, maybe eking out livings as teachers. The unfairness is palpable, in a way that a modern mom's lectures about equal pay may not be. After the movie, one of my sons told me he liked a plot point in the movie (don't worry, no spoilers) because the March sister in question wasn't forced to choose between love and work. I refrained from high-fiving myself, but just barely.

**No makeup!** I doubt any generation has heard more about how girls are real people than my sons' — and that's fantastic. But at the same time, the girls they see on social media and shows such as "Riverdale" are buffed and polished within an inch of their lives. Real girls can't possibly compete. And for real boys, how does this skew their ideas about female beauty?

What a wonderful thing, then, to see close-ups of Saoirse Ronan, who plays the heroine, Jo, with so little makeup you can see the tiny bumps on her skin and the real color of her lashes. She's beautiful, of course, with her flushed cheeks,

Turn to **Women**, Page 4



HULTON ARCHIVE/GETTY

Civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. waves to the crowd during the 1963 March on Washington at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C. The first-ever virtual reality look at the event can be seen at the DuSable Museum from Feb. 27 through November.

# From RBG to MLK to Frida Kahlo

Here are 11 museum exhibitions worth visiting in 2020

BY STEVE JOHNSON

Not every museum show about a cultural icon coming this winter features people known by three initials. But two of the most intriguing — looks at Martin Luther King and Ruth Bader Ginsburg — do.

Two others, starring the photos of Frida Kahlo and paintings of El Greco, do not. And that's A-OK.

Following are 10 — OK, 11 — exhibitions or events at area museums and nature parks I am eagerly anticipating in the first months of the new year. To avoid repetition, I removed from consideration the shows already featured in the Tribune's winter visual arts preview.

**"Black Creativity":** 2020 will mark the 50th year that the Museum of Science and Industry has spent a chunk of winter celebrating — and providing new opportunities for — African American creativity in the arts and also in the museum's STEM wheelhouse. Highlights include an innovation studio and a juried art exhibition. A new exhibition, "Black Creativity: 50 Years," will spotlight the



STEVE HELBER/AP

Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg will be the subject of an exhibition at the Illinois Holocaust Museum in Skokie from Feb. 9 through Aug. 16.

program's history and its founding collaborators, Chicago Defender photographer Robert A. Sengstacke and artist Douglas A. Williams. Jan. 20-March 1, 5700 S. Lake Shore Drive; [msichicago.org](http://msichicago.org).

**"The Allied Race to Victory":** Like the American Writers Museum just up the

street, the Pritzker Military Museum and Library occupies second-story Michigan Avenue real estate and makes the stair climb (or elevator ride) worth the effort. Its new exhibit, subtitled "The Air, Land and Sea Campaigns that Ended

Turn to **Museum**, Page 4

### COMMENTARY

## 'The 1-inch-tall barrier of subtitles'

'Parasite's' director calls out myopia of Hollywood, public

BY JUSTIN CHANG  
Los Angeles Times

Since the best film nominated at the Golden Globes this year was a Korean film, it was only fitting that some of the event's most resonant words were spoken in Korean.

"Once you overcome the 1-inch-tall barrier of subtitles, you will be introduced to so many more amazing films," said "Parasite" director Bong Joon-ho as he claimed the prize for foreign-language film. In one perfectly barbed sentence (translated into English by his interpreter, filmmaker Sharon Choi), Bong called out the American moviegoing public's perceived aversion to subtitles. That aversion can clearly be surmounted, if "Parasite's" word-of-mouth success and astonishing \$23-million-plus gross in the U.S. alone is any indication.



ALLEN J. SCHABEN/LOS ANGELES TIMES

Bong Joon-ho called out the American moviegoing public Sunday at the Golden Globes when he took his prize for foreign-language film.

But Bong also seemed to be rebuking the cultural myopia of Hollywood itself, which reserves special prizes each year for movies shot in countries outside the U.S. and in languages other than English. The bestowing of these awards — whether by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, an organization of Southern

California-based journalists that presents the Globes, or by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which will hand out the Oscars next month — is often a condescending gesture disguised as an inclusive one. These awards function more or less as consolation prizes, effectively keeping certain pictures in

their place — on the margins — and preventing them from competing in any meaningful sense for bigger accolades.

Don't get me wrong. I am grateful that awards for non-English-language cinema exist; without them, some outstanding movies would go completely unrecognized. I'm a member of two critics organizations, the Los Angeles Film Critics Association and the National Society of Film Critics, which regularly hand out foreign-language-film prizes themselves. But I'm also proud to say that, this year, both those critics groups, along with many others, gave their best picture prizes to "Parasite."

This is not an atypical or groundbreaking gesture. Both LAFCO and the NSFC have long recognized that some of the best movies each year hail from outside the U.S. and should be celebrated rather than penalized for it. (The NSFC has an especially strong track record in this regard; its past best picture winners include "Blow-Up," "Per-

Turn to **Subtitles**, Page 2

## CELEBRITIES

Tribune news services



KEVIN WINTER/GETTY

Elton John has pledged \$1 million for the relief efforts.

## Celebs donating to Australia fire efforts

LOS ANGELES — Elton John and Chris Hemsworth are among the celebrities donating big bucks for relief efforts as wildfires engulf Australia. Hemsworth, the Australian actor who plays Thor in the Marvel movie franchise, took to social media to share that he will donate \$1 million and asked his millions of followers to show support as well. He said that “every penny counts.”



Hemsworth

The fires, fueled by drought and the country’s hottest and driest year on record, have been raging since September, months earlier than is typical for Australia’s annual wildfire season.

John announced during a concert in Sydney, Australia, that he will also donate \$1 million, saying he wanted to bring attention to the devastation that has reached a “biblical scale.”

The growing list of donating celebrities includes Pink, the band Metallica, and native Australians Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban.

“I am totally devastated watching what is happening in Australia,” Pink wrote on social media. “I am pledging a donation of \$500,000 directly to the local fire services that are battling so hard on the frontlines. My heart goes out to our friends and family in Oz.”

Metallica donated \$750,000 to a firefighting agency and emergency services agency in Victoria.

An emotional Rose Byrne, who is Australian, spoke about the crisis and the relief efforts on Tuesday night at the New York premiere of her movie “Like a Boss.”



Byrne

“Really what people need is just donations because it’s all volunteer based, the firefighters and all the rural services and the wildlife services trying to rescue the animals,” she said.

“It’s devastating. It’s such a beautiful country. There’s always drought but this is the hottest year on record and they need rain. They need like a downpour ... and it’s just getting hotter and it’s getting more and more out of control. It’s a climate crisis is what it is.”

— Associated Press



AMY SUSSMAN/GETTY

**‘American’ dream:** Jason Biggs has no regrets about being indelibly linked to “American Pie,” the rowdy 1999 adolescent sex comedy. “It changed my life, and it’s the reason I’m still here and still in the game today,” he said. Biggs, who played sexually naive teen Jim in the movie, acknowledged the passage of time can be disconcerting. Biggs, 41, is the grown-up in the room now, playing a family man in Fox’s new sitcom “Outmatched,” debuting Jan. 23. “I was the young dude in ‘American Pie’ and now I’m playing the dad to kids who were born after ‘American Pie’ came out. It is pretty surreal.”

**iHeart Billie:** Billie Eilish came away with the most nominations for the upcoming iHeartRadio Music Awards. Eilish received seven nominations, with Lil Nas X and Lizzo receiving six each. The awards will air live March 29 on Fox. Eilish will face off against Taylor Swift, Lizzo, Halsey and Ariana Grande for female artist of the year.

**Young Frankenstein live:** ABC will follow up its successful live staging of “The Little Mermaid” with a monster musical, “Young Frankenstein Live!” — the stage version of Mel Brooks’ 1974 film classic. The cast and air date were not revealed, but the 93-year-old Brooks will be involved in the TV staging.

**Jan. 9 birthdays:** Singer Joan Baez is 79. Guitarist Jimmy Page is 76. Singer David Johansen is 70. Singer Crystal Gayle is 69. Actor J.K. Simmons is 65. Actress Imelda Staunton is 64. Actress Joely Richardson is 55. Actor David Costabile is 53. Singer Dave Matthews is 53. Actor Deon Cole is 49. Singer A.J. McLean 42.



## ASK AMY

By AMY DICKINSON

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

## Prospective dad could be a good ‘big’

**Dear Amy:** I’m a man in my 30s. Ever since I was a young adult, I’ve wanted to have a family of my own.

I grew up an only child. When I got older, I decided that whether I got married or not, I would adopt a child.

The only problem with this plan was that I was young and was still getting my career going.

I’m now in my mid-30s. My ex-girlfriend and I had talked about adopting a child, but unfortunately that relationship broke up.

However, I still want to adopt. The only problem is, I don’t know if I should try to adopt now — or wait.

I have a job, but that job only pays me when I am needed (which is rare). I have my own home and own my own vehicle, etc.

I don’t know how to bring this up to my family. I wonder what their reactions will be. I’m sort of afraid to say anything to them about it.

My dad was adopted, and I saw the problems he faced, and I just don’t know what to do.

— Prospective Dad

**Dear Prospective:** You seem to have put a lot of thought into this, but you don’t seem to have done any research about adoption (other than writing to me). Becoming a parent (especially a single parent) is a heavy lift. It is emotionally, physically and financially taxing. It is also the greatest and most important thing you will ever do.

I applaud the fact that parenthood is calling to you and hope you will answer the call.

Start right now — by researching your options. Your local office of Family

and Children’s Services would be a good first stop. Make an appointment to talk to a social worker. Ask any and all questions and take careful notes.

You might be a good candidate for fostering a child. Being a foster parent would give you the opportunity to see if full-time parenting is something you can tackle. You will be interviewed and educated about what is required, and you would be supported through your efforts.

Many prospective parents enter the parenting journey through the foster-to-adopt program. This effort requires both fearlessness and faith.

I hope you will also consider becoming a “Big Brother.” The Big Brothers Big Sisters of America program (bbbs.org) is a wonderful way for adults to connect with kids who are looking for a positive adult role model.

**Dear Amy:** After 13 years of marriage, I recently learned through a good friend that my husband, “Charlie,” dated my daughter’s longtime travel soccer coach for three years, prior to he and I getting married.

I was told the relationship was so serious that they had discussed marriage!

I couldn’t understand why my husband would keep that information from me all this time. Charlie confirmed that this was true but said he didn’t feel it was necessary to tell me.

I feel I have been lied to and have lost all trust in him. Should I be upset?

— Upset?

**Dear Upset?:** If you are upset and wanting permis-

sion to feel your own honest emotions, then you have some work to do.

You have the right to your feelings. And yes, if I were you, I would be bewildered and upset.

I’m going to assume that your daughter might be older and that you are not encountering this coach regularly, so there is no personal overlap between the three of you. This might account for how this news took so long to get to you.

A three-year, serious relationship is a major life-event not to disclose, but I don’t think it is necessarily a total trust-breaker.

You should ask your husband what other minor details he neglected to share with you, pre-marriage. Does he have kids you don’t know about? Was he in the military, the seminary, a boy band?

Stay calm. It’s time to talk.

**Dear Amy:** If the man who signed his letter “Love Story” truly wants to leave his wife for his lost love, but wants to leave “gracefully,” why doesn’t he let his wife and children stay in their home?

He should accept his responsibility for his children’s well-being and leave the house to his wife and kids, if he must move on to chase happiness.

— Disheartened

**Dear Disheartened:** I agree. This man’s “Love Story” spelled heartbreak for others.

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## Subtitles

Continued from Page 1

sona,” “The Discreet Charm of the Bourgeoisie,” “Ran,” “Yi Yi,” “Pan’s Labyrinth,” “Waltz With Bashir” and “Goodbye to Language.”)

Will the industry finally wake up to that realization this year? Much has been written about how “Parasite,” a critics’ darling and massive crossover hit, could finally shatter the mold by becoming the first non-English-language movie to win the Academy Award for best picture. It would be a worthy outcome indeed, though I’m not holding my breath, given that many were predicting the same milestone last year for Alfonso Cuarón’s “Roma.” Listening to Bong’s gracious, humorous, subtly barbed speech at the Globes, I was reminded of Cuarón’s similarly droll words when he



NEON/CJ ENTERTAINMENT

“Parasite’s” superb ensemble of actors, including Cho Yeo-jeong, were not nominated for their performance.

collected his foreign-language-film Oscar last year: “I grew up watching foreign-language films and learning so much from them — films like ‘Citizen

Kane,’ ‘Jaws,’ ‘Rashomon,’ ‘The Godfather’ and ‘Breathless,’” he added with the friendliest of winks.

Bong effectively echoed

that democratic sentiment Sunday night when he concluded his speech by saying, in English: “I think we use just one language — the cinema.” And he has learned to speak that language more fluently than most filmmakers of any nationality. Bong’s mastery of genre filmmaking has long earned him comparisons to Hitchcock and Spielberg, even as his authorial stamp is becoming increasingly difficult to mistake for anyone else’s. One of the most satisfying ironies about the success of “Parasite” is that, after making two mostly English-language pictures with starchy casts (“Snowpiercer” and “Okja”), this South Korean filmmaker reached his widest, warmest audience embrace with a film set in his home country, a domestic thriller deeply rooted in specifically Korean class and cultural tensions that speaks just as powerfully to the world at large.

It would be nice if someone relayed Bong’s “one language — the cinema” sentiments to the motion picture academy, which has nominated only 11 non-English-language films for best picture in its 91-year history and has never given even one of them the top prize. Many of those omissions look especially short-sighted in retrospect: Imagine how much more respectable the Oscars might be if “Grand Illusion” or “Cries and Whispers” or “Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon” or “Amour” had been rightfully named the best pictures of their respective years.

But the academy, which has made concerted efforts to diversify its membership ranks in recent years, still looks like a model of progress next to the Hollywood Foreign Press Association. Although it received director and screenplay Globe nominations, “Parasite,” like all non-English-language films, was deemed ineligible for the two best motion picture categories. Those Globes went instead to Quentin Tarantino’s “Once Upon a Time ... in

Hollywood” (motion picture, musical or comedy) and Sam Mendes’ dazzling stunt of a World War I thriller, “1917” (motion picture, drama).

And with no acting nominations for a superb ensemble that includes Song Kang-ho, Park So-dam, Cho Yeo-jeong and Lee Jeong-eun, “Parasite” was basically kissed off with an easy foreign-language-film win over Pedro Almodóvar’s “Pain and Glory” (Spain), Ladj Ly’s “Les Misérables” (France), Céline Sciamma’s “Portrait of a Lady on Fire” (France) and Lulu Wang’s “The Farewell” (U.S.). Yes, you read that last one correctly. Because the HFPA’s rules differ drastically from the academy’s, American productions are allowed to compete for the foreign-language-film Globe — a rule that has benefited past nominees like Clint Eastwood’s “Letters From Iwo Jima” and Mel Gibson’s Mexico-set “Apocalypse.”

But the category makes an especially perplexing fit for “The Farewell,” an outstanding American independent drama that takes place mostly in China, features a mix of English and Mandarin dialogue, and stars Awkwafina (the Globe winner for actress in a musical or comedy) as a Chinese-born New Yorker. “Foreign” is an odd designation for a movie about the challenge and irreducible complexity of American immigrant identity. I would go further and suggest, as I think Bong and Cuarón would too, that “foreign” is an odd word to throw at any movie — something the academy, to its credit, recently recognized, though its newly rechristened “best international feature” category is far from a perfect solution. (The HFPA, for its part, has the word “foreign” in its own name and may be less likely to change its own category’s name anytime soon.)

One more word about the National Society, which announced its awards on Saturday, a day before the Globes. Although it would

be difficult to find two groups with more disparate voting bodies than the NSFC and the HFPA, the two actually found a fair amount to agree on this year. Both groups recognized Brad Pitt (“Once Upon a Time ... in Hollywood”) for supporting actor and Laura Dern (“Marriage Story”) for supporting actress. Curiously, neither group wound up giving a prize to “The Irishman,” despite clear admiration for Martin Scorsese’s heavily touted movie on both sides.

Where the two groups really parted company was in their regard for “Little Women.” Greta Gerwig’s luminous film notably failed to receive Globe nominations for picture or director, briefly fueling widespread anxiety that it would be overlooked by industry voters and audiences alike (particularly male voters and male audiences). That the movie has since become one of the box office hits of the season should hopefully reveal those fears as premature. The NSFC, for its part, handed Gerwig its prize for best director and cited Dern’s performance in “Little Women” along with her work in “Marriage Story.” “Little Women” also earned runner-up placements for supporting actress (Florence Pugh) and for picture, screenplay and cinematography, where it consistently finished just a few votes or so behind “Parasite.”

My NSFC colleague Ty Burr, critic for the Boston Globe, noted that “Little Women” and “Parasite” seemed to be doing a sort of dance all afternoon, which is a lovely image as well as an apt one. These two movies could scarcely be more different in style, tone or effect, even if they are both thrillingly energized domestic dramas about the resilience of families in impoverished circumstances. The language of cinema forges its own connections, as great filmmakers know and as the awards-season circuit has yet to learn.



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## BOOK REVIEW

# Ellison in all his candor, outrage, wit

Letters on big ideas, everyday life

BY DWIGHT GARNER  
The New York Times

"You are hereby warned," Ralph Ellison wrote to his friend Albert Murray in 1951, "that I have dropped the shuck."

After years of struggle and doubt, Ellison had finished "Invisible Man," his epic of midcentury African American life. The novel would win the National Book Award. His life was about to change.

An essential new book, "The Selected Letters of Ralph Ellison," presents this writer in all his candor, seriousness, outrage and wit. Nearly all of these letters are previously unpublished. What brings them alive is that while they brood on the largest of issues — identity, alienation, the political responsibilities of the artist — they're earthy and squirming with all the vital things of everyday experience.

You move from the cascade of Ellison's thinking about art and ideas, for example, to one of the funniest and warmest letters I've ever read. It too is to Murray, the influential critic; these two men found something deeply congenial in each other.

It's about the problem of finding the ingredients Ellison needs to cook pigs' trotters while a fellow at the American Academy in Rome in 1956. He misses home cooking amid all the highbrow pasta.

He prepares them anyway, "but they weren't right, man. They were the saddest and I threw most of mine in the garbage."

Ellison (1913-1994) was born in Oklahoma City, the grandson of slaves. His father delivered ice and coal. He died when Ellison was 3, and his mother worked odd jobs to hold the family together.

Ellison attended Tuskegee University in Alabama as a music major, and his letters home were typical collegiate ones: He tended to need money or a new pair of pants. He played the trumpet and thought he might become a composer.

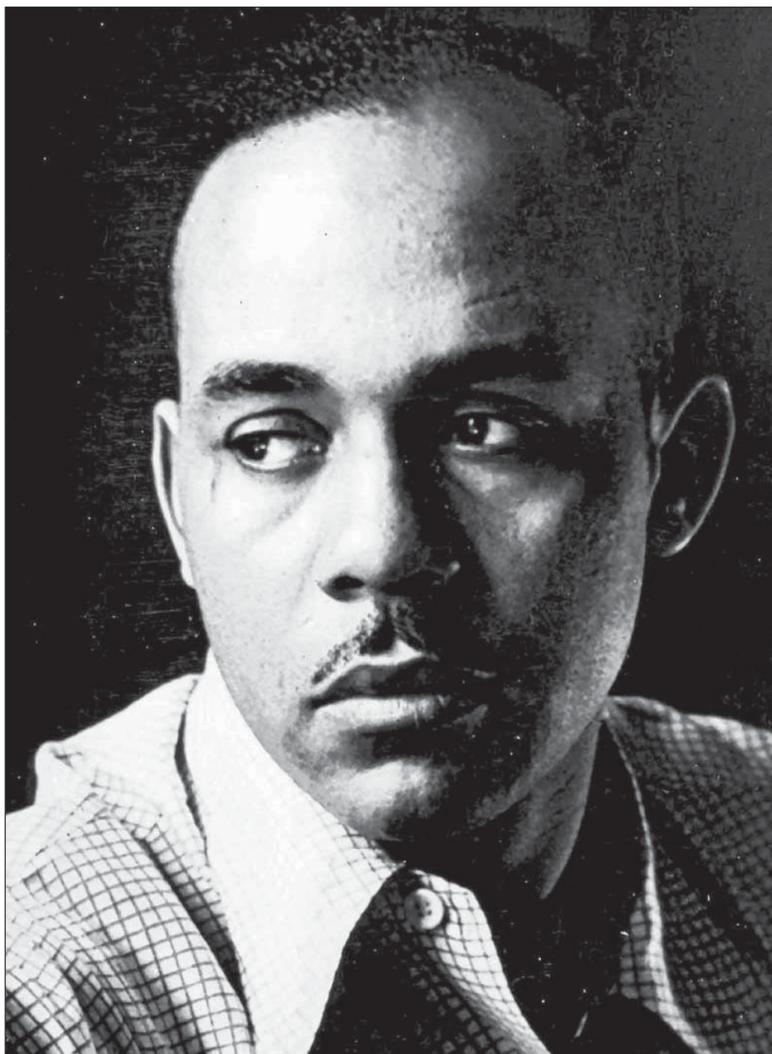
Ellison moved to Harlem in 1936 and fell in with a bohemian crowd that included the writers Langston Hughes and Richard Wright. (In this book's later letters, Ellison works to disentangle his legacy from Wright's.) He began writing "Invisible Man" at a friend's farm in Vermont.

Ellison's Vermont letters could be a little book of their own.

"When the poison of Harlem mixes with this pure mountain air anything's apt to come out of my typewriter," he wrote. In another letter he wrote that birch trees "show like girls in light summer dresses."

In Vermont he was often without a car, miles from a grocery store, and he begged friends to send items such as coffee and sharp cheese. Ellison suffered throughout his life from what appears to be irritable bowel syndrome, and many letters lay bare his gastric distress.

He wrote with ardor about the literary process.



KEYSTONE

Ralph Ellison, shown here in 1952, wrote lively correspondence throughout his life.

To Wright, he said: "It isn't the prose, per se, that worries me; it's the form, the learning how to organize my material in order to take the maximum advantage of those psychological and emotional currents within myself and in the reader which endow prose with meaning." He added: "It's an uncertain battle on a dark terrain."

To the literary critic Kenneth Burke, he wrote: "Let me ask you a question: How will a Negro writer who writes out of his full awareness of the complexity of western personality, and who presents the violence of American culture

in psychological terms rather than physical ones — how will such a writer be able to break through the stereotype-armored minds of white Americans so that they can receive his message?"

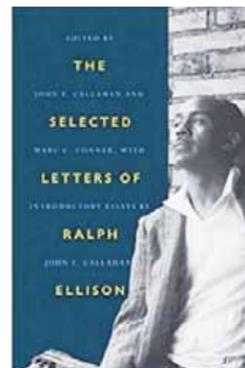
"Invisible Man" found so many white readers that, in a later letter, Ellison thanked Murray for turning more black readers onto it.

The great question that hangs over Ellison's career is why didn't he publish a second novel during his lifetime? ("Juneteenth," finally issued in 1999, was a 368-page condensation of a much longer manuscript written over 40 years.)

These letters offer more than a few clues. Fame struck Ellison like lightning after the publication of "Invisible Man." He was invited everywhere to speak and mostly accepted. A single letter from 1957 mentions Rome, Karachi, Tehran and Hong Kong.

He recalls adventures in Rome with John Cheever in Cheever's Fiat. He attended Robert Penn Warren's black-tie parties. He lived for a while in Saul Bellow's upstate New York house. He drank and argued with Norman Mailer and Dwight Macdonald.

Ellison taught at Bard, New York University and



## 'The Selected Letters of Ralph Ellison'

Edited by John F. Callahan and Marc C. Conner, Random House, 1,060 pages, \$50.

elsewhere. He wrote essays, many of them about music. After a while, lines like this one, from a 1958 letter to Bellow, begin to crop up: "I've got a natural writer's block as big as the Ritz and as stubborn as a grease spot on a gabardine suit."

This collection has so many incidental pleasures that I nearly always felt lucky to be reading it while the rest of the world had to make do with Twitter. He writes about his love of hunting, his anxiety over going bald, how to cope with aggressive cats. (To Bellow: "I know about dogs; but how, pray, does one kick a cat's ass?") There's a sorrowful letter about pulling porcupine quills from his beloved dog's snout.

His writing about music is nearly always sublime.

"Bessie Smith singing a good blues may deal with experience as profoundly as Eliot," he wrote.

About Herman Melville: "Been rereading 'Moby-Dick' again and appreciating for the first time what a truly good time Melville was having when he wrote it. Some of it is quite funny and all of it is pervaded by the spirit of play, like real jazz sounds when a master is manipulating it."

## BOOK REVIEW

# A breathtaking tale of life at Ireland's 'drowning edge'

BY GENINE BABAKIAN  
Associated Press

"This Is Happiness" is a breathtaking tale told through the eyes of Noel, or Noe, Crowe. After a crisis of faith, the 17-year-old Noe is shipped off to stay with his grandparents in western Ireland, to "the drowning edge of the furthestmost that was Faha."

Faha in the 1970s, when this story takes place, was a place "where, when darkness fell, it fell absolutely, and when you went outside the wind sometimes drew apart the clouds and you stood in the revelation of so many stars you could not credit the wonder and felt smaller in body as your soul felt enormous."

But while Faha appears to be left behind by the modern world, two remarkable events are about to happen in this village, where "the gap between not-raining and raining

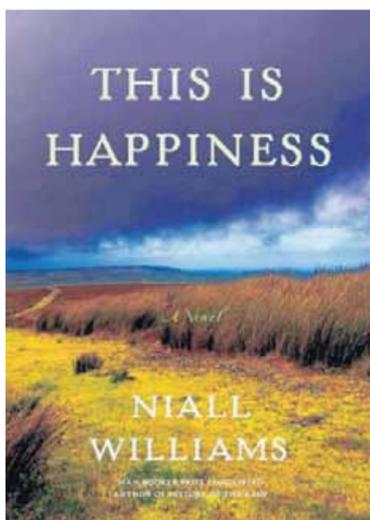
**Ganga has his own unique storytelling style, ending sentences "not by design but by natural exhaustion."**

again was usually so short you only had time to shake the drops off your cap before it started once more." First, the rain is about to stop. And this unexpected course happens to coincide with the arrival of electricity.

Along with the electric crews comes Christy, a man who "carried the weight of himself with a look of bemusement, as if it was he who told the

world the joke of himself." Christy, who rents a room from Noe's grandparents, is not just there to bring light to the village, but to make amends for the mistakes of a lifetime. One of those mistakes resides in Faha, and Christy enlists the young Noe in his quest to right past wrongs.

Williams, a Man Booker Prize-longlisted author for his "History of the Rain," is a master of Irish storytelling, crafting sentences that tempt the reader to double back and read again — and characters that get under your skin. Among the most endearing is Ganga, Noe's grandfather, who "lived outside of the jurisdiction of all judgment and thought everyone was always doing their best." Ganga is the kind of man who would leave a copper penny on the ground so that the man, woman or child who found it would think that it's his or her lucky day.



## 'This Is Happiness'

By Niall Williams, Bloomsbury Publishing, 400 pages, \$28

Ganga has his own unique storytelling style, ending sentences "not by design but by natural exhaustion." Noe describes his grandfather's stories as "pell-mell, throwing Aristotle's unities of action, place and time into the air and in a tumult let the details tumble down the stairs of his brain and out his mouth. He had grown up in an age when storytelling was founded on the forthright principles of passing the time and dissolving the hours of dark."

For those lulled into the rhythm of Williams' storytelling there is understated and undeclared love on every page of this book. He captures the love between bickering couples, between friends on a hopeless adventure and love of place and circumstance. The latter Williams describes through the eyes of Doady, Noe's grandmother.

"My grandmother understood the tightrope balance they had sustained for nearly half a century, a topsy-turvy way of living they had made up on the model of their own parents and grandparents, which had survived the rearing of a dozen tearaway sons in four rooms in a drowned place on the far margin of the world, where belts could be tightened or loosened as needs be, and without anyone's say-so but your own. What Doady knew, without saying a word, was that, within the one-foot-after-the-other confines of that tightrope, they were free."

# Rocca transforms obituaries into a fun, lively graveyard

BY LYNN ELBER  
Associated Press

A conversation with Mo Rocca is akin to his "Mobituaries" podcasts and his new book of Rocca-style obituaries: a swooping exploration of people and things past, with the author playing connect-the-dots in entertaining and enlightening fashion.

For instance, he starts discussing parallels between U.S. presidential brother Billy Carter and British royal sister Princess Margaret and the second-fiddle roles they played. Carter is in Rocca's book; assessing Margaret's similarities appeared to be a sudden fancy.

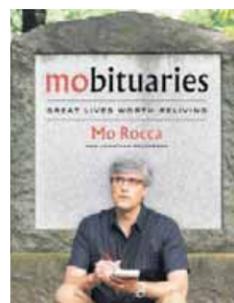
"My fantasy PSAT has a question, (Queen) Elizabeth is to Margaret as Jimmy Carter is to ...," said Rocca, a "CBS Sunday Morning" correspondent known for his droll humor.

"Mobituaries: Great Lives Worth Reliving" takes on obituaries of people, as is customary, but includes those whose exploits were ignored or who Rocca thinks deserve reappraisals. He also digs up background for products (there's a tribute to the "behemoth known as the station wagon," for one), fictional characters and historical milestones.

In an interview with The Associated Press, he discussed how he approached the book (written with Jonathan Greenberg) and its browsing-friendly format that makes it a standout for bathroom reading (a compliment, which Rocca said he took as such) and the rare example that has footnotes. Quotes have been edited for clarity and length.

**Q: Given your access to TV and podcast audiences, why write a book?**

A: There are certain things that are easier to write about than to do an



**"I think that people are messy, and I really sought in this to embrace not only the messiness of people, but eras."**

audio program about, things like the station wagon. And my head has long been stuffed with a lot of factoids and arcana, and that's kind of fun on a page. The book has what I call "graveyards." After each essay, I wanted there to be a graveyard that would surprise you in its relationship to the essay that came before it. So, for instance, Sammy Davis Jr. is followed by other famous one-eyed people, Thomas Paine is followed by other famous disembodied body parts. And I think that that looks nice on the page.

**Q: The book ranges so far afield. Have you been gathering string for years?**

A: I have gathered string for a long time, ideas that have been circulating. My colleague, the film critic David Edelstein, helped me with this one: I'm a big Streisand fan, as you can probably tell from the book, and drawn to the idea that the movie "Funny

Girl," when you watch it, you forget that it's the story of this person, Fanny Brice. You think you're watching the story of Barbra Streisand. At least I think that, and it's because the performance is so eclipsing and volcanic that it kind of displaces the person it's about. And this is the kind of book that had a place for that, and then the "graveyard" has other people, historic figures, who were eclipsed by the people who played them.

**Q: As the footnotes demonstrate, the book was thoroughly researched. Is it important to you that readers understand it is fact-based history?**

A: It is important to me. Look, I like to surprise the reader and there's two different ways that are opposites. I like a topic that seems like it's going to be fun and fizzy and it's going to be a trap, like Billy Carter is going to be about Billy Beer and when you go into it, it's *Why am I choking up?* Conversely, I like to take something that seems like it's going to be heavy. I like the challenge of (post-Civil War) Reconstruction, a word that's going to make people go, *We're really doing this this year?* and then make it go down easy. And in this case, I chose to humanize it by making it about the black congressmen of Reconstruction.

**Q: What surprised you in your research?**

A: I think a lot of people confuse "past" with "backward" and, I'll be transparent here, I've chosen to be generous with the past. I do think we need to cut the past some slack because the tendency is to disqualify people for their imperfections. I think that people are messy, and I really sought in this to embrace not only the messiness of people, but eras.

# TV puts a harder sell behind hard news

Networks push for ad dollars as 2020 election draws near

BY BRIAN STEINBERG  
Variety

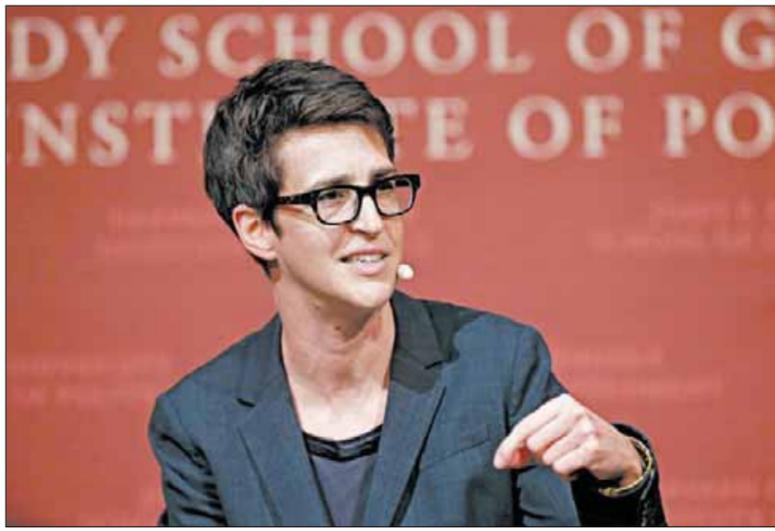
There's likely little common ground between MSNBC's Rachel Maddow and Fox News Channel's Sean Hannity, but the executives who run their respective news outlets have found something upon which they both can agree.

Both NBCUniversal and Fox Corp. are talking to advertisers about recent or ongoing research that demonstrates viewers don't think negatively about the advertisers in news programs, no matter whether the host leans toward a particular political view or if the news itself is extremely serious.

Viewers "without fail say they don't penalize a brand for sponsoring something that the company may not stand for," says Laura Molen, president of NBCUniversal ad sales, in an interview. NBCU recently dispatched Red Lantern Strategy, a market-research firm, to talk with viewers of MSNBC, CNN and Fox News in Dallas and New York. Over the course of detailed hourlong interviews, Molen says, 18 respondents described a favorite news program as "their show" — and didn't attach any controversy to sponsors.

Viewers "understand the distinction between editorial and advertising," says Jeff Collins, executive vice president of ad sales for Fox News, which since last year has made the case that its viewers appreciate the commercials they know help put Bret Baier and Chris Wallace on their TV screens.

There's every reason in 2020 for big media companies that own large news divisions to make a new pitch for ad dollars. After all, this year's presidential election will give rise to any number of debates, town halls, election programs and special reports — all of which can bring in extra millions in advertising cash. But TV giants have another motive in calling attention to news this year: In an era when more viewers are watching scripted programming at times of their own choosing, the news



STEVEN SENNE/AP PHOTO

Advertisers on Rachel Maddow's MSNBC show were a boycott target of conservatives in 2017, but recent research suggests most viewers don't attach any controversy to sponsors.

programs are becoming a bigger part of their business and often generate some of TV's largest live audiences — and some of the web's most attentive.

TV news has long attracted millions of dollars from pharmaceutical companies, financial-services firms and direct-response advertisers. The hope among the big media outlets is that they can capture more interest from sponsors who normally gravitate to dramas and comedies, like movie studios, fast-food chains and beverage marketers. To do so, they will have to convince Madison Avenue mainstays to get over some of their fears about TV news. Some marketers hate lining up their ads next to scenes of crisis, war or carnage. Others have long-held policies about not placing their commercials next to "single-host opinion" programs.

The networks' pitch is that "in an on-demand and delayed viewing world, topical live content should be viewed as a premium," says Dave Sederbaum, executive vice president of video investment for Amplifi US, a large media-buying unit that is part of Dentsu Aegis Network. But many advertisers may not be swayed. "The reality that we continue to hear from our clients is that the ones who support news will continue, and those that have stayed away will continue to stay away," he adds. "The 'talking heads' in prime time command a

loyal and passionate audience, but they are still polarizing and not worth the brand association for some of our clients. The appeal of live reach will never outweigh the fear of negative brand perception."

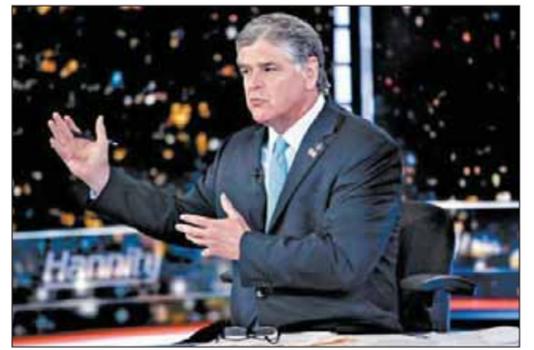
The networks are keeping up their push, saying that in a world where many viewers go to Amazon Prime, Netflix and Hulu for their entertainment fix, the news programs offer something that is hard to find elsewhere: big, live crowds. CNN has seen robust demand for commercial time for the first months of 2020, notes Joe Hogan, executive vice president of sales and marketing for network parent WarnerMedia. "This is where consumers are leaning in and this is how they are choosing to spend their days, nights and evenings," he says. Cable news's 9 p.m. hour aggregates more than 7 million viewers across Fox News' "Hannity," MSNBC's "Rachel Maddow Show" and CNN's "Cuomo Prime Time," according to 2019 viewership figures from Nielsen.

Consider the case of ABC's "World News Tonight." The program lured an average of more than 8.6 million viewers in the fourth quarter of 2019 — an audience that, while older than the crowd that watches scripted prime time, is greater than the live viewership that tunes in many entries in ABC's weeknight schedule. And with younger viewers seeking out news online, the

media companies feel they can bring in the youthful demographic advertisers want, even if their main, linear connections skew older. "We see a much bigger lean-in audience" among younger viewers, says Lisa Valentino, executive vice president of client and brand solutions at Disney Advertising Sales.

Capturing new ad support for news is critical. NBCUniversal's parent, Comcast, in 2018 bet \$39 billion on an acquisition of European satellite broadcaster, Sky PLC. A big part of making it work is getting NBC News to work more closely with Sky News, and NBCU has been plotting the launch of a new global media outlet that uses resources from both news organizations. The Fox News unit has long been the main financial engine of the Murdoch family's Fox media conglomerate, but after the company's sale of its studio and cable assets to Walt Disney last year, the news division represents an even more dominant part of the Fox apparatus. CNN represented approximately 25% of Time Warner's profit before AT&T purchased the company in 2018.

And new money typically flows in an election year. Fox News Channel is projected to take in nearly \$1.32 billion in advertising in 2020, which would mark an increase of 7.9% over 2019, according to Kagan, a market-research firm that is part of S&P Global. CNN is seen securing around



FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP

Cable news's toughest hour, which includes Sean Hannity's Fox News show, aggregates more than 7 million viewers.

\$773.1 million, representing an increase of about 11.7%. And MSNBC is expected to win around \$723.1 million, according to Kagan, a raise of about 0.8%.

Meanwhile, at the broadcast networks, advertisers committed \$1.13 billion to ABC's "Good Morning America," NBC's "Today" and CBS' "CBS This Morning" in 2018, according to Pew Research Center, and \$518 million to the three evening newscasts.

But at a time when Americans are divided on many issues, advocacy groups have placed many news anchors under new scrutiny. In 2017, conservative organizations tried to spur a boycott of Maddow's advertisers on MSNBC, after time-slot rival Hannity called for similar treatment after a liberal organization called for a boycott of his show. Fox News in 2018 shifted advertisers from Tucker Carlson's and Laura Ingraham's programs into other parts of its schedule after remarks they made spurred liberal groups' ire. The moves do not appear to have affected overall advertising performance. "Our ability to consistently deliver live, large and upscale and engaged audiences has resulted in consistent and stable growth in our advertising revenue," Fox News Media CEO Suzanne Scott told investors in May, just before the company's fiscal 2019 came to a close. "This fiscal year is on track to be our highest advertising revenue year ever."

The news outlets have gone all out to soothe Madison Avenue worries about news content, no matter the venue on which it appears. NBCUniversal sent so far as to examine the biometric responses and

facial expressions of people who watched hard news stories. "We found no evidence of hard news having negative associations for advertisers," says Molen.

CNN, meanwhile, offers a monitor of sentiment online, so it can help clients avoid placing their digital commercials around subjects they feel might offset an ad message. "We get a sense of where the areas are either of competitive or topical concern for a brand, and that opens up a larger percentage of available inventory," says Christine Cook, chief revenue officer of CNN's digital business.

And the companies are also offering new ad bells and whistles. Fox News and ABC News are working to find new segments built around lifestyle, improvement and lighter news topics that advertisers can sponsor. Fox News Media recently struck an alliance with an ad agency that specializes in creating special content for marketers that fits well with the unit's programming. CNN operates an internal agency that does similar work.

CNN has begun experimenting with unusual ad formats that separate the commercial from the news story it may buttress. In October of last year, CNN placed a Mercedes-Benz logo on screen during a broadcast of its daytime "Newsroom," making clear the show was sponsored, not the stories the anchor discussed. CNN has made available a special online ad unit that allows a marketer to live-stream its own content alongside CNN news.

News "is a megaphone," says Cook. "We draw audiences in real time." Now the networks must do the same for advertising as the 2020 election draws closer.



WILSON WEBB/COLUMBIA PICTURES

The March sisters of "Little Women." From left: Emma Watson, Florence Pugh, Saoirse Ronan and Eliza Scanlan.

## Women

Continued from Page 1

a strong nose and huge, expressive eyes. But the way the camera loves her, as a complicated, messy human being, not an airbrushed goddess, does my heart good. "Look!" I wanted to say to my sons. "Look! She's a real person, just like you."

**Sisterhood.** The mean girls narrative is hard to miss, either in teen movies or in high school cafeterias. But the ways girls comfort, encourage and just flat-out love each other isn't always on prominent display. The March sisters in "Little Women" bring sister love — its cruelties but also its loyalty and intensity — to life in ways that teen boys need to see.

**The friend zone.** The friend zone, in which you have unreciprocated romantic feelings for your pal, is a big theme of high school life, and it's so easy to label the friend who doesn't love you back as shallow and unfeeling. But of course there are big issues of autonomy and consent involved here as well. Other

people, even really great and amazing other people, don't necessarily return our affections, and we have to respect that, however much it hurts. When one of the March girls has to reject a genuinely charming and devoted suitor because she's not feeling it romantically, boys get to see both sides of the friend zone in a way that feels very real and relevant.

**A good fight.** Getting into an emotional argument is hard in any romantic relationship, but it's important. You're not always going to agree with your beloved, and you have to be able to get through that, honestly but kindly. The fight between one of the heroines and her romantic partner is such a good example of that: There's a real difference of opinion, one of them is going to have to make a real sacrifice, and feelings get hurt. But the way these two negotiate that — sorry for the lack of detail, but I'm avoiding spoilers — is a must-see for teens. I love this couple, and I want young people to see the way they make their relationship work.

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## Museum

Continued from Page 1

World War II," will explore via documents, oral histories, photos and video the final months of that defining global conflict. Opens Jan. 23, 104 S. Michigan Ave.; 312-374-9333 or pritzkermilitary.org.

**"Jun Fujita: American Visionary":** In an innovative and cooperative idea, the Poetry Foundation expands on a 2017 exhibition — and partners with Newberry Library — to present a larger look at the poet and photographer billed as the "first Japanese-American photojournalist." Fujita's photographic subjects included the Eastland Disaster and 1919 race riots, and he began publishing in Chicago's Poetry magazine in 1912. Jan. 24-March 31, Newberry Library, 60 W. Walton St.; 312-943-9090 or newberry.org.

**"Night of Ideas":** Field Museum and the consul general of France are teaming up to bring to Chicago for the first time this global event that originated in France and is held in over 100 cities. With the theme "Alive!" the six-hour event will explore topics from global warming to urban sustainability and empowerment. 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. Jan. 30, Field Museum, 1400 S. Lake Shore Drive; 312-922-9410 or www.fieldmuseum.org.

**"Dragons Alive! The Science and Culture of Reptiles":** Mayor Pete Buttigieg and Notre Dame football aren't the only South Bend products



JUN FUJITA/CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM

Armed National Guard and African American men stand on a sidewalk during the 1919 race riots in Chicago.

playing on a national stage. Ten living reptile species highlight this kid-friendly traveling exhibition organized by the Indiana city's Potawatomi Zoo. Expect, as with most Nature Museum presentations, a bevy of hands-on activities to keep the wee ones engaged. Feb. 1-Aug. 23, Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum, 2430 N. Cannon Drive; 773-755-5100 or naturemuseum.org.

**"The Orchid Show":** Now a staple of Chicago winter, this indoor walk amid 10,000 examples of the highly celebrated flower can, among other things, provide a needed seasonal reminder that plants will grow and gloves will be stored away again. Feb. 8-March 22, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glenview; www.chicagobotanic.org.

**"Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of Ruth Bader Ginsburg":** Developed from the book and Tumblr page of the same title, this interactive exhibition will further ex-

Rome and Spain to make his name, which became, simply, El Greco. The exhibition, organized by the Art Institute, the Louvre and a French national museum consortium, brings together more than 55 works from across the world to showcase the painter's "distinctive style" and "astounding ambition." March 7-June 21, Art Institute, 111 S. Michigan Ave.; 312-443-3600 or artica.edu.

**"Chicago Works: Deborah Stratman":** This one had me at "Studs Terkel." In the latest chapter of the MCA's ongoing and always provocative effort to feature Chicago artists, the museum will focus on Stratman's 11-chapter film "The Illinois Parables." But she's adding a 12th chapter to the story that draws from the state's often dark history: a recreation of Studs Terkel's WFMT radio booth featuring audio of the great interviewer's broadcasts. March 17-July 26, 220 E. Chicago Ave.; 312-280-2660 or mcchicago.org.

**"Frida Kahlo: Her Photos":** It's going to be a big year for Frida fans in the Chicago area. Ahead of the major Kahlo art show in DuPage County beginning in June, Chicago's National Museum of Mexican Art is putting on this look at the iconic Mexican artist's personal photography collection (plus a May exhibition, "Surrounding Frida," of art inspired by Kahlo). April 2-Aug. 2, 1852 W. 19th St.; 312-738-1503 or nationalmuseumofmexicanart.org.

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## WATCH THIS: THURSDAY



Katja Herbers

**"Evil"** (9 p.m., CBS): After he is grievously wounded, David (Mike Colter) winds up in the hospital, fighting for his life in the new episode "Room 320." In this case, that fight turns into a literal one, when he senses the menacing presence of Death nearby. Drifting in and out of consciousness, David finds himself in an epic struggle against his own mortality as he lies in bed. Katja Herbers, Aasif Mandvi, Peter Scolari, Michael Emerson and Kurt Fuller also star.

**"The Unicorn"** (7:31 p.m., CBS): Wade (Walton Goggins) thinks he may be ready to take his relationship with Anna (guest star Saraya Blue) to the next level, as long as his daughters, Grace and Natalie (Ruby Jay, Makenzie Moss), approve of her when they meet in the new episode "If It Doesn't Spark Joy." Elsewhere, Delia (Michaela Watkins), Grace and Natalie realize their memories of the late Jill are absolutely priceless as they prepare to sell some of her stuff at a garage sale.

**"Project Runway"** (8 p.m., Bravo): Iconic pop star Cyndi Lauper is both guest judge and inspiration for a team challenge in the new episode "She's Sew Unusual." After dividing into two teams, the designers are tasked with creating cohesive mini-collections that pay homage to Lauper's '80s fashion trailblazing, which brought underground punk into pop culture. However, they're also expected to give their looks a modern twist.

**"Very Cavallari"** (8 p.m., 9:30 p.m., E!): Celebrity entrepreneur Kristin Cavallari returns for Season 3 of her unscripted series, which finds her undertaking an emotional quest for lost relatives after discovering she appears to be the last Cavallari in her branch of the family. Meanwhile, Kristin and her team throw themselves into the opening of a new branch of Uncommon James.

**"Perfect Harmony"** (8:30 p.m., NBC): At the annual Conley Fork pageant, Arthur (Bradley Whitford) tries not to use his role as judge to play favorites with Cash (Spencer Allport), even though Ginny (Anna Camp) is dropping none too subtle hints for him to do just that in a new episode called "Know When to Walk Away." Will Greenberg also stars.

**"Law & Order: Special Victims Unit"** (9 p.m., NBC): A desperate father who is frustrated beyond words by how the case against his daughter's rapist is proceeding decides to take matters into his own hands in the new episode "Must Be Held Accountable." Nicholas Turturro, Vincent Kartheiser and Demore Barnes guest star; Mariska Hargitay, Ice T, Kelli Giddish and Peter Scanavino also star.

## TALK SHOWS

**"Conan"** (10 p.m. 11:30 p.m., TBS): Actor Willem Dafoe; comic Emily Catalano.\*

**"The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon"** (10:34 p.m., NBC): Actor Will Smith; Patti Smith talks and performs.\*

**"The Late Show With Stephen Colbert"** (10:35 p.m., CBS): The comic interviews guests and introduces musical performances.\*

**"Jimmy Kimmel Live!"** (10:35 p.m., ABC): Actor Michael B. Jordan; actress January Jones; Cigarettes After Sex perform.\*

\* Subject to change

**Hey, TV lovers:** Looking for detailed show listings? TV Weekly is an ideal companion. To subscribe, go to [www.tvweekly.com](http://www.tvweekly.com) or call 1-877-580-4159

## ELIZABETH WURTZEL 1967-2020

## 'Prozac Nation' author led wave of confessional writing

BY NEIL GENZLINGER  
The New York Times

Elizabeth Wurtzel, whose startling 1994 memoir, "Prozac Nation: Young and Depressed in America," won praise for opening a dialogue about clinical depression and helped introduce an unsparring style of confessional writing that remains influential, died Tuesday in New York City. She was 52.

Writer David Samuels, a friend since childhood, said the cause was metastatic breast cancer, a disease that resulted from the BRCA genetic mutation. Wurtzel had a double mastectomy in 2015. After her diagnosis, she became an advocate for BRCA testing — something she had not had — and wrote about her cancer experience in The New York Times.

"I could have had a mastectomy with reconstruction and skipped the part where I got cancer," she wrote. "I feel like the biggest idiot for not doing so."

Writing about her final illness was a natural choice for Wurtzel, who had for a quarter-century scrutinized her life in relentless detail, becoming a hero to some, especially to many women of her generation and younger, but also drawing scorn. "Prozac Nation," her first book, published when she was 27, was unvarnished in its accounts of her student days at Harvard University, her drug use, her extensive sex life and more.

It divided critics. "Wurtzel's nation is a nation of one," Karen Schoemer wrote in Newsweek. "She makes only tenuous attempts to draw parallels between herself and her generation, and she randomly blames her parents, her therapists, her friends, the divorce rate, drugs and the times for her



SUZANNE DECHILLO/THE NEW YORK TIMES 2007

Elizabeth Wurtzel, author of "Prozac Nation: Young and Depressed in America," died Tuesday in New York.

problems?"

But Michiko Kakutani, reviewing the book in The New York Times, found more to like. She acknowledged that its self-pitying passages "make the reader want to shake the author, and remind her that there are far worse fates than growing up during the '70s in New York and going to Harvard."

"But," she added, "Ms. Wurtzel herself is hyper-aware of the narcissistic nature of her problems, and her willingness to expose herself — narcissism and all — ultimately wins the reader over."

The book became a cultural reference point and part of a new wave of confessional writing.

Wurtzel followed her own lead with her subsequent writing, especially "More, Now, Again: A Memoir of Addiction," published in 2002. That book detailed her abuse of cocaine and of Ritalin, which she would grind up and snort.

Elizabeth Lee Wurtzel was born July 31, 1967, in Manhattan. Her mother, Lynne Ellen Winters, was married to Donald Wurtzel, and until recently Elizabeth Wurtzel had assumed that he was her father. In a 2018 essay in New York, she wrote of learning that she

was actually the child of an affair between her mother and photographer Bob Adelman, who died in 2016.

She grew up on the Upper East Side and began writing "Prozac Nation" in 1986.

"It was originally a book about Harvard; it wasn't even about depression," she told the news website Vice in 1994. "But everything in it was about being depressed, so that changed it."

While earning her bachelor's degree she wrote for The Harvard Crimson and started an internship at The Dallas Morning News, but she lost that job amid accusations of plagiarism. After graduating she was able to get jobs with New York magazine and The New Yorker, writing about rock music, often in a way that invited derision. When Tina Brown took over as editor of The New Yorker in 1992, Wurtzel was one of her first cuts.

In 2015, Wurtzel married James Freed Jr., who survives her, as does her mother.

**MUSIC BOX THEATRE** 3733 N. Southport MusicBoxTheatre.com 773-871-6604

**BUG**, featuring a Q&A with Michael Shannon-8:00pm  
LITTLE WOMEN-2:00pm, 5:00pm  
63 UP-2:15pm, 5:15pm, 8:15pm

## THURSDAY EVENING, JAN. 9

## MOVIES

	PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	<b>CBS</b> 2	Young Sheldon (N)	(7:31) The Unicorn (N)	(8:01) Mom (N) ©	Carol's Second Act (N)	Evil: "Room 320." (N) © HD	News (N) *	
	<b>NBC</b> 5	Superstore (N) ©	The Good Place (N)	Will & Grace (N) ©	Perfect Harmony (N)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (N) ©	NBC 5 News (N) *	
	<b>ABC</b> 7	Jeopardy! The Greatest of All Time (N) © HD		(8:02) Truth and Lies: Jeffrey Epstein (N) © HD			News at 10pm (N) *	
	<b>WGN</b> 9	black-ish ©	black-ish: "God." ©	Last Man Standing ©	Last Man Standing ©	WGN News at Nine (N) © HD	WGN News at Ten (N) *	
	<b>Antenna 9.2</b>	It's a Living	3's Comp.	Family Ties	Growing	Designing	Murphy	Carson *
	<b>Court 9.3</b>	† Closing Arguments (N)		Closing Arguments with Vinnie Politan © †				
	<b>PBS</b> 11	Chicago Tonight (N)		Betty White: First Lady of Television (N) ©		Carol Burnett: A Celebration © †		
	<b>CW</b> 26.1	Supernatural © HD		Legacies © HD		Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©
	<b>The U</b> 26.2	Dr. Phil © HD		Tamron Hall © HD		Steve Wilkos Show (N)	Cops ©	
	<b>MeTV</b> 26.3	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Gomer Pyle	Green Acres	Hogan Hero	Hogan Hero	C. Burnett
<b>H&amp;I</b> 26.4	Star Trek: "Spock's Brain."		Star Trek: Next		Star Trek: Deep Space 9	Star Trek *		
<b>Bounce</b> 26.5	The Siege (R,'98) **	Denzel Washington, Annette Bening. ©			High Crimes ('02) ** © †			
<b>FOX</b> 32	Last Man Standing (N)		Deputy: "10-8 Outlaws." (N) © HD		Fox 32 News at Nine		Modern Family ©	
<b>Ion</b> 38	Chicago P.D.: "8:30 PM."		Chicago P.D.: "My Way."		Chicago P.D. © HD		Chicago *	
<b>TeleM</b> 44	Decisiones: unos (N)		La Doña (N) ©		El señor de los cielos (N)		Chicago (N)	
<b>MNT</b> 50	Chicago P.D. ©		Law Order: CI		Law Order: CI		Chicago *	
<b>UniMas</b> 60	Enamorádonos				Noticiero (N)	Esta historia me suena		
<b>WJYS</b> 62	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Joyce Meyer	Robison	Paid Prog.	Dn. Carson	Paid Prog.	
<b>Univ</b> 66	Ringo (N)		Amor eterno		El dragón (N)		Noticias (N)	
CABLE	<b>AE</b>	The First 48 (N) ©		Alaska PD (N) ©		60 Days In (N) ©		First 48 *
	<b>AMC</b>	Safe House (R,'12) **	Denzel Washington, Ryan Reynolds. ©			Walk Among *		
	<b>ANIM</b>	(7:01) Lone Star Law: Uncuffed (N)				(9:01) Lone Star Law		Lone Star *
	<b>BBCA</b>	The Hunger Games: Mockingjay, Part 1 (PG-13,'14) *** ©				HG: Mckingjay *		
	<b>BET</b>	† (5) BET Star Cinema		BET Star Cinema †				
	<b>BIGTEN</b>	Women's College Basketball: Maryland at Iowa. (N)				The B1G Story ©		BTN Live (N)
	<b>BRAVO</b>	† (6:30) Project Runway		Project Runway (N) ©			Watch (N)	Atlanta *
	<b>CLTV</b>	Sign-off						Sign-off
	<b>CNN</b>	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)		Cuomo Prime Time (N)		CNN Tonight (N)		Tonight (N) *
	<b>COM</b>	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Daily (N)
	<b>DISC</b>	Homestead Rescue (N)		(8:01) Reclaimed (Series Premiere) (N) ©		Building Off the Grid (N)		Rescue *
	<b>DISN</b>	Bunk'd ©	Gabby	Sydney-Max	Roll With It	Coop	Sydney-Max	Bunk'd ©
	<b>E!</b>	Very Cavallari ©		Very Cavallari (Season Premiere) (N) ©		Nightly (N)	Very Cavallari ©	
	<b>ESPN</b>	† Wm. Basketball (N)		College Basketball: Teams TBA. (N) (Live)				SportCtr (N)
	<b>ESPN2</b>	† College Basketball (N)		College Basketball: Teams TBA. (N) (Live)				Basketball
	<b>FNC</b>	Tucker Carlson (N)		Hannity (N) ©		The Ingraham Angle (N)		Fox News
	<b>FOOD</b>	Restaurant: Im. (N)		Restaurant: Im. (N)		Beat Play (N)	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby
	<b>FREE</b>	† Pirates of the Caribbean		Party of Five: "Pilot." ©		Party of Five ©		700 Club *
	<b>FX</b>	Bad Moms (R,'16) **	Mila Kunis, Kristen Bell. ©			Bad Moms (R,'16) **	Mila Kunis. © †	
	<b>HALL</b>	Love on the Sidelines (NR,'16)	Emily Kinney. ©			Winter Castle (NR,'19)	Emilie Ullerup. ©	
<b>HGTV</b>	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Christina (N)	Christina	Hunt Int'l (N)	Hunters (N)	Hunters Int'l	
<b>HIST</b>	American Pickers		American Pickers (N) ©		(9:03) American Pickers		Pickers *	
<b>HLN</b>	Inside Evil-Cuomo		Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	
<b>IFC</b>	† (5:15) GoodFellas (R,'90) **** ©		Gladiator (R,'00) ****		Russell Crowe. © †			
<b>LIFE</b>	Married at First Sight (N) ©				Supernanny (N) ©		Married *	
<b>MSNBC</b>	All In With (N)		Rachel Maddow Show (N)		The Last Word (N)		11th Hour (N)	
<b>MTV</b>	Floribama Shore (N) ©		Ex on the Beach (N) ©		Ridic. (N)	Ridiculous.	Ridiculous.	
<b>NBCSCH</b>	Pregame (N)	NHL Hockey: Nashville Predators at Chicago Blackhawks. (N) (Live)					Postgame.	
<b>NICK</b>	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Kung Fu Panda (PG,'08) ***		Voices of Jack Black.		Friends *	
<b>OVATION</b>	House of the Year		House of the Year		No Reservation		Bourdain *	
<b>OWN</b>	20/20 on OWN		20/20: Homicide		20/20: Homicide		20/20 *	
<b>OXY</b>	An Unexpected Killer (N)		Snapped ©		Snapped ©		Snapped *	
<b>PARMT</b>	The Hangover Part II (R,'11) **	Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms. ©					Movie © †	
<b>SYFY</b>	† (6) Mad Max: Fury Road (R,'15) ***		Saban's Power Rangers (PG-13,'17) *** © †					
<b>TBS</b>	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Big Bang	Conan ©	
<b>TCM</b>	The Phenix City Story (NR,'55) ***	John McIntire.			I Am Some	(9:45) Gaslight ***		
<b>TLC</b>	Dr. Pimple Popper		Dr. Pimple Popper (N)		Feet-Killing Me (N)		1000-Lb. (N)	
<b>TLN</b>	Wealth	Wretched	Monumental: Treasure		Life Today	Like You	IMPACT	
<b>TNT</b>	† NBA Basketball (N Subject to Blackout)		NBA Basketball (N Subject to Blackout)				Subject to Blackout	
<b>TOON</b>	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Rick, Morty	
<b>TRAV</b>	Ghost Adventures ©		Ghost Adventures (N) ©		Ghost Adventures (N) ©		Ghost *	
<b>TVL</b>	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	King	King	King	
<b>USA</b>	Bad Boys II (R,'03) **	Martin Lawrence, Will Smith. ©					Mod Fam *	
<b>VH1</b>	Black Ink Crew: Chicago		Black Ink Crew: Chicago		Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	Wild 'n Out	
<b>WE</b>	Growing Up Hip Hop ©		Growing Up Hip Hop (N)		Growing Up Hip Hop ©		Hip Hop *	
<b>WGN America</b>	M*A*S*H ©	M*A*S*H ©	M*A*S*H ©	M*A*S*H ©	M*A*S*H ©	M*A*S*H ©	M*A*S*H ©	
PREMIUM	<b>HBO</b>	Bruce Almighty (PG-13,'03) **		Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald ***				
	<b>HBO2</b>	American Woman (R,'18)	Sienna Miller. ©		(8:55) Van Helsing (PG-13,'04) ***			
	<b>MAX</b>	The Adjustment Bureau (PG-13,'11) **	Matt Damon.		(8:50) The Darkest Minds ('18) ***			
	<b>SHO</b>	Pavarotti (PG-13,'19) ***	Bono. ©		The L Word		Work- Pro.	
	<b>STARZ</b>	† (5:53) Good Will Hunting		(8:01) Schindler's List (R,'93) ****		Liam Neeson. © †		
<b>STZNC</b>	† (6:03) Lethal Weapon 2		El Dorado (NR,'67) ***		John Wayne. ©		Escape Al †	

**Chicago Tribune**

**CHEWING**

Listen now to *Chewing*, the podcast where Louisa Chu and Monica Eng dish on their favorite food trucks, celebrity chefs and best bites.

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**Chew on, CHICAGO**

**AMAZON STUDIOS**

**SEE TROOP ZERO AT A SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING ON JANUARY 11 AT THE HOLLYWOOD BLVD CINEMA IN WOODRIDGE!**

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SHOW THE UNIVERSE WHO YOU TRULY ARE

**AMAZON ORIGINAL TROOP ZERO**

WRITTEN BY LUCY ALIBAR DIRECTED BY BERT & GERTIE

JANUARY 17 | prime video

**To enter to win a family four-pack of tickets go to [TinyUrl.com/TroopZeroChicago](http://TinyUrl.com/TroopZeroChicago)**

Winners will be notified by 12 PM on Friday, January 10

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**GATHER YOUR TROOP!**

**#TroopZero ARRIVES JANUARY 17 ONLY ON prime video**

## Horoscopes



**Today's birthday** (Jan. 9): What would you love to be, do and have this year? Realize personal dreams with steady, coordinated efforts. A winter spotlight illuminates you before shifting tides redirect a partnership. Summer transitions redirect you to new levels of romance and collaboration. Let your word be your bond.

**Aries** (March 21-April 19): Today is a 7. Household issues require attention. Obligations vie with new tasks for your time. Secrets get revealed. Find efficiencies.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20): 6. Get into a learning phase. Bad news, gossip and rumors swirl. Find reliable information despite propaganda or false theories. Communicate with trusted sources.

**Gemini** (May 21-June 20): 7. Monitor finances. Expenses could be larger than expected. Cut extras and frills. Consider long-term impacts of purchases or compromises.

**Cancer** (June 21-July 22): 8. You're especially sensitive. Don't let bad news or difficult circumstances get you down. Ignore lies and rumors. Talk with people you love and trust.

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 22): 6. Peace and quiet soothe your spirit. Noise and confusion abound; settle into a sanctuary. Review recent events and allow time to process. Nurture yourself.

**Virgo** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 7. Support friends and be supported through a community change. A situation may appear bleak. Share love, food and resources. It gets better together.

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 7. Take care of business. Keep deadlines and promises. Manage responsibilities despite challenges or distractions. Reward yourself with extra rest and recreation later.

**Scorpio** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 6. Monitor conditions before getting on the road. Study current events, traffic and weather. Slow for barriers and obstacles. Reconsider your route or destination.

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 7. Review financial obligations and budgeted expenses. Keep balances positive by adjusting. More is not always better. Avoid arguments.

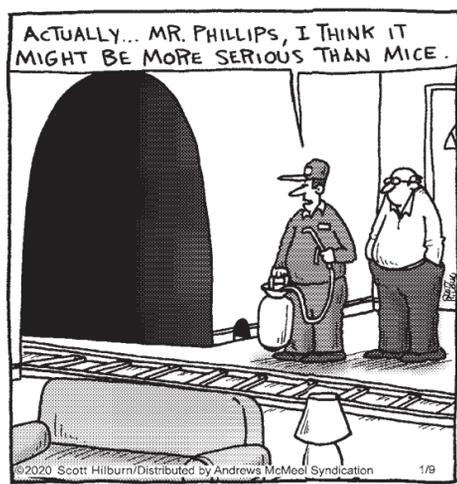
**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 7. Negotiate to refine plans with your partner. Choose privacy over publicity. Speak your truth and listen to another's. Respect boundaries.

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 8. Balance increased demand with existing energy and resources. Slow to avoid accident or injury. It could seem like everyone wants your attention. Rest.

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20): 7. Stay sensitive to another's feelings. Avoid spontaneous outbursts. Apologize when appropriate. Patiently consider solutions. Relax and enjoy your favorite hobbies and games together.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

### The Argyle Sweater



### Bliss



### Bridge

Both vulnerable, West deals

<b>North</b>		<b>East</b>	
♠ A 9 8 3	♥ A J 6 2	♠ 7 6 4	♥ 9 4
♦ J 9	♣ Q 6 2	♦ Q 8 6 4 3	♣ A K 9
<b>West</b>		<b>South</b>	
♠ Q J 10	♥ K 10	♠ K 5 2	♥ Q 8 7 5 3
♦ A K 2	♣ J 8 7 4 3	♦ 10 7 5	♣ 10 5

Today's deal is from a recent tournament in Australia, where the Weak No Trump is popular. South was Australian expert Jim Wallis. What would you bid as North over the weak no trump opening? We hope you passed. A two-suited bid should be saved for hands with at least 5-4 in your suits.

#### The bidding:

<b>West</b>	<b>North</b>	<b>East</b>	<b>South</b>
INT*	2♣**	2♦	2♥
3♦	3♥	All pass	

\*12-14

\*\*Both majors

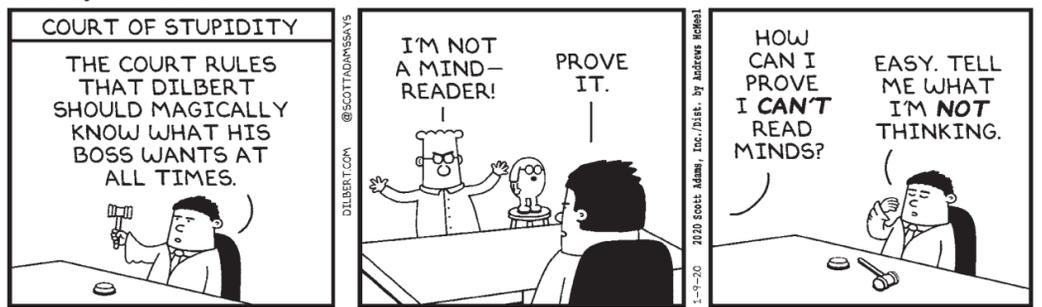
Opening lead: Ace of ♠

hearts anyway, although the three-diamond contract would have been defeated unless declarer took an inspired view in the club suit.

Wallis, despite the surprising dummy, found a resourceful way to bring home his contract. West cashed two diamonds to start and then shifted to the queen of spades. Smooth as silk, Wallis played low from dummy and the five from his hand. West might have shifted to clubs at this point, but the missing two of spades created a problem for West. Should his partner hold that card, that meant that partner was encouraging a spade continuation. West decided to continue spades. Wallis won with his king, drew trumps in two rounds with the aid of a finesse, and cashed the ace of spades. When that suit split 3-3, Wallis had a parking place for one of his club losers. Nicely played!

— Bob Jones  
tcaeditors@tribpub.com

### Dilbert



### Baby Blues



### Zits



### Mr. Boffo



### Frazz



### Classic Peanuts



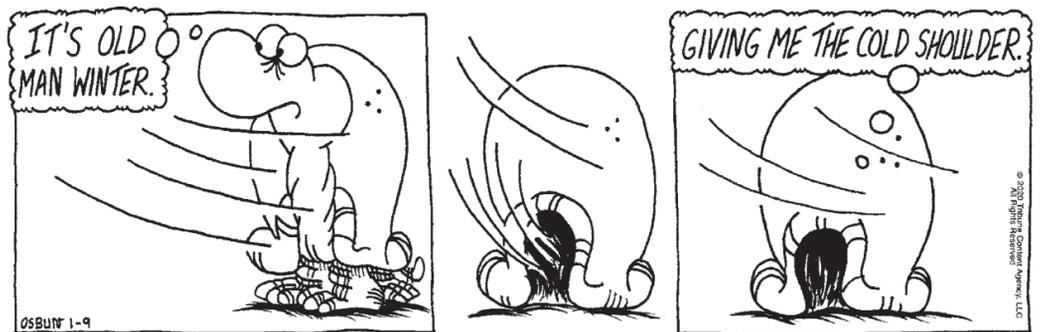
### Pickles



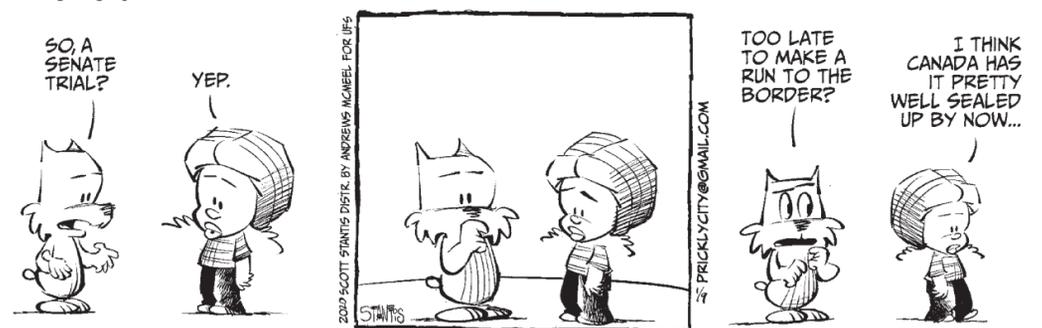
### Dick Tracy



### Animal Crackers



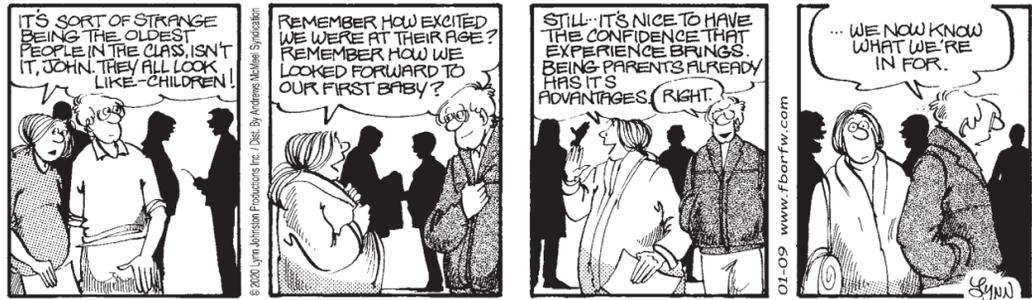
### Prickly City



**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



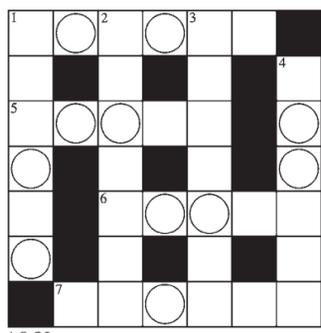
**Broom-Hilda** By Russell Myers



**Trivia Bits**

**In the video game universe, which character battles the evil Dr. Neo Cortex?**  
 A) Conker the Squirrel  
 B) Crash Bandicoot  
 C) Donkey Kong  
 D) Sonic the Hedgehog  
**Wednesday's answer:** Named for harpsichordist Johann Goldberg, the "Goldberg Variations" were written for the harpsichord.  
 © 2020 Leslie Elman. Dist. by Creators.com

**Jumble Crossword**



- CLUE ACROSS**
- Movie \_\_\_\_\_
  - Way to tie the knot
  - Red \_\_\_\_\_
  - Clown
- CLUE DOWN**
- Good 'N \_\_\_\_\_
  - Room for carry-ons
  - H or O
  - Play of alloy

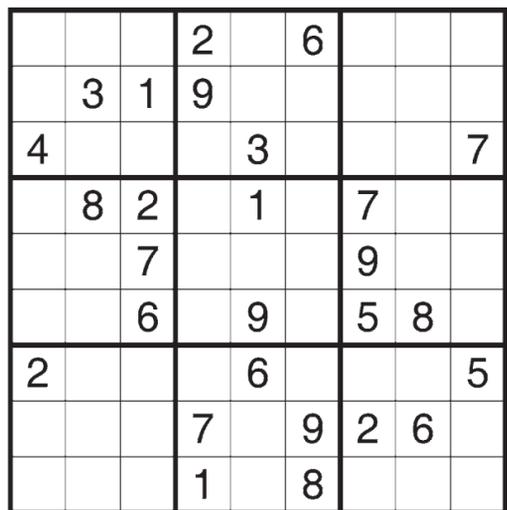
How to play - Complete the crossword puzzle by looking at the clues and unscrambling the answers. When the puzzle is complete, unscramble the circled letters to solve the BONUS.

**BONUS** \_\_\_\_\_

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 ANSWERS: 1-A-Robster 2-D-Element 3-D-Element 4-F-Twister 5-B-Yellowstone 6-D-Element 7-A-Clown  
 By David L. Hoyt.

**Sudoku** 1 2 3 4

1/9



2	1	6	8	7	5	9	4	3
5	4	9	3	2	1	8	7	6
8	7	3	9	4	6	2	1	5
9	5	4	6	8	7	3	2	1
1	2	8	5	9	3	7	6	4
6	3	7	2	1	4	5	9	8
3	9	2	4	6	8	1	5	7
4	8	1	7	5	2	6	3	9
7	6	5	1	3	9	4	8	2

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.



Answer here



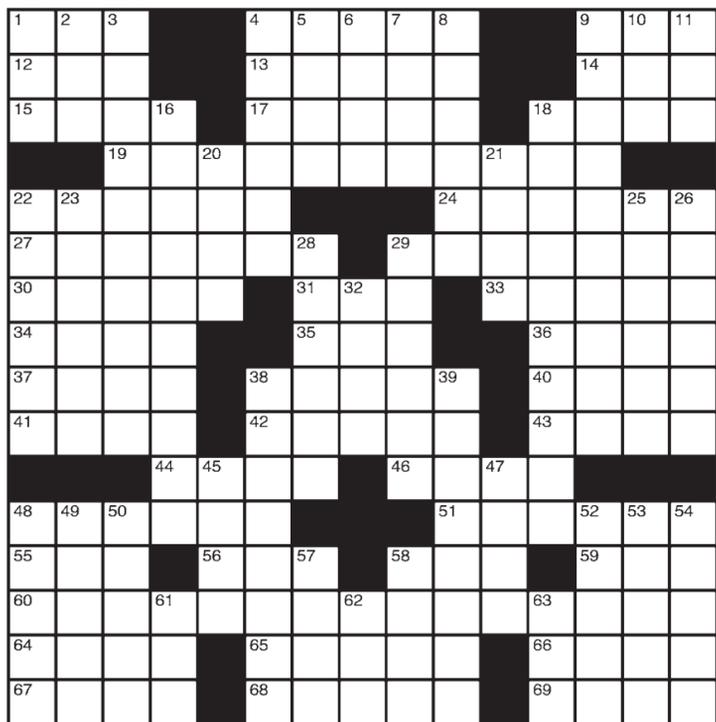
**Wednesday's answers**

Jumbles: RUNNY HEDGE ODDITY SLEEPY  
 Answer: The hotel room was expensive and they had no choice but to — SPEND THE NIGHT

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2020 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

**Crossword**

1/9



- Across**
- Coffee holder
  - "Top Chef" host Lakshmi
  - Droop
  - Tapped-off remnant
  - Thread holder
  - T'ai \_\_\_\_\_
  - Club condiment
  - "Fiddler" meddler
  - Chemistry Nobelist Otto
  - Big musical number ... or what 60-Across is to four puzzle answers?
  - "My Friend" title horse
  - Coral creatures
  - "A Legacy of Spies" author
  - Makes a mess of
  - St. Teresa's town
  - VII x XIII
  - Rodeo performer
  - Catchall abbr.
  - Pool tool
- Down**
- Eat in style
  - Dramatic accusation
  - Paris transit
  - Deca- minus two
  - GPS part: Abbr.
  - Smart \_\_\_\_\_
  - Eco-friendly certification letters
  - Tablet named for an organ
  - Kosher food carrier
  - Preserve, in a way
  - "The Joy Luck Club" novelist
  - Philosopher \_\_\_\_\_-tzu
  - Short rest
  - Word for a woman
  - Hosp. area
  - Decisive ending
  - "I like that"
  - Cool beans or warm fuzzies
  - Great Lake city
  - MC alternative
  - Yoga pose
  - Word for men

**Wednesday's solution**



By Christopher Adams. Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis. © 2020 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

**Down**

- Dash attachment
- NATO founding member
- The Curies, e.g.
- Propaganda battle
- Tranzan raisers
- "Cut it out!"
- Con \_\_\_\_\_ briskly
- Syrian city
- Member of a 1990s girl group
- Spa sign
- Martini default

**Want more PUZZLES?**  
 Go to [chicagotribune.com/games](http://chicagotribune.com/games)

# CHICAGO WEATHER CENTER

chicagoweathercenter.com | BY TOM SKILLING AND WGN9



THURSDAY, JAN. 9 NORMAL HIGH: 31° NORMAL LOW: 17° RECORD HIGH: 60° (1880) RECORD LOW: -20° (1875)

## Much warmer with rain before winter mix

### LOCAL FORECAST

**HIGH** 49 **LOW** 43

Cloudy, windy and much milder. High in the upper 40s. Sprinkles or a few light showers during the daylight hours.

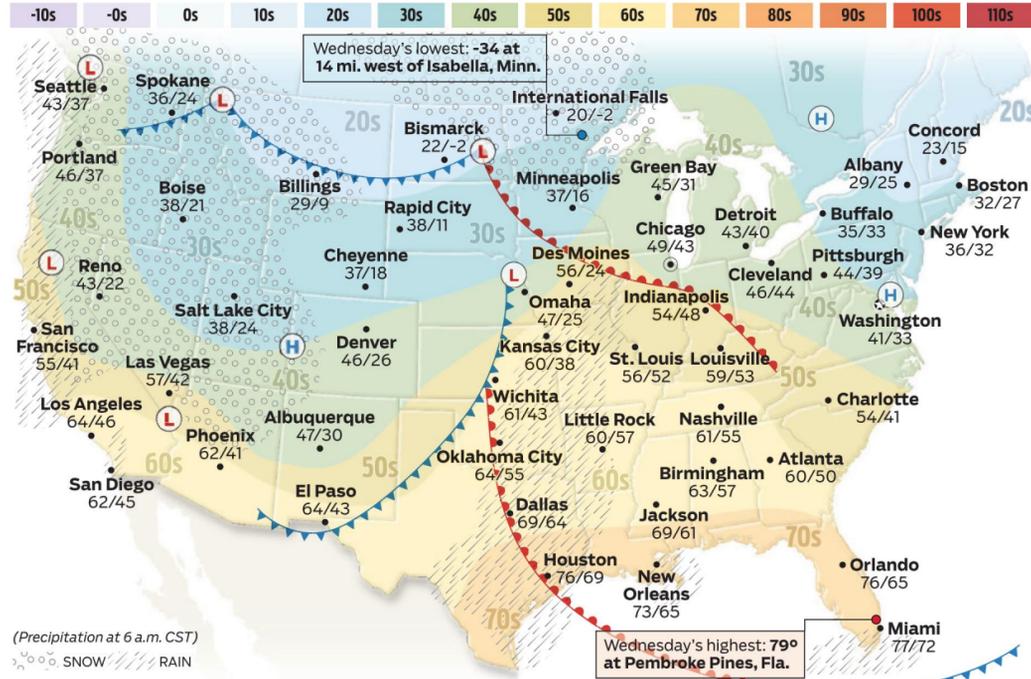
South winds help produce temps nearly 20° above normal. South winds 15-30 mph with gusts to 50 mph possible.

A gale warning and small craft advisory are in effect for Lake Michigan.

Precipitation chance increases after midnight with cloudy skies. Breezy south nighttime winds 15-25 mph begin to diminish overnight.

Mild overnight low in the low 40s, as much as 25° above normal.

### NATIONAL FORECAST



After a Wednesday that was the first day with below-normal temperatures since Dec. 19, it will be much milder with a high approaching 50. Light rain or sprinkles today with a slightly better chance for light rain overnight. Light rain again Friday before heavier rainfall begins Friday night. Strong southern winds will bring significant Gulf moisture to the Midwest. While the models are not in agreement concerning the approaching storm, over 1 inch of liquid precipitation can be expected with some local areas possibly receiving more than 2 1/2 inches. Flooding is a possibility. Snowfall amounts Saturday into Saturday night are still in question and will depend on the final storm track.

The potential for severe weather exists Friday from the Texas and Louisiana coast to the Mississippi Valley.

### FRIDAY, JAN. 10

**HIGH** 47 **LOW** 34

Cloudy with light daytime rain. Rain becomes heavier after sunset. A high in the mid to upper 40s which will have occurred before sunrise. Steady daytime temps. Light NNE winds increase overnight with gusts to 35 mph.

### SATURDAY, JAN. 11

**HIGH** 34 **LOW** 23

Mixed precipitation as rain may mix with freezing rain and sleet before becoming all snow overnight. Steady daytime temps in the low to mid 30s. Strong NNE winds with gusts to 40 mph. Snow ends by sunrise.

### SUNDAY, JAN. 12

**HIGH** 33 **LOW** 27

Clouds break as high pressure moves across the area, becoming partly cloudy. Winds become light from the south. Seasonable high in the low 30s. Mostly cloudy overnight. Steady nighttime temps with a low near 30.

### MONDAY, JAN. 13

**HIGH** 40 **LOW** 30

Mostly cloudy and warmer with light south winds. High near 40, about 10 degrees above normal. Mostly cloudy with light, variable winds overnight. Chance for a scattered nighttime snow shower. Low near 30.

### TUESDAY, JAN. 14

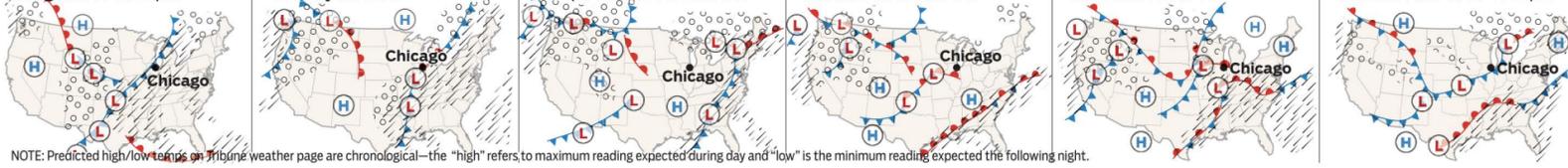
**HIGH** 43 **LOW** 30

Scattered early morning rain or snow showers. A mostly cloudy start to the day then slowly clearing skies. Winds turn west and increase to 8-12 mph with gusts to 20 mph. Partly cloudy overnight with a low near 30.

### WEDNESDAY, JAN. 15

**HIGH** 41 **LOW** 28

A partly cloudy morning turns mostly cloudy by afternoon. Chance for scattered late afternoon/evening rain or snow showers. High near 40. Winds turn NW overnight and increase to 10-15 mph.



### ASK TOM

Dear Tom,  
Can it be too cold to snow? I am having a discussion with a friend about this. I do no; she says yes.  
James Morris, Belvidere

Dear James,  
You win the bet. As long as there is some moisture in the air (and there is always some) it can never be too cold to snow. For snow to occur, airborne moisture must condense into ice crystals as the air is chilled to below its condensation temperature. It snows once these ice crystals grow large enough to fall. But since very cold air can hold only minuscule amounts of moisture, it can be safely said that heavy snows do not occur at very low temperatures. However, snow has been reported at manned stations in Antarctica at temperatures near -70 degrees. And, here in Chicago, an inch of snow fell on Sunday evening, Jan. 10, 1982, with the temperature at -15 degrees.

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  
Ivory's weather updates weekdays 3 to 6 p.m. on WGN-AM 720 Chicago.

## Heavy rains, freezing rain, snow potential Friday night/Sat.

**A DRY START TO JANUARY WILL CHANGE—BEGINNING TOMORROW**

**Chicago (O'Hare) January precipitation**

JAN. 1-8, 2020	NORMAL
0.03"	0.50"

**Will the trend of above normal precipitation continue in 2020?**

Since 1871, 4 of the 5 wettest years have occurred in the past 12 years:

Year	Precipitation
2008	50.86"
2011	49.83"
2019	49.54"
1983	49.35"
2018	49.23"

**WEDNESDAY'S BELOW NORMAL TEMPS**

Wednesday marked the first day with a below normal average temp since Dec. 19, and the first day that the maximum, minimum and average temperatures were all below normal since Dec. 18.

With temps forecast to be above normal Thursday, the last time there were two consecutive days with below normal temps will remain Dec. 18-19.

SOURCES: Frank Wachowski, National Weather Service archives

**WEEKEND PRECIPITATION Forecast areas With greatest precipitation totals**

**WEATHER HAZARDS**

- FREEZING RAIN OVERNIGHT FRI. INTO SAT.
- HEAVY RAINFALL FRI. NIGHT INTO SAT.
- SNOW OVERNIGHT SAT. INTO EARLY SUN.

**SEVERE WEATHER RISK**

SLIGHT MARGINAL ENHANCED

**PRECIPITATION PROBABILITIES**

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
NIGHT	NIGHT	NIGHT	NIGHT
10%	70%	80%	100%
100%	90%	90%	40%

**WEEKEND RAIN PRECIPITATION TOTALS**

Thursday - Sunday totals (Water equivalent)

LEAST	AVERAGE	GREATEST
1.22"	2.00"	3.11"

MARK CARROLL, BILL SNYDER, THOMAS VALLE / WGN-TV

### CHICAGO DIGEST

**WEDNESDAY TEMPERATURES**

LOCATION	HI	LO	LOCATION	HI	LO
Aurora	28	15	Midway	30	17
Gary	32	19	O'Hare	29	14
Kankakee	27	19	Romeoville	29	16
Lakefront	29	16	Valparaiso	31	18
Lansing	27	18	Waukegan	28	12

**CHICAGO PRECIPITATION**

PERIOD	2020	NORMAL
Wed. (through 4 p.m.)	0.00"	0.04"
January to date	0.03"	0.50"
Year to date	0.03"	0.50"

**CHICAGO SNOWFALL**

PERIOD	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Wed. (through 4 p.m.)	0.0"	0.0"
Season to date	10.8"	8.6"
Normal to date	12.2"	13.0"

SOURCE: Frank Wachowski

**LAKE MICHIGAN CONDITIONS**

THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Wind	S 30-35 kts. W/N 10-20 kts.
Waves	5-10 feet 2-4 feet
Wed. shore/crib water temps	36°/33°

**U.S. SNOW COVER**

DEC. 9	2020	2019
Area covered by snow	30.9%	30.7%
Average snow depth	3.0"	3.1"

**TRACKING THE COLD**

SINCE OCT. 15	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Sub-32° highs	12 days	10 days
Subzero lows	0 days	0 days

**CHICAGO AIR QUALITY**

Wednesday's reading: Good  
Thursday's forecast: Moderate  
Critical pollutant: Particulates

**SUNRISE/SET TIMES**

Sun	7:17 a.m.	4:37 p.m.
Moon	3:37 p.m.	6:12 a.m.

**THURSDAY PLANET WATCH**

PLANET	RISE	SET
Mercury	7:26 a.m.	4:26 p.m.
Venus	9:19 a.m.	7:37 p.m.
Mars	4:01 a.m.	1:29 p.m.
Jupiter	6:40 a.m.	3:47 p.m.
Saturn	7:32 a.m.	4:52 p.m.

**BEST VIEWING TIME DIRECTION**

Planet	Time	Direction
Mercury	Not visible	
Venus	5:30 p.m.	19.5° SW
Mars	5:45 a.m.	15° SE
Jupiter	Not visible	
Saturn	Not visible	

SOURCE: Dan Joyce, Triton College

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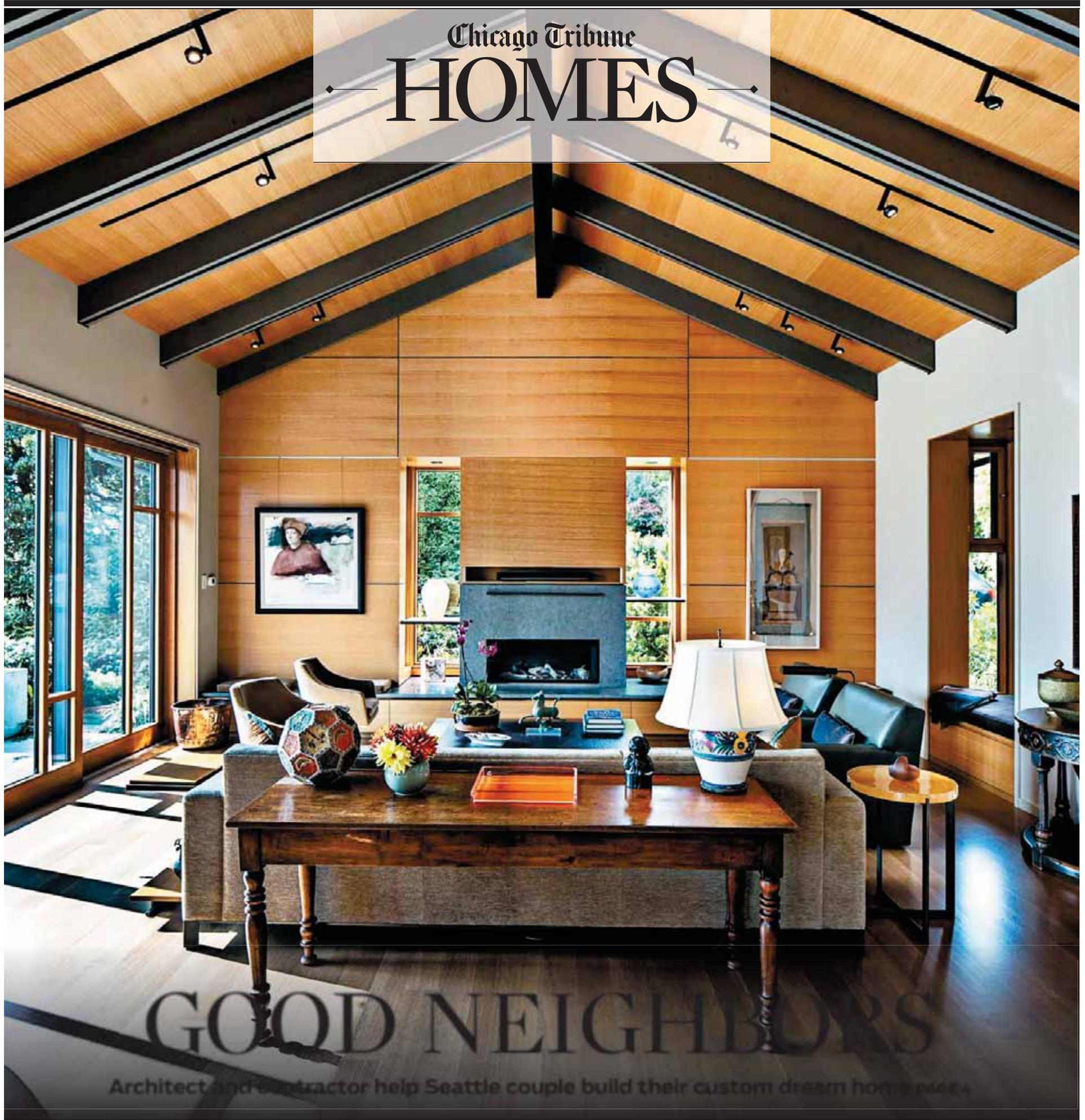
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# Chicago Tribune HOMES



## GOOD NEIGHBORS

Architect and contractor help Seattle couple build their custom dream home

## HOME REMEDIES

## A new coat of paint can freshen up home interior

BY DIANA CRANDALL  
Angie's List

A fresh coat of paint can go a long way in transforming your space — and what better time to start than heading into a new year? Here's what you need to know to set your budget and complete a job well done.

**Getting started:** Painting the interior of a 2,000-square-foot house costs between \$1,900 and \$7,800, according to the Angie's List Pricing Guide. Wall height, designer paint and regional differences all play into the final price point, so be sure to communicate with your painting pro about your budget.

If extensive prep work needs to be done, like sanding or drywall repairs, find out up front how much extra this will cost — and whether or not your pro is equipped to handle the issue. If you need extra help from a handyman, you can typically expect to pay

between \$60 and \$65 an hour.

**Paint:** A single gallon of paint will cover around 350 square feet in one coat, and how many coats you need will depend on factors including the existing color of the wall and the new color you're painting.

A gallon of paint costs between \$15 and \$50, according to the Angie's List Pricing Guide. That price can jump to over \$100 a gallon if you plan on using designer paints like Farrow & Ball; and it drops between \$30 and \$60 if you choose a midrange brand like Benjamin Moore or Sherwin Williams. Wondering which paint to purchase? Higher-quality paint can prevent premature aging, which means less repainting down the road.

If you aren't sure which type of paint you need — flat, semigloss, matte, satin — ask a professional to help you answer that question.



DREAMSTIME

**Labor:** Labor costs vary depending on the job, and how you'll pay — per hour, day or square foot — de-

pends on the contractor. Where you live can also impact the cost of painting labor.

Generally speaking, small jobs, like cabinet or trim painting, usually start at \$200 and go up from

there. Larger projects, like an entire residential repainting, can cost up to \$4,500, according to the Angie's List Pricing Guide. Homeowners report paying professional painters between \$1,000 and \$2,800 to paint home interior rooms and walls, though stairwells, kitchen cabinets or other unique features in your home may increase prep time and cost.

**DIY vs. hiring a pro:** Skilled and experienced DIY painters won't have a problem with prepping or painting, but most homeowners find it's worth the cost to hire a pro — if for no other reason than the time it takes to thoroughly complete a painting project. A quality paint pro can also save you from expensive mishaps that require repainting down the road. Hiring out the job also means you don't have to worry about your living room being unrecognizable for six weeks.

## GADGETS

## StayGo hub cleans up 'rat's nest'

BY GREGG ELLMAN  
Tribune News Service

I loved a reference Twelve South made in a press release about some existing USB-C hubs and how they create a "rat's nest of cables" spilling out the side of your MacBook.

That's my situation, so I finally took the new StayGo USB-C Hub from Twelve South to task to clean up my cable mess and as expected, it was perfect.

The metal hub (0.59-by-5-by-2.44-inches) has connections for 3 USB-A 3.0 ports, MicroSD and SD memory cards, 4K HDMI and gigabit Ethernet.

Once you have everything connected, the hub connects to your computer with one removable cable, which is the key. Other hubs, many of which I've tried, have a permanent cable requiring you to keep the hub connected to your laptop or within inches.

The Stay feature of the StayGo hub lets you attach the included 3-foot USB-C connecting cable so you can keep the hub and all the connecting cables away from your laptop.

For the Go feature, the hub includes a travel-size 6-inch USB-C cable for connecting the hub when you want it close by. The cable stores inside of the hub.

Everything connected, powered and worked per-



TWELVE SOUTH

The StayGo USB-C Hub

fectly. And clutter-free.  
**Cost:** \$99.99

**Photo-finish:** A new Kodak branded Smartphone Photography Kit gives you a nice choice of accessories to



KODAK

The Kodak Smartphone Photography Kit

help make your smartphone photography more efficient and fun with better results. The multipurpose kit comes travel-ready in a hard case and includes a 2-in-1 lens with an

ultrawide and macro, a tripod, remote shutter and portrait light.

The lens clips right over the existing lens on your smartphone and it's easy to take on or off and switch between the two. The wide-angle lens is 18 mm wide with a 100-degree angle of view, which helps when you're taking a group photo. With the macro, getting closer to what you're photographing makes your images a lot more interesting.

The 8-inch tripod includes a detachable Bluetooth remote shutter.

**Cost:** \$69.99

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COVER PHOTO BY STEVE RINGMAN/SEATTLE TIMES



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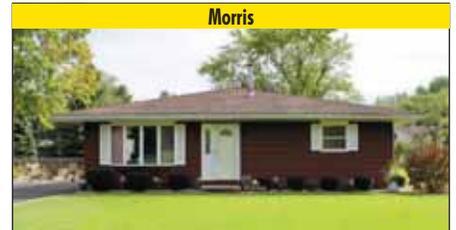
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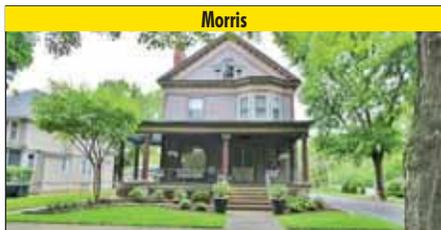
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# OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

Seattle couple just had to look next door for architectural break

BY SANDY DENEAU  
DUNHAM  
Seattle Times

The first time architectural opportunity knocked, Travis Penn and John Wicher lived in the Queen Anne in Seattle's Center. It was an actual knock. At the door was their neighbor, Geoff Prentiss, just delivering a neighborly how-do-you-do. He is an actual architect.

That was a while back, but some initial connections span time and distance.

The couple later moved and alighted on a heavenly but devilishly steep site in the Washington Park neighborhood, with an older, one-level home on one arm of the T at the end of a dead-end road. Working with general contractor Schultz Miller, the former neighbor and his firm, the couple added a second floor and "did a pretty extensive remodel," Prentiss says.

When architectural opportunity knocked again, it was right next door. On the other arm of that dead-end T, a green farmhouse dating to 1916, concealed by spreading greenery and stealthily sliding down that heavenly hill, went on the market.

"It had been so overgrown," says Penn. "We said, 'Why don't we buy it and control it ourselves?'"

Initially, the couple rented it out, thinking they'd build a new spec house and sell it. But then, Penn says, "John and I realized it'd be the only house we'd ever design from the ground up."

The dream-team duo reconvened, joined by interior designer Holly McKinley. And now, rising up, up, up from a concrete foundation, Penn and Wicher's all-new, transitional, thoughtful home rests securely on its slope, its 5,320 square feet filled with abundant light, majestic viewpoints and artful remembrances of special people and places.



STEVE RINGMAN/SEATTLE TIMES PHOTOS

"This is not a bedroom for someone who has a fear of heights," says homeowner Travis Penn.



A custom two-story wallpaper map of the world fills the wall behind the main stairway.

The palette is consistent, neutral and warm — rift-sawn white oak paneling and plank flooring — with "an overall feeling of a home of warmth, embrac-

ing color with highlights," says Prentiss. One of those happy highlights is the workout space over the garage, with an orange staircase that's "an homage



At the top of the main staircase, above Travis Penn's grandmother's settee, hangs a painting titled "Millie."

to 'Pee-wee's Playhouse.' " The lines are crisp, the trim is minimal. The custom details are distinct.

"These guys are very organized," Prentiss says.

"They knew what they wanted."

For example: In the dining area, there's one drawer for napkins, and another for place mats.

Because often, this transitional, thoughtful home also is filled with people.

"The prime driver was that we entertain a lot," says Wicher. "We wanted flow."

The sleek, shiny kitchen at the heart of the home — both spatially and spiritually — smoothly connects the living and dining areas in a great room of great impact. "My advantage in helping them is that we're friends," says Prentiss. "I've been with them when they're entertaining. I knew to eliminate bottlenecks."

"Family is important to us," says Wicher — visitors get to pick their preferred upper-level guest room: mountain view or lake view. "So are travel and art. It's not highly valuable, but it's meaningful. That had to be incorporated." Adds Penn: "Places were designed for specific pieces — things that have memories and meaning."

The Buddha in the living area belonged to Penn's grandmother; a table was his mother's. The clock in the hallway had been Wicher's great-grandparents'. There's a painting from Bali, and two vases the couple picked up in Venice. Penn's grandmother's settee sits at the top of the stairway.

Oh. That stairway. It's a wood-and-glass work of art itself — slim and solid and geometric — and behind it: a fantastic, massive two-story map of the world, on wallpaper.

"We knew we had this big wall and wanted something, but we couldn't imagine what," says Penn. "What about a mural? What about a map? We found a place in Bristol, England. You send the dimensions and the areas you want. Once it was installed, work kind of stopped."

This time, in a custom home of lasting connections and repeat collaboration, opportunity knocked right inside the front door.



MORTON ARBORETUM

Identify your evergreen shrubs before it's time to prune them in April or May. Most species aren't suited to the harsh shearing technique used to shape these yews.

## Wait for springtime to prune your evergreens

BY BETH BOTTS

When you're outdoors pruning bare-branched trees and shrubs in winter, it may seem obvious to prune the evergreens too. That's not a good idea, according to Julie Janoski, Plant Clinic manager at The Morton Arboretum in Lisle.

"Evergreens aren't entirely dormant in winter, so they will respond to pruning," she said. In a warm spell, "it might trigger them to try and start growing." The tender new growth would be vulnerable to freezing in the next cold snap. You can safely prune deciduous shrubs in January or February because they're fully dormant. However, wait to prune evergreens until spring, Janoski said.

Remember, though, that not all evergreens are the same. The different species of trees and shrubs that are common in Chicago-area yards grow in different ways, so they require different pruning techniques.

If you don't know what species you have, the Plant Clinic can help. "Evergreens are easy to identify in winter because they still have their green needles,"

Janoski said. You'll need to send photos or bring in samples with needles or leaves attached. Once you've put a name to a shrub, you can also get advice on the particular technique it needs.

"Many homeowners assume all evergreens can be pruned like yews," Janoski said.

"Unfortunately, that's not true."

Yews were widely planted as formal hedges in the 1950s and 1960s because they can tolerate being sheared with a hedge trimmer. They remain among the most common evergreen shrubs in city and suburban yards.

If you shear a yew, inflicting many indiscriminate cuts, it can bounce back severely, to where the shaded branches are bare in the center, a yew may be better able to respond with new growth.

However, most other species of evergreens won't regrow at all if severely pruned. "If you prune a juniper back into that dead zone of bare wood, it will never resprout," Janoski said. "You'll have bare

branches forever." The same is true of older arborvitaes.

Pines need a different approach. Their growth can't easily be controlled by pruning. Instead, you'll need to pinch back the new shoots that sprout at the tips of branches.

In general, prune evergreens in spring, just before their big growth spurt. This may be in April or as late as early May, depending on the species and the weather. There are two general kinds of pruning. One approach is to prune selectively, branch by branch, to keep an evergreen's natural overall shape.

The other is to use a hedge trimmer to shear a yew or boxwood into a formal, geometric shape or hedge. Shearing is harsh treatment, and plants will recover best during their natural time of greatest growth in spring.

Don't assume an evergreen shrub can tolerate shearing; not all can. "The first and most critical step in any pruning is to identify the species of the tree or shrub," Janoski said.

*Beth Botts is a staff writer at the Morton Arboretum.*

## How to take care of your new Christmas cactus

BY TIM JOHNSON

**A friend gave me a Christmas cactus, and I would like some advice on how to grow it.**

— *Jasmine Anderson, Lincolnwood*

Christmas cactus (*Schlumbergera bridgesii*) is a popular, long-lived, winter-flowering houseplant often associated with the holidays because it usually blooms between mid-November and late January.

It performs well under average home conditions with moderate care. A Christmas cactus prefers temperatures that are between 60 and 70 degrees Fahrenheit with average to high humidity levels for general growing conditions. The Christmas cactus will adapt to low light conditions, but the plant will produce blooms more readily if exposed to bright light.

The Christmas cactus is native to the tropical rainforest, so it is treated much differently than cacti that are native to arid desert climates and require infrequent, sparse watering. Water a Christmas cactus when the top inch of soil in the container feels dry to the touch. Good drainage for this plant is critical, so be sure to use a growing medium that is well drained, and avoid overwatering.

Hybridization has resulted in the introduction of many new varieties of Christmas cactus, available in white, pink, red, salmon, yellow and purple. They are usually sold in full bud with at least a few blooms open, so try to keep movement of the plant to a minimum to prevent the buds and flowers from dropping. Overwatering, lack of humidity or insufficient light can also cause buds to drop. Place it in a bright location away from heat



CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

Christmas cactus is a popular, long-lived houseplant often associated with the holidays because it usually blooms between mid-November and late January.

vents, fireplaces and drafts. You can ensure long-lasting blooms by keeping your cactus on the cool side with a little humidity.

After the plant is finished blooming, give it a rest period of about two months in a location that receives moderate light and during which very little, if any, water is given. If the foliage or stems begin to shrivel during this time, simply give it a light watering and the leaves should recover quickly.

As the days begin to lengthen in spring, increase watering slightly and move the plant to a location that receives more light. After all danger of frost has passed, move the plant outdoors to a sunny or lightly shaded location. Christmas cacti require bright sunlight for the best performance, but too much direct sunlight can burn their leaves.

Early spring is a good time to pinch or prune

your plant to shape it and encourage branching as new growth is starting. During the growing season from April through September, fertilize it with an all-purpose liquid houseplant fertilizer with a nitrogen ratio of no higher than 10%.

The best time to repot a Christmas cactus is in February, March or April, but keep in mind that the plant will flower best if it's kept in a container where it's pot-bound. It's unlikely that your new plant will need repotting this winter. If your Christmas cactus is given proper care and placed in the right location, it may flower several times throughout the year. Use a cactus mix in the container.

*Tim Johnson is director of horticulture for the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe.*

*ctc-realestate@chicago.tribune.com*

# Be careful when asphalt sealing driveway

BY TIM CARTER  
Tribune Content Agency

**Q: I had a new asphalt driveway installed back in the fall. It's gorgeous, and I want to keep it looking that way. I was told not to seal it until the spring. Is that correct? Is it possible to put on too much sealer? I don't want to waste money, so I'm looking for the solution that is the least amount of work over the long run, if that makes sense. Does climate play a part in asphalt maintenance?**

**A:** These are some great questions.

Asphalt — some call it blacktop or hot top — is really a magnificent surface for a driveway if installed correctly. I'm hoping the driveway in question had at least 8 inches of compacted base stone that extends at least 6 inches beyond the edge of the asphalt paving on each side of the drive. This extra stone ensures if a truck or car tire rolls over the edge of the drive, it won't crack the asphalt for lack of lateral support.

Asphalt driveways are much like concrete. The ingredients of both types of pavement are quite similar. Both contain rocks of different sizes and sand. Asphalt driveways then incorporate liquid asphalt cement to bind the rocks and sand together. Concrete relies on Portland cement that's activated by the addition of water.

When the asphalt material is made, it's tumbled in a giant mixer where the sand and rocks get heated,



TIM CARTER

Note the early cracking on my asphalt driveway. Asphalt sealers can seal these cracks, preventing water infiltration.

uniformly mixed and completely coated with the proper amount of asphalt cement. Once the asphalt material is installed, compacted and cooled, the lightweight oils in the asphalt cement need to evaporate.

This curing process takes a minimum of 90 days in ideal conditions where the temperatures are above 70 F or so in the daytime and don't drop below 50 F at night. In colder climates, the curing might extend out six or even nine months. Don't seal your new blacktop drive in its first year to ensure that it fully cures.

In fact, you may not want

to seal your new asphalt drive for several years. The reason new asphalt pavement is jet black is that the stones and sand are completely coated with the liquid asphalt cement. It can take several years before this coating wears off, exposing pieces of stone. The pavement will then start to change color as you start to see the color of the stone matrix. This is your signal that it's time to think about sealing the asphalt.

Climate plays a very big part with respect to the importance of sealing asphalt. I live in New Hampshire, where the winters are brutal. Water that enters tiny cracks in asphalt

paving freezes. Water expands as it freezes, and this can start to widen cracks over time and pluck out individual stones in the asphalt paving. High-quality asphalt sealers can prevent this water damage if you monitor your asphalt, making sure you seal the cracks.

The ultraviolet rays of the sun also pose a danger to all asphalt paving. A certain amount of UV light contains active photons. These energized particles act like miniature torpedoes and can blast apart the asphalt that's holding the sand and stones together. Asphalt sealers can act as sacrificial coatings that



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prevent the UV rays from attacking the asphalt cement within the pavement.

You can put on too much of a sealer. It's important to realize asphalt sealers are coatings. You need to put on a somewhat thin coating, following the coverage instructions on the bucket. If you apply too much sealer too often before it wears out, it can start to peel and look horrible.

The best practice is to apply a great sealer and then let it wear off over a few years before you consider applying another coat. Once again, you'll know when it's time when you start to see lots of the

stones with no coating on them and/or you start to see very tiny cracks that might be as wide as a piece of paper.

You may want that jet black look every year. I know a few people who do. If so, I urge you to buy the cheapest, lowest-quality asphalt sealer you can find so that it wears off in nine months.

If you live in a climate with cold winters, it really pays each summer to clean your asphalt drive well. Check the entire driveway and inspect the pavement for tiny cracks. If you see them, then begin a routine asphalt sealing program.

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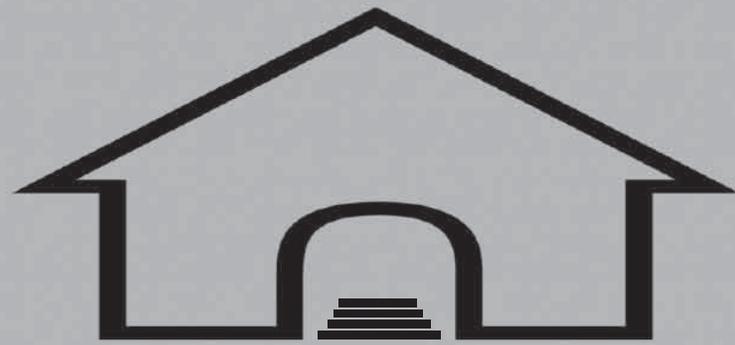


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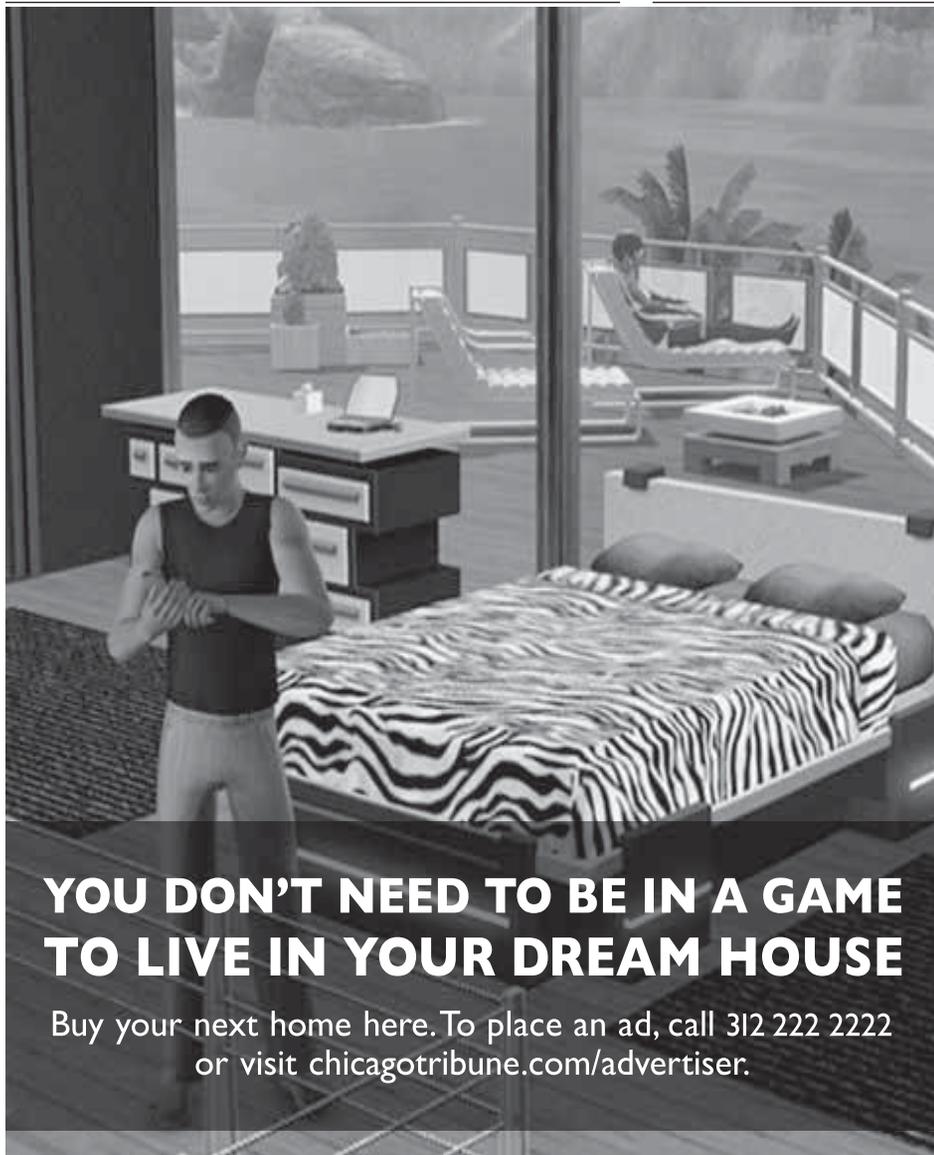
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