

Chicago Tribune



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THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2019

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM

FACING DOWN THE COLD



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Frigid fashion: Chicagoans layer up and dress warm across the city to withstand negative temperatures Wednesday, one of the coldest days ever on record in the city's history.

Bringing the homeless in from cold not always easy

BY HANNAH LEONE
Chicago Tribune

Ducking under a blue tarp hung across an opening in a wire fence, Richard Vargas and Mimi Hristova shuffled through mounds of snow, pausing at each of close to a dozen tents in a small lot near Roosevelt Road and the Dan Ryan Expressway.

"Salvation Army, hats gloves scarves socks!" Vargas bellowed. "Salvation Army, hats gloves scarves socks!"

Hardened paths led around tents, snow piles, trash bags and bare trees. The broken bristles of a straw broom were clotted with ice and snow. An artificial evergreen garland was swirled around a skinny tree trunk.

Near the back of the camp, within the glow of Willis Tower, a woman's voice answered from inside an orange and white tent. Like the others, it was mostly covered by layers of blankets and tarps. Some were capped with snow; others had been brushed off.

Between 8 and 9 p.m. Tuesday, as Vargas made a final call around the icy lot, the wind chill was 26 below zero. It would get much worse through the night. By 6 a.m. Wednesday, the temperature had sunk to minus 22 with a wind chill of 49 degrees below zero.

All week, forecasters preached the dangers of spending too much time outside. Frostbite could

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ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Richard Vargas of the Salvation Army and a woman from a church pray with David Jefferson near Lower Wacker Drive.

MORE COVERAGE INSIDE

- Veterans of Arctic and Antarctic expeditions offer warm advice for surviving the polar vortex. **Chicagoland**, Page 7
- Don't panic if you see fire along Metra tracks. It's used to keep trains running in the cold. **Chicagoland**, Page 8
- Amid cancellations, airlines add warming shelters, chill and extra workers to cope with the cold. **Business**

Hardy souls brave freeze to work and help others

BY PATRICK M. O'CONNELL, JOHN KEILMAN, LOLLY BOWEAN, ELVIA MALAGON AND MORGAN GREENE
Chicago Tribune

Armed with steaming hot coffee and hand warmers, multiple socks and layer upon layer of thermal gear, residents across the Chicago area steeled themselves against an arctic surge that gripped the upper Midwest on Wednesday as dangerously cold conditions brought the city and suburbs to a near-standstill. The now-infamous polar vortex was at it again, plummeting the region into a cold snap so frigid it made the South Pole look like a day at the beach.

It was such a precipitous drop in temperature — minus 23 degrees — at a certain point, all residents and business owners could

do was shake their stocking-covered heads in disbelief.

"A couple of people have come in asking me if I've seen a penguin outside," said David Avalos, who served a steady stream of resilient customers ordering cream cheese turnovers at La Luz Bakery in north suburban Mundelein.

The sustained blast of subzero temperatures was far from a laughing matter, however, leading to dozens of frostbite injuries at area hospitals and several traffic crashes on ice-covered interstates in Illinois and northwest Indiana. Thou-

Turn to **Cold**, Page 8

Chicago ad executive kicks butt 'like a girl'

Her Super Bowl spot was spark for social change

BY CINDY DAMPIER
Chicago Tribune

The small girl faces forward into the lights as the camera rolls, chin up, all determination and focus in a fluffy pink sundress. Her eyes are bright. She is missing at least one tooth. "What does it mean to you when I say run like a girl?" says the director, off camera. She blinks, squeezing up her face the way kids do.

"It means run as fast as you can," she answers.

Watching the video, your heart breaks a little, because you know that, in a year or two, she'll understand that's not what it means to everyone else.

You've likely seen the "Like a Girl!" video. It's an ad for Procter & Gamble's feminine-protection brand Always, though the product itself is never shown. Instead, the short film points out the drop in confidence girls experience in puberty — and the way that, at that same critical turning point, doing something "like a girl" becomes shorthand for weakness and ineptitude.

Turn to **Like a girl**, Page 7



ANTONIO PEREZ/TRIBUNE

TRIBUNE EDITORIAL THE BETTER CITY HALL THAT CHICAGO NEEDS NOW

Tremors have shaken the city's political landscape. Voters, do you feel it? You're empowered. So the question is, what City Hall do you want? Today, the Tribune Editorial Board begins publishing its endorsements. **Page 15**

Foxconn reconsidering \$10B Wisconsin venture

Much-hyped manufacturing site may feature R&D

BY ALLY MAROTTI AND LAUREN ZUMBACH
Chicago Tribune

Foxconn Technology Group is reconsidering plans for its first U.S. plant, which promised a \$10 billion investment and up to 13,000 jobs in southeastern Wisconsin, raising questions about the future of a project seen as vital to the region's economic development.

At least one resident

questioned whether the plant will end up being good for taxpayers, while some local economic development officials said the facility could still provide a boost for the region.

Now, it "feels like things are just in flux," said Kevin Considine, president and CEO of nonprofit economic development organization Lake County Partners, in Lincolnshire, Ill.

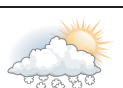
The Taiwanese electronics giant, which supplies Apple, said Wednesday that it is considering adding research and development work to a facility that it originally said

would focus on manufacturing.

"As we have previously noted, the global market environment that existed when the project was first announced has changed," the company said in a statement. "As our plans are driven by those of our customers, this has necessitated the adjustment of plans for all projects, including Wisconsin."

The statement said Foxconn is still committed to the creation of 13,000 jobs and its long-term investment in Wisconsin, but a

Turn to **Foxconn**, Page 6



Tom Skilling's forecast

High 6 Low

Steady or rising at night

Complete forecast on back page of A+E section

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JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Sunrise reveals a frigid lakefront Wednesday, which was not a good day for the power — and heat — to go out.



JOHN KASS

Cold facts: Power outage changes one's view

Before the power went out at our house, and the cold sent its fingernails through the walls and the wind began to sing of death, I planned on writing quite a different column.

Something pithy to poke fun at all those irritating summer children panicking over the polar vortex that makes it feel like 50 degrees below zero outside.

You've heard them, haven't you? They've been jabbering nonsensically in media for days now, warning us to wear hats, gloves, boots, coats.

It's as if they've never seen a proper northern winter. And so my plan was to simply tell them this:

Just lick the pole, summer children. Go on, lick the pole "just to see what will happen."

You know they've thought about licking the pole. They thought about it plenty.

And now it's the perfect time, the perfect day for it. Years from now, they might tell their descendants, "On the coldest day in Chicago, I licked the pole, and lived to tell the tale."

It would make a great bit on social media, tongues stuck to steel, random thoughts about the physics of what just happened to the water in the saliva. But tongues frozen to poles tend to drive science out of the brain, and they'd just stand there, waving their hands in panic, shrieking tongue-lessly in the cold.

Wouldn't their friends laugh and laugh?

Someone would say it was exactly like that movie about shooting your eye out, or some derivative Hollywood junk, and their friends could take photos and make memes of ice and snow.

And you're stuck to the pole. It could be fun.

If they had their smartphones, they might even listen to Ser Alliser Thorne, of the Night's Watch from "Game of Thrones," tell them about the true nature of cold and what you eat when you're cold and hungry enough.

Or perhaps they might think about old Nan with her stories of the white walkers and the deadly cold.

Or maybe consider another story about the cold: "Silent Snow, Secret Snow," by Conrad Aiken, about a boy who goes mad in the snow. Yes, mad.

You can go mad standing alone, with your tongue stuck to the pole, I suppose, can't you?

Or, perhaps, with their tongue stuck to the pole they might amuse themselves with other winter stories, like the one on Drudge about all those crazy cat ladies fanning out across frozen Chicagoland.

The crazy cat ladies seem determined to save some 20,000 feral cats before they became cat-sicles.

Feral cats hate humans and they slaughter songbirds, but they're a protected political class. If you've ever dared speak ill of feral cats, and felt the wrath of cat ladies, you know. Perhaps it comes from breathing in the parasites found in cat feces. Some cat ladies go mad, too, poor things.

They would most likely ignore you — stuck to the pole as you were — in their search of their precious feral cats. You might even hear the crazy cat ladies chattering, about the names they've given to their feral cats, about odd feline personality traits and so on, and you'd wave your arms in panic, and make high-pitched sounds, but they wouldn't see you. They're on a mission.

And you would stand there and most likely freeze to death, all because you were a human and not some cat worthy to be saved.

It would begin with a numbing.

At least that's what I'd planned on doing, mocking the whole stupid business, but just before dawn on Wednesday, the power to our house went out.

Betty found a candle, a ridiculous purple candle from who knows where, and went back to bed, reasoning that it would be warmer upstairs.

And my perspective changed just like that. I didn't feel like making pithy comments about the summer

children or cat ladies. I didn't feel like telling anyone to lick the pole.

I wanted someone to tell me I'd be warm. The police said Commonwealth Edison told them that power would be restored in an hour.

Or two. Maybe.

Is it odd that gas heat doesn't work without electric power?

I don't know. I should have known. But I didn't.

A candle in the dark helps you listen. I don't know why that is, either, but in the dark, it helps concentrate the eardrums. And when your power is out in the cold and the heat is off, and the wind is blowing, you hear it speak.

The wind doesn't speak to you directly. The wind speaks to the windows. If you're unlucky, you can eavesdrop. When you have power and heat, you can't really understand what the wind says to the window.

But when it's 50 below outside, you can understand what the wind says. It says: "I'm coming in and they can't stop me."

The neighbor's generator, trying to kick on, also says something. It says, "Why didn't you get a generator, you fool?!"

Finally, the power came back on as promised. But in late afternoon, as I began writing this, the power went out again. And it got cold, again.

There is a fireplace. We huddled around it and made tea, and Zeus the Wonder Dog nestled at our feet.

There is a story I should read at the fireplace, one that I'd read as a boy, one that taught lessons that I promised myself I would never, ever forget. But I did.

A Jack London story, "To Build a Fire."

Listen to "The Chicago Way" podcast with John Kass and Jeff Carlin at www.wgnradio.com/category/wgn-plus/thechicagoway.

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Twitter @John_Kass

Last call for Algren contest entries

If you are thinking about entering the Nelson Algren Awards contest, it's time to do so. The deadline for entries in the Chicago Tribune's 2019 Algren Awards contest is 11:59 p.m. Central time Jan. 31.

The contest honors Chicago literary great Nelson Algren. We invite writers to submit their previously unpublished short fiction stories, which must be less than 8,000 words.

An important feature of this contest is that it is a blind entry process. That means that authors' names must not appear on the stories. The requirement ensures that judges are able to evaluate each story on its own merits.

For full submission guidelines and to submit your story, visit algren.submittable.com/submit.

The contest will have a grand prize winner and five finalists.

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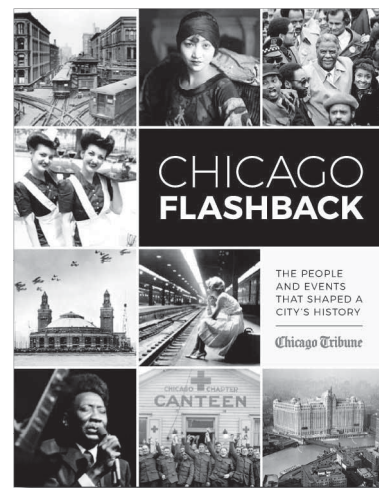
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Chicago Tribune



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Firefighters and others work Wednesday in subzero temperatures at the scene of a fatal fire in the 2000 block of West 53rd Street in the Back of the Yards neighborhood.

Give warm thanks for 'essential' workers'



REX W. HUPPKE

Gratitude may not be the likeliest emotion when the world around us freezes. When we've been divvied into "essential" and "nonessential" workers and fires are lit around tracks to keep the trains moving. When it's too bloody cold for dogs to bark and the subzero wind makes the house creak like it's in pain.

When Anchorage, Alaska, is downright balmy by comparison.

But under the heel of the

polar vortex, when a meteorologist says it's "about as cold as it can get in Chicago" and the kids are home from school and it's noisy and chaotic inside and quiet as Christmas Day on the frozen streets outside, there is a need to be grateful.

Grateful for the very noise and warmth and chaos around you. Not everyone has that — some have only chaos. Some don't have a home to be trapped in or a window to look out at the frozen world.

Some are face-to-face with it, huddled under blankets and boxes on Lower Wacker Drive or, if they're lucky, in a shelter for a day or so until the normal, livable winter chill returns.

We should feel grateful, deeply, for the essential workers, the police officers out

responding to calls for help, the firefighters prepped to roll into the wind's chill at a moment's notice when a space heater sparks a blaze or someone gets a whiff of a gas leak.

There are workers out repairing furnaces so people can stay in their homes, plumbers fixing burst pipes, electric company crews making sure you have power or, if you don't, that outages won't last long.

Those folks don't have the option of working from home. They're feeling the bite of the coldest of cold days and making the rest of our lives better, and safer. That's something to be grateful for.

There are grocery stores open, and restaurants. The people in those places — stocking shelves and rounding up

carts from the parking lot and making sure the coffee is fresh — all had to trudge through subzero temperatures and come, by foot or car or train, to work on a day unfit for human movement.

Doctors and nurses are caring for the sick and mending broken bones, and saints-in-waiting are on the streets helping the homeless or in church basements handing out blankets and hot meals.

As we look out our windows and curse the cold — the hassle of it all, the inconvenience — we should feel grateful, because while we stay secluded, working away on laptops and watching this historic cold blast through panes of frosted glass, the frozen world out there is working.

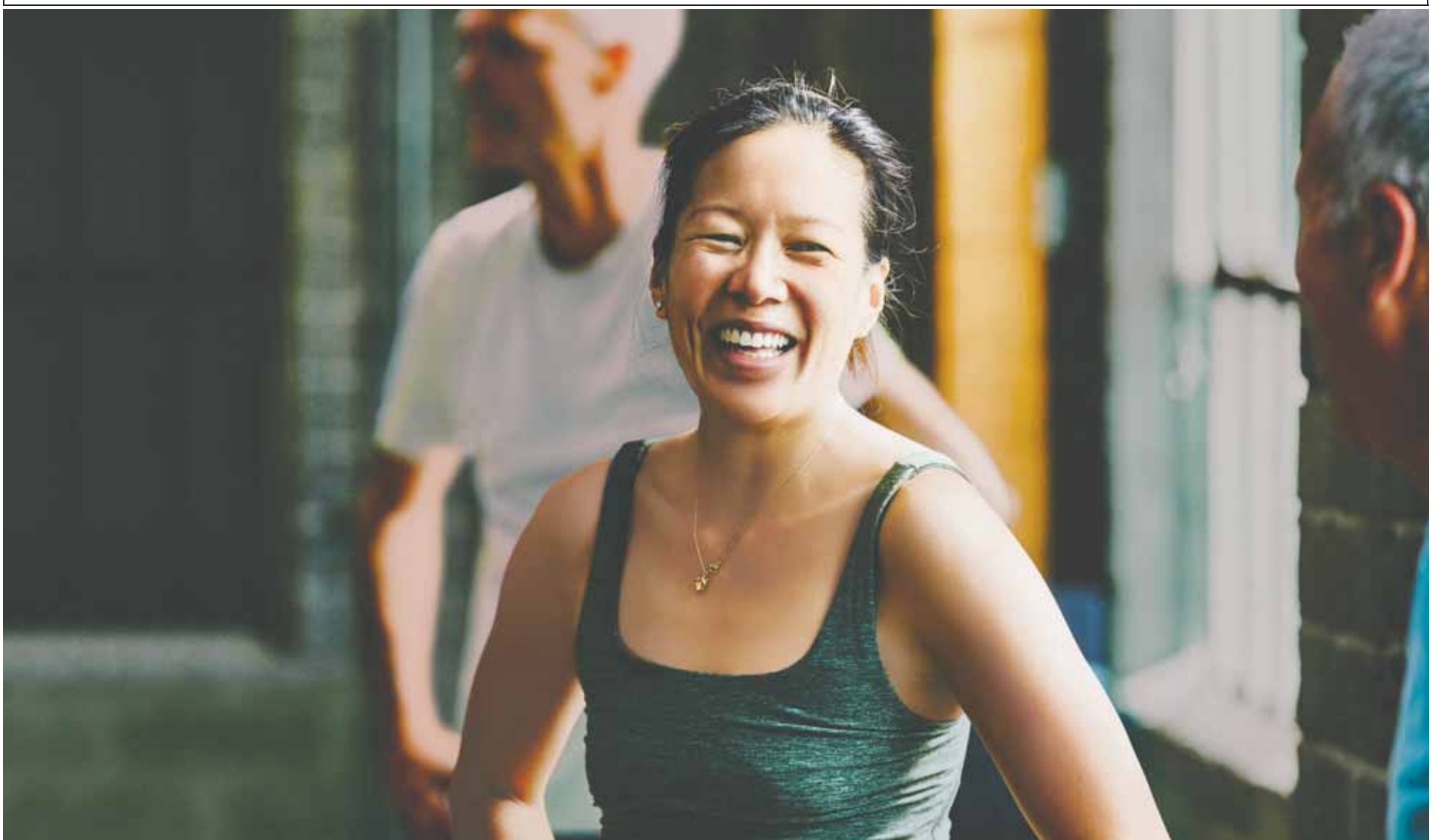
We are warm, and safe. We are nonessential, which on days like this might be less a blow to the ego and more a blessing.

Our lives are made better by fellow human beings who are essential, who take to the castle's battlements when the polar vortex charges.

This arctic cold will pass and we'll all return to our day-to-day, but some will have felt the ice-to-the-face winds far more than others. And they deserve our thanks.

Keep that in mind as your vortex-induced emotions drift toward frustration or impatience. Gratitude is necessary. And it's warmer, by far.

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Chicago Tribune CHICAGOLAND

Yes, it's cold.
But we're real
Chicagoans,
not wannabes.



**DAHLEEN
GLANTON**

comes to winter weather, we're the champs. We are the only people who can take a mix of snow, wind and sub-zero temperatures and turn it into a celebration.

We've got the pictures to prove it. The first thing I did this morning, even before getting out of bed, was post a picture of my cute Boo the Pomeranian weather app on Facebook and Twitter showing the temperature at minus 21.

It didn't get the response I expected, though. Everybody else, it seemed, was posting pictures of themselves outside, bundled up to the eyeballs and unfazed, as though it were a typical Chicago day.

One friend boasted about being the only passenger in the "L" car, maybe the entire train. My canine friend, Henry Nipper, posted before and after pictures of himself going outside to pee and then back inside snuggled in his favorite blanket. How can you compete with that? A picture of a phone app dog just wouldn't cut it.

So I threw on my fake fur coat and matching hat — the first outfit I bought the winter I moved to Chicago 30 years ago — earrings and a little lipstick and headed outside to take a selfie. This would be my official polar vortex photo, which will show up in my social media news feed memories for years to come, so I wanted to look nice.

I'd hoped it would be a quick trip out the door and back inside. But as you know, selfies rarely work out on the first take. It took about five minutes — around the time it takes to get frostbite — to get a shot I liked.

My fingertips were red and burning. But mission accomplished — more than 50 likes in the first 30 minutes.

The phone calls and texts from my friends and relatives in the South started pouring in.

"Are you OK?" someone asked. "They say it's colder in Chicago than Alaska, Antarctica and the North Pole."

I assured them that I was handling the cold just fine. After all, I'm officially a Chicagoan now. No more of that transplanted Southerner talk when referring to me.

I laughed when I heard they practically shut down the state of Georgia on Tuesday because a little snow was predicted — but never happened. Wimps!

Eight years ago, I passed my final exam with flying colors, spending eight hours stuck on a CTA bus on Lakeshore Drive during a debilitating blizzard. I documented the evening on Facebook and Twitter until my phone went dead.

Now, for extra credit, I've got a polar vortex — whatever that is — under my belt.

Yep, I'm like everybody else in Chicago. A couple of weeks ago, on a night we got several inches of snow, I met friends out for dinner. A few days later, a friend and I went over to the lake at 10 p.m. to see the blood moon eclipse.

It was snowing so hard we couldn't see a thing. But that's not the point. The point is that we went.

With this global warming thing going on, Chicago has been in danger of losing its rep as the city that laughs in the face of frigid weather. After a couple of winters that weren't even cold enough to kill the alley rats, Mother Nature took pity on us this week and dropped the temperature to the lowest it's been since 1985, allowing us to prove once again that we can take anything she throws our way.

So we spent the morning bragging about standing on the "L" platform. We boasted it was so cold here that Amtrak had to cancel routes in and out of Chicago. We warned that Navy Pier had to shut down and "Hamilton" performances were canceled.

On top of it, we couldn't get our mail delivered Wednesday. And Lou Malnati's didn't deliver pizza.

Yep, it was cold in Chicago. Let us tell it, that polar vortex hit Chicago harder than anywhere else.

We're going to pretend the temperature didn't drop to minus 75 in Grand Forks, N.D., or that it was so cold in the Milwaukee area that trucks couldn't deliver beer.

Chicagoans will just add the 2019 polar vortex to our list of unique bragging rights — alongside the fallacy that Chicago got the nickname "Windy City" because of the wind coming off Lake Michigan.

Who cares if it may (or may not) really refer to the amount of hot air billowing from the mouths of our politicians? Certainly not real Chicagoans.

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Pilsen development attorneys seek to depose Ald. Solis soon

Burke corruption case spills into ward gentrification battle

BY JOHN BYRNE
Chicago Tribune

The City Hall corruption scandal involving Ald. Daniel Solis wearing an undercover wire for the FBI is now bleeding into a court case over a proposed giant housing development that's been a flashpoint in the fight over gentrification in Pilsen.

A developer that sued the city last year after Solis rezoned a property in Pilsen to block construction of a big mixed-use complex at the site is arguing that the alderman must be deposed soon in the case because the allegation that he's wrapped up in a federal investigation puts his future availability in doubt. "Under the circumstances, it is unclear how long Alderman Solis will be available for deposition," states the motion, which was filed last week in Cook County Circuit Court.

Solis wore an undercover wire and recorded multiple conversations with Ald. Edward Burke, sources told the Tribune. Burke has been charged with attempted extortion over allegations he used his position as alderman to threaten to shut down the renovation of a Burger King in his ward unless the owners hired his property tax appeals firm.

The situation illustrates the potentially far-reaching implications of Solis' involvement in the federal investigation. As the longtime powerful chairman of the City Council Zoning Committee and the alderman representing several of Chicago's hottest neighborhoods for new apartment and business developments, Solis has had a hand in a huge number of zoning decisions in recent years. Some aldermen and others have said his motives in all such decisions must now be questioned and investigated.

In the motion calling for Solis to be



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2015

Ald. Daniel Solis has said he derailed the project because the developer didn't meet his demands for affordable housing units.

deposed immediately in the Pilsen case, lawyers for developer PMG Pilsen Investments LLC brushed at the nearly unchallenged power aldermen by tradition wield in zoning decisions within their wards.

"He was the sole sponsor and proponent of the downzone ordinance that is at the core of this case," the motion states. "It passed unanimously, consistent with the 'Aldermanic Prerogative' rule observed in City Council. He was also the chair of the Committee on Zoning at the time the ordinance was proposed and passed. Alderman Solis is the key City witness in this case."

Solis could not be reached for comment Wednesday. The city Law Department declined comment because the litigation is ongoing.

But the developer argues that Solis' alleged involvement in the investigation makes it imperative to get the alderman on the record soon.

"PPI should be allowed to secure his testimony before any potential criminal proceeding, conviction or plea makes his deposition impractical or impossible to

obtain," the motion says. "Or, if Alderman Solis invokes his right not to testify under the Fifth Amendment, that fact may also be relevant to PPI's pending motion for summary judgment, as it would eliminate a possible City witness on key issues."

Solis stepped down as Zoning Committee chairman Tuesday, with Mayor Rahm Emanuel noting in a statement announcing the move that the alderman "has recognized that he cannot effectively preside over the matters before the Committee on Zoning, Landmarks and Building Standards."

Solis has not been charged with wrongdoing. He is not running for re-election.

Burke is free on a \$10,000 unsecured bond. He has yet to enter a plea, but his attorney, Charles Sklarsky, has said the allegations are meritless. Burke stepped down as Finance Committee chairman but remains in the race for a 13th full term representing the 14th Ward.

PMG Pilsen Investments proposed plans in 2016 for a giant apartment and commercial complex on about 8 acres of vacant land near 16th and Peoria streets in Pilsen.

Solis, who has faced criticism from community activists who say he hasn't done enough to stop displacement of families from the traditionally Hispanic neighborhood south of downtown, subsequently rezoned the land for industrial use, making it impossible for the project to proceed.

The alderman said he did so because the developer wouldn't meet his demands for more affordable housing units as part of the complex.

Alex Spiro, an attorney for the developer, said the plaintiffs "have a lot of questions for Solis and about people around him."

"Solis' actions are central to this case, and we have reasons — some of which are public — to depose him sooner rather than later," Spiro said.

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ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Chicago firefighters work near a building where a fatal fire occurred in the 2000 block of West 53rd Street on Wednesday.

Police: Adult man, 16-year-old boy left dead after Back of the Yards fire

BY LOLLY BOWEAN
AND ROSEMARY SOBOL
Chicago Tribune

Wednesday morning, icicles stood stiffly in the burned-out windows on the three-story sky blue frame building.

A 16-year-old boy and a 24-year-old man died in a fire at the apartment building in the Back of the Yards neighborhood on the South Side, according to Chicago police.

The fire started at the building in the 2000 block of West 53rd Street, said Sally Bown, a spokeswoman for Chicago police.

"They found them. ... They were unable to get out," Bown said of the victims. "They were unable to escape the fire."

Both were dead at the scene, inside in the attic or upper floor.

The fire was reported to police just after 8:35 a.m. and fire trucks were on the scene in three minutes, said Larry Langford, a spokesman for the Chicago Fire Department.

Officials evacuated four people from the second floor of the building, but even rescue workers couldn't get into the attic, Langford said.

"They couldn't get into the attic to rescue anyone," he said. "Smoke detectors were heard downstairs. We didn't see any in the attic area."

"I know there were kids that lived there. It's so sad."

— Norma Gonzalez, next-door neighbor

By the time firefighters got into the attic, one of the victims was obviously dead, Langford said. Workers tried to resuscitate a second victim, but weren't successful.

"The fire was most intense in the back" of the building, Langford said. "The fire may have cut off their escape."

Wednesday, officials were still investigating the cause of the fire and where exactly it started. It took firefighters about 15 minutes to extinguish it.

Norma Gonzalez, who lives next door, said she didn't know the families that lived in the building. But her eyes welled with tears when she learned that two people died in the fire.

"It's really so sad. I wish I could have done something," she said. "It breaks my heart."

Gonzalez was in her kitchen when she first smelled smoke and then heard screaming, she said. She called 911 and

dressed her two children in warm sweaters, coats and boots in case they had to evacuate.

"I know there were kids that lived there," she said. "It's so sad."

Guadalupe Alcaraz didn't notice the fires until the flames were shooting from the building and the fire trucks were parked out front. Because of the bitter cold, the smoke looked like a white puff cloud surrounding the structure.

Alcaraz said he attended Fulton Elementary School with the teen who died, until the boy recently started attending Lane Tech.

"I'm still shocked about it. I knew him so it hurts," he said. "My mom took over blankets, it was sub-zero cold, so she wanted them to keep warm while they waited for family to pick them up."

A CTA warming bus remained on the scene after the fire.

As Gonzalez stood outside her home, Chicago police officers and fire officials milled around the inside of the building. There was a newer fire hydrant just a few feet away, and the top two floors of the building were completely destroyed by the flames.

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NANCY STONE/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2017

Ald. Carlos Ramirez-Rosa contends he has paid the portion of the rent he owes.

Chicago alderman, landlord in dispute over office rent

BY GREGORY PRATT
Chicago Tribune

A prominent Logan Square developer is suing Ald. Carlos Ramirez-Rosa, alleging that at least \$96,251 in unpaid rent is owed on his ward office.

Ramirez-Rosa, meanwhile, said the lawsuit is a politically motivated attack from a controversial developer he has opposed amid a wave of gentrification in the Northwest Side ward.

Ramirez-Rosa and the developer, Mark Fishman, have had a feud that dates back to the alderman's successful 2015 campaign for the 35th Ward seat.

Seeking to unseat then-incumbent Ald. Rey Colon, Ramirez-Rosa campaigned against gentrification and blasted Fishman, who supported Colon and has been criticized for buying properties and raising rents.

Now the two are embroiled in a legal fight that led Ramirez-Rosa to move his offices in January amid a re-election campaign against challenger Amanda Yu Dieterich.

The lawsuit was filed Jan. 18 in Cook County Circuit Court by 2715 NMA LLC, a company that state

records show is managed by M. Fishman & Co.

In the lawsuit, 2715 NMA alleges that Ramirez-Rosa entered into a lease with the prior landlord at 2708-10 N. Sawyer Ave. that was meant to last from May 18, 2015, through May 31, 2019.

Fishman's company acquired the property in December 2015, the lawsuit said.

The next year, Ramirez-Rosa began making only "partial payments of the rent due," the lawsuit says. The outstanding invoiced amounts, plus contractually authorized late fees, total at least \$96,251, according to the lawsuit.

The landlord sent Ramirez-Rosa a written notice to pay up on Dec. 7, 2018, the lawsuit says. The alderman instead vacated the premises, the lawsuit says.

In July 2015, state Rep. Will Guzzardi moved into the building and the lease was amended, Ramirez-Rosa said in a Dec. 10 letter to Fishman. But a Dec. 12, 2018, letter Fishman sent to the alderman disputes that, saying there is no evidence of such a change.

The alderman said he

has paid his part of the rent and that the amount owed is from Guzzardi's portion, which hasn't been paid because Fishman has not filled out the necessary paperwork with the state.

Ramirez-Rosa moved his offices Jan. 2. Guzzardi declined to comment on the situation, citing the lawsuit.

"These are just political games," the alderman said. "This is what happens when you stand up to people like Mark Fishman."

Fishman released a statement saying it isn't "productive to respond to (Ramirez-Rosa's) mischaracterizations of me or my actions in an attempt to achieve some unknown political purpose."

"I have tried to work with the alderman's office, but he chose to shut me out at every step," Fishman said. "While it's unfortunate the alderman chose to be divisive and is making this personal, everyone knows there are consequences for not paying rent. We should hold our public officials to a higher standard."

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Foxconn reconsiders hyped Wisconsin plans

Foxconn, from Page 1

spokeswoman declined to give more details on how its plans had changed.

The state's "performance-based contract with Foxconn provides the company the flexibility to make these business decisions, and at the same time, protects Wisconsin's taxpayers," Mark Hogan, chief executive and secretary of the Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation, said in a statement. "As has been reported, Foxconn will not qualify for tax credits until, at the earliest, 2020, and then only if the company meets its annual job creation and capital investment requirements. Our ongoing discussions with company officials reflect Foxconn's continued commitment to the State of Wisconsin."

The decision comes amid escalating tension between the U.S. and China over trade. Foxconn manufactures many of its products in China, such as cellphone components that are shipped abroad. The company is likely facing pressure from both sides.

However, the longer-term concern for Foxconn seems to be keeping up with technology markets, said Tim Sheehy, president of Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce.

Foxconn's vision of two years ago has been disrupted by changing economic conditions and consumer demand, he said.

"Everyone says we have to hold Foxconn to their commitment," Sheehy said. "I don't want to hold Foxconn to invest in a buggy whip factory while we've got the first cars rolling off the assembly line. That makes no sense."

Money is already flowing into the area — on both sides of the Wisconsin-Illinois border — and local officials and contractors remain optimistic about the project's economic impact.

After all, the Foxconn project is "the biggest thing that happened to Wisconsin since the Green Bay Packers," said Rebecca Seaton, owner of Rockford-based R.A. Seaton Contractor Services, which was hired to haul dirt and materials to prepare for construction on the Foxconn site and nearby roads.

The construction work she'd been hired to do is moving ahead as planned, she said. Even if the company changes what it's producing in Mount Pleasant, Seaton said it still represented an opportunity for the region.

"They've already committed. They've bought buildings," she said. "I don't think anything will change."

Foxconn promised a state-of-the-art liquid crystal display manufacturing plant, big enough to hold five Merchandise Marts, on 1,200 acres.

President Donald Trump attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the plant in June 2018.

Foxconn said in its statement that it was still considering making products such as TV sets at the facility.

However Reuters, which first reported the news, said Foxconn planned to dial that back, citing the expensive costs of making advanced TV screens in the U.S. It also reported that the pace of hiring would be slower than originally projected.

"In terms of TV, we have no place in the U.S.," Louis Woo, special assistant to Foxconn Chief Executive Terry Gou, told Reuters. "We can't compete."

Foxconn said Wednesday that it would consider new applications for the technology behind those TVs, called thin-film transistor, or TFT, technology. Reports emerged last summer that there was an oversupply of large TFT LCD panels, often used in TVs, and producers would likely cut back.

The project has faced criticism over the nearly \$4 billion in state and local initiatives and Foxconn's history of not following through on ambitious U.S. factory announcements.

Foxconn announced in October 2017 that it would build the plant in the village of more than 26,000 people about 60 miles north of Chicago. State and local officials sprung into action, offering incentives and anticipating a wave of development and workforce development needs.

Investors planned ahead for related businesses, and landowners near the project site began to worry about whether they'd have to move out of the development's way.

Local colleges and universities also began training a pipeline of potential employees. Kenosha's Gateway Technical College added an advanced manufacturing curriculum and new lab space. The school said at the time that the scale of Foxconn's plans helped Gateway expedite the growth of its manufacturing program.

When the project was announced, Considine, of Lake County Partners, said he was optimistic there would be spillover benefits for Illinois since manufacturing projects tend to attract suppliers and purchase products and services from nearby businesses.

If Foxconn shifts some of the work done in Wisconsin to research, it could affect the types of jobs Foxconn is looking to fill and opportunities for other businesses in the region, Considine said.

"It's definitely a change in what the opportunity looks like, but it's too soon to say what the impact will be," he said. "It's still a big project in our region and I

certainly don't want to see it go away."

Local resident Kim Mahoney isn't so sure the project will end up being a good deal for taxpayers. Even if Foxconn ends up hiring as many workers as promised, the types of jobs matter, she said.

"Everyone was saying, 'Racine needs manufacturing jobs.' That's how it was billed," she said. "I am for jobs, it's just the amount of incentives promised for these jobs."

Mahoney is one of the homeowners living on land promised to Foxconn who, when the deal was announced, felt forced to move to make way for development.

The village said it has since worked with property owners to acquire most of that land, paying 140 percent of what it considers fair market for homes. Mount Pleasant has acquired about 97 percent of the area that's part of the first phase of development and about 82 percent of the total area earmarked for Foxconn.

Those acquisitions, so far, haven't included Mahoney's property. Mahoney said she is scheduled to discuss the sale with local officials in a few weeks, after rejecting an initial offer in April.

Local governments are not worried about Foxconn's commitment to the region waning. The electronics maker has already invested more than \$200 million in Wisconsin, including through construction contracts, according to a statement from Racine County and Mount Pleasant leaders.

The first 120,000-square-foot building on Foxconn's campus is complete, and the next phase of construction is set to start this spring. Plus, the statement said, the development agreements Foxconn entered into are legally binding and include "strong protections for taxpayers."

"We understand that Foxconn must be nimble in responding to market changes to ensure the long-term success of their Wisconsin operations," the statement said. "We fully expect that Foxconn will meet its obligations to the state, county and village."

The incentive package Foxconn signed totals nearly \$4 billion, but the actual amount the company receives is dependent on job creation quotas.

It fell short with the 178 full-time jobs it created in 2018, and did not claim its funds, according to a letter the company sent to Wisconsin officials.

It can still earn the credits down the road if it makes up for the deficit.

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Marshal, county officer free horse

BY ROB EARNSHAW
Post-Tribune

Winfield Town Marshal Dan Ball has experienced a lot in his 31 years as a law enforcement officer. But until Wednesday he has never had to rescue a horse stuck in a tree — let alone in frigid conditions.

At 8 a.m., Ball responded to a 911 call from a resident in the 8400 block of 101st Avenue. Ernest Belcher had gone out to feed his two horses when he discovered one of them had gotten wedged between two large trunks on the property.

"When I pulled up and saw it, I was like, 'Oh boy — what are we going to do here,'" Ball said.

Ball, who was joined on the call by Lake County Sheriff's Officer Brian Perez, said Belcher asked if they had a chainsaw.

"That's not really standard issue," Ball said.

Belcher's neighbor came over with a 16-inch chainsaw that Ball hoped to free the horse by cutting one of the trunks. At that point it was estimated the horse had been stuck for a couple



DAN BALL

A horse in a tree was freed by Winfield Marshal Dan Ball and Brian Perez, of the Lake County Sheriff's Department.

of hours and "was pretty weak," Ball said.

One of the trunks was up against a wire fence so without hurting the horse Ball attempted to cut a wedge in the other one, which he said would not budge.

"I thought we were going to lose the horse," Ball said.

The rescuers then got a hold of a rope they strung around the tree about 10 feet above the horse and while Ball continued to cut the trunk, Perez and the neighbor pulled on the rope.

Eventually, it loosened up enough for the horse to lunge forward and lift its legs up and get out of the tree.

Ball reported that the horse appeared in good condition and was eating and warming up in a barn.

"It looks like he is going to be OK," Ball said.

Ball is fine too, after being covered in sawdust and icicles.

"I'm thawed out," he said.

Rob Earnshaw is a freelance reporter for the Post-Tribune.



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

AJ Hassan, a key creator of Leo Burnett's 2014 "Like a Girl" ad campaign, is VP/executive creative director at R/GA Chicago.

Ad exec sparked social change 'like a girl'

Like a girl, from Page 1

Four years ago, the ad made its prime-time debut during the Super Bowl, delivering a message of female empowerment and becoming a flashpoint for a conversation about confidence and gendered insults and unconscious bias that continues today. In the era of #MeToo, it feels as relevant as ever.

In the run-up to this year's Super Bowl, the ad that has America's attention is a campaign for Procter & Gamble's Gillette, targeting toxic masculinity with the tagline "The Best Men Can Be." The ad is, in many ways, a direct descendant of "Like a Girl," which since its online launch in June 2014 has been viewed more than 90 million times worldwide on YouTube and Facebook — and that doesn't count the people who watched it during the Super Bowl or saw it via media coverage.

For Chicago advertising executive AJ Hassan, the pervasiveness of the "Like a Girl" campaign — and its endless imitators — can be almost spooky. "I go to Target," she says, "and all of a sudden, there are all these T-shirts saying 'like a girl.' It makes you think, wow, it's just out there." Hassan, who was a key part of the nearly all-woman team at Leo Burnett that created the "Like a Girl" campaign, is forever bumping into something she started.

That video that broke your heart? It was her idea.

Advertising, of course, should have a huge reach if it's well-executed. You see that video proves Hassan is good at her job. But underneath that surface layer — the awards, the attention, the social media shares — there was something else. With the "Like a Girl" campaign, Hassan's goals were bigger than millions of views. The aim, she says, "was to change the meaning of the phrase 'like a girl.'" The idea wasn't just about changing buying habits; it was about changing language and social context. It was about whether she could turn an advertisement into a spark for social change.

Living with bias

Last fall, Hassan, 45, is sitting at the front of a room full of mostly women, in the airy offices of R/GA Chicago, where she is VP/executive creative director. She's part of a panel discussion timed to the 3 Percent Movement conference, which aims to foster diversity and advance women in advertising. She's telling a story about starting out, about how in order to make it easier to land interviews, she dropped her given name, Ayesha, from her resume in favor of her initials. "That way, they had to judge me on my work, not my gender, not my ethnicity. This is how I had to hack the system a little bit." In an industry that has been historically dominated by white male creatives, it worked.

It wasn't the first time she had gracefully navigated bias.

Hassan, who lives in Lincoln Square near her wife and 4-year-old son, grew up in Rochester, N.Y., a child of the upper middle class in a "diverse, inclusive community" that included her fam-

ily's Muslim congregation. Her father, a computer engineer, immigrated to the U.S. from Pakistan to attend the University of Michigan and "never went back." Her mother, an American Muslim, had Hassan and her younger sister, then returned to her own career, eventually becoming a college professor.

Her mother was a strong presence, even as Hassan navigated the rocky waters of adolescence and grappled with issues of her own. "I grew up in a Muslim community, but I knew from a very young age that I was gay," she says, "and so I had a lot of complicated experiences in my childhood. So it was good to have her as a strong role model." Hassan was just 17 when her mother died. "It was really hard," she says, "because she was the rock of the family."

Her mother's loss shaped Hassan's course as she moved into adulthood. "She had always had great hopes for me and my sister to pursue all of our dreams and achieve everything we could, and so I felt this sense of responsibility to make sure that whatever I did, I did it well and I left an impact," Hassan says.

Confidence gap

By 2013, Hassan had established her niche in the advertising world and was tapped to be a part of an international creative team at Leo Burnett considering a new piece of research about girls for Always. "Girls were facing this confidence problem," she says. "There was this statistic that said that girls' confidence drops twice as much as boys' in adolescence. How is that possible? That was the part that was staggering to me."

Hassan was determined to understand what the statistic meant as it played out in real life. "Part of (the drop in confidence) is physical, what's going on with a girl's body. Part of it is what she's starting to see in the world around her. What's appropriate for a girl to do, what you should wear, those messages are starting to sink in in adolescence because you are much more aware socially. This maybe challenges the way you saw yourself, because when you're 7, 8 and 9, you're just being yourself."

Hassan and the team at Leo Burnett hit upon a phrase that seemed to perfectly encapsulate the problem: the old playground insult "like a girl."

Sitting in a Toronto conference room that was functioning as the campaign war room, Hassan started to think about what "like a girl" might look like. "It really conjured up for me that if I were to ask almost anyone what it would look like to run like a girl, they would probably prance around and flail their arms." She was disturbed to realize it was her own first thought as well.

Back in Chicago, Hassan asked co-workers at the Leo Burnett office to show her what running like a girl looked like. Prancing and flailing ensued. "That really was the beginning of me understanding how that phrase actually embodied this bias," she says.

She began to wonder — what if she asked a young

girl the same question? "I know a ton of young girls who are feisty and strong," she says, "So I started to think that those two pictures would look very different, a young girl versus an older woman or a man."

The team agreed to shoot a documentary-style video showing the experiment in action, and recruited director Lauren Greenfield, a lauded documentary photographer and filmmaker who also directed the film "The Queen of Versailles." Because much of Greenfield's documentary work centers on the negative impacts of advertising on culture, she carefully evaluates the commercial work she accepts, she says. The "Like a Girl" concept, she felt, had a lot of potential to speak to issues that dovetailed with her own work.

It also had a share of risk. "We didn't know if it was going to work," says Leo Burnett's Chief Creative Officer, North America and CEO Canada Judy John, the creative lead on the "Like a Girl" team. "It was a social experiment, and it was real, and that's why it felt real." To preserve that quality, casting was carefully constructed so that potential subjects — including girls, women, boys and men — didn't know exactly what they'd be asked to do on the day of shooting.

Almost immediately, the results of the experiment became apparent. "It was really magical on set," says Greenfield, "because you could see people both being caught in the stereotype of what these words meant and then simultaneously realizing it shouldn't be like that. People were coming up with these really honest revelations about something that was hiding in plain sight."

One of Hassan's favorite moments came when a young woman started out by showing an over-the-top parody of "running like a girl!" then noted that she was a marathon runner. "She realized she was really making fun of herself and a lot of other women," says Hassan. In the end, the woman says: "Why can't running like a girl also mean winning the race?"

Changing the narrative

When the "Like a Girl" ad was released online, Hassan, who was home on maternity leave, remembers watching throughout the day as the response grew. "It was just like a snowball that wouldn't stop. And at that moment, I really was floored because I realized that what we had done was create something that was so meaningful to so many women. ... We spent hours watching this thing go into the millions."

Greenfield was astonished too. "I spend most of my life in documentary work, which is supposed to be the biggest social impact you can have," she says. "And I will never have as much social impact as I did in this shoot that we did in one day, and in such a short form."

In an atmosphere of growing acknowledgement around women's issues, "Like a Girl" became a catalyst that allowed people to give shape to their desire for change.

"It takes these moments

for us to have a discussion around ideas that are already kicking around in our heads," says Faye L. Wachs, professor of sociology at California State Polytechnic University, who has written about gender and language. "It gave us an opportunity to have a conversation and to talk about it."

Perhaps even more telling than the initial reach of "Like a Girl" is its long tail. "I think the self-recognition that we found in it stuck around," says Marcia Stepanek, a digital media consultant and lecturer at Columbia University. Stepanek uses "Like a Girl" in her classes, and notes that, no matter where her students come from, "it still translates. It was the power of a visual capture that exposed the truth. It was almost a form of journalism."

Zoe Covington-Towner, an 18-year-old freshman at Vermont's Middlebury College, who appeared in the video as a 13-year-old, sees it as a formative experience.

"It's really cool to look back at my eighth-grade self," she says, "and see how I was becoming a feminist, and that experience really helped me find my feminist voice." She has realized Hassan's hopes for the campaign, she says: "Now when someone says 'like a girl,' I feel like that (negative) connotation has completely changed, at least for people my age."

Reappropriation of negative language and raising the conversation about gender equity are worthy accomplishments. But Hassan and others acknowledge that the work of "Like a Girl" and other campaigns like it is far from over.

"There is an awareness of the need to focus on girls today that there wasn't 10 years ago. Are we going to fix it overnight? Of course not. But the more it gets into the bloodstream, the more it can start to change," says Katty Kay, co-author with Claire Shipman of "The Confidence Code for Girls."

And when it comes to the confidence gap for girls, the original data point that spawned the campaign, there has been little change.

A study conducted in 2018 for Kay and Shipman's book shows that "girls' confidence falls by something like 30 percent between the ages of 8 and 14," says Kay, "and it never really recovers, compared to boys, so clearly the confidence gap is still there."

Hassan remains aware of the need to focus on women and girls. "Right now, I think we've still got a long way to go on the women's conversation," she says.

Since the "Like a Girl" campaign, she has done work on HIV prevention, marriage equality, women artists and creativity in schools — and leads purpose-driven work at R/GA, where new requests for work focused on women's issues continue to come her way. Advertising, Hassan says, might be the perfect profession for a social activist. "We have this megaphone that other people don't have, and yeah, we can use that to get coupons out and move product. But you can make it so much more. For me, it's about trying to do something every day that's bigger than myself."

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POLAR VORTEX

Veterans of Arctic, Antarctic share tips for surviving cold

BY ROBERT MCCOPPIN
Chicago Tribune

As she bikes or walks to work at the Field Museum on especially cold days, Akiko Shinya sometimes sniffs and feels the inside of her nostrils freeze, or blinks and feels her eyelashes briefly freeze together. That's when she flashes back to fossil-hunting in Antarctica.

"I kind of like that sensation for an instant," she said. "It takes a little tug to open your eyes."

It was at the bottom of the world where Shinya, the museum's chief fossil preparator, discovered a new species of dinosaur, similar to Tyrannosaurus rex and sharing the same short arms. It was also where her fingers went so numb from cold that she couldn't open an insulated bottle.

Now, as the polar vortex bears down on Chicago, it reminds Shinya of those days of perpetual frost in the Antarctic. And as with others who have worked in colder realms, that extra bite to the air reminds her of a few special hacks to stay warm in extreme conditions.

When she is gearing up, Shinya focuses on minimizing exposed skin, and combining layers of silk and wool. She suggests wearing silk next to the skin, as stockings, pantyhose or long underwear. In Antarctica, she wore clothing issued by the U.S. Antarctic Program, including two lightweight wool undershirts, and a heavy wool sweater, bib overalls, a down jacket and a puffy red parka on top of that. She wore two pairs of socks and cut off sections of wool sock to cover her wrists between her coat sleeves and gloves, with hand warmers on her wrists and ankles.

She wore one tube of fabric over her neck that came up just below her nose and another over her head, leaving only a slit for her eyes, which she covered with sunglasses. Above all, while spending entire days outdoors, she tried to keep moving. "Your instinct in the cold is to stand still, but you have to keep moving to get the blood flowing," she said. "Shake your arms to drain the blood to your fingertips, do jumping jacks, whatever."

Geologist Yarrow Axford learned her cold-weather skill growing up in rural Maine. Her home had only a wood-burning stove for heat, and when the electricity went out, her mother melted snow for water. Axford remembers waking up as a child and not wanting to touch her feet to the floor.

Now as an associate professor at Northwestern University in Ev-

anston, Axford goes on research expeditions studying climate change at the Greenland ice sheet. "There seems to be a theme in my life of ending up in cold places," she said.

She's worked in the Arctic 18 times, sometimes sleeping in tents with an electrified fence and an armed guard to keep the polar bears out.

Her coldest trip was years ago on Baffin Island in Canada, where in May there was still 7 feet of ice on the lakes, the sea bay was covered with ice and everything on land was frozen.

Axford travels to take core samples of soil beneath lakes as a measure of environmental change. On Baffin Island, her team took samples ranging from present day to 200,000 years ago. Despite the current cold, they found the past century marked one of the warmest spells on record, marked by the disappearance of a cold-loving insect that had lived there for the past 8,000 years.

Of course, 25,000 years ago, glacial ice covered the land from the Arctic to Illinois, so a short cold snap isn't so bad from a broader perspective.

Despite her experience with extreme temperatures, Axford occasionally makes a rookie mistake. She once took off her mittens to take a picture, then reached to grab a metal door handle. She immediately felt a burning sensation before jerking her hand away.

"It's all about the gloves for me," she said.

Riding a snowmobile to work in the field through occasional whiteout conditions, Axford wore double gloves under a pair of insulated mittens, with military-grade "bunny boots" to keep her feet warm. "And staying dry is so important."

Last year, with a high around minus 30 on Baffin Island, similar to what Chicago's facing now, Axford worried about operating planes in the cold, but she said locals are so used to it that "it's business as usual."

Ironically, the coldest she's been for a sustained time was in Florence, Italy, during a cold snap, because there was no heat in most buildings, and she hadn't packed warm clothes.

"I always feel a lot less prepared for the cold when I'm here," she said. "I don't have that bag of extreme cold weather gear. But it's also kind of fun. I love extreme weather and landscapes, and this is some air coming from the Arctic, so it's kind of exciting."

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Shinya

Snap, crackle, pop? It's frosted quakes

BY JUAN PEREZ JR.
Chicago Tribune

Yes, you did actually hear that.

As temperatures plunged to Antarctic levels across the region Wednesday, social media lit up with reports of loud outdoor booms, cracks and bangs.

They're called ice quakes, or frost quakes. Or cryoseisms, if you want to get technical about it.

These peculiar events are occurring because the weather is causing the ground to explode. Sort of.

"Basically, it's so cold outside right now that you've got some moisture below the surface that's starting to freeze," said meteorologist Ben

Deubelbeiss of the National Weather Service.

"When the water freezes, it starts to expand and it'll move the soil, subsoil, rocks and everything around it. That'll create these little miniature quakes."

That's right. Miniature quakes.

Cryoseisms are weird events but not something the weather service keeps detailed statistics on. Just add them to a list of winter oddities that pop up in a city where frozen train tracks are lit ablaze to keep things moving.

"The cracking of any frozen soil underground is what makes that popping sound that people hear," Deubelbeiss said.

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POLAR VORTEX

Some buckled down as others bundled up

Cold, from Page 1

sands of people who had to make the frigid trek into work endured harrowing commutes on delayed commuter rail and CTA trains, emergency visits to gas stations for wiper fluid and anti-freeze or bone-chilling waits at bus stops.

"I didn't have a clue it would be this bad until I got out here," said Tyler Peterson, pulling a tan scarf over his face as he stood unprotected from the flag-snapping wind on Mannheim Road in Stone Park, waiting for a bus that would take him home to Hillside after an overnight shift in a nearby warehouse. "I can feel it on my skin and all over my body, even with the layers."

Other closures left travelers with few options but to stay hunkered down at home. Amtrak suspended service into and out of Chicago, and thousands of flights were canceled at O'Hare and Midway airports. Even the U.S. Postal Service suspended service.

The polar plunge set a record low for Jan. 30. The temperature reached minus 23 at O'Hare International Airport, with a wind chill of 52 degrees below zero, according to the National Weather Service. That shattered the previous mark of minus 15 set in 1966.

"Today's about as cold as it can get in Chicago," said Matt Friedlein, a meteorologist with the weather service.

And the wrath of the polar vortex has not yet passed. The all-time record low temperature for Chicago, minus 27, was in play overnight into Thursday, weather forecasters said, and temperatures were not expected to visit zero or above until Thursday night. Normal highs are not expected until Saturday.

Shuttered schools and looking for warmth

With schools shuttered and many businesses and government offices closed because of the extreme conditions, most people heeded weather and health experts' advice, staying inside, huddling up at home with a good book, binge-worthy television or stir-crazy children.

Chicago Public Schools canceled all classes and activities that were scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday. Most schools and some churches and other institutions have been listing closings on the Emergency Closing Center website. Most colleges, courts, cultural institutions and libraries were closed Wednesday, and many plan to be closed Thursday morning as well.

Parts of the South Side in Chicago looked like ghost towns as normally crowded outdoor Metra platforms were empty and Red Line stations were abandoned. Churches, day care centers, banks, nail shops and hair salons posted closed for business signs on their doors. But elsewhere, life went on, especially for those who had to work. Trucks rumbled over salt-covered roads delivering groceries and supplies; many fast-food places, grocery stores and pharmacies throughout the city and suburbs were open; and



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A tow truck driver changes a tire along an unusually empty Dan Ryan Expressway in below-zero temperatures Wednesday.



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Jasmine Gutierrez and Juan Santos take shelter at a warming center inside Lincoln Methodist Church.

auto supply stores did brisk business.

Willie Taylor nursed a cup of coffee in the McDonald's lobby in Englewood. He said his wife needed to report to her job at a local grocery store, so he got up early to get the car warmed up and drive her there.

"I came out to crank the car and I've been moving around ever since," said the 71-year-old Auburn Gresham resident. "You've got to move around in this weather. You can't just stand in one place."

In the western suburbs, Peter Thomas arose, as always, at 3:45 a.m., when the temperature was already well south of zero, and made it to the Elmhurst train station in time to open his coffee shop, Pilot Pete's, for commuters catching the first Metra of the day.

"People today need coffee more than any other day," he said.

About a dozen hardy commuters waited for the 5:34 a.m. train, including Donald Moore, who walked more than half a mile from his house almost completely mummified.

"I had a bunch of layers," said Moore, who works at the CME Group, a financial company in the Loop. "The only thing cold was the slightest exposure around the eyes, but yeah, I made it here."

Rebecca Steinmann, an emergency department nurse at Lurie Children's Hospital, wasn't taking any chances. She had her husband drive her to the station from her house eight blocks away, even though she was armored against the cold with thermal underwear, hand warmers and toe warmers. She was hopeful she wouldn't see many cold-related injuries when she

arrived at work.

With most people holed up inside, the effects of the cold initially appeared to be minimal, according to area hospital and health officials. Chicago hospitals saw 14 emergency department visits for frostbite and/or hypothermia between 5:30 a.m. Tuesday and 5:30 a.m. Wednesday, according to the Illinois Department of Public Health. Across the rest of the state, hospital emergency departments had 16 visits for those conditions between 2 a.m. Tuesday and 10 a.m. Wednesday. Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood had six cases of frostbite as of late Wednesday morning — a higher-than-usual number for a winter day, spokesman Jim Ritter said. But many hospitals across the Chicago area reported relatively quiet emergency departments overnight Tuesday and Wednesday morning.

A warmup for those who need it

The city and collar counties set up warming shelters for those in need, and city officials reminded landlords to keep the heat on at apartments across the area. Chicago's Department of Buildings took action Wednesday to restore heat at four properties in neighborhoods across the city.

The city provided official warming centers, but the dangerously cold weather gave some community organizers and volunteers a chance to use their skills in a new way.

Two warming centers operated by the city's Department of Family and Support Services will be open 24 hours. On the South Side, the King Center

is at 4314 S. Cottage Grove Ave., in Bronzeville, and on the West Side the Garfield Center is at 10 S. Kedzie Ave., in the Fifth City neighborhood.

Senior centers across the city have extended hours to 8 p.m. An additional 500 beds were being sent to shelters. The city is also coordinating with religious leaders to reach out to vulnerable people, including senior citizens and those with disabilities, city officials said. Park District field houses, which often have evening hours, are for the first time this winter formally among the buildings being used as warming centers.

At Lincoln United Methodist Church in Pilsen, three women transformed the basement space normally used for exercise classes for Healthy Hood Chicago into a sleeping and warming shelter. Dozens of men piled in, laying on pallets of blankets, watching TV and eating beans and salad and sipping coffee.

For Laundi Keepseagle, 28, the grassroots effort was a way to serve an overlooked population.

"We wanted undocumented individuals to have a place to go," said Keepseagle, who works with SaveMoneySaveLife, an advocacy group supported by rapper Vic Mensa. "We thought we could create a space for people who fall in the gaps. We're serving food, giving out clothes. Our main purpose is to make our guests feel at home."

The effort came together in hours on Tuesday. Volunteers posted on social media, canvassed the neighborhood with flyers and did one-on-one outreach with residents they saw camping on the streets. By Tuesday night, 34 people showed up to sleep on the floor and get a meal.

On Wednesday, there were nearly 60 people staying there.

"A lot of people talk about how they want to help, and there's no such thing as too much help," said Lilly Chavarria, 21, a local DJ, who helped coordinate and volunteered overnight. "Partnering with institutions would have taken too long and required too much. We didn't want to jump through hoops, we just wanted to keep people warm."

Power outages add to woes

The cold led to a wave of power outages, both downtown and in the suburbs. A portion of the Loop lost power at 1:20 p.m. due to an outage, according to ComEd. The outage affected about 400 customers in an area near Monroe Street and Wabash Avenue. Earlier in the day, as many as 25,000 ComEd customers in the city and suburbs were without power for a time, ComEd spokesman John Schoen said.

In Belvidere, Janet Fair, 50, woke up about 5 a.m., brewed coffee and then heard a pop around 5:15 a.m. Her house went dark and the power hasn't come back on since. She was told by ComEd that more than 500 people were affected by the outage in her area.

So the family packed up their dog and guinea pig and headed to a relative's home. Later, her car died at an intersection, she said. Fair was able to eventually restart her car and make it to the hospital where she works.

"I feel like I'm on a soap opera or something," Fair said. "I'm just thankful that I was able to get my family moved. I know there are people who don't have anywhere to go."

And the problems reached the water system, too, contributing to at least seven water main breaks in neighborhoods ranging from Chicago Lawn to West Rogers Park, said Randy Conner, commissioner for the Chicago Department of Water Management.

Slow going for commuters

Amtrak canceled Chicago-area service for Wednesday and expected to halt most trains for Thursday also. The South Shore Line suspended service Wednesday. Metra announced the agency was honoring South Shore tickets, according to its website. On the CTA, the Yellow Line, which travels to suburban Skokie, experienced delays because of signal problems.

Metra planned to operate on a modified schedule again Thursday because of the frigid weather, according to officials. Details can be found on Metra's web-

site. Just before 6 a.m., one Metra train on the Electric District line was stopped because of wire problems, according to the agency.

At Chicago airports, more than 1,700 flights were canceled as of about 1 p.m. Wednesday, according to the city's Aviation Department. After about 1,400 flights were canceled Monday at Chicago airports because of snowstorms, about 600 were canceled Tuesday. The Aviation Department has delay and cancellation information on its website, and links to individual airlines' flight information.

'We just have to buckle down and do our jobs'

The cold also did not stop the work at All Saints Cemetery in Des Plaines, where Chuck Robertson braved the brutal conditions to make sure gravesites were cleared of snow for upcoming burials once the weather warms. He had a list of four burial sites to check Wednesday. Robertson, 30, wore a beanie-style hat, thermal underwear and a cemetery-issued coat, sweater and safety boots.

"I mean, it was ... cold," said Robertson, the assistant cemetery manager. "But death doesn't really wait for the cold, or wait for the families who have unfortunately lost a loved one, and we need to be here to serve our families. It's Chicago. We just have to buckle down and do our jobs."

Robertson said no burials were scheduled for Wednesday, and one burial originally slated for Thursday has been postponed to Friday, when temperatures are expected to be higher.

Some families ventured outside simply to experience the rare circumstances. The Grady family of Western Springs decided to use the cold to conduct a science experiment: What happens when you hurl boiling water into minus-20 air?

The answer, they found after tossing the contents of their mugs skyward, is that the water instantly transforms into a fine, powdery snow.

"I'd seen it work for others, so I assumed the weather would be more than enough to make that happen," said Kristine Grady, who was home with her three children.

Up north at the Mobil gas station on Illinois Highway 176 in suburban Libertyville, owner Sunil Patel said there was a big demand for bottles of Heet, a gasoline antifreeze for vehicle engines. A small pile of empty bottles used by customers was beginning to pile up behind the counter. Windshield-wiper fluid was also a popular item.

"We have to take care of our customers," Patel said. "We've still had some customers, even though it's so cold."

If all of this cold has you dreaming of spring, the sign outside Greg's Frozen Custard on Route 45 in Mundelein, its parking lot buried in drifts of snow, offered a glimmer of hope: "Open Friday March 29."

Chicago Tribune's Liam Ford, John Hector, Anne Halston, Lisa Schenker, Elizabeth Wolfe and Mary Wisniewski contributed.

Yes, fire keeps Metra trains running in the cold

As winter stresses metal, rails are set alight by workers

BY MARY WISNIEWSKI
Chicago Tribune

If you see fire along Metra tracks on this frigid week, don't panic. The Chicago area's commuter rail service is fighting the cold with fire to keep switches working, and help with track repairs.

Winter weather can cause snow and ice to clog switches, which control which rail trains run on. Clogged switches can bring trains to a halt until the

blockage is cleared.

To combat the problem, Metra uses a gas-fed system that runs adjacent to the rail, generating heat in areas where switches are supposed to make contact. This system is used in normal winter weather, not just in the extreme cold seen Wednesday, explained spokesman Michael Gillis. The system is turned on when the temperature is between 40 and 32 and stays on when it's below 32.

Extreme cold weather can cause steel to contract, causing breaks, said Metra spokeswoman Meg Thomas-Reile. While Metra uses

continuously welded rail on most of the system, there are some locations near switches and some crossings where the rail is bolted together. Those areas are the most vulnerable to separating in frigid temperatures, although breaks can happen anywhere along the line.

To repair the breaks, Metra heats the rail, usually with a rope soaked in kerosene that is laid along the base of the rail and lit on fire, Thomas-Reile said. The fire heats up the rail and once it expands, workers pull the rails back together and rebolt them or weld them.

Depending on the damage, workers also may need to cut and insert a short section of rail and weld it in place to bring the rails back together, Thomas-Reile said.

Broken tracks, switch problems and other mechanical issues caused extensive delays on the Metra system Wednesday, especially on the Union Pacific Northwest from Harvard and McHenry, where some delays were more than an hour. Metra Electric District service was suspended because of wire problems.

Metra service ran on a modified schedule Wednesday and will continue to do



STACEY WESCOTT/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Fire warms Metra rails as trains go in and out of the Western Avenue station in subzero temps in Chicago on Tuesday.

so on Thursday because of the cold.

For updates on the agency's service, check metra

rail.com.

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POLAR VORTEX

Bringing the homeless in from cold not always easy

Homeless, from Page 1

start within 5 minutes. The Salvation Army opened a 24-hour warming center Tuesday, the first time its Freedom Center on Christiana Avenue was used for that. It started with 28 cots in a gym next to the kitchen but has room for 100, according to Maj. Nancy B. Powers, the center's director. Hot showers and warm meals also are available.

As a steady wind made the cold even more dangerous, Vargas and Hristova stuffed supplies into a big, black Salvation Army van and set off to round up as many people as they could, or at least offer food and warmth to those who chose to stay put. People often hesitate to leave their belongings, especially when they've had bad experiences or feel too restricted at shelters, Vargas said.

"They think of bedbugs at shelters, people taking their things, most shelters when you go you have to leave at 5 a.m., so where do they go?" he said. "I think people in a sense ... don't want to go into a place and be told what to do, and we have to respect their autonomy."

As of October, the city estimated that about 5,540 people living in Chicago were homeless, though advocates said the number was dramatically higher. The Chicago Coalition for the Homeless estimates there are 80,000 homeless in the city. That includes people who don't have a home of their own but live with another person, whereas the city counts the homeless according to guidelines set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

On his rounds Tuesday night, Vargas did his best to explain that the Freedom Center wasn't a permanent shelter but rather a temporary place to stay warm.

The woman in the tent near the Dan Ryan said they had heat, but they'd take food. Vargas retrieved white takeout-style boxes filled with sandwiches and snacks. The woman got out of her tent to accept them.

"God bless you too," she told Vargas.

As he and Hristova headed back to the van, a small group from a car parked on the street walked under the blue tarp and into the encampment, carrying winter gear. "We just came out to bring something to somebody," said one of the men, who said he didn't want publicity for his good deed. "We just wanna be something out here."

Helping others, at least on the streets, seems to have become more popular over the past year, Vargas observed. He's noticed more volunteers trying to make a difference, and he's been in the field about 25 years.

All night Vargas drove with Hristova in the front passenger seat. Where the Dan Ryan meets the Stevenson Expressway, he parked outside a cluster of tents on the west side of the expressways and rolled down his window.

"Yooho," he called out the window.

Silence, except for the hum of light traffic above.

"See if anybody's here," he said to Hristova, and they got out.

No one answered from the tents, or no one was inside. They crossed the street and approached a tent off by itself against a concrete wall. Bulging black plastic bags and a shopping cart filled with cans surrounded a man poking an open fire.

He didn't want a blanket, but he took the hat, gloves, scarves and socks Vargas offered.

"I'm gonna come back and bring him a coat," Vargas said on the way back to the van.

Around the corner, inside an underpass, five tents, blankets and belongings were lined up between thick gray pillars.

The lone man outside told Vargas he had plenty of things to keep himself warm — maybe Vargas should take some from him, the man joked.

Their laughter echoed under the expressway. So did Vargas' calls of "Salvation Army" as he walked from tent to tent, just in case.

He took Canal Street most of the way to Roosevelt Road, then Columbus Drive to the lower levels of the city. No one bit at their first stop on Lower Columbus, or their second another level down.

"Too many bad things go on in shelters," said Urice Avery, who said he feels safer on Lower Columbus. Wedged between four blankets underneath him and about six on top, he said he gets by.

Another level lower, Vargas and Hristova ran into a group from New Life Covenant Church doing their regular Tuesday night food drops.

"Hi, David," a church member said as she approached a man settled into a corner, his lower body submerged in a mountain of blankets.

Balls of frost clung to David Jefferson's short beard. He told Vargas he might go to the shelter if he came by again Wednesday as he said he would. But not yet.

"I am staying underneath 20 blankets," he later explained.

Finally, the Salvation Army van picked up Tia Williams on Lower Wacker Drive, then Stephanie Haaser on Lower Lower Columbus. The New Life group had found Vargas again when he was talking with Williams and had told him a woman nearby — Haaser — would go to the shelter too.

Once both women were seated in the van, Vargas drove up a level so Williams could get what she considers her most important belongings — boots and hand warmers — from her bed of blankets under a sign advertising \$15 parking, an early morning special.

Hristova got out too and stood nearby while Williams rummaged

through her things, organized in small piles on the sidewalk. She let Hristova help, handing her a black trash bag. Hristova opened the bag so Williams could fill it, then carried the bag to the van, using her free hand to open the door for Williams.

On the ride back to the Freedom Center, Williams tried to give Haaser gloves and a scarf. One homeless Chicagoan sharing with another.

"Whenever people have bad times, they want to give others things," Haaser, 32, said later. "I think it's a self-perpetuating community, where you can give and receive as well."

She was now sitting in a chair near the kitchen counter inside the Freedom Center's warming area. She thanked the woman who slid her a sandwich in a styrofoam tray but declined the carrots and oranges she was offered. She opened a Sriracha packet and spread it on the top of her sandwich.

"I love spicy things," she said.

The soup the church group gave her back on Lower Lower Columbus had a nice spice to it. It was only a few minutes later that Vargas showed up with the Salvation Army van, she said. Usually she's wary of shelters, but the warming center seemed OK. Clean, she said.

"I might stay here a few days," she decided. "It's going to be very cold."

Bipolar disorder can make Haaser feel warmer than she should, she said. Earlier in the week, her toes got frostbite from going sockless in thin canvas shoes. That was all she had. Since then, she found boots.

As Haaser ate her sandwich, Williams finished making her cot. She's been staying on Lower Wacker for three years now and was thankful to have a warm bed.

"It's too cold down there tonight, it is too cold," Williams said, shaking her head and pulling a blue blanket over the cot. She walked to the other end of the cot and straightened the blanket.

"It was a blessing, a blessing from God," Williams said. "Especially when you don't have no heat for a long time, it feels good."

The warming shelter will close when the city says it's no longer necessary, Powers said. When that happens, Williams said she'll go back to her spot under the \$15 parking sign.

On a nearby cot, Darrick Phipps, 63, sat and sipped coffee from a white paper cup. He had taken off his tan boots, and it felt good to let his feet be bare.

Phipps was among the first to trickle in after the center opened at 5 p.m. Earlier in the day, he'd shown up with a friend to see if they could warm up, he said. They were given sandwiches and told at 5 they could come in, eat a hot meal, take a shower, stay overnight.

"That's the part I really

like, the staying overnight part," Phipps said. "I mean all of it is nice, but when you think about how the weather is, I'd rather be inside."

Since he was evicted in September 2018, he said, he had been staying at a regular homeless shelter on the West Side, the kind that makes people leave in the morning, and he was glad not to be back there.

"They got bedbugs bigger than me and you put together," he said. "They bite." To warm himself on the streets, he rubs his hands together. He dresses in layers. He has a coat, but it's not very thick. Sometimes he rides CTA trains. But he

tries not to fall asleep there, worried about getting robbed.

Pointing to his walking cane, Phipps said he's legally disabled but wishes he could work. He also has a violent past, with decades-old convictions that he said still affect his life and relationships. But he changed a long time ago, he said.

"I just keep praying and waiting on God to show me something different," Phipps said. "I can't get used to this, and I'm not trying to get used to this. Why should I?"

In the hallway outside the warming center, Vargas finished a sandwich and got ready to head back out.



ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

Richard Vargas of the Salvation Army gives food to a woman on Tuesday who was sleeping in a tent near a wooded area adjacent to the Dan Ryan Expressway in Chicago.



Tia Williams gets ready for bed in the warming center at Salvation Army's Freedom Center on Christiana Avenue.

Usually his job is to bring people to services like detox treatment. He lives in Humboldt Park, the same neighborhood as the Freedom Center. It feels good to make a difference, to be able to see people choose what's good for themselves, he said. Now he was about to pick up at least one last person who had agreed to go to the center.

Powers walked over from the warming area.

"You're bringing another one?" she asked. "Did you drive by Chicago and Damen?"

He was about to go by there but didn't see anyone earlier.

"How about our viaduct couple?"

He'd talked to them, but they didn't want to go.

"Even in this weather, and they know they can stay here?"

They said no, Vargas told her.

"What you can tell people right now is our volunteers are making homemade cookies right now," Powers said. "We are making molasses cookies."

Powers said she isn't above bribing people to come out of the cold.

htlone@chicagotribune.com

In architecture, cold is great equalizer



BLAIR KAMIN
Cityscapes

I usually don't write about homes, but I'm going to make an exception this morning because it's 23 below and the wind is whipping outside the windows of my red-walled home office, where the window sills are lined with miniatures of famous buildings — the Empire State Building, the Lincoln Memorial and more.

It's comfortable in here, but I'm worried about the cardinals, the blue jays and the sparrows who typically flock to the bird feeder in our backyard.

Did they make it through the night?

And I wonder about the homeless people who usually sleep beneath the viaducts of Lake Shore Drive, the expressways and downtown streets like Columbus Drive.

Did they seek shelter or did they freeze to death?

Architecture, at its most basic level, is shelter, protecting us from the heat, the rain, the snow, and, as we are reminded this morning, from bitter, life-threatening cold.

On a day like this, all the elements of style — the elegance of proportions, the meticulousness of details, whether an entry is adorned with stately columns or is utterly plain — cease to matter.

All that matters is function.

Will my pipes burst?

Is the landlord keeping the heat on?

Why didn't I buy that insulation?

Why didn't I fix that broken window?

And what were those loud, thudding sounds on the roof last night? I've never heard noise like that before.

Frigid cold cannot make a poor man rich or a rich man poor. Nor can it erase the difference in status or square footage between a lakefront mansion and a humble bungalow. But it is, in a sense, the great equalizer.

We are all battling the cold.

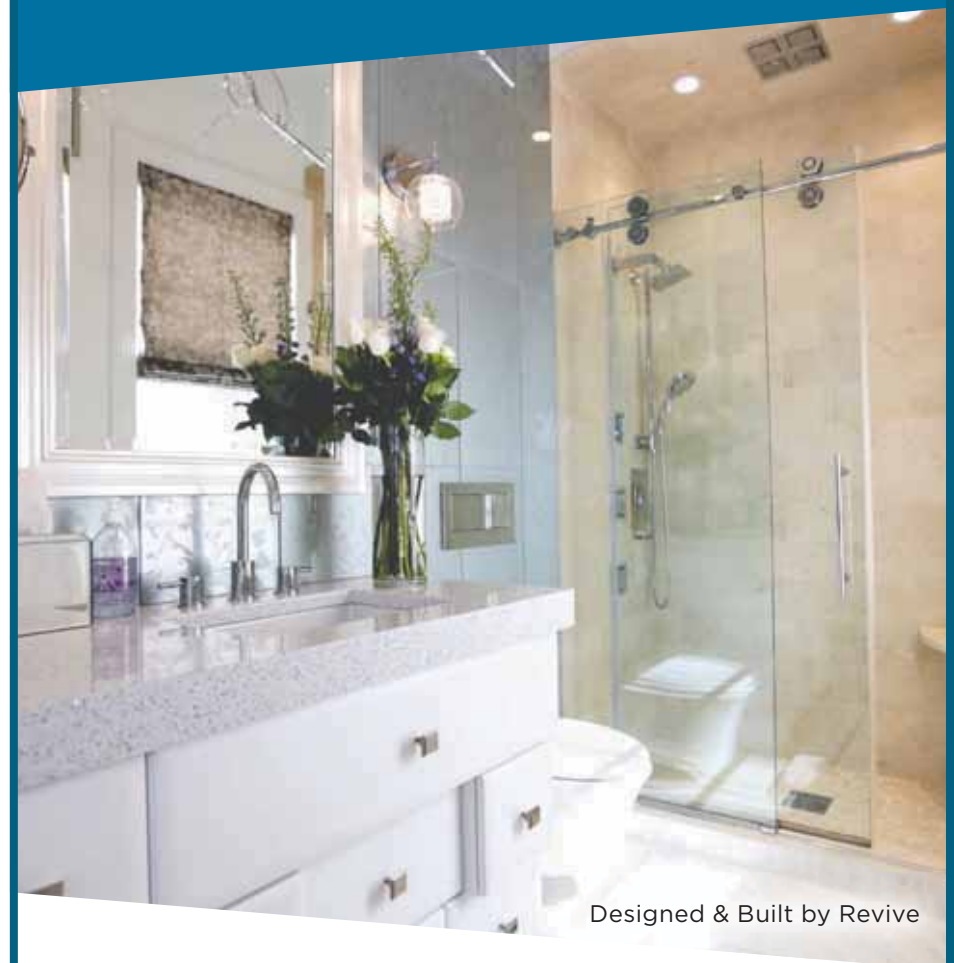
And those of us who are inside are lucky.

Blair Kamin is a Tribune critic.

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Chicago Tribune

NATION & WORLD

No wall money in Dems' opener

As negotiations begin, GOP says security plan must include barrier

BY ANDREW TAYLOR AND ALAN FRAM
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democrats in the House offered a border security plan Wednesday that would not provide a penny for President Donald Trump's border wall, ignoring an early-morning warning from the president that they'd be "wasting their time" if they don't come up with wall money.

The Democratic offer is a starting point in House-Senate talks on border security funding that kicked off in a basement room in the Capitol. A top Democrat acknowledged that "everything is on the table," including the border barriers demanded by Trump. Lawmakers on both sides flashed signs of flexibility, eager to demonstrate willingness to compromise in hopes of resolving the standoff with Trump that sparked the 35-day partial government shutdown.

The high-stakes talks are taking place against the backdrop of another possible shutdown in mid-February — an outcome Trump's GOP allies in the Senate are eager to avoid. But while Trump's rhetoric has cooled, he's proven to be an unpredictable force in the shutdown debate. Lawmakers negotiating the bill are well aware that he could move to quash an agreement at any time, plunging them back into crisis.



From left: Reps. Kay Granger, R-Texas, Nita Lowey, D-N.Y., Lucille Roybal-Allard, D-Calif., and David Price, D-N.C., listen as House and Senate members begin negotiations Wednesday on a plan for border security.

Still, Trump's request for \$5.7 billion to build about 234 miles of barriers along the U.S. border with Mexico faces uphill odds. Even Trump's GOP allies acknowledge he may get only a fraction of it. The Democratic plan includes new money for customs agents, scanners, aircraft and boats to police the border, and to provide humanitarian assistance for migrants.

"Democrats are once again supporting strong border security as an essential component of homeland security. Border security, however, is more than physical barriers; and homeland security is more than border security," said Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard, D-Calif.

Senators revisited a bipartisan \$1.6 billion proposal for 65 miles of fencing in the Rio Grande Valley in Texas that passed a key committee last year. The panel of old-school lawmakers from the appropriations committees has ample expertise on homeland security issues, as many of them helped finance a fence built over the years that stretches across much of the 1,954-mile border.

"Because of the work we did years ago we've already built almost 700 miles of fencing on our nation's border," said Rep. David Price, D-N.C. "Whatever the president may say, it is far from an open border. Meanwhile, the number of undocumented immigrants cross-

ing our border or attempting to cross remain not at alarming highs but at historic lows."

Republican allies of the president said there will have to be some money to meet Trump's demands. But they also predict privately that the White House is eager to grab an agreement and declare victory — even if winning only a fraction of Trump's request. "The components of border security are people, technology and a barrier. And everybody has voted for all three," said Sen. John Hoeven, R-N.D. "To get to an agreement we've got to have all three in there."

But as talks on the homeland security budget open, Trump and Republicans are

in a weakened position just 17 days before the government runs out of money again without a deal. Democrats won back the House in a midterm rout and prevailed over Trump in the shutdown battle.

"Smart border security is not overly reliant on physical barriers," House Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Nita Lowey, D-N.Y., said as the session began. She said the Trump administration has failed to demonstrate that physical barriers are cost effective compared with better technology and more personnel.

The comments at once served notice that Democrats weren't ruling out financing physical structures, but would do so only

on a limited basis.

Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., who chairs the Senate Appropriations Committee, said that while Republicans favor improved border security technology, "Smart technology alone does not actually stop anyone from crossing into the U.S. illegally."

Shelby said physical barriers are needed "not from coast to coast, but strategically placed where traffic is highest." That echoed recent remarks by Trump as he's retreated from his more strident comments from the 2016 presidential campaign.

The president on Friday agreed to reopen government for three weeks so negotiators can seek a border security deal, but with no commitments for wall funds. If negotiations on the 17-member panel falter, one option would be to enact another temporary government funding measure to replace the current one, which expires Feb. 15.

Trump tweeted Wednesday, hours before the negotiators were to sit down for their first meeting, that the group of Republicans and Democrats is "Wasting their time!" if they aren't "discussing or contemplating a Wall or Physical Barrier."

Prospects for broadening the scope of the talks to include broader immigration issues such as providing protection against deportation to "Dreamer" immigrants brought illegally to the country as children — or even must-do legislation to increase the government's borrowing cap — appeared to be fading.

"It's just a matter of border security at this moment," Lowey said.

Trump on intel chiefs: 'Go back to school!'

President blasts officials' testimony on global threat assessments

BY JOHN WAGNER AND SHANE HARRIS
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump lashed out at U.S. intelligence officials Wednesday, calling them "extremely passive and naive" about the "dangers of Iran" and pushing back on their assessments of the Islamic State and North Korea during a congressional hearing.

In tweets, Trump offered what amounted to a rebuttal of testimony on global threats provided to the Senate on Tuesday by a panel of top officials from his administration.

Trump was most pointed in his pushback on the assessment of Iran. During testimony, officials said that Iran was not trying to build a nuclear weapon and was in compliance with an agreement forged during the Obama administration from which Trump subsequently withdrew the United States.

"The Intelligence people seem to be extremely passive and naive when it comes to the dangers of Iran. They are wrong!"

Trump wrote. "They are testing Rockets (last week) and more, and are coming very close to the edge. There (sic) economy is now crashing, which is the only thing holding them back. Be careful of Iran."

Trump added: "Perhaps Intelligence should go back to school!"

In earlier tweets Wednesday, Trump claimed "tremendous progress" in destroying the Islamic State and denuclearizing North Korea, seeking to counter less optimistic assessments by the intelligence officials.

Trump wrote that when he became president, the Islamic State "was out of control in Syria & running rampant."

"Since then tremendous progress made, especially over last 5 weeks," Trump wrote. "Caliphate will soon be destroyed, unthinkable two years ago."

During the Senate hearing, officials warned that the Islamic State, also known as ISIS, was capable of attacking the United States and painted a picture of a still-formidable terrorist organization. Trump had declared the group defeated

and has said he wants to withdraw U.S. troops from Syria as a result.

Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats noted that the terrorist group has suffered "significant leadership and territorial losses." But it still commands thousands of fighters in Iraq and Syria, he said, and maintains eight branches, has more than a dozen networks and attracts thousands of supporters around the world.

Coats was joined on the panel by CIA Director Gina Haspel, FBI Director Christopher Wray and several other administration officials.

In his tweets, Trump also sought to defend progress on North Korea ahead of a planned second summit next month with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.

During Tuesday's hearing, Coats said that North Korea was "unlikely to completely give up its nuclear weapons and production capabilities," which the country's leaders consider "critical to the regime's survival."

"North Korea relationship is best it has ever been



JABIN BOTSFORD/WASHINGTON POST

President Trump also called U.S. intelligence officials "extremely passive and naive."

with U.S.," Trump wrote Wednesday. "No testing, getting remains, hostages returned. Decent chance of Denuclearization."

"Time will tell what will happen with North Korea, but at the end of the previous administration, relationship was horrendous and very bad things were about to happen. Now a whole different story," Trump added, noting that he was looking forward to the summit with Kim.

Though exuberant in his claims of progress, Trump's assessment on North Korea was tempered compared with his initial claims after

the first summit in June.

In tweets upon returning from that meeting, Trump declared America's "biggest and most dangerous problem" all but resolved. The deal he struck with Kim, he said, meant that there was "no longer a Nuclear Threat from North Korea" and that "everybody can now feel much safer."

The first summit ended with a vague agreement that contained few concrete goals and deadlines.

Trump drew rebukes for his tweets from Democrats, including Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., chairman of the House intelligence commit-

tee. "It is a credit to our intelligence agencies that they continue to provide rigorous and realistic analyses of the threats we face," Schiff said in a statement. "It's deeply dangerous that the White House isn't listening."

Sen. Mark Warner, D-Va., vice chairman of the Senate intelligence committee, also weighed in. "The President has a dangerous habit of undermining the intelligence community to fit his alternate reality," Warner said in a tweet. "People risk their lives for the intelligence he just tosses aside on Twitter."

Trump Organization to now use E-Verify before hiring

BY BERNARD CONDON
Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Trump Organization, responding to claims that some of its workers were in the U.S. illegally, said Wednesday that it will use the E-Verify electronic system at all of its properties to check employees' documentation.

A lawyer for a dozen immigrant workers at the Trump National Golf Club in New York's Westchester County said recently that

they were fired Jan. 18. He said many had worked there for a dozen or more years.

Workers at another Trump club in New Jersey came forward last month to allege managers there had hired them knowing they were in the country illegally.

"We are actively engaged in uniforming this process across our properties and will institute E-verify at any property not currently utilizing this system," Eric Trump, executive vice president of the Trump Organi-

zation, said in a statement. "As a company we take this obligation very seriously and when faced with a situation in which an employee has presented false and fraudulent documentation, we will take appropriate action."

"I must say, for me personally, this whole thing is truly heartbreaking," he added. "Our employees are like family but when presented with fake documents, an employer has little choice."

Launched in 1996, the

E-Verify system allows employers to check documentation submitted by job applicants with records at the Department of Homeland Security and the Social Security Administration to see whether they are authorized to work.

During his presidential campaign, Republican Donald Trump called for all employers to use the federal government online E-Verify system. He told MSNBC in 2016 that he uses it at his properties, and that there should be a "huge financial

penalty" for companies that hire undocumented workers.

President Trump has repeatedly cast the millions of immigrants in the country illegally as a scourge on the health of the economy, taking jobs from American citizens. He has said they also bring drugs and crime over the border.

He turned over day-to-day management of his business to Eric and his other adult son, Donald Jr., when he took the oath of office two years ago.



RICHARD DREW/AP 2018

Eric Trump said the company takes its obligation to confirm workers' immigration status "very seriously."

Mothers stand together for justice

Movement in Nicaragua echoes Mexico, Argentina

By **CHRISTOPHER SHERMAN**
Associated Press

MEXICO CITY — The two mothers walked shoulder-to-shoulder ahead of a casket in the northern Nicaraguan city of Esteli, wailing in shared grief at the killings of their sons during a wave of anti-government protests.

Francisca Machado accompanied the casket holding her 24-year-old son Franco Valdivia Machado's body to the cemetery on that April day. Socorro Corrales had just buried her own son, 23-year-old Orlando Perez Corrales, the day before.

From that image of solidarity was born a movement that became the Mothers of April, formed by relatives of many of the 325 people killed in the government suppression of student-led protests. Its members are demanding justice from President Daniel Ortega, who has tightened his grip on power and targeted voices of dissent, arresting hundreds and closing media outlets and human rights groups in the aftermath of the protests.

The group is preparing for a long struggle for accountability for the killers of their children from a government that has labeled the protesters criminals and coup-plotters. Three of its nine leaders have fled Nicaragua, fearing for their own safety.

"We don't want to think about many years passing, but part of our responsibility is to prepare for that scenario," said Francys Valdivia Machado, whose younger brother was buried last year.

Nicaragua's mothers are drawing on the experiences of the best-known such group, Argentina's Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo, and the more recently organized Mothers of Ayotzinapa



ANDREA COMAS/AP

Demonstrators chant during a protest against the Nicaraguan government earlier this month in Madrid, Spain.

in Mexico. About 150 families are involved in the Nicaraguan movement.

Valdivia and Perez were university students, the former a third-year law student with a 5-year-old daughter, the latter about to complete his engineering degree.

They did not know each other but were standing near each other during a protest against social security cuts in an Esteli park. Perez fell first. Valdivia started to move toward him when he was shot in the head.

Their families believe they were both shot by a sniper firing from City Hall. Fifteen minutes before Valdivia was shot, he had denounced authorities' use of force against peaceful protesters on a Facebook video holding what appeared to be a rubber bullet in his hand.

The nationwide protests began April 18, initially drawing mostly senior citi-

zens who were the most directly impacted by the announced social security cuts. When the elderly protesters were met with violence from pro-government Sandinista Youth thugs, students turned out in large numbers to defend them.

Ortega and his wife, Vice President Rosario Murillo, maintained the use of force was justified to fend off an attempted coup. Domestic and international human rights groups strongly disagreed.

A group of independent international experts sent by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights to investigate violations wrote in a December report that the killings were carried out by police and pro-government gangs unleashed against the protesters. The experts were expelled from the country before they could publicly release their report.

On a recent afternoon,

Francys Valdivia Machado joined a videoconference with other Mothers of April executive committee members.

The group's president, she was taking part from a spare bedroom in a rented house in the Mexican countryside, where she fled after receiving threats from Ortega's government. In June, two men dressed in T-shirts like those worn by the pro-Ortega faction who violently targeted the student protesters came to her home and law office looking for her. She and her family moved around Managua for weeks before heading to Mexico.

Her laptop open on a small table and Nicaragua's flag draped over the back of her chair, the 28-year-old discussed creating a virtual museum to document the repression.

The group is also working toward a cooperation agreement with the Mothers of Ayotzinapa, made up

of relatives of 43 students who disappeared in September 2014 in southern Mexico, and establishing a formal relationship with the Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo.

"They have a great record of fighting to find out all of the different human rights violations, the documentation, the investigation, their unwavering demand for the truth, to demand justice and we know those are processes that don't happen overnight," Valdivia said of the Argentine group, which formed during that country's military dictatorship in the 1970s to search for missing relatives.

In May, a branch of the Argentine group sent a letter to their Nicaraguan sisters expressing their solidarity and offering their assistance.

Marjorie Agosin, a Wellesley College professor who wrote a book about the Mothers of the Plaza de

Mayo, said the Nicaraguan group can learn from the resilience of their Argentine counterparts.

The Argentine mothers effectively used symbols — marching in white kerchiefs that suggested children's diapers — and leveraged alliances with all layers of society as well as international human rights groups, she said.

"In Latin America they stigmatize the poor, the missing, the students," Agosin said. "If you establish an alliance of people from the middle class, the upper class, you see that it happens in every aspect of society."

The day Socorro Corrales decided to walk with Francisca Machado to the cemetery she was angry.

"It made me furious, it hurt," said Corrales, who is now in the United States seeking asylum.

Walking with Machado "was a way to fight, a way to scream to the four winds about everything they were doing to our people, to our boys, to our children."

Over the succeeding months, more women came forward to support each other in demanding justice in the killings of their relatives. The mothers, sisters and aunts of the victims gathered every week at a traffic circle in Managua to maintain their visibility until such demonstrations were prohibited.

Francys Valdivia said she began hearing from more and more mothers who sought her legal counsel. They eventually formed the foundation of the movement.

With public anti-government protests effectively banned in Nicaragua following last year's unrest, members of the association held demonstrations this month in Costa Rica and Spain.

"Our relatives started the fight," Valdivia said of her slain younger brother. "As family we're obligated to continue the fight independent of the pain that each one of us carries."



JUAN BARRETO/GETTY-AFF

Marchers take part in a protest Wednesday against President Nicolas Maduro in Caracas.

Venezuelans take to streets in push to force out Maduro

The Washington Post

CARACAS, Venezuela — Venezuelans took to the streets for lunch hour protests Wednesday, forming pockets of resistance outside military bases and on main streets across the country as the opposition movement seeks to force embattled President Nicolas Maduro to hand over power to an interim government.

Juan Guaido, who declared himself Venezuela's interim president last week and won backing from most Western governments, convened the protests and appeared as the demonstrators were wrapping up in Caracas' Central University.

"Let's keep protesting," he told the crowd of students, doctors and nurses. "Let's keep taking the streets."

Maduro has sought to neutralize Guaido by ordering him not to leave the country and freezing his assets. The government has also responded to his challenge by cracking down on rebellious neighborhoods, trying to preserve an autocratic, socialist-style system increasingly imperiled by deep unpopularity and foreign pressure.

Guaido, who heads the

opposition-controlled National Assembly, seemed undeterred Wednesday.

"At this moment I'm not worried about the prohibition to leave the country. What worries me is that Venezuelans are able to come back to the country," Guaido told reporters who were covering the protest.

The protests Wednesday were far smaller than the massive outpouring over the weekend and the government repression in recent days may have discouraged a broader attendance.

Over the past week, 35 people have died in protests — most shot by security forces as they took part in late night pot-banging demonstrations in slums, according to the Venezuelan Observatory of Social Conflict.

A larger protest is planned Saturday.

The Trump administration is leading an international campaign to drive the leftist Venezuelan leader from power, embracing Guaido's arguments that Maduro began a second term after an election riddled with fraud and years of authoritarian rule that have plunged this oil-rich country into an economic and humanitarian catastrophe.

Earlier Wednesday, Maduro issued a new offer of dialogue to the opposition while warning the American people that intervening in his country could create a new Vietnam-style quagmire.

Guaido did not respond to the offer, the latest effort by Maduro to open talks with the opposition.

Trump for the first time spoke to Guaido in a call Wednesday, expressing his "strong support for Venezuela's fight to regain its democracy," according to a White House statement.

In an interview with Russia's RIA Novosti news agency that aired Wednesday, Maduro said he has sent letters to the governments of Bolivia, Mexico, Russia and Uruguay to involve them in a new process of dialogue with the opposition.

Mexico and Uruguay called for an international conference of neutral countries to jump-start a dialogue among Venezuelans. The conference is to be held Feb. 7 in Montevideo, the Uruguayan capital, and Mexico said it expects at least 10 countries and international organizations to participate.

Associated Press contributed.

E-cigarettes best way to help smokers quit, new study says

By **MATTHEW PERRONE**
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A major new study provides the strongest evidence yet that vaping can help smokers quit cigarettes, with e-cigarettes proving nearly twice as effective as nicotine gums and patches.

The British research, published Wednesday in the New England Journal of Medicine, could influence what doctors tell their patients and shape the debate in the U.S., where the Food and Drug Administration has come under pressure to more tightly regulate the burgeoning industry amid a surge in teenage vaping.

"We know that patients are asking about e-cigarettes and many doctors haven't been sure what to say," said Nancy Rigotti, a tobacco treatment specialist at Harvard Medical School who was not involved in the study. "I think they now have more evidence to endorse e-cigarettes."

At the same time, Rigotti and other experts cautioned that no vaping products have been approved in the U.S. to help smokers quit.

Smoking is the No. 1 cause of preventable death worldwide, blamed for nearly 6 million deaths a year. Quitting is notoriously difficult, even with decades-old nicotine aids and newer prescription drugs. More than 55 percent of U.S. smokers try to quit each year, and only about 7 percent succeed, according to government figures.

Electronic cigarettes, which have been available in the U.S. since about 2007 and have grown into a \$6.6 billion-a-year industry, are battery-powered devices that typically heat a flavored nicotine solution into an inhalable vapor. Most experts agree the vapor is less harmful than tradi-



JOE RAEDLE/GETTY

E-cigarettes are battery-powered devices that typically heat a flavored nicotine solution into an inhalable vapor.

tional cigarette smoke since it doesn't contain most of the cancer-causing byproducts of burning tobacco.

But there have been conflicting studies on whether e-cigarettes actually help smokers kick the habit. Last year, an influential panel of U.S. experts concluded there was only "limited evidence" of their effectiveness.

In the new study, researchers tracked about 900 middle-age smokers who were randomly assigned to receive either e-cigarettes or nicotine replacement products, including patches, gums and lozenges. After one year, 18 percent of e-cigarette users were smoke-free, versus 9.9 percent of those using the other products.

"Anything which helps smokers to avoid heart disease and cancer and lung disease is a good thing and e-cigarettes can do that," said Peter Hayek, study co-author and an addiction specialist at Queen Mary University of London.

The study was more rigorous than previous ones, which largely surveyed smokers about e-cigarette use. Participants in this

experiment underwent chemical breath testing.

Smokers in the e-cigarette group received a \$26 starter kit, while those in the nicotine-replacement group received a three-month supply of the product of their choice, costing about \$159. Participants were responsible for purchasing follow-up supplies.

"If you have a method of helping people with smoking cessation that is both more effective and less costly, that should be of great interest to anyone providing health services," said Kenneth Warner, a retired University of Michigan public health professor who was not involved in the study.

Several factors may have boosted the results: All the participants were recruited from a government smoking-cessation program and were presumably motivated to quit. They also received four weeks of anti-smoking counseling.

No vaping company has announced plans to seek FDA approval of their products as a quit-smoking aid. Winning such an endorsement would require large studies that can take years and cost millions.

Joshua Tree felt heavy tolls in shutdown

Environmental and economic damage leaves people angry

BY LOUIS SAHAGUN
Los Angeles Times

JOSHUA TREE, Calif. — Against a backdrop of jumbled boulders and spindly trees, former Joshua Tree National Park Superintendent Curt Sauer joined dozens of people at a rally in this high desert enclave to express anger over the economic and physical damage caused by the partial government shutdown to the park and the surrounding community.

President Donald Trump signed a short-term spending bill last Friday that will reopen the government until Feb. 15. But the 35-day shutdown took a heavy toll on the economy of this dusty refuge for nature lovers, rock climbers and artists at the main gateway to the 800,000-acre national park, as well as on the otherworldly landscape within its boundaries.

Park officials were conspicuously absent at the rally. But Sauer, who retired in 2015, set an emotional tone during a speech Saturday delivered from a portable stage, surrounded by local residents holding up signs that read “Save Park Jobs,” “Be Kind, Protect,” and “Screw politics: I want to go rock climbing.”

“It’s good that you are here, but we’re not done yet,” Sauer said. “Because even as the federal government was reopened by Congress on Friday, the president has threatened another shutdown in three weeks.”

After pausing for effect, he added, “Happy Valentine’s Day, America.”

Sauer, who was not bridled by restrictions governing the actions of current federal employees, was only getting started. What followed was a grim accounting of the park’s shutdown-related problems.

Reports of trash piling up,



JAE C. HONG/AP

Joshua Tree National Park in Southern California’s Mojave Desert features 800,000 acres for nature lovers, rock climbers and artists.

vandalism, illegal camping and off-road driving led to restricted operations at Joshua Tree, as well as at Yosemite and Death Valley national parks. During this period, skeleton federal crews, volunteers and imported law enforcement officers began patrolling Joshua Tree.

“You were told that the park was adequately staffed and protected,” Sauer said. “That was a false statement from Washington. It was a kind of, you know, fake news!”

Although Joshua Tree was partially or fully open for most of the 35-day shutdown, Sauer said, none of its 25 interpretative rangers or administrative staffers were allowed to report for work, and only 40 percent of its maintenance staff and 20 percent of its

resource management scientists were on duty.

Instead, “Those scientists were charged with raking out and restoring 10 miles of illegal off-road travel that occurred,” Sauer said. In the meantime, he said, “one of the most pristine rock art sites was denuded of vegetation from traffic and illegal camp fires.”

To stay open, Sauer said the park relied on over \$300,000 in entrance fees that had been earmarked for road and trail maintenance, campground improvements and construction of a proposed visitor center. Overall, he said, the park lost about \$800,000, a figure based on “various sources across the nation.”

“For what?” he said. “For nothing.”

Park officials could not be

reached to confirm Sauer’s comments regarding financial losses.

Seth Zaharias, 32, a local business owner and co-organizer of the rally — dubbed “Shutdown the shutdown” — did not take issue with Sauer.

“The last 35 days turned my life into a giant can of stress,” Zaharias said. “Our leaders are failing us. They’re using us as political bargaining chips.”

“My business in January was down 20 percent to 30 percent. That’s unacceptable,” he said. “If the president shuts the government down again in three weeks, it will devastate the entire community.”

There wasn’t a dry eye at the rally when local entertainer Myshkin Warbler took to the stage with an acoustic guitar and per-

formed a rousing rendition of Woody Guthrie’s “This Land Is Your Land.”

Then there was Walter Winfield, 73, a local music festival organizer, who said he was as concerned about the well-being of fellow desert residents — human, plant and animal — as he was about the polarizing politics that brought residents together Saturday.

“It’s about family,” he said, using the heel of his boot to write “Love” in the desert sand.

Jacelyn Kong, a park visitor who showed up early with friends on Saturday to go rock climbing, said she was disturbed by some news reports about the vandalism and damage that occurred at some parks during the shutdown.

“It’s sad to see people destroy the parks,” she said.

“I’ve seen reports that Joshua trees were being burned down, parks people are not taking care of them as they should. I think it’s vital that the government needs to be reopened to keep these national treasures alive.”

Park Ranger Deann Casimiro said she and a few others returned to work earlier this month.

“We’ve been back here already for a couple of weeks — helping the visitors stay safe and protecting the park, and we’re all really happy to be back,” she said. “And we’re even happier now to get the park operating at full force.”

Saturday’s rally closed with a few words of advice from co-organizer Travis Puglisi, 37.

“Don’t get rid of your protest signs,” he said.

‘Lookback windows’ are opening up

States move to ease limitations on child sex-abuse lawsuits

BY DAVID CRARY
Associated Press

NEW YORK — In many states across the U.S., victims of long-ago child sex-abuse have been lobbying for years, often in vain, to change statute of limitation laws that thwart their quest for justice. This year seems sure to produce some breakthroughs, due in part to the midterm election results and recent disclosures about abuse by Roman Catholic priests.

New York state is Exhibit A. The Democrats’ takeover of the Senate seems almost certain to produce a more victim-friendly policy in place of one of the nation’s most restrictive laws.

Prospects are considered good for similar changes in Rhode Island and New Jersey, and the issue will be raised in Pennsylvania, which became the epicenter of the current crisis in August when a grand jury accused about 300 priests of abusing more than 1,000 children over seven decades.

Abuse survivors and their allies are again proposing a two-year window for now-adult victims

to sue perpetrators and institutions over claims that would otherwise be barred by time limits. That provision was approved by the Pennsylvania House last year but rejected by the top Republican in the Senate.

Nationwide, only a handful of states — including California, Minnesota, Delaware and Hawaii — have created these “lookback windows” enabling victims to file civil lawsuits against institutions such as churches and youth groups that bore some responsibility for the abuse.

California’s one-year window opened in 2003, leading to hundreds of civil actions and more than \$1 billion in payouts by the Catholic church; activists and legislators in California hope to create a new lookback window this year.

In California, Minnesota and Delaware, large payouts prompted several dioceses to file for bankruptcy. The Catholic Church, the insurance industry and the Boy Scouts of America have lobbied vigorously against efforts to create lookback windows in other states.

University of Pennsylv-

nia professor Marci Hamilton, an expert on statute-of-limitations reforms, predicts that more states will provide windows despite the vociferous lobbying. She says the Pennsylvania grand jury report has changed the dynamics of the debate, increasing pressure on lawmakers to take victim-friendly actions.

“Before, people were giving the bishops the benefit of the doubt, but this time there was outrage,” said Hamilton, the CEO of Child USA, a think tank focused on preventing child abuse. “Politicians now understand that people are behind the victims.”

In New York, victim advocacy groups and their allies in the Legislature have tried for a dozen years to loosen the statute of limitations.

Last year, the legislature’s Democratic-controlled lower chamber overwhelmingly approved the long-stymied Child Victims Act, which would extend the time frames for pursuing civil and criminal cases in the future, and create a one-year window allowing victims to sue over past abuse claims. Senate Re-



KATHY WILLENS/AP

Brian Toale holds a copy of his yearbook photo from around the time he was sexually abused.

publicans blocked the bill from getting a vote and suggested alternatives that lacked the lookback window.

In November, Democrats gained control of the Senate, and the measure is now expected to pass with the window included. Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo says he’ll include the act in the state budget, due in April, if a separate measure doesn’t pass before then.

Among those pleased by the change is Brian Toale, 65, who has written about being abused in the 1970s by the adult adviser to the radio club at his Catholic high school on Long Island.

Toale, who lives in New York City, underwent years

of therapy and still participates in a weekly 12-step program with other abuse victims, including some who still don’t speak publicly about their experience.

“When people do tell their stories and expose their abuser, it’s so helpful,” he said.

The New York Catholic Conference, which represents the state’s bishops, has lobbied vigorously against the lookback window in the past, arguing it would “force institutions to defend alleged conduct decades ago about which they have no knowledge.”

However, Catholic Conference spokesman Dennis Poust has said that the church would drop its op-

position to a bill containing a lookback window if it were assured that public entities, including schools, also became targets for retroactive claims.

Cardinal Timothy Dolan, the archbishop of New York, says the church is meeting its obligations to victims through a compensation program launched in 2016 that has paid out more than \$200 million to more than 1,000 individuals.

Similar compensation programs are being set up in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, but victim advocates say the programs — unlike civil lawsuits — fail to ensure that there is accountability and full disclosure on the church’s part.

Strangers stand in so unclaimed veterans get dignified burials

BY ADRIAN SAINZ AND
KAREN PULVER FOCHT
Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — When the flags were removed from the caskets and folded with military precision, there were no family members there to receive them.

So, the banners were passed, hand-to-hand, through the crowd.

Some mourners wept as they clutched the flags briefly. Others kissed them. But the three veterans laid

to rest on a rainy morning were strangers to most of those who gathered to honor their memory.

The service was part of a national effort by funeral homes, medical examiners, state and federal veterans’ affairs departments, and local veterans’ groups to pay final respects to members of the military whose bodies were not claimed by any relatives. Since 2000, Dignity Memorial and other funeral homes in more than 30 cities have organized about 3,000 funerals for

soldiers, sailors and Marines who died alone, but still deserved a dignified funeral and burial, said Jeff Berry, Dignity’s general manager in Knoxville.

Army soldiers Arnold M. Klechka, 71, and Wesley Russell, 76, and Marine Charles B. Fox, 60, were laid to rest in a service attended by about 700 people last week at West Tennessee Veterans Cemetery. There was a gun salute, and a bagpiper played “Amazing Grace.”

But none of them had

family members present.

Amelia Callicott showed up. She wept during the service, thinking of her late father and husband, who both served in the military. Callicott said she learned about the service through friends and Facebook.

“It touched my heart when no one came to claim these gentlemen, these soldiers, because they fought for our freedom,” said Callicott, 69. “Any serviceman, they’re just like family to me, and I just can’t see laying them to rest without

going and seeing their final moments, to say goodbye.”

Memorial services are publicized through news outlets, veterans’ groups such as the American Legion, or social media. Honor Guard and other active military members attend, but it’s the strangers who come out of respect for the military and the dead who bring dignity to the occasion.

A service for unclaimed veterans is planned at East Tennessee State Veterans Cemetery in Knoxville, Berry said.

“Most of the time, it’s folks that had no knowledge of the person in life,” Berry said. “One thing I’ve learned in working with the veterans is that they are a tight-knit group. They really support each other. It’s like a band of brothers or sisters.”

During the Memphis ceremony, funeral director Gary Taylor thanked those who showed up.

Then, he spoke directly to the caskets.

“Today, we salute you,” Taylor said. “Today we all claim you as our own.”

Trump telling tales on the tour

President loves showing off the White House

By JOSH DAWSEY
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — When President Donald Trump brings senators, New York friends or other guests to the Oval Office, he occasionally opens a door near his desk summoning guests to follow. Flashing a grin, he wants his friends to see where Monica Lewinsky and President Bill Clinton reportedly began their sexual encounters.

“We’ve remodeled it since then,” he said on a tour in December, a person with direct knowledge of the event said. In a 2017 visit, Trump told a TV anchor, “I’m told this is where Bill and Monica ...” — stopping himself from going further, according to a new book by former White House aide Cliff Sims, “Tale of Vipers,” which was obtained by The Washington Post ahead of its publication.

Three other people who have embarked on a tour with Trump say he has made similar comments regarding Clinton and Lewinsky, laughing and making facial expressions. The subject often leads to lengthy, sometimes crass conversations, aides say.

Often spending days encoined in the presidential residence, Trump relishes giving tours to acquaintances and strangers by the hundreds, bragging all the while about improving it while he lives there, according to nearly a dozen visitors and current and former White House aides, most of whom requested anonymity to reveal details of the private events. With dangling new chandeliers and imported artwork added during his tenure, sightseeing with guests in the White House is among his favorite activities, they said.

During the 35 days that



SUSAN WALSH/AP

In the State Dining Room, President Trump shows off the fast-food buffet he ordered for the Clemson football team.

the government was partially shut down over his demand for border wall funding, Trump gave looks inside the West Wing to a number of visitors, White House aides say. After hosting a fast-food feast for the Clemson Tigers football team on Jan. 14, he surprised some players by bringing them into the Oval Office.

“Most people want to keep parts of the White House private for their families and themselves,” presidential historian Douglas Brinkley said of previous presidents. “He’s very restless and doesn’t like desk work. He’d rather roam around and B.S. with people than hunker down.”

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders said of the tours, “The president is proud of the White House and its rich history.”

The visits are often im-

promptu and usually involve several of Trump’s favorite spots, those who have been on the visits say.

When the president finishes dinners with members of Congress, he often asks, “You want to see the Lincoln Bedroom?” before beckoning lawmakers up the stairs. He often remarks how tall President Abraham Lincoln was and how short the bed is during these visits, before noting the nearby Lincoln desk and the Bill of Rights, guests said.

“I don’t know how he slept there,” Trump said on one tour in early 2018, according to a person on the tour. “He was a really tall guy!”

The president has also claimed to guests, without evidence, that his private dining room off the Oval Office was in “rough shape” with a hole in the wall when

he came into the West Wing and that Obama used it to watch sports, according to two White House officials and two other people who have heard him discuss the dining room. “He just sat in here and watched basketball all day,” Trump told a recent group, before saying he upgraded Obama’s smaller TV to a sprawling, flat-screen one, the four people said.

A former Obama White House official, who requested anonymity because Obama does not generally respond to Trump’s remarks, said there was no hole in the wall and that Obama rarely worked in the room and did not watch basketball there.

Other presidents have been varied in their reception to guests, but most did not give many elaborate tours, presidential historians and aides say.

Clinton and Franklin Delano Roosevelt had many guests stay in the residence, Brinkley said, including visits by donors that drew controversy for Clinton. The former Obama aide said the 44th president often had friends, family members of staffers and others for White House visits, contrary to what Trump tells people on tours. “No one had ever seen the Oval Office!” Trump claimed during a recent meeting with business executives before bringing them into the room, according to two people present.

A George W. Bush aide said he rarely took people into the residence, largely because his family was there. The Obama aide said he took only personal, close friends into the residence — “not D.C. officials,” the aide said. Trump, by contrast, has summoned hundreds, if

not thousands, of people upstairs, aides say.

The president’s desire to show off his abode fits a pattern. In Trump Tower in New York, he would show guests celebrity relics, such as Shaquille O’Neill’s shoes, or signed magazine covers, or pictures with athletes.

When he plays golf as president at his own clubs, he often brags about the courses and how they were redesigned after he bought them, said Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., and others who have played with him.

“Is this the best turkey you’ve ever had?” he asked guests underneath the gilded ceilings of his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida last Thanksgiving, according to a person who heard the comments. “Did you see how great those greens look?” he said to a recent golf guest.

Aides say Trump is often in a gregarious and charming mood when showing off the residence, rather than the churlish demeanor he sometimes displays in West Wing meetings.

Marc Short, the former legislative affairs director, said he had been in the residence with dozens of members of Congress. “It was part of my legislative strategy,” Short said of the tours. “When you see him off camera in his own residence, basically being a host, he’s really good at it. It was a warm, gracious gesture.”

Short said Trump would surprise members of Congress with the question of a tour. “How can you say no to seeing the Lincoln Bedroom?” he said.

Trump has exaggerated at times in describing the tours. “They start to cry,” Trump has said in explaining how people react when seeing the Oval Office, according to current and former White House aides.

Two senior White House officials said they had never seen any visitor cry in the Oval Office.



SAM MEDNICK/AP

Residents of the U.N.-protected Mangateen camp in South Sudan line up to get water.

No safety amid fragile peace

South Sudanese fear leaving camps protected by U.N.

By SAM MEDNICK
The Associated Press

JUBA, South Sudan — Tracing his fingers over the metal fencing at a United Nations protected site in South Sudan’s capital, Nhial Nyuot Nhial hung his head as he contemplated going home after years of civil war.

“At the moment it’s impossible for someone to leave,” he said.

The 33-year-old is among tens of thousands of people who are still sheltering in such camps across the country, the legacy of an unprecedented decision by a U.N. peacekeeping mission to throw open its doors to people fleeing war.

Nhial has been in the Juba camp since 2014, shortly after the country erupted in fighting. A fragile peace deal signed between President Salva Kiir and opposition leader Riek Machar in September has brought little comfort.

Like many in the camps, Nhial still fears for his life and refuses to leave.

What began as a temporary experiment is looking more like a permanent refuge for more than 190,000 people living in

squalor in the six U.N. protected sites. Now the U.N. has pushed for the camps to close, amid warnings by the international community that rushing the process could re-ignite violence among ethnic groups.

“If or when the walls of the protection sites come down, there will still be dangerous intercommunal tensions and massive protection needs,” said Lauren Spink, senior researcher on peacekeeping for the Center for Civilians in Conflict, an international nonprofit group.

An internal U.N. draft shared with aid agencies in September and seen by The Associated Press detailed a plan for “all services to be permanently relocated outside” Juba’s two U.N. sites by the end of January, according to the document.

The plan, which was never made public, has yet to be implemented, and U.N. mission chief David Shearer said there has been no decision to close the camps at any particular time.

“People moving back to their homes have to make their own decisions,” he said.

Five years of fighting have killed almost 400,000 people and left more than 7 million, or two-thirds of

the population, in “dire need” of humanitarian assistance, according to South Sudan’s 2019 humanitarian response plan, which will cost \$1.5 billion.

The cash-strapped government doesn’t have the means to resettle the more than 4 million people who have been displaced from their homes. More than 2 million of them fled the country.

“Given the population and the people that will need to be resettled, it’s really massive,” said Hussein Mar Nyuot, South Sudan’s minister for humanitarian and disaster management.

The government is largely relying on the U.N. and aid agencies to implement its resettlement plan, which includes safe passage and a three-month package of food for people who want to go home, Nyuot said. The government has said it will provide land and security for returnees.

At least one South Sudan expert said the number of people willing to leave the U.N. sites and return from refugee camps in neighboring Uganda and elsewhere will be a true test of peace.

“If we see that number significantly go down in a meaningful, lasting way over several months, maybe we can measure the

peace agreement in steps like that as opposed to just believing what politicians say and what statements are,” said Peter Martell, a journalist and author of a new book on South Sudan, “First Raise a Flag.”

In the last six months, about 17,000 have voluntarily left the camps, according to the U.N.

But continuing unrest in South Sudan has civilians worrying about whether the government can provide for and protect them.

Even inside the U.N. camps, violence occurs.

In August, due to intercommunal clashes inside one of Juba’s U.N. sites, almost 3,500 people were relocated to Mangateen, a displaced persons’ camp run by the government. People there said the camp doesn’t feel safe.

“Living here is a danger,” said John Tut, Mangateen’s camp coordinator.

There is also not enough space. About 1,500 people currently live in a stifling warehouse waiting for the government to allocate more land for the site.

“We’re not living in good conditions, we’re living in fear with no basic needs being met,” said Elizabeth Nyamai, a 28-year-old mother of five. “I’ve lost hope in the government, whatever they say we don’t believe.”

Talks with Taliban prompt fears of rushed withdrawal

By DEB RIECHMANN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Trump administration claims of progress in talks with the Taliban have sparked fears even among the president’s allies that his impatience with the war in Afghanistan will lead him to withdraw troops too soon, leaving the country at risk of returning to the same volatile condition that prompted the invasion in the first place.

Discussions between a U.S. envoy and the Taliban are advancing weeks after the administration said it wanted to begin drawing down troops in Afghanistan. That has prompted some critics to note that President Donald Trump is telegraphing a withdrawal — the same thing he accused President Barack Obama of doing by saying he wanted to end the American combat mission in 2014.

“It’s an effort to put lipstick on what will be a U.S. withdrawal,” said Ryan Crocker, a former U.S. ambassador to Kabul under Obama.

A negotiated settlement to America’s longest war poses a dilemma for Trump. He has often declared he wants to end lengthy overseas military entanglements, something he made clear in December by declaring the Islamic State group defeated in Syria and announcing he was pulling 2,000 American troops from that country over the objections of his top policy advisers.

The stakes are higher in Afghanistan, a conflict that has cost 2,400 American lives and hundreds of billions in taxpayer dollars. The U.S. invaded the country to oust the Taliban and al-Qaida in October 2001 in response to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, and the CIA director warned as recently as Tuesday that

Afghanistan could once again become a terrorist haven.

But now even fellow Republicans worry that reports of progress will embolden Trump to withdraw troops from Afghanistan before the region is stable and will reintroduce the conditions that first ensnared America in the conflict.

The Taliban now control nearly half the country and carries out near-daily attacks, and foreign-policy experts fear that any progress on protecting women and minorities in the country could be lost if the militant group is once again part of the government.

The top Republican in Congress, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, cautioned the president against a hasty exit from the war.

“While it is tempting to retreat to the comfort and security of our own shores, there is still a great deal of work to be done,” McConnell said Tuesday.

White House press secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders said Tuesday that the administration’s priority is to “end the war in Afghanistan, and to ensure that there is never a base for terrorism in Afghanistan again.” Afghan officials hope Trump will explain his intentions in further detail during his State of the Union address next week.

Taliban officials said that the two sides had reached an understanding about the withdrawal of U.S. and NATO troops and that the militant group had made assurances that Afghan soil would not be used again for attacks against the United States or others.

On the U.S. side, Trump’s Afghanistan envoy, Zalmay Khalilzad, said, “Nothing is agreed until everything is agreed, and everything must include an intra-Afghan dialogue and comprehensive cease-fire.”

NEWS BRIEFING

Staff and news services

Waste unleashed from Brazil dam on its way to a larger river

RIO DE JANEIRO — A torrent of mining waste unleashed by a dam breach that killed at least 84 people in southeastern Brazil is heading down a small river with high concentrations of iron oxide, threatening to contaminate a much larger river that provides drinking water to communities in five of the country's 26 states. The release of the muddy waste has already turned the water of the Paraopeba River brown

about 11 miles downstream from the breach. The chief of an indigenous community said Tuesday that Brazilian environmental agents warned villagers to stop fishing in the river, bathing in it and using its water for the plants they cultivate as food. The Paraopeba flows into the much larger Sao Francisco River, which provides drinking and irrigation water to hundreds of towns and larger cities.

Canada cites mysterious illness for staff cut at embassy in Cuba

TORONTO — Canada announced Wednesday it is removing up to half of the Canadians at its embassy in Cuba after another diplomat has fallen mysteriously ill. Canada has confirmed 14 cases of mysterious health problems since early 2017. Twenty-six American Embassy workers in Cuba have also been affected, suffering a range of symptoms and diagnoses including mild trau-

matic brain injury, also known as concussion. Canada is going from about 16 positions for Canadian staff at the Havana embassy to up to eight. Canada ordered the families of diplomatic staff in Cuba to return home last April. A senior Canadian government official said in a briefing that the latest case involves a diplomat who arrived in the summer and reported symptoms on Dec. 29.

Parole recommended for Manson follower Van Houten

LOS ANGELES — A California panel on Wednesday recommended that Charles Manson follower Leslie Van Houten be paroled after serving more than four decades in prison. After a hearing at the women's prison in Corona, commissioners of the Board of Parole Hearings found for the third time that the 69-year-old Van Houten was suitable for release.

If her case withstands a 150-day review process, it will go to new Gov. Gavin Newsom. Van Houten's prior recommendations for release were rejected by then Gov. Jerry Brown. Van Houten, then 19, was among a group who fatally stabbed Leno and Rosemary LaBianca in 1969. The killings came a day after other Manson followers killed pregnant actress Sharon Tate and four others.



SAKCHAI LALIT/AP

A boy wears a mask to guard against high levels of air pollution and dust particles in Bangkok on Wednesday after schools across the smog-choked capital — which has some of the most toxic air globally — were ordered closed for the rest of the week.

House OKs 2.6% pay increase for civilian federal workers

WASHINGTON — The Democratic-controlled House on Wednesday approved a pay raise for civilian federal employees, a step that lawmakers said shows respect for a workforce that just endured a 35-day partial government shutdown.

The 2.6 percent raise matches the raise given to the military last year and would override a pay freeze imposed by President Donald Trump. The measure, passed by a 259-161 vote, goes to the Senate, where its prospects are unclear. Rep. Gerry Connolly, D-Va., whose district includes

more than 55,000 federal workers, said government employees "have dedicated their lives and careers" to public service, "yet far too often their sacrifice and dedication go unappreciated."

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer of Maryland, who represents more than 60,000 federal workers, said the shutdown over Trump's demand for a border wall with Mexico was just "the latest in the long list of attacks on our hard-working federal civilian workforce."

Rep. Mark Meadows, R-N.C., said the proposed pay

raise was "not good policy" because "it rewards the bad along with the good" by giving all workers a raise regardless of performance reviews.

Meadows and other Republicans also took issue with how quickly the plan passed the House. It was introduced last week and was not subject to a committee vote.

But Democrats said the bill could not move forward until the government shutdown ended last Friday.

Twenty-nine Republicans joined 230 Democrats in supporting the bill. No Democrat opposed it.

Jump seen in monarch numbers at winter grounds

MEXICO CITY — The population of monarch butterflies wintering in central Mexico is up 144 percent over last year, experts said Wednesday.

The data presented by Andrew Rhodes, Mexico's national commissioner for protected natural areas, was cheered but scientists

quickly warned that it does not mean the butterflies that migrate from Canada and the United States are out of danger.

This winter, researchers found the butterflies occupying 14.95 acres of pine and fir forests in the mountains in Michoacan and Mexico states. That's an

increase from 6.12 acres a year ago. They arrive in such numbers that their population is measured by how much surface area they cover.

This year's is the biggest measurement since the 2006-2007 period, Rhodes said. A low of just 1.66 acres was recorded in 2013-2014.

Plutonium secretly sent from S.C. over Nev. protest

RENO, Nev. — The U.S. Department of Energy disclosed Wednesday that it already has shipped about a half-ton of weapons-grade plutonium from South Carolina to a nuclear security site in Nevada.

The Justice Department notified a federal judge in Reno that the government had already trucked the material to the site 70 miles north of Las Vegas when Nevada filed a request for an injunction to block the move in November.

Department lawyers said in a nine-page filing that the previously classified information about the shipment from South Carolina can be disclosed now because enough time has passed to protect national security. They didn't specify when the transfer occurred.

Nevada Gov. Steve Sisolak said he's "beyond outraged by this completely unacceptable deception."

Food recall: Tyson Foods is recalling more than 36,000 pounds of chicken nuggets after customers said they found "soft, blue rubber" inside. The U.S. Agriculture Department said the 5-pound bags initially shipped to distribution centers in Arizona, California, Illinois, New Jersey and Utah should be thrown away or returned.

In Kentucky: Sen. Rand Paul was awarded more than \$580,000 in damages by a jury Wednesday in his lawsuit against his neighbor who tackled him and broke several of his ribs.

The surprise attack by Rene Boucher occurred in 2017 while the Republican lawmaker was doing yard work at his Kentucky home.

Chicago Tribune

PRESENTS

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9:30 AM | Wendy Schiller / Brown University
10:35 AM | Undergraduate Teaching Award

POLITICS

Part II - Looking Forward: The Changing Face of Politics

10:50 AM | Sam Potolicchio / Georgetown University
11:55 AM | "America's Best Professors," Princeton Review

MUSIC

Three Musical Masterpieces that Every American Should Hear

12:10 PM | Orin Grossman / Fairfield University
1:15 PM | Distinguished Teacher Award

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EDITORIALS

The better City Hall that Chicago needs now

Three tremors have shaken this city's political landscape as Chicagoans approach an election that can remodel City Hall.

In early September, two-term Mayor Rahm Emanuel announced he would not seek re-election. That quake opened a chasm in the campaign for mayor, and new candidates rushed in. Fourteen are competing to succeed Emanuel. From the familiar names now appearing in TV ads to little-known 11th Ward rabble-rouser John Kozlar, voters have many choices.

Then one week after Thanksgiving, federal investigators raided the City Hall and ward offices of Ald. Edward Burke, sending another temblor through Chicago. The news jostled an electorate that, between City Council scandals, can be blase about allegations of corruption. The long-time influential chairman of the city's Finance Committee is charged with one count of attempted extortion for allegedly shaking down executives of a Burger King franchisee to get business for his law firm.

And another boom: News that, for several years, Ald. Danny Solis cooperated

with the feds, recording conversations with Burke and others, including Illinois House Speaker Michael Madigan. Neither Solis nor Madigan has been accused of any wrongdoing.

But the old guard politicians are stumbling as the earth shifts. Do you feel it? Voters, you're empowered.

So the question, Chicagoans: What City Hall do you want? Which will you choose?

Today the Tribune Editorial Board begins publishing endorsements for the Feb. 26 city election. Not only will voters select a new mayor but also a new City Council. This can be a moment for change, for a new City Hall.

Four years ago, in 2015, 1.4 million voters were registered to vote in Chicago. On Election Day, only 483,700 cast ballots. Turnout was 34 percent.

But last fall on Nov. 6, for a heated midterm election, 1.5 million Chicagoans got registered to vote and 912,000 of them cast ballots. Turnout was 61 percent.

Can that same engaged electorate show

up at the polls Feb. 26? Let's hope so, because Chicago needs a better City Hall.

Our endorsement process attempts to identify candidates who are independent-minded, intellectually curious and hard-working. Candidates who look beyond their wards to citywide challenges. In 2019 and beyond, the residents of Chicago need a mayor and aldermen who will advance economic growth with pro-jobs policies, rather than penalize employers for investing here. Who will limit rising taxation, rather than spend Chicagoans further into debt. Who will promote transparent government, rather than tolerate corruption in their midst. Who will encourage all Chicagoans to help police take criminals off the streets, rather than complaining that somebody else has to stop the violence.

Chicagoans need aldermen who deliver on bread-and-butter issues in their wards, but who also dig into these broader problems. Struggling neighborhoods, insufficient employment, pension obligations, population loss and emptying Chicago

school buildings need the urgent attention of the people voters send to City Hall. Let's repeat that phrase "urgent attention." There is no time for small plans.

In 2015, 13 new aldermen joined the City Council. Many of them hustled to bring economic development and stability to their communities. Some of them have earned another term. But elections also give voters a chance to break up with aldermen who aren't bringing their "A games." Our endorsement process attempts to identify them so Chicagoans can fire them.

Voters, you should feel like you're finally in the driver's seat, or at least sliding into it, foot outstretched toward that gas pedal. You'll choose the winner of a race for mayor that is up for grabs. You can keep the hard-working veterans but shove do-littles out of long-held seats on the City Council, finally.

That would produce the solutions-oriented City Hall that Chicago needs now. If all of us vote for the best candidates, the city's prospects will look better on Feb. 27.

So show us, Chicagoans, what kind of City Hall do you want?

Our choices for Chicago City Council

The Tribune Editorial Board today begins endorsements in contested races for aldermanic seats in the Feb. 26 municipal election.



1st Ward: Balancing the needs of longtime residents with the organic gentrification unfolding in this Hispanic and hipster ward is among its biggest challenges. Ald. **Proco "Joe" Moreno** is correct when he says "one

person's gentrification is another person's economic development." Moreno is under pressure from his opponent, newcomer Daniel La Spata, to implement policies that would regulate the ward's real estate boom and protect longtime property owners. He says Moreno has closer ties to developers than residents. But the fact is, Moreno has invited more affordable housing into the ward than most aldermen. His approach toward gentrification is less government intervention, not micromanaging. That philosophy has fostered a boom in the ward that yes, has raised property values. It also has beefed-up a customer pipeline for the many Latino-owned businesses in the ward. Moreno can rub people the wrong way. But he hustles to get things done, big and small, for his constituents. Moreno is endorsed.

3rd Ward: The City Council has its share of politicians who like to blivate. Ald. **Pat Dowell** is not one of them. We appreciate her thoughtful approach to problem-solving, along with her expertise in urban planning. She has supported transparency



She faces Alexandria Willis, a health specialist and entrepreneur from Bronzeville.



of the Kenwood Park Advisory Council, has done that. One of the council's newest members, King is a proponent of a stronger City Council and parliamentary rule changes that would loosen the grip of the mayor on the council. She says aldermen should have to reveal conflicts of interest,

initiatives on the council, including a greater role for the city's inspector general overseeing aldermanic activity. Dowell is levelheaded and fair, even when dealing with controversy in her ward. She has earned another term.

4th Ward: Stretching from downtown Chicago beyond 47th Street along the lakefront, this ward requires a nimble touch. The alderman must juggle a diverse constituency. Freshman Ald. **Sophia King**, former president of

not just abstain from voting on them. We're counting on her to push for those much-needed changes. King faces a rematch with Ebony Lucas, an attorney who challenged her during a special ward election in 2017. King is endorsed.



Hairston for her seat: Anti-violence activist William Calloway and former Hyde Park Herald editor **Gabriel Piemonte**. Calloway says reducing violent crime would be a top priority; Piemonte agrees, adding that the city's population loss will be an ongoing challenge for the next alderman. Hairston has had 20 years to bring improvements to the ward. It's time to give someone else a chance. We appreciate Calloway's heart and sincerity in protesting gun violence. But Piemonte offers more policy chops and would hit the ground running in a ward he knows intimately. He

supports a stronger council by empowering aldermen — not the mayor's office — to draft the annual budget. He would dismantle tax-increment financing districts, and he doesn't believe higher taxes should be the go-to answer to solving the city's fiscal crisis. Piemonte may well be a long shot against an entrenched incumbent. But voters of this ward know the status quo is not working. It's time to reinvigorate South Shore. Piemonte is endorsed.



are vigilant about their block clubs. They support the local businesses that remain. Incumbent Ald. Roderick Sawyer has represented the ward since 2011. While he's engaged in City Hall politics as head of the council's black caucus, residents say he has been less focused on the bread-and-butter issues of the ward. This time we're endorsing one of his opponents, accountant **Deborah Foster-Bonner**. She is proactive in the community and established a summer program for kids after complaints arose that children were unsupervised while their parents worked. She understands the need to tackle the city's pension crisis and would not support can-kicking proposals that borrow and accumulate taxpayer debt. Also on the ballot is Richard Wooten. Foster-Bonner is endorsed.

As the Feb. 26 Chicago election approaches, you'll find the mayoral and aldermanic candidates' answers to our surveys, and our endorsements, at chicagotribune.com/candidates. To find more information about the mayoral candidates, go to chicagotribune.com/mayorsrace.

WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING

A framework agreement was announced on Monday calling for a cease-fire that could lead to the full withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan. ... This current process bears an unfortunate resemblance to the Paris peace talks during the Vietnam War. Then, as now, it was clear that we were just negotiating the terms of our surrender. The Taliban will offer any number of commitments, knowing that when we are gone and the Taliban is back, we will have no means of enforcing any of them.

It does not have to go like this. The U.S. could announce that talks won't proceed beyond the framework, to matters of substance, without the full inclusion of the Afghan government. ... We could also note that unless some other solution is found, U.S. troops will remain in Afghanistan as long as the current Afghan government wants them, protecting the U.S.' national security interests and defending core values, such as women's rights, that we have fostered there since 2001.

President Obama proved in Iraq that America cannot end a war by withdrawing its forces — the battle space is simply left to our adversaries. In Afghanistan, President Trump has a choice. He can follow Obama's example and leave the country to the Taliban, or he can make clear that the U.S. has interests, values and allies, and will stand behind them.

— **Ryan Crocker**, *The New Yorker*

Admitting that this week's extreme wind chills were supposed to get to her, Minnesota resident Anne Mauer confirmed Tuesday that she's seriously thinking of packing it all up and moving somewhere warm like Michigan. "The winters here can be so brutal. Maybe it's about time I go someplace down south like Detroit or Kalamazoo," said Mauer. ... At press time, Mauer had given up plans to move and settled instead on a weeklong vacation in Rochester.

— **The Onion**

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Chicago Tribune PERSPECTIVE



NOAH BERGER/GETTY-AFP

Sen. Kamala Harris launched her presidential campaign Sunday in Oakland, Calif., and has called for abolishing private health insurance.

The dangerous allure of 'Medicare for all'



STEVE CHAPMAN

Like an oasis shimmering before parched travelers in a sun-baked desert, "Medicare for all" holds a powerful allure for Democrats. It's a clear concept based on a beloved program, offering to achieve the long-standing goal of universal health insurance. It will be hard for any Democrat running for president to reject the idea.

Sen. Kamala Harris made that clear when she not only endorsed the idea but also called for abolishing private insurance entirely. "Let's eliminate all of that," she said. By staking out a bold position so early in the campaign, she put pressure on other candidates to meet or raise her on the issue of single-payer, government-provided coverage.

The idea was already approaching party orthodoxy. Sen. Bernie Sanders ran for president on it in 2016 and may again in 2020. He would have company. Sens. Elizabeth Warren, Cory Booker and Kirsten Gillibrand are co-sponsors, along with Harris, of Sanders' legislation. Former Housing and Urban Development Secretary Julian Castro is on board. A House version won the sponsorship of most

Democrats, including presidential candidate Tulsi Gabbard.

All that happened before the rise of Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, another supporter. Dylan Matthews wrote in Vox, "Soon no Democratic leader will be able to oppose single-payer." That was in September 2017, and "soon" may already be "now."

But like many an oasis, this one is a mirage. The broad conversion of Democrats to the single-payer model stems from their bitter experience with the Affordable Care Act, aka Obamacare.

It was a market-oriented approach that retained a primary role for private insurance, strongly resembling a Massachusetts program enacted under a GOP governor named Mitt Romney. Yet Republicans in Congress universally demonized it as a radical socialist scheme.

The conclusion most Democrats reached is that moderation in pursuit of universal coverage is a vice. If you're going to be portrayed as engineering a complete government takeover of health insurance regardless, they decided, you might as well go all the way.

That's the wrong lesson. The ACA was an incremental, cautious program to provide insurance to more people, falling short of universal coverage. Yet the prospect of significant change was enough to make voters susceptible to shameless fearmongering. Over the seven years after it became law in

But like many an oasis, this one is a mirage.

2010, according to Kaiser Family Foundation surveys, a plurality of Americans consistently took an unfavorable view of the program.

But when Donald Trump became president and Republicans gained control of Congress, they set about keeping their promise to repeal Obamacare. At that point, sentiment abruptly shifted. In February 2017, Kaiser found, 48 percent of Americans had a positive opinion of the ACA, and only 42 percent disliked it — and it has retained its popularity ever since.

The lesson is that when it comes to health care, Americans harbor a deep suspicion of any major change. They distrusted the ACA from the start because they feared it would cost them more, reduce the quality of care or deprive them of their existing policies.

But when Republicans tried to repeal the law, that aversion to change suddenly became the ally of Obamacare. However imperfect what they had was, voters worried that a replacement would be even worse.

Harris' intention to get rid of private insurance will feed this fear. Americans rightly didn't believe Barack Obama when he said, "If you like your health care plan, you can keep it."

When Harris says that people who like their health care plans will not be able to keep them, voters will believe her, to her detriment. Democrats can promise that "Medicare for All," however it is defined, would be an improvement over the status quo, but millions of people with private coverage will figure they are about to get the shaft.

Single-payer coverage could generate even broader opposition than the ACA did, argues Lanhee Chen, a research fellow at Stanford's Hoover Institution.

When 30-year-olds hear the term "Medicare for all," they may hope they'd get something better than what they have. But 70-year-olds will assume they'd get something worse. "It's certainly possible that seniors will view 'Medicare for all' as cutting into the benefits they receive," he told me.

At the moment, by preserving Obamacare, Democrats have aligned themselves with public sentiment. If they insist on promising "Medicare for all," they will find themselves up against the perennial attitude of Americans about their health insurance and health care system: It's lousy, and don't you dare change it.

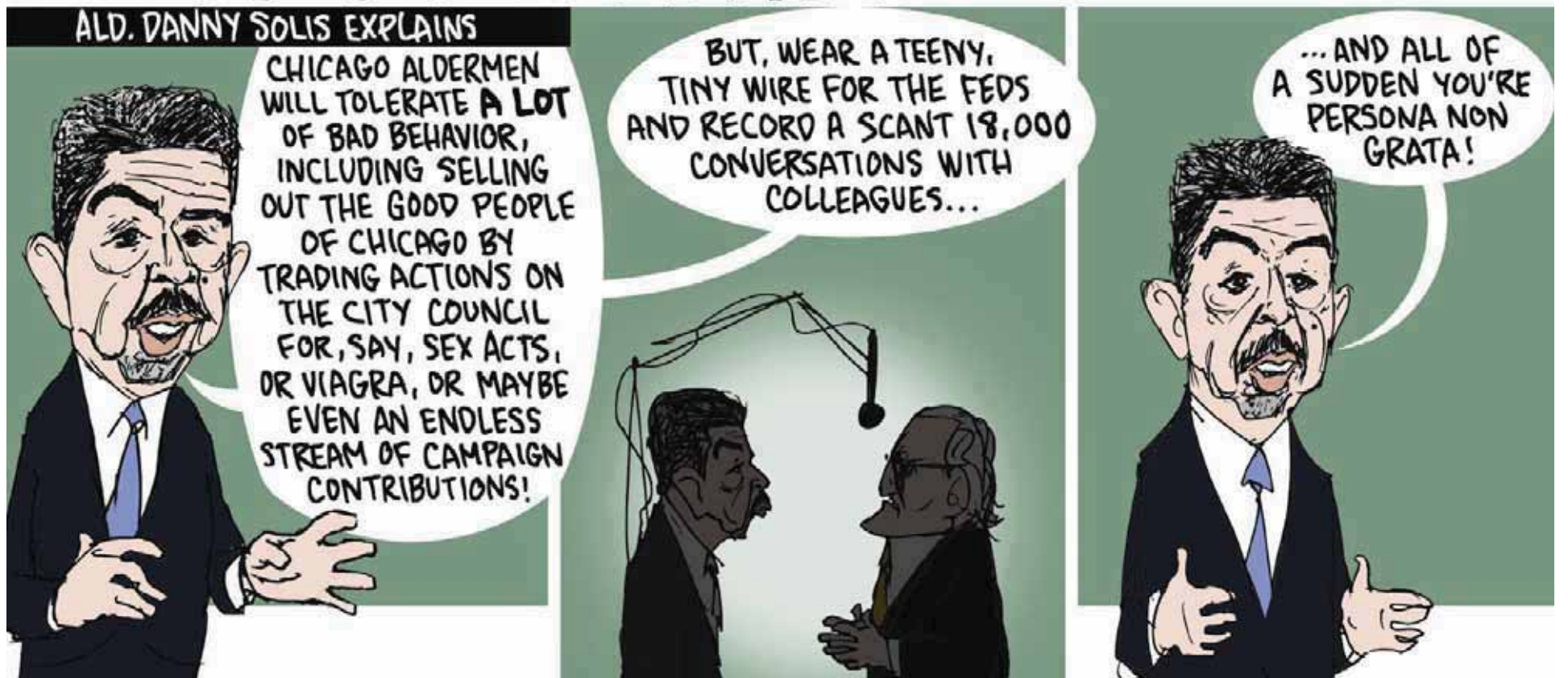
Steve Chapman, a member of the Tribune Editorial Board, blogs at www.chicagotribune.com/chapman.

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OP-ART JOE FOURNIER

DANNY'S DOWNFALL

BY JOE "PLEASE SPEAK DIRECTLY INTO THE TIE CLIP" FOURNIER



PERSPECTIVE



AP

Vice President Richard Nixon shakes hands with baseball star Jackie Robinson in Plainfield, N.J., where Nixon was campaigning in 1960.

Jackie Robinson fought for a racially inclusive GOP

BY MICHAEL G. LONG

Jackie Robinson wasn't merely "the loneliest man in sports," as the journalist Jimmy Cannon put it in 1947. By the end of his life — he was born 100 years ago Thursday — Robinson was also the loneliest man in politics.

Robinson's politics steered Republican, but party leaders often isolated him because of his persistent call for a racially inclusive party. Had they embraced him, their party might not have become the sort of haven where politicians such as U.S. Rep. Steve King of Iowa felt safe enough to express support for white nationalism and white supremacy.

Throughout the 1950s, Robinson was convinced that Abraham Lincoln's party was still slanted toward freedom, and that African-Americans would do well to avoid becoming captive to just one political party, especially the Democratic Party, with its Dixiecrats chairing key congressional committees.

As a tireless advocate of the "two-party system," Robinson shocked many of his friends when he signed up to campaign full-time for Richard Nixon during the 1960 presidential election. The baseball great was disgusted by John Kennedy's open courtship of Southern governors, and also quite taken by Nixon's racially progressive statements.

But Nixon's campaign proved to be equally troubling, and Robinson soured on the candidate's white strategists for ignoring Harlem and other key black areas.

Nixon did not escape Robinson's fierce wrath either. Robinson had lobbied hard for the presidential candidate to telephone his concern to Martin Luther King Jr., who had just begun to serve a sentence of four months of hard labor at Georgia State Prison in Reidsville.

But Nixon, never quite comfortable around African-Americans, stated that contacting King would have been "grand-

standing."

Robinson was crushed, and just after the election, he poured out his frustration in a letter to Albert Hermann, campaign director of the Republican National Committee. "I was terribly disappointed over the election and feel we are at a great loss," he wrote. "I cannot help but feel we must work for a two-party system as far as the Negro is concerned." Hermann thanked Robinson for the letter, adding, "Personally, it is my judgment that you could be a 'Messiah' for the Republican Party in the days ahead."

But Republican leaders weren't looking for a black messiah, and in the following year, Robinson implored Nixon to counter Barry Goldwater's white-centered politics. "We're not going to get the Negro vote as a bloc in 1964 and 1968, so we ought to go hunting where the ducks are," Goldwater had said. That divisive statement, Robinson wrote Nixon, "will be Republican policy until someone other than Goldwater vigorously denies that the Republican Party is not interested in the Negro vote."

Nixon did not come through, and Robinson's disappointment only deepened when the Republicans nominated Goldwater for president in 1964. "His candidacy reeks with prejudice and bigotry," Robinson wrote.

Warning that Republicans were forming a "white man's party," Robinson then supported the Democratic Lyndon Johnson-Hubert Humphrey ticket in 1964. But he drifted back to the Republican fold once again in the mid-1960s, this time focusing his lobbying efforts on his all-time favorite politician, Republican Gov. Nelson Rockefeller of New York. "The sooner there is a strong two-party system in New York as well as nationwide, the sooner we get our rights," he penned to Rockefeller in 1965.

With Robinson's help, Rockefeller built a solid base of African-American voters in

New York, but the party faithful on the national level never warmed up to the liberal Republican. And Robinson's hope for a two-party system fizzled yet again when Nixon cozied up to Southern segregationists during the 1968 presidential election, leading Robinson to wonder how any self-respecting African-American could ever vote for the "racist" Republican ticket.

Still, the baseball great refused to surrender. Arguing that "it is not good policy for any minority to put all of their eggs in one political basket," he attended a 1972 dinner hosted by the Black Committee to Re-elect the President. He was not rewarded. In the spring of that same year, Nixon called for a moratorium on busing that would achieve racial balance in public schools.

Robinson would never become an all-star with the Republican Party, and the reason for his failure is clear: Republican leaders confined him to the corner of the dugout so that they could please the millions of white fans who were loudly cheering for political order, not racial justice, in those turbulent times.

At the end of his life, Robinson was left to plead. "Because I want so much to be a part of and to love this nation as I once did," he wrote in his last letter to Nixon, "I hope you will take another look at where we are going and be the president who leads the nation to accept difficult but necessary action, rather than one who fosters division."

Nixon did not reply, and for 37 years, up until Republican leaders recently punished Rep. King for his comments about white supremacy and white nationalism, the silence was deafening.

At last, though, Robinson may no longer be alone.

Michael G. Long is the editor of "Beyond Home Plate: Robinson on Life after Baseball" (Syracuse University Press).

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

High cost of no snow removal

The city of Chicago fails to address any number of problems, but one thing that Chicago politicians seem to get right is snow removal. Ever since Michael Bilandic did the unforgivable by ignoring winter storm warnings.

Even with thousands of miles of streets to clear, the city does an admirable job of getting plows out early. After all, officials' re-election might well be determined by their sense of urgency.

Thank you, Mayor Bilandic.
— Bob Ory, Elgin

Bipartisan plan to cut carbon

The article about the impact of global warming on Southland ("Increased flooding, hotter summers in Southland a consequence of climate change: federal report," Jan. 27) was scary and informative. While I agree taking steps to reduce our personal carbon pollution is important, I don't agree that nothing is being done at the federal level. There is a bipartisan bill that would create a carbon tax and taxpayer dividend to stop carbon polluters — the Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act. Elephants and donkeys alike are finally waking up to the problem.

— Benjamin Gerhold, Chicago

Reduce greenhouse gases

Thank you for Tony Briscoe's article on Gov. J.B. Pritzker taking steps to fight climate change ("Pritzker commits state to climate change fight," Jan. 24). I'm proud that Illinois is taking the lead, in contrast to inaction at the federal level. Controlling climate change is best addressed by reducing greenhouse gases through decreased use of fossil fuels. A gradually increasing fee on carbon, paid by fossil fuel-producing companies, will speed the change to non-carbon alternatives and shift the artificially low cost of fossil fuels. The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act was reintroduced in the U.S. House, with Chicago's Dan Lipinski as a co-sponsor. The act will take revenue from the fee on carbon and give it to every American family, creating a win-win situation.

— Annie Avery, Chicago

U.S. should set example

The news brief in the Jan. 15 Tribune, "In Antarctica, ice is shrinking 6 times faster than in 1980s," is just the latest piece of evidence in a mounting pile demonstrating that climate change results from human activities and is accelerating. We are already seeing effects ranging from increasingly frequent forest fires in the West to stronger hurricanes in the Southeast. As a leading power, the United States should be a positive example to other nations. The Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act represents one of the strongest options to rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions in an economically viable fashion.

— Noah Paulson, Chicago

Pritzker policy won't help

If the executive order signed by Gov. J.B. Pritzker regarding climate change results in any actual policy change, I have the following predictions: There will be no effect at all on the climate; most Illinoisians will become economically worse off; and a small group of political insiders will become even wealthier. In other words, more of the same.

— Alan Van Dyke, Chicago

We must take action now

Quoting your editorial ("America and the next 2 years of Trump," Jan. 20): "There are other serious problems to confront on health care, trade, Syria and Afghanistan." The International Panel on Climate Change, a United Nations-sponsored body of scientific experts, recently told us that we have only about 10 years to take far-reaching action to avert dangerous warming that puts our forests, agriculture, water, infrastructure and health at serious risk. They mean that action must start now. I hope that future Tribune editorials will include action to combat global warming on every list of "serious problems."

— Laura Haule, Warrenville

N.Y. abortion act appalling

What exactly differentiates New York's state legislators from Aztec priests performing child sacrifices?

In passing the Reproductive Health Act, the former have legalized abortion up to the baby's due date. What happened to the notion of "fetal viability," so fundamental in the Roe v. Wade decision?

New York's abortionists have been handed free rein, ostensibly to pre-empt the overturning of Roe v. Wade.

The political left is militantly secularist. In its view, definitions of sexuality and human worth are to be made by man, not revealed from on high, by God. Thus, a perfectly formed child, breathing on its own, is not a person until acknowledged by some institutional authority.

— Alexander Lee, Chicago

Wisconsin is finally facing the reality of Foxconn's plans

BY TIM CULPAN

So Foxconn Technology Group may not make display panels in Wisconsin after all.

Those who've been following Foxconn for a long time won't be surprised. Chairman and founder Terry Gou is as much a salesman as he is a manufacturer, having spent decades honing his pitch not just to clients but also governments.

Then-Gov. Scott Walker, backed by President Donald Trump, loved exactly what he sold: the promise of thousands of jobs to make stuff in the U.S. Walker loved it so much that he pledged as much as \$3 billion in sweeteners, a deal that likely cost him his governorship.

Now, according to a Reuters interview with one of Gou's right-hand men, such plans to manufacture display panels may be scaled back or even shelved.

"In Wisconsin we're not building a factory. You can't use a factory to view our Wisconsin investment," Louis Woo was cited as saying. Woo was one of the key architects and negotiators behind Foxconn's deal with the state.

Foxconn's Wisconsin-made screens likely would have been put into televisions. Woo this week acknowledged that "in terms of TV, we have no place in the U.S. ... We can't compete."

If Foxconn can't be competitive making electronics in the U.S., nobody can.

Woo's acknowledgment doesn't appear to come from any change in Foxconn's deal with Wisconsin, or even any shift in the macroeconomic environment. It's simply a matter of economic reality. The same reality that existed when Trump



BRIAN CASSELLA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

President Donald Trump, left, and Foxconn Chairman Terry Gou appear at the ground-breaking ceremony in June 2018 for a Foxconn plant in Mount Pleasant, Wis.

was handing out red truckers' hats and promising to Make America Great Again.

Two years ago this week I wrote that Foxconn's U.S. panel project didn't make sense, evidenced by a comment Gou himself made saying that such plans weren't a promise but a wish.

Wishes don't always come true. I believe now, as I did then, that it would not be in Wisconsin's interests to be closely tied to the flat-panel industry because it's a highly cyclical, cost-sensitive business. One that would likely see massive job cuts not long after large-scale hiring.

Foxconn is now publicly conceding that manufacturing panels in Wisconsin isn't viable, but it still thinks it can hire just as many as originally promised. Instead of factory workers, Woo said they'll hire for

research positions as well as back-end packaging and assembly employees. Frankly, that's wishful thinking because the U.S. doesn't have much of a talent pool to dabble in these areas.

In 2018, the first year of the Wisconsin experiment, the company couldn't hit its employment target. Instead of creating a very modest 260 full-time jobs, Foxconn filled just 178 positions, Reuters reported.

Now that Foxconn is acknowledging the truth about manufacturing in America, it might be time for the country to face that same reality.

Bloomberg

Tim Culpan is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering technology.

For online exclusive letters go to www.chicagotribune.com/letters. Send letters by email to ctc-TribLetter@chicagotribune.com or to Voice of the People, Chicago Tribune, 160 N. Stetson Ave., Third Floor, Chicago, IL 60601. Include your name, address and phone number.



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Chicago Tribune BUSINESS

China to change foreign investment laws

But analysts say proposal would be 'a step backward'

BY ANNA FIFIELD AND DAVID J. LYNCH
The Washington Post

BELJING — China has accelerated plans to introduce a new foreign investment law that will tackle some of the key sources of friction with the United States by banning forced technology transfers and better protecting intellectual property rights. The decision Wednesday came hours before Chinese and American negotiators

began highly anticipated talks in Washington seeking to resolve their trade disputes.

The National People's Congress, China's rubber-stamp parliament, will vote on the new foreign investment law, which will replace three existing laws, during a session scheduled to open March 5, the official Xinhua news agency reported Wednesday. It is sure to be approved.

"There is an urgent need for such a unified law to provide stronger legal protection for further expanding, opening up and better using foreign investment," Justice Minister Fu

Zhenghua told lawmakers when introducing the draft during a special two-day session of the Congress' standing committee this week.

The speed with which China is enacting the law — Beijing will do in three months what usually takes at least a year — underscores President Xi Jinping's eagerness to reach a deal and resolve the dispute.

Xi appears to be concerned that the trade war will exacerbate an economic slowdown that is already underway, analysts say.

But the law may fall short



U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer, right, with Trump administration officials, meets Wednesday with Chinese Vice Premier Liu He, left, and other Chinese officials.

ANDREW HARNIK/AP

Turn to **China**, Page 2

MCDONALD'S

Chain logs strong growth globally

But has seen fewer U.S. customers

Associated Press

McDonald's says modernized stores and growth in delivery helped bring in more customers globally last year, but lower store traffic in the U.S. remains a concern.

The world's biggest hamburger chain said sales rose 4.4 percent at established locations in the fourth quarter and 4.5 percent for the year. McDonald's President and Chief Executive Steve Easterbrook said the October-December period was the 14th straight quarter that McDonald's has seen global same-store sales growth. He said 2018 was the second consecutive year that McDonald's global guest count rose, an achievement not seen since 2012.

Some markets, like the Netherlands and Italy, reported double-digit percentage sales growth in the fourth quarter. But the picture was mixed in the U.S., which is home to almost 40 percent of McDonald's 36,000 restaurants.

U.S. same-store sales were up 2.3 percent in the fourth quarter, driven by higher prices. The chain dropped the Happy Meal from its \$3 value menu in October, for example, and now charges more for most Happy Meals. It also added pricier limited-time items like glazed chicken tenders. But U.S. customer visits were down in the quarter, partly because McDonald's is losing share of breakfast orders to competitors like Taco Bell.

Easterbrook said the company hopes to reverse that with breakfast value menus, more coffee promotions and personalized deals for customers using its mobile ordering system. Making sure drive-thru service is meeting demand is also a priority, he said.

One way to ensure repeat

Turn to **Growth**, Page 2



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS

A worker with Traffic Management Authority guides drivers at United Airlines terminal 1 at O'Hare International Airport on Wednesday.

'AN EXTREME ENVIRONMENT'

Amid cancellations, airlines add warming shelters, chili and extra workers

BY LAUREN ZUMBACH | Chicago Tribune

Airlines canceled hundreds of flights at Chicago's airports as a brutal cold snap struck the Midwest on Wednesday. But some flights were still taking off and carriers said they were taking steps to help employees working outside deal with dangerously cold temperatures.

As of Wednesday afternoon, 1,519 flights arriving and departing at O'Hare International Airport and 328 at Midway Airport had been canceled, according to the Chicago Department of Aviation.

United Airlines canceled about 500 flights out of O'Hare on Wednesday and Thursday, or about 80 percent of scheduled flights. American Airlines had canceled 75 Wednesday flights

as of Tuesday evening.

To help ramp workers who have to be outside handle the cold, United said it would bring in employees typically stationed at other airports so it could set up rotating shifts and minimize time spent in freezing temperatures. The airline declined to say how many extra workers would be headed to O'Hare.

Turn to **Airlines**, Page 2

1:00pm	5497/4419	F6	Canceled
1:45pm	3671/4544	C8	Canceled
3:40pm	3712/1803	E8	Canceled
12:47pm	5168	F7	Canceled
2:45pm	3794	F14	Canceled
2:00pm	4733	E5	Canceled
12:45pm	4538/2367	C5	Canceled
2:05pm	4811	E1	Canceled

Cancelled flights are displayed on the board at the United Airlines terminal 1 departures level at O'Hare on Wednesday.

New Portillo's coming to Chicago's Northwest Side at end of the year

BY ALEXIA ELEJALDE-RUIZ
Chicago Tribune

Portillo's plans to open a third Chicago restaurant this year on the city's Northwest side as the purveyor of hot dogs, Italian beef sandwiches and chocolate cake shakes continues its expansion.

The restaurant will be constructed at Addison and Kimball streets, on the border between Avondale and Irving Park, on the site of what is currently a taxi

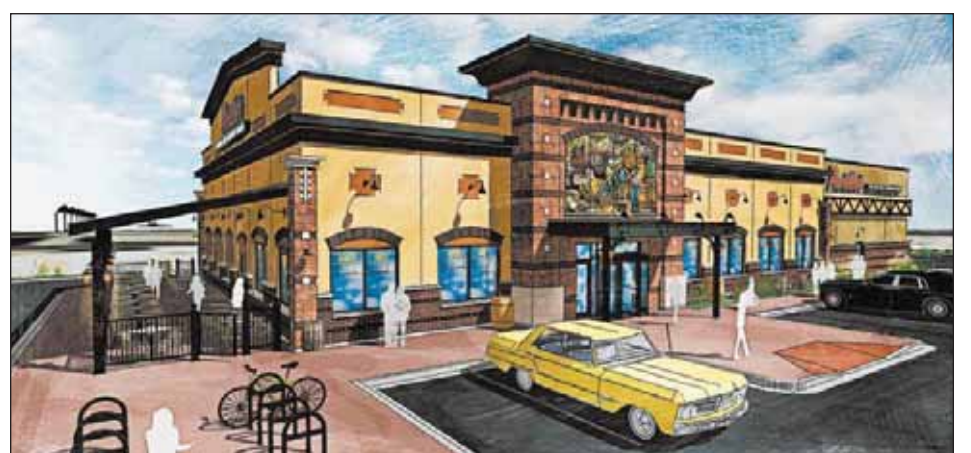
repair facility and office. At 9,900 square feet, it will have seating for more than 280 people, an outdoor patio, a parking lot and a double drive-thru. It is set to open by the end of the year.

Portillo's, whose other Chicago locations are in River North and the South Loop, has been expanding rapidly since Berkshire Partners purchased it five years ago from founder Dick Portillo, who started the business selling hot dogs from a trailer in a

parking lot in Villa Park in 1963.

The chain now has 57 restaurants in seven states, up from 38 in four states when the sale was made.

The new Northwest side restaurant will be themed "Chicago in the Roaring Twenties to the Great Depression and the New Deal," according to a news release, and will feature Prohibition-inspired stills, posters of gangsters and lawmen and Chicago World's Fair souvenirs. A 1920s truck will be sus-



PORTILLO'S PHOTO

An artist's rendering shows the new Portillo's restaurant coming to the Northwest side.

pended from the dining room ceiling.

All Portillo's locations have themes such as 1950s

diner, '70s or Western. The River North location has a 1930s-40s gangster theme, and the South Loop restau-

rant is 1930s Prohibition.

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Dealing with dementia at work

Aging employees means delicate talks on declines

BY ANDREW SOERGEL
Associated Press

CHICAGO — Faced with an aging American workforce, companies are increasingly navigating delicate conversations with employees grappling with cognitive declines, experts say.

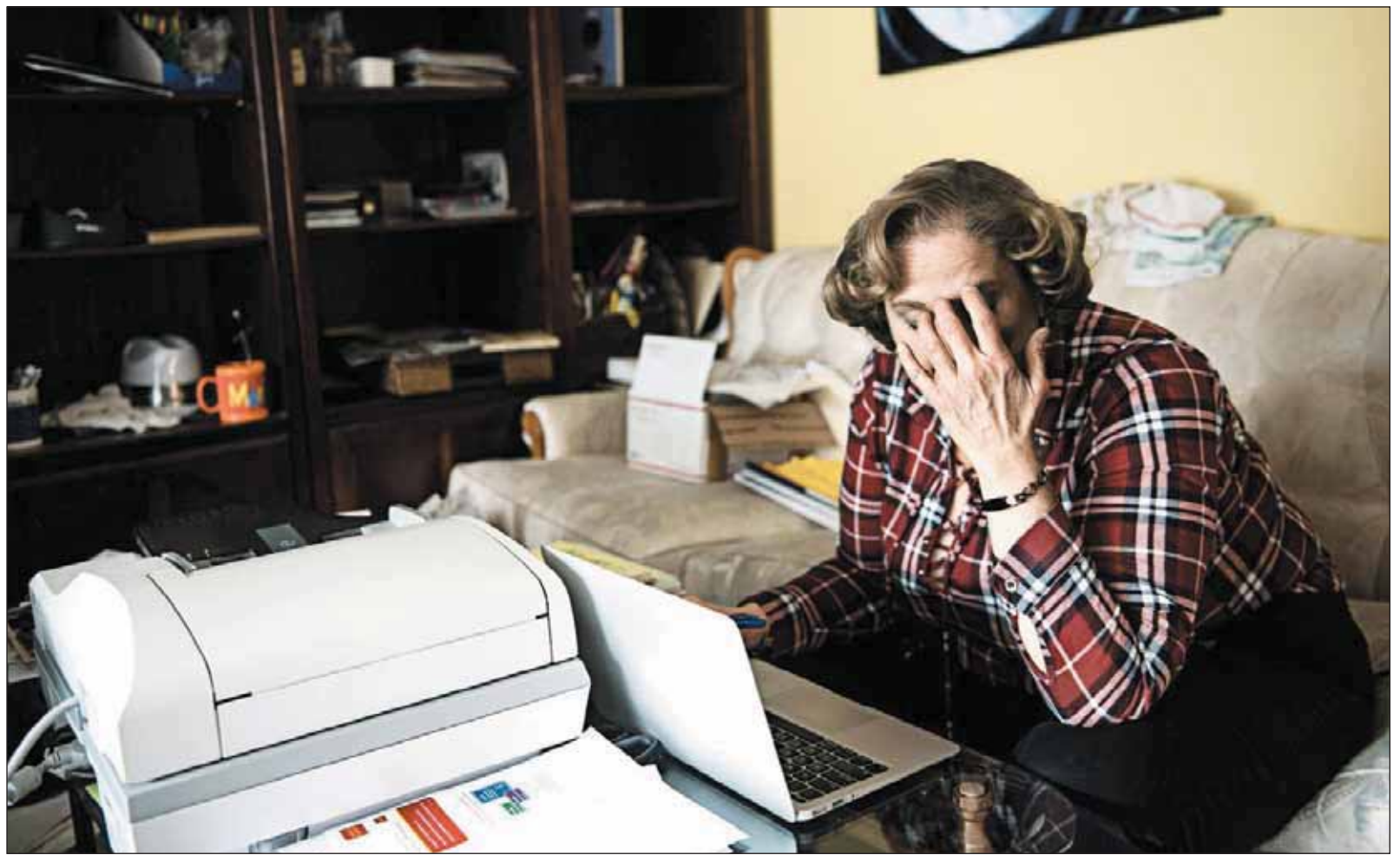
Workers experiencing early stages of dementia may struggle with tasks they had completed without difficulty. Historically punctual employees may forget about scheduled meetings. And those who have traveled to the same office day after day, sometimes for years on end, may begin to lose their way.

“I’ve talked to a number of families where a person didn’t realize they had the disease and they didn’t know what was going on. And they got fired for performance issues before anyone knew what the diagnosis was,” says Ruth Drew, the director of information and support services at the nonprofit Alzheimer’s Association. Drew also oversees the organization’s 24-hour help hotline.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates the number of U.S. workers between the ages of 65 and 74 will balloon 55 percent from 2014 to 2024, with 86 percent growth for the working population over 75.

It’s that 65-and-up age group that’s most likely to face dementia diagnoses, though early-onset symptoms can afflict younger people. Though studies show the rate of dementia diagnoses has actually fallen in recent years, the sheer number of older U.S. workers expected to remain in the workforce has increasingly left employees and employers wrestling with the prospect of dementia in the office.

“And it’s not just managing missed deadlines. It’s about managing their frustration with everything that’s changing,” says Sarah Wood, director of global work-life services at Workplace Options, a North Carolina-based consultation



KEVIN WOLF/AP

Mary Radnofsky of Alexandria, Va., who is in the early stages of dementia, tries to recall a recent phone conversation.

“The trick is figuring out what tasks they can still perform and what they can still do safely to continue to contribute.”

—Sarah Wood, director of global work-life services at Workplace Options, a North Carolina-based consultation and training organization.

and training organization. “If this person has been a dependable employee for 40 years and is now missing meetings, they’ll be beating themselves up over this.”

The Americans With Disabilities Act, which guarantees certain rights and workplace accommodation, covers individuals with Alzheimer’s diagnoses and certain other forms of dementia depending on the employee’s position and level of impairment.

“The trick is figuring out what tasks they can still perform and what they can still do safely to continue to contribute,” Wood says.

Possible accommodations might include issuing

written instructions rather than verbal commands, or reassigning a heavy machine operator or employee to a desk job, says David Fram, director of Americans with Disabilities Act and equal opportunity services at the nonprofit National Employment Law Institute. He notes that employers cannot simply fire an employee solely because of a disability or dementia diagnosis if that person can still perform certain job requirements.

“The next question is whether they’re qualified for their job. And that’s the tougher point, depending on how advanced (the dementia) is,” he says. “People have to do the essential

functions of the job.” This creates a delicate balance between employer and employee.

For some, disclosing dementia to an employer could open the door to workplace adjustments. For others, there’s fear of stigmatization or even termination.

Mike Belleville, 57, a former telecommunications technician at Verizon now living in Bellingham, Mass., was diagnosed with Lewy body dementia in 2012.

He said receiving his diagnosis “was almost like, ‘Hey, here’s what’s wrong with me. And here’s the reason why I’ve been messing up.’”

Belleville says his “aha” moment came when his performance began to slip and younger colleagues he initially trained began coaching him through his job.

He says he wouldn’t have had access to certain benefits like short-term disability insurance had he not fully disclosed his condition to his employer.

His supervisors eventually scaled back his hours and reduced his workload, allowing him to work several months with a regular salary before going on disability leave.

“If you’re driving a semi cross-country and you keep getting lost, OK, you shouldn’t be doing that. But could you work in the loading dock? Could you have a desk job? What are the ways we can accommodate people so that they can continue contributing meaningfully to society?” asks Al Power, an internist and geriatrician who has extensively researched and written about dementia.

After initially being misdiagnosed, Mary Radnofsky, 60 and a former professor now living in the Washington, D.C., area, learned she had a rare form of leukoencephalopathy, which caused minor strokes and cognitive impairment.

Her worsening condition led her to step away from her teaching career at the University of Hawaii in 2011,

even before her official diagnosis.

“Apparently I ‘looked’ healthy both on paper and in person, had a very good education, and was ‘too young’ to have dementia,” she says.

Early dementia symptoms often mirror other ailments that may impair cognitive function, or even other types of dementia. Belleville, for example, was initially diagnosed with early-onset Alzheimer’s before doctors recognized his condition as Lewy body dementia.

Power suggests that the U.S. is “still in denial in terms of public policy” related to the aging workforce and supporting employees with dementia.

And that, he says, has placed a “greater burden on society.”

“I don’t think people have gotten their heads around how to respond to this rapidly aging population,” he says. “We should have been planning for this 30 years ago.”

China pushes through changes to foreign investment law

China, from Page 1

of what is needed to satisfy Trump administration concerns, based on the most recent publicly available text, according to some U.S. experts.

“It actually would be a step backward,” said Scott Kennedy, director of the project on Chinese business at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

“The draft is so full of vague statements and holes that passing the law would make absolutely no difference to the experience of foreign companies in China and actually could leave them worse off than they are today.”

A draft dated Dec. 26 exempted the financial sector from its requirements, sets no deadline for China to treat foreign companies the

same as domestic ones and includes a national security clause that the government “could use to block all sorts of investment,” Kennedy added.

That draft also is much shorter and less detailed than an abortive 2015 proposal to overhaul China’s foreign investment system, according to a blog post by three attorneys at Covington & Burling.

As a result, many significant issues will be worked out in regulations drafted to implement the law, creating “significant uncertainty” about how the measure will work in practice, according to Covington.

Provisions ostensibly aimed at satisfying the U.S. — including over the forced transfer of technology by foreign companies to their joint venture partners — “do

not appear to conclusively address those long-standing concerns,” the attorneys wrote.

The standing committee is reviewing an updated version of the legislation, according to Xinhua. But that text has not yet been made public, leaving foreign investors uncertain of the extent of the changes made since the end of December.

President Donald Trump

has set a deadline of March 1 for the negotiators to reach a deal on rebalancing the countries’ trade relationship or face the risk he will further increase tariffs on Chinese imports.

As of October, almost 950,000 foreign-funded companies were registered to operate in China, and they had invested more than \$2.1 trillion in China, the state news agency said.



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Passengers navigate Terminal 1 at O’Hare International Airport on Wednesday in Chicago.

Airlines help keep workers safe

Airlines, from Page 1

Both carriers said they would set up warming stations for workers. American planned to serve employees hot chili in its O’Hare airport lounge and hot chocolate and other warm beverages in warming vans on the ramp, Chicago Vice President Franco Tedeschi wrote in a letter to employees. The airline also said it would have shuttle vans in the O’Hare employee parking lot to help workers commute safely.

The airlines also said they were trying to keep aircraft and other equipment out of the elements.

Batteries suffer in cold temperatures, so aircraft and other equipment that rely on them to start up may need to be kept running or connected to power, said Robert Mann, a New York-based airline industry consultant. Aircraft also need to be kept warm enough to keep water systems — like those that provide drinking water — from freezing.

“It becomes an extreme

environment for everyone to operate in and you do have to take some precautions to avoid equipment outages,” Mann said.

That can make it tough for airlines to keep up with their typical schedule, he said.

Both carriers encouraged passengers traveling to, from or through the Midwest to check the status of their flights before heading to the airport.

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McDonald’s sees global growth

Growth, from Page 1

customer visits, Easterbrook said, is store improvements. McDonald’s says half its restaurants globally have now been converted to a modern design that includes digital ordering kiosks, table service and curbside pickup for mobile orders. In the U.S., 4,500 of McDonald’s 14,000 restaurants have been redesigned; 2,000 more are scheduled to be redesigned in 2019.

The redesigns have caused some problems with U.S. franchisees, who have complained about the high cost and the time it takes to complete them. McDonald’s, which is paying 55 percent of the cost for the redesigns, spent \$1.4 billion on U.S. renovation costs in 2018 alone, and expects to spend nearly \$1 billion this year.

As a result, McDonald’s is allowing franchisees to delay the redesigns until 2022, in exchange for a lower contribution of 40 percent of costs. But the company said Wednesday it expects most U.S. restaurants to complete the renovations by 2020.

“Collectively we remain committed to the growth strategy,” said Easterbrook,



ANTONIO PEREZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE 2018

Ordering kiosks are seen at McDonald’s at 10 E. Chicago Ave. The burger chain is reporting strong global growth.

who met with franchisees to hear their concerns throughout the quarter.

McDonald’s plans to open 1,200 new restaurants globally in 2019. Nearly half of those will be in China.

Easterbrook said delivery has quickly grown into a \$3 billion business for the company. Around half of McDonald’s locations globally now offer it, he said. The U.S., France and the United Kingdom all saw high double-digit percentage growth in year-over-year delivery orders in 2018, he said.

For the fourth quarter, McDonald’s reported earnings of \$1.42 billion, or \$1.82 per share. Adjusted for one-time gains and costs, that

came to \$1.97 per share, which is 7 cents better than industry analysts had expected, according to a poll by Zacks Investment Research.

Fourth-quarter revenue was down 3 percent to \$5.16 billion, matching forecasts. Revenue was expected to fall as McDonald’s puts some company-owned stores back in the hands of franchisees. Around 90 percent of the company’s stores globally are run by franchisees; McDonald’s wants to bring that to 95 percent.

Portions of this story were generated by Automated Insights using data from Zacks Investment Research.

Boeing notches more than \$100B in revenue

BY DAVID KOENIG
Associated Press

DALLAS — Boeing, flying high on strong demand for airliners and military planes, faces a difficult decision over whether to develop a new plane to fill a gap in its lineup.

Boeing Co. CEO Dennis Muilenburg says the plane could replace less fuel-efficient bigger planes and let airlines launch new mid-range routes. It would be bigger than Boeing's workhorse 737 but smaller than the 787, the company's newest airliner, which first landed in airline fleets in 2011.

Muilenburg said Wednesday there is demand for the plane, but Boeing needs to make sure of "the business case" for the jet before making a

multibillion-dollar commitment to build it.

On another subject, Muilenburg said Boeing's short-term prospects in China are uncertain, partly because of the U.S. trade dispute with China. Boeing remains bullish on the long-term potential for the Chinese market, he said.

The comments came as Chicago-based Boeing reported that its 2018 revenue topped \$100 billion — a first for the century-old aircraft-maker. The company posted fourth-quarter earnings and sales above Wall Street expectations and offered an upbeat forecast for 2019.

Boeing executives said they expect to decide this year whether a new, mid-sized airliner would make business sense, then conduct another round of dis-

cussions with airline customers before making a final launch decision next year. Airlines would get the plane starting around 2025.

"It's clear that there is a market need, but we are working through the details of the business case," the CEO told analysts and reporters.

Cost is an obvious concern; analysts say the new plane could top \$15 billion to develop. It could give Boeing an answer if Airbus pushes ahead with a longer version of its A321 jetliner, but it could also undercut sales of Boeing's own 787, called the Dreamliner.

Jonathan Root, an analyst for Moody's Investors Service, said Boeing's financial performance and deep backlog of more than 5,800 airliners on order will generate cash needed to

develop the plane. Market expectations for a launch of the program, he said, "are high."

Meanwhile, U.S. and Chinese negotiators started two days of high-level talks Wednesday aimed at settling a six-month trade war that has weakened both sides, shaken financial markets and clouded the outlook for the global economy.

The Trump administration has imposed tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese imports in retaliation for China's alleged theft and forced sharing of technology from American companies.

Muilenburg said the trade tension, along with China's 5-year economic planning cycle, may affect the timing of orders from China and create uncertainty for Boeing's business

there over the next quarter or two, but won't dampen the strong long-term outlook. He said both countries have too much to lose by continuing to fight.

"China needs the airplanes ... to meet their passenger growth and cargo-growth needs, and here in the U.S. our aerospace business is a tremendous U.S. jobs generator," he said.

Against the tide of rising U.S. trade wars, Boeing delivered 238 commercial airplanes in the fourth quarter and 806 in all of 2018, up 6 percent from 2017. It expects more of the same in 2019, projecting deliveries between 895 and 905.

Production of the 737 has been hindered by shortages of key parts. Boeing executives said they had sent representatives to engine

maker CFM International — not an unusual move, they said — to help restore the supply chain.

Boeing's quarterly net income was \$3.42 billion, and it said "core" profit was \$5.48 per share, easily topping the \$4.52 per share that industry analysts were looking for, according to a poll by Zacks Investment Research.

The Chicago company's revenue rose 14 percent to \$28.34 billion, breezing past analysts' forecast of \$26.65 billion.

Boeing expects full-year 2019 earnings between \$19.90 and \$20.10 per share and revenue of \$109.5 billion to \$111.5 billion. Both would beat analysts' expectations.

The AP's Matthew Ott in New York contributed.

A new tech frontier for gamers

Cloud-based streaming may be closer than ever

BY BRIAN FUNG
The Washington Post

When Cory Burdette awoke recently to learn that Winter Storm Gia had caused a two-hour school delay in Reston, Va., he seized the chance to do a little family bonding. Popping down in front of the television, Burdette and his 5-year-old daughter spent the morning playing "Minecraft," the Lego-like adventure game where players construct buildings out of virtual blocks.

"We play all our games together on the Xbox," he said. "In 'Minecraft,' we both get to build a house together, find monsters and explore."

The first time he fired up the game, Burdette had to wait for "Minecraft" to download and install on his Xbox before launching it. But by the time his daughter is old enough to play more adult games, that wait could be a thing of the past.

Major companies from Microsoft to Verizon are exploring how to replace game downloads with Internet-based game services hoping to do for video gaming what Netflix and Spotify have done with TV and music. Instead of being run directly from a device, high-quality games of the future could be streamed from a data center, with most of the computations and image rendering being performed by powerful servers many miles away before being piped online to players' phones, PCs and consoles.

Unlike passive forms of media such as movies and music, playing games over the Internet calls for highly responsive technology that can interpret a player's actions from afar, process them within milliseconds and relay the results back to



KRISZTIAN BOCSI/BLOOMBERG NEWS

Companies are hoping to do for video gaming what Netflix and Spotify have done with TV and music, respectively.

the player and her opponents instantaneously.

The challenge has stymied gamers and game companies for years. But with advances in computing power, the adoption of high-speed broadband and fresh investments by tech behemoths, what was once a lofty technological and cultural goal for the game industry now seems closer at hand than at any point in the past decade.

"Game streaming services will be the ultimate driver of a rapid transition from the sale of games in boxes to digital consumption," Yosuke Matsuda, president of the game company Square Enix, declared in a New Year's letter. "Streaming also lends itself to new subscription-based business models, so we believe deciding how to engage with these forthcoming trends will be key to future growth."

As more Americans turn to mobile and online entertainment, executives across the media landscape have recognized that they are competing for the same, quickly diminishing resource: consumer attention. Even Netflix this month acknowledged that it views the hit game "Fortnite" as an even bigger competitor in some respects than HBO.

In the war for consumer attention, cloud-based gaming represents tens of billions in additional profit for game publishers alone, analysts say. Beyond the simple convenience of playing games off a central server, what makes the idea so attractive is the capability to turn even the weakest laptop into a fully functional gaming rig.

That could make it far easier for people to play video games on whatever device they have, wherever they may be, according to

Brian Nowak, an industry analyst at Morgan Stanley. "As a base case, this new technology has the opportunity to expand the addressable player base by lowering barriers to entry around AAA games," Nowak wrote in a research note this month.

Recent high-profile experiments with cloud-based gaming include Google's Project Stream, which wrapped up a beta trial this month that allowed testers to play "Assassin's Creed: Odyssey" online for free; Microsoft's Project xCloud, which promises to enable game streaming over mobile data connections; and Verizon Gaming, leaks of which emerged earlier this month. On Monday, reports suggested that Apple may be planning a cloud-based games service of its own, and e-commerce giant Amazon is also said to be doing

the same. (Amazon Chief Executive Jeff Bezos owns The Washington Post.)

The jolt of interest in cloud-based gaming reflects how quickly the landscape for video games has shifted in recent years. The popularity of mobile gaming has some publishers such as Epic Games, the maker of "Fortnite," moving to build its own app marketplace for games — circumventing the traditional app store middlemen such as Google. But in Project Stream, Google may be hinting at one possible strategy for outmaneuvering Epic in return: by eliminating app downloads altogether.

The last major attempt to build a cloud-based games service was known as OnLive, which launched in 2010 with five data centers scattered across the country. The service showed promise, but many gamers discovered that their own

experiences differed drastically from those of professional reviewers. In particular, players said, OnLive was marred by input lag, or a significant delay between user actions and results on the screen.

"The latency between you controlling the game and it reacting was really bad on OnLive," said Ethan Hawkes, a lifelong gamer who lives in Irvine, Calif. But times are different now, said Hawkes, who tested Google's Project Stream. "The tech has finally caught up."

Other gamers say that while the technology has come a long way, it still isn't seamless.

Another Project Stream tester, Chris Cantrell, said Google did a good job showcasing how its servers could faithfully reproduce the high-fidelity graphics of a single-player game like "Assassin's Creed." But that game notably does not come with fast-twitch, competitive multiplayer, a staple of modern gaming culture and a data-intensive hurdle that tech companies must still address as many households are already streaming multiple services at once.

"('Assassin's Creed' is) a slower game, and so you don't have to be as precise. But you can't play 'Call of Duty' on this connection," said Cantrell.

Meanwhile, the growing consolidation of media and technology firms raises other questions for the future of streaming games. Verizon's fledgling gaming service would likely compete against similar platforms run by Amazon, Google and Microsoft. Some gamers fear that could lead to Verizon giving preferential treatment to its gaming service on its own broadband network at the expense of its competitors.

"They will definitely prioritize their own services if they find it lucrative enough," said Burdette.

Toshiba unveils robot to probe melted Fukushima nuclear fuel

BY MARI YAMAGUCHI
Associated Press

YOKOHAMA, Japan — Toshiba Corp. has unveiled a remote-controlled robot with tongs that it hopes will be able to probe the inside of one of the three damaged reactors at Japan's tsunami-hit Fukushima nuclear plant and grip chunks of highly radioactive melted fuel.

The device is designed to slide down an extendable 36-foot-long pipe and touch melted fuel inside the Unit 2 reactor's primary containment vessel. The reactor was built by Toshiba and GE.

An earlier probe carrying a camera captured images of pieces of melted fuel in the reactor last year and robotic probes in two other reactors have detected traces of damaged fuel, but the exact location, contents and other details remain largely unknown.

Toshiba's energy sys-

tems unit said experiments with the new probe planned in February are key to determining the proper equipment and technologies needed to remove the fuel debris, the most challenging part of the decommissioning process expected to take decades.

The three reactors at the Fukushima plant suffered core meltdowns after a massive 2011 earthquake and tsunami damaged key cooling systems.

In last year's probe, a camera developed by Toshiba Energy Systems & Solutions Corp. and the International Research Institute for Nuclear Decommissioning found large amounts of deposits in that area, including parts that resembled pebbles or gravel.

The 12-inch-long robot will carry a radiation dosimeter, thermometer, LED lights, a camera and a pair of tongs as it slowly

slides down from a pipe. The probe, attached by a cable on its back, is to dangle from the pipe and descend to the bottom of the reactor vessel's pedestal, a structure directly below the core from which the melted fuel fell.

Toshiba plans to use the new device to touch and grip the deposits with the tongs, which can hold a lump as wide as 3 inches weighing up to 4.4 pounds, to investigate its hardness and other details, said Jun Suzuki, a Toshiba ESS group manager for the project.

"Until now we have only seen those deposits, and we need to know whether they will break off and can be picked up and taken out," Suzuki said. "Touching the deposits is important so we can make plans to sample the deposits, which is a next key step."

The probe will mainly examine the fuel debris's physical condition rather



MARI YAMAGUCHI/AP

A remote-controlled robot is the latest advance to look into a damaged nuclear reactor.

than its radioactive components or other details which require actual sampling and safe storage.

"We are taking one step at a time," said Tsutomu Takeuchi, a Toshiba ESS senior manager for the

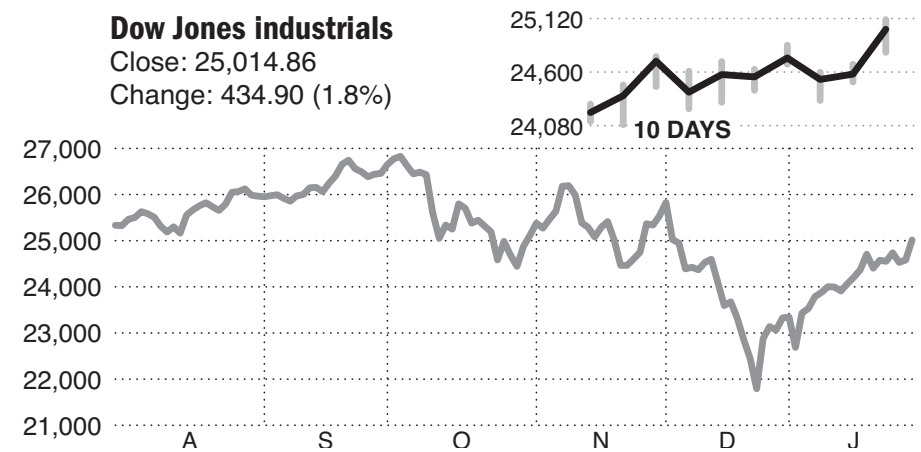
Fukushima decommissioning project. "First we'll find out if those deposits can be picked up." If the device is unable to lift anything, that's also a key finding, he said. In that case, they will need a cutting device to

tear off a sample piece.

TEPCO and government officials plan to determine methods for removing the melted fuel from each of the three damaged reactors later this year so they can begin the process in 2021.

MARKET ROUNDUP

Dow High: 25,109.62 Low: 24,790.90 Previous: 24,579.96



Summary table for Nasdaq (+154.79), S&P 500 (+41.05), and Russell 2000 (+15.49) with high/low/previous values.

Summary table for 10-yr T-note (-0.02), Gold futures (+1.00), Yen (-0.36), Euro (-0.0049), and Crude Oil (+0.92).

Major market growth and decline

Table showing 5-day, 30-day, and 1-year percentage changes for DOW, NASD, and S&P.

FUTURES table with columns for COMMODITY, AMOUNT-PRICE, MO., OPEN, HIGH, LOW, SETTLE, and CHG.

LOCAL STOCKS

Table of local stocks with columns for STOCK, XCHG., CLOSE, CHG., and exchange key: N=NYSE, O=NASDAQ.

MOST ACTIVE STOCKS

Table of most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange.

LARGEST COMPANIES

Table of largest companies based on market capitalization.

LARGEST MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of largest mutual funds based on total assets.

TREASURY YIELDS

Table of treasury yields by duration.

SPOT METALS

Table of spot metals prices for Gold, Silver, and Platinum.

INTEREST RATES

Table of interest rates for Prime Rate, Discount Rate, and Money Market.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Table of foreign exchange rates for various currencies.

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rateSeeker.com Chicago Tribune Deposit & Loan Guide. Includes a table of interest rates for various terms and a 'Savings Update' section.

CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT LEGAL NOTICE REGARDING PENSION FUND EMPLOYEE CONTRIBUTION REFUNDS. Includes case details and court information.

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Chicago Tribune Death Notices

Chicago Tribune extends our condolences to the families and loved ones of those who have passed.

chicagotribune.com/deathnotice

Sprinkel, Charles M.

SPRINKEL, CHARLES M. — Charles M. Sprinkel, 86, of Chicago, died on Sunday, January 6, 2019. He was the beloved son of the late Charles and the late Helen (nee Miller) Sprinkel. He is survived by a brother Stephen (Marietta) Sprinkel and a sister Susan (Steven) Harrington, and many nieces and nephews. Memorial Mass Saturday, Feb. 2, 10:30 AM at St. Mary Catholic Church, 600 Avenue B, Sterling, IL. Inurnment Calvary Cemetery in Sterling. In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established in his name with the Alzheimer's Association National Process Center, P.O. Box 96011, Washington, D.C. 20090. Arrangements through McDonald Funeral Home and Crematory, Rock Falls. (815) 626-6311

Sign Guestbook at chicagotribune.com/obituaries

Stohle, Tracy Erin

Tracy Erin Stohle nee Crow, age 54, of Northfield, IL. Tracy is survived by her husband, Michael; her two daughters, Logan and Olivia; her parents, Don and Jeannine Crow; her siblings Don Crow Jr. (Stacy), Brian Crow (Ana), Lisa Crow (Norman), and her many nieces and nephews. Visitation Friday, February 1, 2019, 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Donnellan Family Funeral Home, 10045 Skokie Boulevard, at Old Orchard Road, Skokie, IL 60077. Funeral Mass Saturday, February 2, 2019, 10:00 a.m. at Divine Mercy Parish at Saint Philip the Apostle Church, 1962 Old Willow Road, Winnetka, IL 60093. Interment Memorial Park Cemetery, Skokie, IL. Info: www.donnellanfuneral.com or (847) 675-1990.



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Strick, Richard C 'Rich'

Richard C. Strick, 79, at rest December 9, 2018. Son of the late Richard E. Strick and the late Catherine Strick nee Wagner. Beloved husband of Carole Strick, nee Termine. Loving father of Cynthia Ksenzulak (Randy Auringer), the late Sandra Strick, Christine (William) Fischer and April (Michael) Nelson-Kotlar. Grandfather of 6. Great Grandfather of 4. Brother of Mary Catherine Strick and Patricia (Kevin) Rogers, in-law to John (Diana) Termine. Memorial will be, February 2nd at 12:30, at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, 6001 W 111th St., Alsip. Meet at the front gate by Noon for procession to chapel.

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Valerio, Shirley 'Lee'

It is with great sadness that the family of Shirley "Lee" Valerio, age 87, passed away peacefully in her home on Monday, January 28th. She was born March 31, 1931 to the late Anthony & Catherine Fara. She married Vito Valerio in May of 1960 and after 58 years they were still best friends. First and foremost, Lee was a dedicated wife and mother.

She took excellent care of her husband and treasured her daughters, embracing every moment with them. She especially loved her role as Grandma and Great-Grandma. She had a wonderful personality and the most amazing laugh. She rarely sat still and was most happy when helping others. She was a devoted mom and wife as well as best friend to her husband and daughters.

Lee was born and raised in Berwyn and went to school at Nazareth Academy. For many years Lee worked at Stor Dor Shipping. She was the Executive Secretary to the owner and was highly respected. She also worked at DJ's Sports Bar for 25 years helping with her daughter's business in accounting as well as providing the Complimentary Bears Buffet every Sunday during football season for many years. Lee lived in perfect health without seeing a doctor for 52 years until this past November. The Golden Rule was her favorite saying. She followed it and instilled those values in her family every day. She led by example and that is her legacy to her family. She was a member of the Divine Providence's "Angels in the Alleys" Bowling League where she was an officer for many years. She was a devoted parishioner of Divine Providence Church where she attended Mass every Sunday.

Lee is survived by her beloved husband Vito, her three loving daughters, Laura (Dan) Teller, Dawn (John III) Dispensa, Tracey (Paul) Spotts, her loving grandchildren, Amber (Dan) Watson, Jeremy Teller, John Dispensa IV, Matthew Teller, cherished great-granddaughter Isabella Watson, dearest sister-in-law Camille (the late Walt) Zale, fond nieces Kim (Martin) Ruggiero, Robyn (Bob) Benuska, Goddaughter Kathy (Norb) Rennie and many members of her "Wisconsin" family. She was preceded in death by her parents Anthony (Catherine) Fara, her brother Eugene Fara and nephew Lance Fara, all of whom she loved and touched deeply.

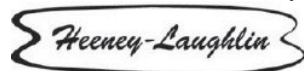
Please join us in celebrating her life. Visitation Friday, February 1st from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at **Russo's Hillside Chapels**, 4500 Roosevelt Road, Hillside, Illinois 60162 (Located between Mannheim and Wolf Road). Funeral February, 2, 2019 from **Russo's Hillside Chapels** at 9:00 a.m. proceeding to Divine Providence Church, 2550 Mayfair Ave, Westchester. Mass of Christian Burial celebrated promptly at 10:00 a.m. Interment at Queen of Heaven Cemetery, Hillside, Illinois. For additional information call (708) 449-5300. Please visit Shirley's personal tribute website at www.russoshillsidechapels.com and sign her guestbook.



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Van Offelen, Cherie A.

Cherie A. Van Offelen, Age 75, of Beverly, formerly of the Roseland neighborhood. Born into Eternal Life on January 26, 2019. Loving daughter of the late Irene A. (nee Lukso) and Frank L. Van Offelen. Beloved sister of the late Irene J. "Renee" Van Offelen. Fond niece of Emily A. Barton. Cherie was also loved by many cousins and dear friends. Dear lifelong friend of Joan Radloff. Retired Payroll Manager for Jewel Food Stores. Eucharistic Minister and Pastoral Care Minister at Christ the King Church. Family and friends will meet at Christ the King Church, 9235 S. Hamilton Ave., Chicago, IL 60643 on Saturday morning for visitation 9:30am-11:00am. Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00am. Private Burial Holy Sepulchre Cemetery. Memorials to Mercy Home for Boys and Girls, 1140 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60607 are most appreciated. Funeral Info: **Heeney-Laughlin Funeral Directors** 708-636-5500 or heeneyfh.com



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Weissbluth, Linda

Linda Weissbluth passed away at her home on January 23, 2019 surrounded by her family.

Linda was born in Chicago and graduated from North Shore Country Day School in Winnetka in 1959. When young, she loved reading, studying Latin, and playing the cello. Her classmates described her as extremely friendly and always in the library. She enrolled in Mt. Holyoke College where she majored in Russian language and literature and graduated in 1963. One college highlight was bussing, with classmates, to Washington, D.C. to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation where MLK delivered his "I Have a Dream" speech. After graduation, Linda helped her mother and brother for several months, then, on a whim, she applied to the Russian Studies program at Stanford University where she started in the Spring Quarter of 1964. When classes resumed in the fall of 1964, she met her future husband, Marc, in the Stanford Main Library. On their first 'date', they went on a motorcycle ride. Four weeks later, he invited her on a herpetology expedition to Mexico for the winter break and on this exciting lizard-chasing adventure, in Topolobampo, they decided to get married. They were married May 2, 1965 and a month later, Linda received her Master's Degree from Stanford University. Linda was always intellectually curious and when her four sons were growing up, she would often say, "What good is money if you can't spend it on education." But she also was fond of saying, "Don't let school interfere with your education" and thus, annually, she would declare a school holiday in the fall when the apple orchards had their first day for picking. She and her four sons would return with bushels for the neighbors, local firemen, and to make homemade apple pies and apple sauce. Linda also loved to garden, from planter boxes in married student quarters at Stanford to large plots in Winnetka starting in 1973. She loved taking her young sons to the Chicago Botanical Garden and watching it develop.

She was a nurturer, always generous with a radiant smile and infectious laugh. She devoted herself to her family. Friday Sabbath meals were elaborate events and she joked that she had to begin preparing on Thursday mornings. She was always an optimist. "Today is the first day of the rest of your life" was her refrain to help her children overcome a difficulty. In 1990, she moved to the Streeterville neighborhood of Chicago. Linda was an adventurer with a ready willingness to try new things. She discovered the Northwestern University Medical School Galter Library across the street and decided to investigate why babies might cry a lot in the evening hours. This led to her publishing three research papers on the effects of melatonin on intestinal smooth muscles in 1991 and one paper on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome in 1994. In 1994, she took courses in office medical management and became Office Administrator in a pediatric practice. In 1995, she succeeded in obtaining permission to develop a rubble strewn one-acre lot at 600 North Lake Shore Drive into a community garden. She single-handedly organized neighborhood volunteers and civic organizations to donate trees and plants. Linda continued to play her cello as an adult, go to symphonies and the opera. She enjoyed tandem bike riding, tennis, dancing the Tango, and Yoga. In 2000, Linda got the travel bug and made annual international trips from watching Alaskan brown bears catching salmon to wildebeests and zebra herds migrating. She enjoyed adventure travelling with mountain hiking, white water rafting, kayaking, and camel riding in Tanzania and Morocco. Linda continued to be an intellectual explorer; in 2006 she wrote in an email to her husband, "You knew I was spunky and spirited and speaking my mind-never mind that I give thoughts and ideas from left field. It's part of the creative process."

She learned to sew and crochet and enjoyed making many original afghans for her ten grandchildren. Even as Alzheimer's developed, she continued to be engaged in art, music, dance, and Yoga. Her four sons independently remembered her cheerfulness ("My mother's giggle was unique and infectious. Even recently when she could not speak, she could still giggle." "Her laughter used to ring contagiously through the house." "She created a home full of love and laughter." "She had a laugh that could fill the entire house.") and her cooking ("Mom knew the keystone of the family is the family meal." "She knew the that the fried matzoh was crispy enough 'when the smoke detector went off.'" "Learning how to make spaghetti sauce." "She taught me how to sew, iron, cook, and clean because 'You will be alone for a long time'.") As a wife, mother, office manager, or community organizer, Linda was always a gentle, compassionate and extremely empathic person. She always said hello to, smiled at, and wished to embrace friends and strangers, especially those with canes, walkers, wheelchairs, children, or dogs.

Millagros Pacheco and Jamie Angio befriended and compassionately cared for Linda as if she were part of their own families. Thank you also to Esperanza Covalada, Uzma Khan, Julia Newman, and Drs. Zoe Arvanitakis and David Oyer.

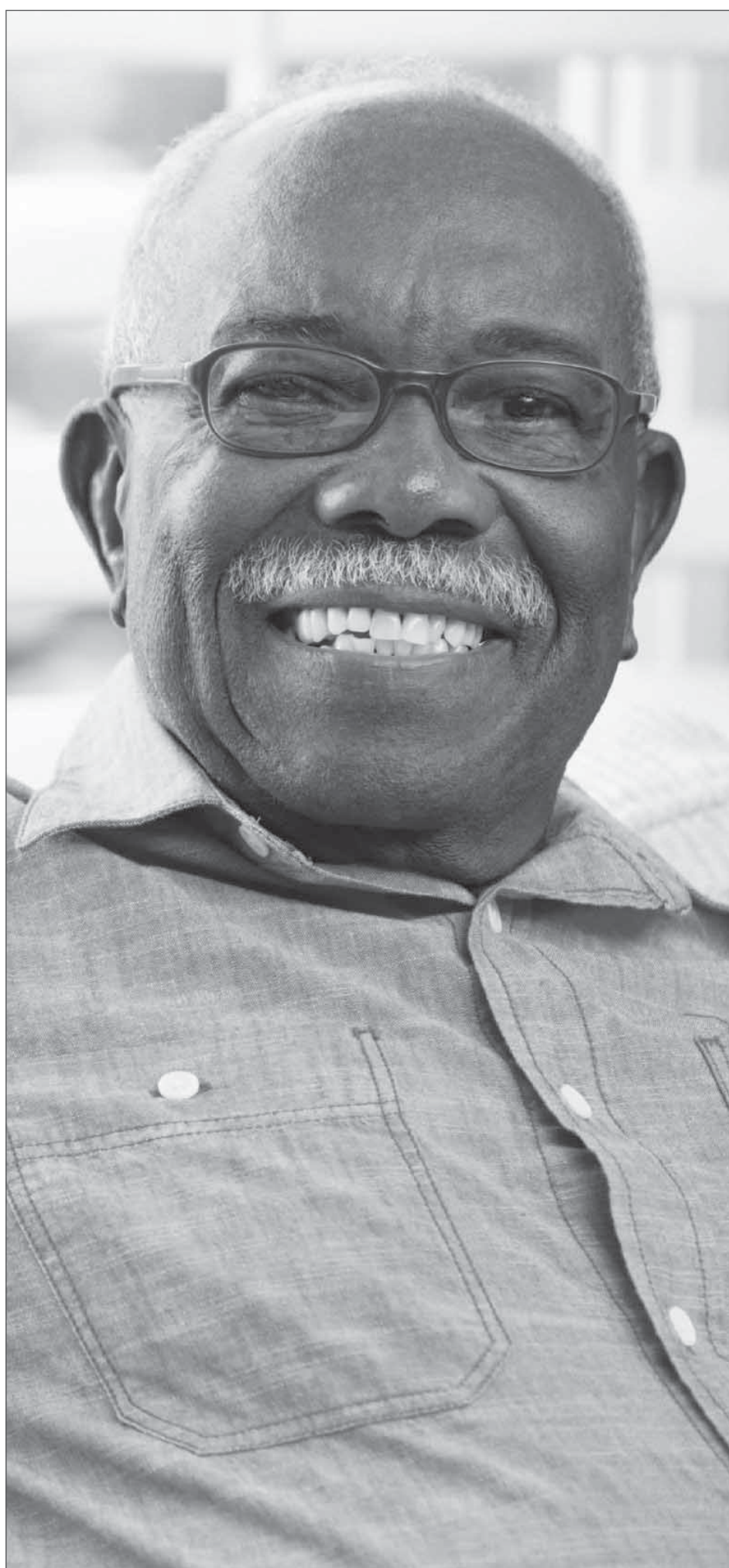
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Wilson, Sidney James

Sidney James Wilson, 90, of Island Lake, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on January 28, 2019. Sidney was born in Windsor, Canada as a U. S. citizen in 1928. He was the third son of Sidney and Mabel Wilson. Sidney will be deeply missed by his loving and devoted wife, Mary Ann Aquino, and his children Diane Bowerman, Mark Wilson and Tracy Charsha (Bob) and by 8 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren, and the mother of his children, Joanne Bradford nee Tjernlund. Sidney was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, Herbert, Thomas & Bruce, his sister Catherine "Kae", his daughter Ellie Kae Spencer, his son James Sidney, his grandson Bobby Charsha and his son-in-law Tom Bowerman. Visitation will be Friday, February 1, 2019, from 5 PM until 8 PM at **Davenport Family Funeral Home and Crematory**, 941 S. Old Rand Rd., Lake Zurich, IL 60047. Visitation will resume on Saturday from 10 AM until the 12 Noon Funeral Service at the funeral home. Interment will be private. In lieu of flowers please honor Sidney by making a donation to Wounded Warriors, or to a charity of your choice. For information, please contact Davenport Family Funeral Home, Lake Zurich, 847-550-4221. For full obituary and online condolences please visit, www.davenportfamily.com.



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Charles Walter Plano Charles Walter 43" upright piano with bench for sale. French provincial with cherry satin finish. Thoroughly inspected by professional technician and in excellent playing condition, reference available. Bench shows some wear but still in very good and sturdy condition. \$4500 or best offer. **312-925-1889**.

DISCLAIMER OF DEBTS

NOTICE TO DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES
LOCKWOOD, ANDREWS AND NEWNAM, INC. with offices at 1 Oakbrook Terrace, Suite 300, Oakbrook Terrace, Illinois 6018, phone number: (630-426-0110),

is seeking qualified disadvantaged businesses for the City of Evanston RFP 19-02, 1909 Raw Water Intake Replacement Project for subcontracting opportunities in the following areas:

Ecological Services; Environmental Auditing Services; Management and Protection and Ecosystem Development; Environmental Impact Studies; Environmental Permitting Services; Environmental Site Assessment; Environmental Subsurface Testing; Construction Type Inspection Services; Water Supply, Water Quality and Infrastructure Analysis and Long-Term Planning; Water Supply, Plant Operation and Monitoring System Services, including Water Resources Development and Water Quality Management Services; Topographic and/or Bathymetric Surveyor.

All interested and qualified disadvantaged businesses should contact, IN WRITING (certified letter, return receipt requested), Jim Holzapfel, Project Manager, to discuss the subcontracting opportunities. All negotiations must be completed prior to the bid opening date of 2:00 pm, February 19, 2019.

ASSUMED NAMES

Notice is hereby given, Pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State" as amended, that a Certification was filed by the Undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County File No. Y19000299 on the Date: January 09, 2019 Under the Assumed Name of: **Coveted Carvings** with the business located at: **121 Hillgrove Avenue #581 La Grange, IL, 60525** The true name and residence Address of the owner is: **Diane Ciancaneili & John Ciancaneili 955 S 6th Ave La Grange, IL, 60525**

ASSUMED NAMES

Notice is hereby given, Pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State" as amended, that a Certification was filed by the Undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County File No. Y19000447 on the Date: 01/28/2019 Under the Assumed Name of: **LEVY BROS** with the business located at: **29 E. Madison Street, Suite 700 Chicago, Illinois, 60602** The true name and residence Address of the owner is: **Albert Levy 29 E. Madison Street, Suite 700 Chicago, Illinois, 60602**

Notice is hereby given, Pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State" as amended, that a Certification was filed by the Undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County File No. Y19000393 on the Date: January 22, 2019 Under the Assumed Name of: **A Little Frosting** with the business located at: **2022 W Melrose Street Apt 2F Chicago, Illinois, 60618** The true name and residence Address of the owner is: **Rebecca Zuckerman 2022 W Melrose Street Apt 2F Chicago, Illinois, 60618**

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

ADVERTISEMENT FOR PROPOSAL

Triton College will receive sealed proposals at 2000 Fifth Avenue, River Grove, IL 60171 for the following needs:

Districtwide Schedule of Classes – Fall 2019

bid opening 2/14/19 1:00 pm

Continuing Ed Guide – Summer 2019

Bid opening 2/14/19 1:15 PM

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 Resource 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.

Sean O'Brien Sullivan Vice President – Business Services 708/456-0300 Ext. 3467

LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT – January 31, 2019 CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS RFP for Biennial Facility Assessment Services Due Date has been postponed from February 4, 2019 to February 8, 2019, at 11:00 a.m. See: <https://cps.edprocurement/Pages/currentcontracts.aspx>

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS JUVENILE JUSTICE AND CHILD PROTECTION DEPARTMENT CHILD PROTECTION DIVISION

IN THE INTEREST OF Yasmin Fuller AKA Yasmine Fuller

MINOR(S) CHILD(REN) OF Latoya Hurst (Mother)

JUVENILE NO.: 16JA00232

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION

NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Anthony Fuller (Father), respondents, and to **All Whom It May Concern**, that on **September 28, 2018**, 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 **02/22/2019**, at **3:00 AM** in CALENDAR 12 COURTROOM L, or as soon thereafter as this case may be heard, a hearing will be held upon the petition to terminate your parental rights and appoint a guardian with power to consent to adoption.

THE COURT HAS AUTHORITY IN THIS CASE TO TAKE FROM YOU THE CUSTODY AND GUARDIANSHIP OF THE MINOR, TO TERMINATE YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND TO APPOINT A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION. YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO YOUR CHILD. IF THE PETITION REQUESTS THE TERMINATION OF YOUR PARENTAL RIGHTS AND APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN WITH POWER TO CONSENT TO ADOPTION, YOU MAY LOSE ALL PARENTAL RIGHTS TO THE CHILD.

UNLESS YOU appear, you will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of the proceedings in this case, including the filing of an amended petition or a motion to terminate parental rights.

UNLESS YOU appear at the hearing and show cause against the petition, the allegations of the petition may stand admitted as against you and each of you, and an order or judgment entered.

DOROTHY BROWN, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS January 31, 2019

LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE CARROLL SUPERIOR COURT
COUNTY OF CARROLL) SS: CAUSE NUMBER: 08D01-1812-JT-000015

IN THE MATTER OF THE TERMINATION OF THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP: AMK - DOB 11/29/2003 AND DEBRA KLIMA (BIOLOGICAL MOTHER) WILLIAM KLIMA, SR. (BIOLOGICAL FATHER) HEARING

TO: Debra Klima William Klima, Sr. Whereabouts unknown

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the above noted parent whose whereabouts are unknown, that the Indiana Department of Child Services has filed a Petition for Involuntary Termination of your Parental Rights, and that an adjudication hearing has been scheduled with the Court.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Judge of the Carroll Superior Court, 101 W. Main Street, Delphi, IN 46923 - 765-564-2136 for a(n) Initial Hearing on 3/18/2019 at 9:00 AM and Fact Finding Hearing on 3/19/2019 at 8:30 AM and to answer the Petition for Termination of your Parental Rights of said child.

You are further notified that if the allegations in said petition are true, and/or if you fail to appear at the hearing, the Juvenile Court may terminate your parent-child relationship; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship you will lose all parental rights, powers, privileges, immunities, duties and obligations including any rights to custody, control, visitation, or support in said child; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship, it will be permanently terminated, and thereafter you may not contest an adoption or other placement of said child.

You are entitled to representation by an attorney, provided by the State if applicable, throughout these proceedings to terminate the parent-child relationship.

YOU MUST RESPOND by appearing in person or by an attorney within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this notice, and in the event you fail to do so, adjudication on said petition and termination of your parental rights may be entered against you, in your absence, without further notice.

1/17/19 /s/ Andrea Miller Clerk

Morgan L. Willis, #26152-10 Attorney, Indiana Department of Child Services 901 Prince William Rd Delphi, IN 46923 1/24/2019, 1/31/2019, 2/7/2019 HSPAXLP

LEGAL NOTICES

The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago will be accepting applications for the following classification(s):
Machinist (Original)

Application Filing Period: January 25, 2019 through February 8, 2019. **Examination Date:** February 23, 2019. Location: To be announced. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of machinist practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under supervision, performs skilled manual work in connection with the operation of precision machine tools used in fabricating metal parts. Installs, repairs and maintains mechanical equipment in the shop and in the field. **Pay:** \$48.38 per hour

Master Mechanic (Promotional)

Application Filing Period: January 25, 2019 through February 8, 2019. **Examination Date:** February 22, 2019 at MWRD Main Office Building Annex, 111 E. Erie Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of master mechanic practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under direction, coordinates and directs the repair, maintenance and installation of mechanical equipment and the repair and alteration of structures at sewage treatment and disposal plants, pumping plants and related facilities. **Pay:** \$124,882.16 per year

Pollution Control Technician I (Original)

Application Filing Period: February 1, 2019 through February 8, 2019. **Examination Date:** March 9, 2019 at Northside College Preparatory High School, 5501 North Kedzie Street, Chicago, IL. **Scope of Examination:** Knowledge of Pollution Control Technician I practices. **Nature of Position and Duties:** Under supervision gathers samples of water from streams, waterways, and industrial waste discharges for use in laboratory analysis and performs related duties as required. **Pay:** \$29.07 per hour

Applications can be submitted online only at www.districtjobs.org.

Additional information may be found at www.mwrdd.org or call 312-751-5100.

Mailed, Emailed, Hand delivered or Faxed Applications Will Not Be Accepted.

Resumes Will Not Be Accepted In Place of Application Forms.

An Equal Opportunity Employer – M/F/D

Pub: 1/25-2/8 6102289

LEGAL NOTICE SUBMISSION

In the Circuit Court of Cook County, Illinois. Notice is given to you, Thomas Tavera, Dejan Vojcic, and Anteo Yanga, addresses unknown, that on the 15th day of February 2019, a Motion for Default Judgment will be presented in the matter of Burda v. Central Square Condo, et al., Case No. 17 CH 006569, before Judge Anna M. Loftus, Courtroom 2410 at 10:00 a.m. Unless you appear at the hearing and show cause against the Motion, the Motion will stand and an order of judgement will be entered. You will not be entitled to further written notices or publication notices of this matter.

NOTICE OF INITIATION OF THE SECTION 106 PROCESS: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Sprint proposes the upgrade of three rooftop telecommunications facilities at 180 N Upper Wacker Dr, 250 S Wacker Dr, and 10 S Riverside Plaza, Chicago, Cook County, IL. Additionally, Sprint proposes the upgrade of a smokestack telecommunications facility at 3937 W Wilcox St, Chicago, Cook County, IL. Members of the public interested in submitting comments on the possible effects on historic properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places may send their comments to Andrew Smith, RESCOM Environmental Corp., PO Box 361 Petoskey, MI 49770 or call 260-385-6999. 6115115 1/31/2019

Looking for a conversation starter?

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LEGAL NOTICES GOVERNMENT/EDUCATION

STATE OF INDIANA) IN THE CARROLL SUPERIOR COURT
COUNTY OF CARROLL) SS: CAUSE NUMBER: 08D01-1812-JT-000015

IN THE MATTER OF THE TERMINATION OF THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP: AMK - DOB 11/29/2003 AND DEBRA KLIMA (BIOLOGICAL MOTHER) WILLIAM KLIMA, SR. (BIOLOGICAL FATHER) HEARING

TO: Debra Klima William Klima, Sr. Whereabouts unknown

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You are further notified that if the allegations in said petition are true, and/or if you fail to appear at the hearing, the Juvenile Court may terminate your parent-child relationship; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship you will lose all parental rights, powers, privileges, immunities, duties and obligations including any rights to custody, control, visitation, or support in said child; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship, it will be permanently terminated, and thereafter you may not contest an adoption or other placement of said child.

You are entitled to representation by an attorney, provided by the State if applicable, throughout these proceedings to terminate the parent-child relationship.

YOU MUST RESPOND by appearing in person or by an attorney within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this notice, and in the event you fail to do so, adjudication on said petition and termination of your parental rights may be entered against you, in your absence, without further notice.

1/17/19 /s/ Andrea Miller Clerk

Morgan L. Willis, #26152-10 Attorney, Indiana Department of Child Services 901 Prince William Rd Delphi, IN 46923 1/24/2019, 1/31/2019, 2/7/2019 HSPAXLP

FORECLOSURES

F18062027TSVT RLM IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, d/b/a Christiana Trust, not individually but as trustee for Pretium Mortgage Acquisition Trust Plaintiff, vs. Christine Carter; Beverly Trust Company NKA Suburban Bank & Trust CO not personally but as trustee on behalf of trust #8-9415 dated 8-9415; Portfolio Recovery Associates LLC; Midland Funding LLC; Unknown Beneficiaries of the Beverly Trust Company NKA Suburban Bank & Trust CO not personally but as trustee on behalf of trust #8-9415 dated 8-9415; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants Defendants. CASE NO. 17 CH 372 10111 South Eberhart Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60628 Curry, Jr. Calendar 57 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, Unknown Beneficiaries of the Beverly Trust Company NKA Suburban Bank & Trust CO not personally but as trustee on behalf of trust #8-9415 dated 10/03/1993; Unknown OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, defendants in the above entitled cause, that suit has been commenced against you and other defendants in the Circuit Court for the premises described as follows, to wit: LOT 886 IN FREDERICK H. BARTLETT'S GREATER CHICAGO SUBDIVISION NUMBER 1, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE EAST 1/2 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 LYING WEST OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD IN SECTION 10, TOWNSHIP 37 NORTH, RANGE 14, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, P.I.N.: 25-10-409-004-000 Said property is commonly known as 10111 South Eberhart Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60628, and which said mortgage(s) was/were made by Beverly Trust Company, an Illinois Corporation as Trustee under the Provisions of a Trust Agreement Dated the 3rd Day of October 1993 Known as Trust Number 8- 9415 and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds as Document Number 061010626 and for other relief; that Summons was duly issued out of the above Court against you as provided by law and that said suit is now pending. NOW THEREFORE, unless you, the said above named defendants, file your answer to the complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Office of the Clerk of the Court of Cook County on or before February 25, 2019, a default may be taken against you at any time after that date and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/> service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Steven C. Lindberg ANSELMO LINDBERG & ASSOCIATES LLC 1771 W. Diehl Rd., Ste 120 Naperville, IL 60563-4947 630-453-6960 1 866-402-8661 630-428-4620 (fax) Attorney No. Cook 58852, DuPage 293191, Kane 031-26104, Peoria 1794, Winnebago 3802, IL 03126232 ipleadings@anselmolindberg.com THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR. Pub: 1/24, 31, 2/7/2019 6101369

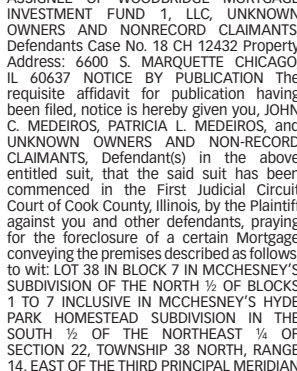
FORECLOSURES

F18110213 FIFTH IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION Third Mortgage Company Plaintiff, vs Debra L. Davis aka Debra Davis; Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis; Neighborhood Lending Services, Inc.; Midland Funding LLC; Illinois Housing Development Authority; Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants Defendants. CASE NO. 18 CH 15385 7428 South Harvard Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60621 Spratt Calendar 64 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, Debra L. Davis aka Debra Davis, and UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, defendants in the above entitled cause, that suit has been commenced against you and other defendants in the Circuit Court for the premises described as follows, to wit: LOT 5 IN BLOCK 7 IN KATHERINE HOFFMAN'S SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 38 NORTH, RANGE 14, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, P.I.N.: 20-28-223-026-0000 Said property is commonly known as 7428 South Harvard Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60621, and which said mortgage(s) was/were made by Debra L. Davis and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds as Document Number 0907633120 and for other relief; that Summons was duly issued out of the above Court against you as provided by law and that said suit is now pending. NOW THEREFORE, unless you, the said above named defendants, file your answer to the complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Office of the Clerk of the Court of Cook County on or before February 25, 2019, a default may be taken against you at any time after that date and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/> service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Steven C. Lindberg ANSELMO LINDBERG & ASSOCIATES LLC 1771 W. Diehl Rd., Ste 120 Naperville, IL 60563-4947 630-453-6960 1 866-402-8661 630-428-4620 (fax) Attorney No. Cook 58852, DuPage 293191, Kane 031-26104, Peoria 1794, Winnebago 3802, IL 03126232 ipleadings@anselmolindberg.com THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR. Pub: 1/24, 31, 2/7/2019 6101326

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FORECLOSURES

F18110213 FIFTH IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION Third Mortgage Company Plaintiff, vs Debra L. Davis aka Debra Davis; Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis; Neighborhood Lending Services, Inc.; Midland Funding LLC; Illinois Housing Development Authority; Secretary of Housing and Urban Development; Unknown Owners and Non-Record Claimants Defendants. CASE NO. 18 CH 15385 7428 South Harvard Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60621 Spratt Calendar 64 NOTICE FOR PUBLICATION The requisite affidavit for publication having been filed, notice is hereby given you, Debra L. Davis aka Debra Davis, and UNKNOWN OWNERS and NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, defendants in the above entitled cause, that suit has been commenced against you and other defendants in the Circuit Court for the premises described as follows, to wit: LOT 5 IN BLOCK 7 IN KATHERINE HOFFMAN'S SUBDIVISION, BEING A SUBDIVISION OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE NORTH 1/2 OF THE SOUTH 1/2 OF THE NORTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 38 NORTH, RANGE 14, EAST OF THE THIRD PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, IN COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS, P.I.N.: 20-28-223-026-0000 Said property is commonly known as 7428 South Harvard Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60621, and which said mortgage(s) was/were made by Debra L. Davis and recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds as Document Number 0907633120 and for other relief; that Summons was duly issued out of the above Court against you as provided by law and that said suit is now pending. NOW THEREFORE, unless you, the said above named defendants, file your answer to the complaint in the said suit or otherwise make your appearance therein, in the Office of the Clerk of the Court of Cook County on or before February 25, 2019, a default may be taken against you at any time after that date and a judgment entered in accordance with the prayer of said complaint. E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/> service-providers.htm to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp. This communication is an attempt to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Steven C. Lindberg ANSELMO LINDBERG & ASSOCIATES LLC 1771 W. Diehl Rd., Ste 120 Naperville, IL 60563-4947 630-453-6960 1 866-402-8661 630-428-4620 (fax) Attorney No. Cook 58852, DuPage 293191, Kane 031-26104, Peoria 1794, Winnebago 3802, IL 03126232 ipleadings@anselmolindberg.com THIS LAW FIRM IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR. Pub: 1/24, 31, 2/7/2019 6101326

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Chicago Tribune CHICAGO SPORTS

Chicago's best sports section, as judged by the Associated Press Sports Editors

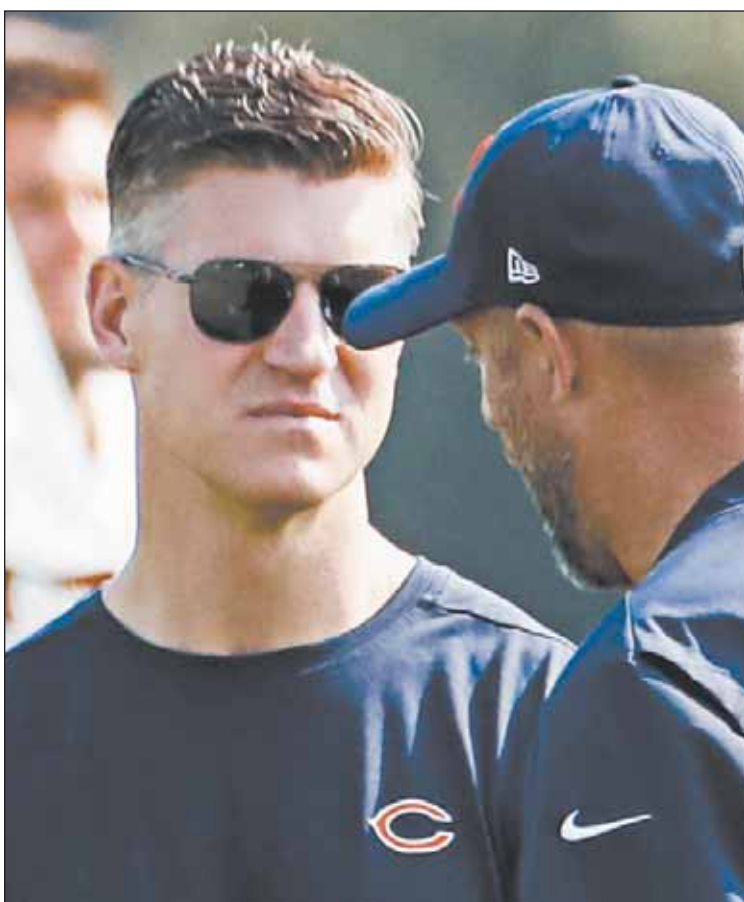


CHRIS GRAYTHEN/GETTY

More of the same

The Rams-Bears comparisons are an ongoing topic, especially in Chicago. And for good reason.

It starts with the highly drafted quarterbacks. And the young, offensive-minded coaches. And, of course, the otherworldly superstars who set the tone for their respective defenses.



JOSE M. OSORIO/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

But how about the general managers?

If the Bears continue to run a year behind the Rams, this spring could be the most aggressive one yet for **Ryan Pace**.



BRAD BIGGS
On the Bears

ATLANTA — A young head coach with swagger who relates to his players and mentors a youthful quarterback is just the beginning of comparisons when you examine the NFC champion Rams and the Bears.

The Rams sought a dynamic offensive mind to work with Jared Goff, the quarterback they traded up to acquire in 2016. And that led them to Sean McVay, who captured the imagination of the football world and the attention of NFL owners seeking a similar combination of charisma and football acumen.

The hot idea, if not trend, has been for teams to seek that young offensive mind. The Bears landed their man in Matt Nagy, a dynamic offensive mind to work with Mitch Trubisky, the quarterback they traded up to acquire in 2017.

Turn to **Biggs, Page 4**



SUPER BOWL LIII | Patriots vs. Rams

5:30 p.m. Sunday in Atlanta, CBS-2
Specials teams matters to Bill Belichick. **Page 3**

Above: Rams general manager Les Snead celebrates the NFC title with coach Sean McVay. Snead had a busy offseason in 2018.

LOYOLA 61, NORTHERN IOWA 60

Ramblers fans brace the cold: 'Cheer loudly and keep warm'



SHANNON RYAN
On college basketball

Loyola senior Max Mifsud took a strategic route through a minus-34 wind chill gripping Chicago to get to the Ramblers' basketball game Wednesday night. He lives only four blocks away, but he and his four companions stopped midway at a friend's house for a 10-minute warm-up before jogging the rest of the way to Gentile Arena. Once inside, he found a bathroom to swap out his fleece-lined boots and puffy jacket for flip-flops, a Mexico tank top, sunglasses and short shorts.

"I wanted everyone to have a good laugh," he said.

On a blustery night when meteorologists urged Chicagoans to stay indoors, Loyola fans braved the cold to see their team defeat Northern Iowa 61-60; the Ramblers rallied from a six-point deficit late in the second half. The crowd was relatively sparse but still fuller than some games a few seasons ago when the team wasn't quite as popular.

Turn to **Ryan, Page 5**

BULLS 105, HEAT 89

LaVine: Duke star Williamson will be a 'franchise-changer'

By **TEDDY GREENSTEIN** | Chicago Tribune

MIAMI — Jim Boylen laughed, perhaps to keep from crying.

After revealing that top scorer Zach LaVine was having knee and ankle issues, the Bulls coach was asked if everyone else was OK.

"As far as I know, yeah," he replied. "Still have the two guys with the boots and the guy with the cast on."

The boots belong to Chandler Hutchison and Denzel Valentine, and the cast is protecting the left thumb of Wendell Carter Jr.

The Bulls insist they're not tanking.

They're not losing intentionally — or getting injured intentionally.

LaVine sat out Wednesday night's game in Miami, joining the Heat's Dwayne Wade (knee) on no-go list.

Despite their growing injury list, the Bulls took down the Heat 105-89, snapping a four-game losing streak.

Bobby Portis was the man, scoring a season-high 26 points on what 10-for-17 shooting.

He was unstoppable to start the fourth quarter, scoring 11 points in a three-minute span.

Turn to **Bulls, Page 5**

TOP OF THE SECOND



PHIL ROSENTHAL

Rose giving fans his reality

D-Rose fans, take note: Stadium, the Chicago-based multiplatform sports network co-owned by Bulls and White Sox Chairman Jerry Reinsdorf, on Wednesday tweeted out a trailer for "Pooh: The Derrick Rose Story," which is set to debut this spring.

Here are six things we learned from the 1-minute, 49-second promo for the much-anticipated 100-minute documentary.

1. The documentary will debut April 11.

Until now, Stadium had been saying "Pooh," which takes its name from Rose's nickname, was coming out in February.

That was the date in a 15-second teaser trailer Stadium put out on Rose's birthday, Oct. 4 — in which Rose says, "All this was for my fans" — as well as a subsequent promo in which Chicago's Chance the Rapper sang his praises.

2. There's still no reason to think this is going to be critical of Rose.

A tagline threaded into the trailer is, "You know the history. You don't know his story."

"All this was for my fans," Rose, now with the Timberwolves, again is heard to say, this time continuing, "to get everything out, get it off my chest."

The documentary has been positioned as showing how a win-at-all-costs mentality, on and off the court, stemmed from his determination to elevate his family from the hardships that shaped him growing up in Chicago. That explains some things but hardly everything Rose has done — or at least been accused of — over the years.

"You don't know my story," he says. "You don't know where I came from. You don't know any of that."

It goes unmentioned, but Rose isn't just cooperating on this documentary. "Pooh" includes footage he and agent B.J. Armstrong, another former Bull, have been amassing daily for several years now.

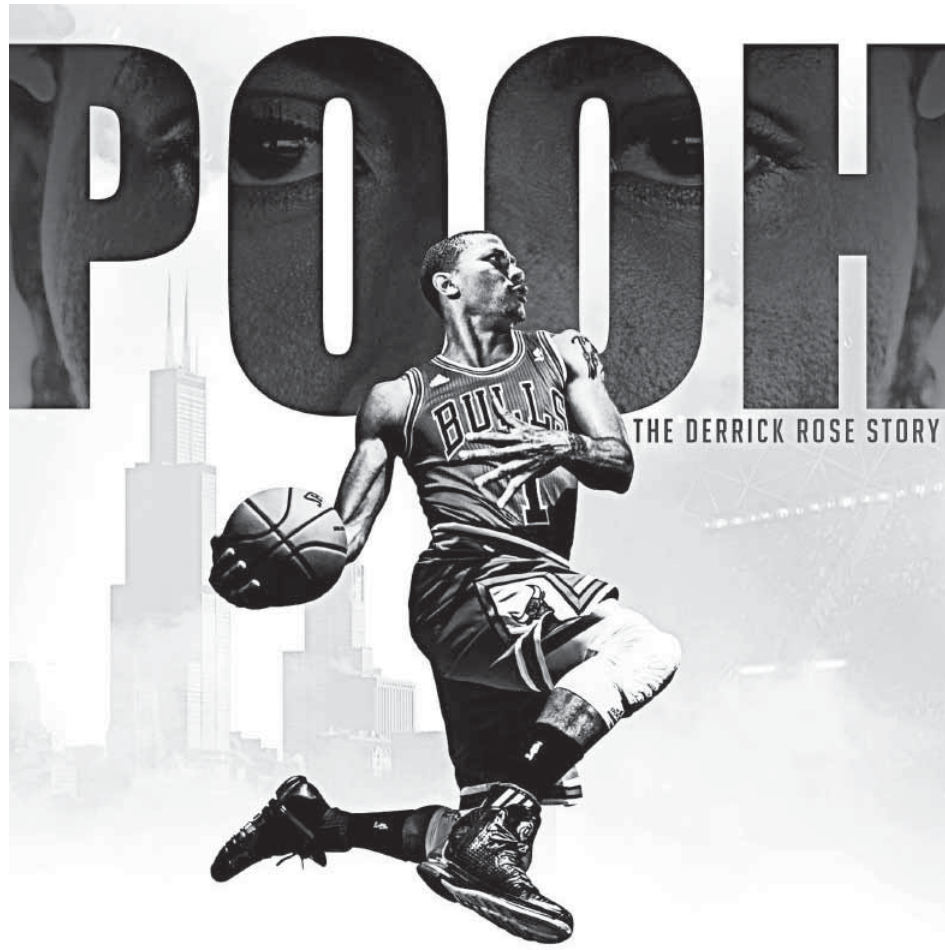
Rose and Armstrong are among the five executive producers on "Pooh."

3. Chicago media stars show up.

David Kaplan, Laurence Holmes and Marc Silverman all appear in the trailer.

"We had this amazing kid," Kaplan says. "An MVP. ... As quickly as he exploded, it burned out."

Holmes offers a cautionary perspective: "If you're an athlete from Chicago, the last thing you want to do is play in Chicago."



WATCHSTADIUM.COM

Derrick Rose says he wanted the upcoming documentary about his life to be "authentic."

4. Bulls brass still has Rose's back.

"People wanted to tear him down," says John Paxson, Bulls executive vice president of basketball operations.

5. There's more from Chance.

"Once he was in the league, it was just different," the rapper says this time.

That's more measured than Chance's excerpt in one of the earlier teasers.

"It's got to be hard being Derrick Rose," he said in the November teaser for Stadium. "Once you show people even a glimpse at your greatness, people, like, want to see that over and over and over again. People become possessive about your success and sometimes, to an extent, your body."

6. Some of the language is salty.

A couple of the words in the trailer are NSFW.

"I want it to be real," Rose says, presumably of his own story. "I want it to be authentic. I want people to feel it. I want it to touch your (expletive) soul."

Rose indicates he always has held some things back when talking about himself, helping explain the rationale behind "Pooh."

"I always was saving my real answers for something bigger and I felt like this was what I was saving it for," he says.

philrosenthal@chicagotribune.com
Twitter @phil_rosenthal

ASK THE REPORTER
BRAD BIGGS

Re-signing Massie shouldn't affect Long



With Bobby Massie re-signing, does that increase the chance of the Bears cutting Kyle Long? Long

seems old — he's only 30 but has the body of a 35-plus-year-old. They can save more than \$5 million by cutting him. Is he trade-worthy? Would they consider having Rashaad Coward cross-train as a right guard?

@dewey1939

I don't see Massie and Long being linked like this. The Bears paid Massie after he proved to be a heck of a buy in free agency in 2016. Long's durability issues have been well-documented over the last couple of years, but I think the Bears appreciate the work he has put in to recover from those injuries. The Bears are going to have to take a close look at Long, and it's easier to find starting-caliber guards than tackles. But they would need to have a well-thought-out plan if they do seek to replace Long. Whether they would approach him about taking a pay cut, maybe with the possibility to earn the same money if he stays on the field, remains to be seen. Here's the thing about approaching a player for a pay cut: The team has to be prepared to cut the player if he says no. I don't know if the Bears have discussed working Coward at guard, but he would have to make real gains to be an option as a starter.

Could you see the Bears packaging the two second-round picks in the 2020 draft for a first-round pick in 2019 — going all in on next year?

@ugawugwa

The bill for the Khalil Mack trade is going to come due, and the Bears are going to have to pay it. Your scenario is a long shot. Maybe if the Bears identify a player near the end of the first round whom they absolutely love, they could consider a move up. But the two second-round picks in 2020 aren't going to get them very high in Round 1 this year. The Bears can be all in for 2019 despite being short on draft picks.

Chicago Tribune

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Crossword

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ACROSS

1 ___ away; astonish

5 Nagging pains

10 30-day month: abbr.

14 Thick cord

15 Hang limply

16 Barber's focus

17 Matured

18 Britain's charter of rights

20 Put on, as clothing

21 Convulsions

22 Ease, as another's fears

23 Terre __, IN

25 To and __

26 Sunglasses

28 Small earthquake

31 Erie or Panama

32 Adamant refusal

34 Pea casing

36 Opie's pa

37 Tooth problem

38 Incite

39 Part of a sock

40 Hand protectors

41 Aneurysm site, often

42 Loafers

44 Firstborn

45 Bullring shout

46 Dads

47 Fat-shunner of nursery rhyme

50 Suffix for care or hair

51 Eva, to Zsa Zsa

54 Downtown thoroughfare

57 Heap

58 ___ a year; annually

59 Use a loom

60 Wicked

61 Reverse or neutral, e.g.

62 Stranger

63 Banana casing

DOWN

1 Actor Pitt

2 Business symbol

3 Generous

4 Marry

5 Fesses up

6 Wooden box

7 Swine

8 Geologic period

9 Hot tub

10 "Peace!"

11 ___ Grey tea

12 Gyro bread

13 Cafeteria patron's item

19 Drew, for one

21 Gas or coal

24 "Queen for ___" of old TV

25 Ravel

26 "Get lost!"

Solutions

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27 Asian capital city

28 "___ the night before Christmas..."

29 Tyrannical; heavy-handed

30 Overwhelming defeats

32 NBA team

33 Fall month: abbr.

35 "Phooey!"

37 Critical; urgent

38 Malt shop order

40 Patty __; lunch orders

41 European range

43 Car to use temporarily

44 Spring holiday

46 Irritate

47 Air pollution

48 Window glass

49 Costa ___

50 Go before others

52 Nástase with a racket

53 Broker's advice

55 Siesta hour

56 Blushing

57 Energy

SUPER BOWL

Special (teams) treatment

Patriots' success due in large part to Belichick's dedication to 3rd phase

BY ADAM KILGORE | Washington Post

ATLANTA — In 1978, as he began his second NFL season as the Broncos punter, Bucky Dilts struck up an ongoing conversation with a curious coaching intern, a young man only one year older than him.

The intern peppered Dilts with questions. He always wanted to understand why, and he showed keen interest in the impact of Dilts kicking left-footed, something to which Dilts had given little thought.

"Want to punt some?" the intern would ask Dilts.

And then Bill Belichick, the Broncos' 24-year-old special teams assistant, would run 50 yards down the field to catch Dilts' punts.

"I think he was trying to understand the reverse spin and if it was harder to catch the punt," Dilts said.

Four decades have passed since Belichick's first days in the NFL, and in them he has stuffed 12 trips to the Super Bowl as either an assistant or head coach, the latest coming this week against the Rams. He has transformed from eager kid to scowling genius, from the son of a renowned scout to the architect of the Patriots' reign, arguably the greatest football coach ever to stalk a sideline.

What has not changed is Belichick's abiding enthusiasm for special teams. For his first full-time NFL coaching job, he served as the Giants special teams coach. He credits those years with shaping his coaching outlook. He has multiple players whose only role is playing on coverage and return units. He treats special teams not as something that happens between offense and defense, but as a full third of the game.

Most everything about Belichick's operation can be gleaned through how he approaches special teams. He uses them to promote solidarity. He demands correct execution down to excruciating detail. He mines opponents for weaknesses and exploits them ruthlessly. He devotes roster space to smart, tough players who understand their roles.

"Because of the way he came up in this game, he understands hidden yardage and field position and the value of the third phase of the game," said Matthew Slater, a Patriots captain who for 11 years has served as their special teams ace. "A lot of coaches say it's important, but they don't really show it by how they build their roster. He reflects that every year in how he builds his roster."

Every week Belichick gathers the Patriots in a meeting room for a full-team film study session. He reviews all three phases in front of everybody. The entire team, without exceptions, watches clips of special teams plays.

"Even Tom (Brady) has to listen to how we have to cover on kickoff," Slater said. "I think that sends a message to the entire organization that, hey, this is something that's important to us and something that's going to help us win football games. It kind of gets that buy-in."

To football lifers, Brady's presence in those meetings is illuminating.

"On most NFL teams, the high-paid quarterback will whine, 'Oh, why do I have to sit in there? I could be spending this time getting in the run game installation,'" said former NFL quarterback and ESPN analyst Matt Hasselbeck. "And the coach is like, 'Yeah, that's a good point.'"

In New England, Brady receives a firsthand lesson in Slater's importance or the difficulty Kyle Van Noy faces playing both linebacker and on special teams. It builds appreciation and creates bonds.

"There is so much value in camaraderie and respect," Hasselbeck said. "That's the little stuff I would say they are uncommon at. It's not normal. Other teams don't do that. That kind of stuff is so valuable."

In those sessions, Belichick vacillates between adulatory and unsparing.

If a unit tackles well, displays coordination and uses sound technique, Belichick will rewind the tape four or five times to hand out attaboys. When a punt coverage team bunches together, players in a straight line, he pauses the film and says with peevish sarcasm, "Yeah, there we are, in the I formation." He then rolls tape of a big return and chastises, "What did you think was going to happen?" To Belichick, there is no excuse for improper execution.

"Stuff like that where we or someone else demonstrates poor fundamentals or poor awareness, it drives him nuts," Slater said.

'The best training'

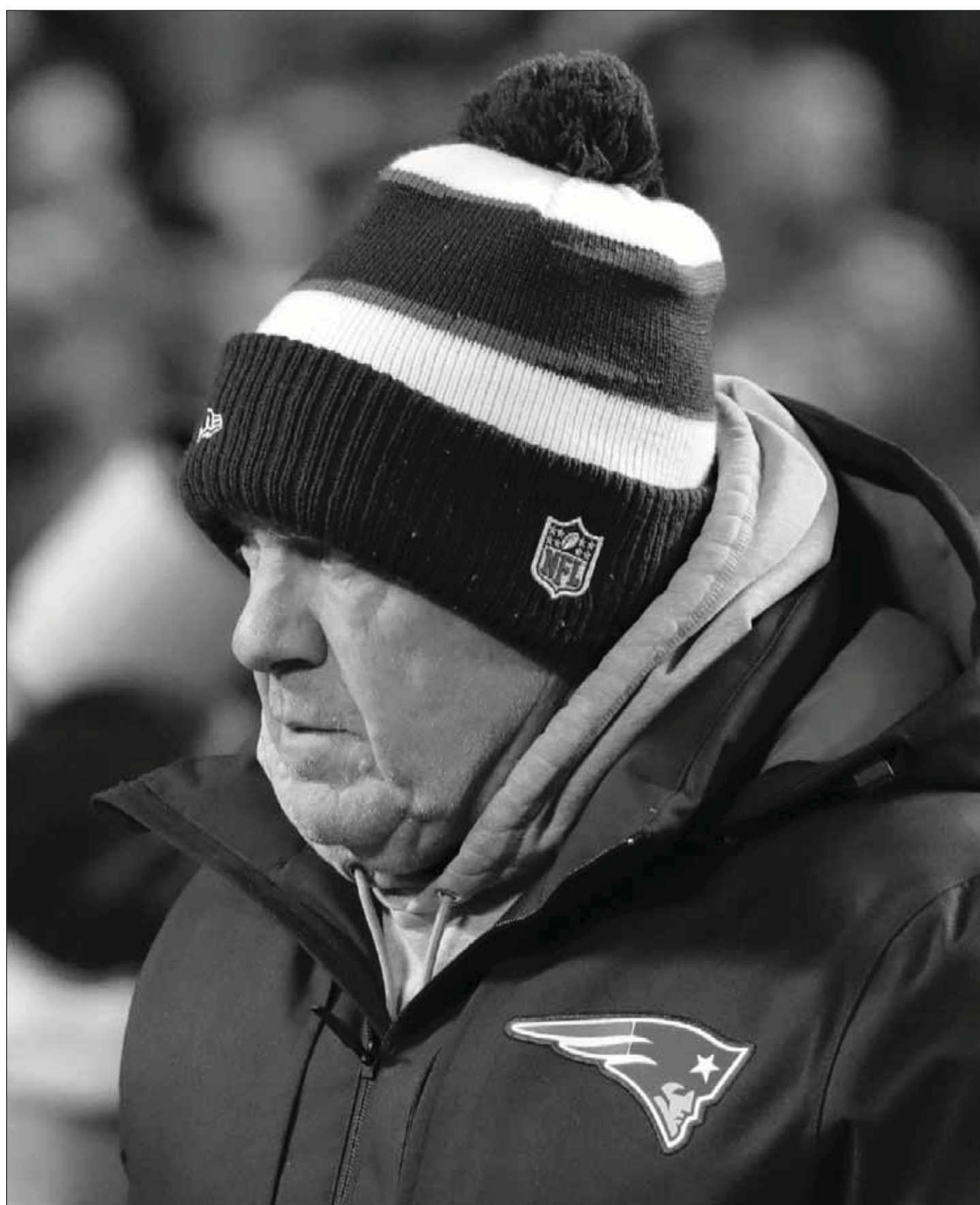
In 2012, when Steve Spagnuolo was the Saints defensive coordinator, the Patriots and Saints held joint training camp practices for several days. Given an opportunity to talk with Belichick, Spagnuolo asked him what in his coaching career had been most beneficial.

"Without hesitating, he said, 'I coached special team for three years,'" Spagnuolo said.

Monday night, dressed in a suit for opening night of Super Bowl week, Belichick was asked about the influence his tenure as a special teams coach had on his career. Typically tight-lipped, Belichick spoke for 1 minute, 47 seconds.

"Being a special teams coach is the best training I ever had to being a head coach," Belichick said. "Certainly being a coordinator is a great experience. Being a special teams coach, you work with every player on the team, with the exception of the quarterbacks.

"Those relationships and understanding



ELISE AMENDOLA/AP



JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Patriots coach Bill Belichick spotted a Bears flaw on game film, and it resulted in a punt block that Patriots linebacker Kyle Van Noy returned for a touchdown in the Oct. 21 game.

how to deal with different positions, different types of players, all the players at different levels — young players, developmental players, core players, players whose primary role was the kicking game, players whose secondary role was the kicking game. You put all that together, that was a tremendous experience."

As an intern with the Colts, Giants and Broncos, Belichick was assigned to special teams. He approached the job with extreme seriousness.

"He wasn't just running around like a lost puppy," Dilts said. "He was trying to understand why people were trying to do stuff a certain way. That's a big difference."

Coaching Dilts, Belichick came to believe a left-footed punter imparted spin that made it trickier for a returner to handle punts. To this day, Belichick maintains the fixation. The five primary punters he has employed with the Patriots have been lefties.

"I'd like to say I was the first one," Dilts said.

After Belichick's season in Denver, Giants coach Ray Perkins needed a special teams coach. Ernie Adams, a quality-control assistant for Perkins and Belichick's best friend from their days at Phillips Academy prep school in Massachusetts, told Perkins he should interview Belichick. To accommodate Perkins' travel schedule, Belichick met him at a San Diego airport hotel.

"I just liked the way he answered the questions I had, his philosophy on special teams," Perkins recalled.

Before their season debut in 1979, Belichick spotted a flaw in the Eagles' kick return formation. As a 25-year-old assistant in his first real job, Belichick convinced

Perkins the Giants should begin the year with an onside kick. The Giants recovered it, then scored a field goal.

"You've got assignment coaching, and then you've got coaching," Perkins said. "Assignment coaching, anybody can do. Anybody can learn assignments. The guy that goes a step, or maybe two or three steps, further and beyond the assignment — how can that player from a mental standpoint and physical standpoint perform his duty on that particular play? That was him."

'Detailed as you can imagine'

Rams special teams coach John Fassel said he can tell Belichick used to coach the unit based on the sublime technique of Patriots special teamers and personnel choices.

With the Giants, Belichick used stars such as Lawrence Taylor and Carl Banks as wings on their field-goal block unit. He doesn't view starters as too important for special teams; he views special teams as too important not to use his best players.

Patriots tight end Rob Gronkowski once broke his arm blocking on an extra point. Wide receiver Julian Edelman returns punts. Van Noy scored a touchdown this season after Dont'a Hightower, another starting linebacker, blocked a punt.

"He treats the special teams like offense and defense," Van Noy said. "It's a third of the game, and he makes it a priority."

Belichick also finds players specifically tailored for special teams. Slater is listed as a wide receiver, but he has caught one pass his entire career. He has an heir apparent in Nate Ebner, a nominal safety who appeared on one defensive snap this season but a team-high 329 on special teams. Brandon

"He treats the special teams like offense and defense. It's a third of the game, and he makes it a priority."

— Patriots starting linebacker and special teamer Kyle Van Noy on Bill Belichick, above

King, listed as a linebacker, played 281 special teams plays and zero anywhere else.

"There's no one specific body type we're looking for," Patriots special teams coach Joe Judge said. "But that relentless attitude of playing every play, that's what we're looking for. On their college tape, they've got to jump across the screen at you."

When Van Noy and Hightower combined for the touchdown, it resulted from a wrinkle inserted into the Patriots' game plan specifically for the Bears. The Patriots had noticed a lack of communication between Bears blockers, and when the time came Hightower burst through the line. When Judge was asked how detailed Belichick can be as a head coach studying opposing special teams units, Judge laughed.

"As detailed as you can imagine," Judge said. "Our job is to find some piece of information that can help our players execute better on the field. It may not be there at first when you look at it. But you got to keep rewatching, re-digging. There's always something. You've got to find it."

"He recognizes mistakes the other team is making on a consistent basis," said former safety Beasley Reece, who returned kicks for Belichick in New York. "He will notice that there's a weak spot in their philosophy, the way they're set up to block or set up to return, and he will tell you exactly what you need to do to exploit (it)."

In that regard, Belichick's task will be difficult Sunday. Rams punter Johnny Hekker and kicker Greg Zuerlein, who booted the Rams into the Super Bowl with a 57-yard field goal in overtime of the NFC championship game, are as dazzling as punters and kickers get.

Belichick has repeatedly referred to Hekker as a "weapon." He blasts punts with an array of spins and angles, and he's an accomplished passer, witnessed during his crucial fake-punt conversion in the NFC title game.

When it comes to special teams, Belichick will be ready for anything.

Slater loves to ask Belichick questions such as how he should release off the line as a gunner against a certain blocker or how he should approach tackling a specific return man. Slater can tell how excited Belichick gets to answer, and he is certain other coaches would not be able to have the same conversation.

"They don't have the background," Slater said. "But he can speak to all facets of our team. He's been doing it longer than all of us have been alive."

NFL

Goodell: 'Human' refs blew it

Commissioner never considered overturning Rams' win over Saints

BY BROOKE PRYOR
Kansas City Star

ATLANTA — NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell touched on a variety of topics Wednesday in his annual Super Bowl-week state-of-the-league address.

It didn't take long before he was asked about the controversial no-call late in the Jan. 20 NFC championship game between the Rams and the Saints. A seemingly obvious pass-interference infraction was not whistled against the Rams, leading to renewed outcry over the league's on-field rules and uneven enforcement.

"We understand the frustration

of the fans," Goodell said. "I've talked to (Saints coach) Sean Payton, the team, the players. We understand the frustration that they feel right now. We certainly want to address that. Whenever officiating is part of any kind of discussion postgame, it's never a good outcome for us."

Goodell said repeatedly during the session with reporters that the NFL addressed the officiating issue immediately following the game. He said the officials on the field, who in this case failed to make the call, are human.

But he also said that the league would look at using more instant replay to review close calls during games.

"Technology is not going to solve all of those issues," he said. "The game is not officiated by robots and it's not going to be.

"The other complication is that it was a no call. Our coaches and clubs have been resistant about having a replay official or somebody in New York throw a flag when there's no flag."

Asked if he considered overturning the outcome of the NFC championship game, Goodell said, "Absolutely not."

Here are some other highlights from Goodell's news conference:

■ On Kareem Hunt, cut by the Chiefs after video surfaced of the running back shoving and kicking a woman in Cleveland: "Kareem Hunt, I think everyone knows, that issue is under investigation. He's a free agent. If he's signed by a club, clubs understand he'll be on exempt list until the investigation is concluded. Hopefully that will be concluded soon." Goodell said there has been "tremendous prog-

ress" in the investigation in the last "30 to 60 days."

■ On the lack of minority coaches and coordinators after this hiring cycle, Goodell said, "We don't look at the success or failure of the Rooney rule in one-year increments."

■ Why hasn't free-agent quarterback Colin Kaepernick been signed? Goodell: "I think if a team decides that Kaepernick or any other player can help their team win, that's what they'll do."

■ Goodell was asked about the future of the Raiders' playing location. "It's unfortunate that litigation was filed prior to their final season in Oakland. ... I'm hopeful they get a resolution soon." The hope is to be in the Bay Area next year, Goodell said. The Raiders move to Las Vegas for the 2020 season.

■ Goodell said he hasn't spoken with troubled Patriots receiver Josh Gordon since his last suspension. "He's a young man that's had a lot of challenges. ... He's working at it. He understands what he has to do. He understands the importance for him. This is beyond football. This is for his life."

■ On installing a permanent team in the United Kingdom: "The issue for us is still, 'Can we do it competitively for the team that is based in London and the other 31 clubs?' " He also called China a "priority market" for the league.

■ On the game in Mexico City that had to be moved to Los Angeles because of poor field conditions: "I believe we're going to continue that relationship and grow the game of football in Mexico." The Chiefs will play in Mexico next season against the Chargers.

Can Pace follow Snead's course?

Biggs, from Page 1

Other teams have followed suit. The Bengals are expected to hire Zac Taylor, McVay's quarterbacks coach, as head coach next week. The Packers hired Matt LaFleur, one season removed from his stint as McVay's offensive coordinator in Los Angeles, as head coach. Incredibly, the 33-year-old McVay already has his own coaching tree.

Parallels between the Rams and Bears run deeper than the impressive young coaches and the improving young quarterbacks. Both teams have menaces to anchor their front seven with defensive tackle Aaron Donald with the Rams and outside linebacker Khalil Mack with the Bears. The young, first-time head coaches have been paired with veteran defensive minds who enjoy autonomy — Wade Phillips for the Rams and Vic Fangio followed by Chuck Pagano with the Bears.

Both organizations made a commitment to continuity in the front office. The Rams had a difficult decision with general manager Les Snead. Kevin Demoff, the team's chief operating officer and vice president of football operations, said Snead's future was undetermined on Dec. 12, 2016, the day Jeff Fisher was fired as coach. At the time, the team's record under Snead was 31-45-1 and he'd had high-profile hits along with big swings and misses. The Rams were going to find the coach that fit the team best and determine if Snead remained a good fit, which ultimately was deemed to be the case.

"He's a coach's GM," Demoff said of Snead. "He's going to listen to his coach and try to get him the players he wants. You could see he knew how to evaluate talent and he had great contacts and great relationships, and the best



CHRIS GRAYTHEN/GETTY

Rams GM Les Snead congratulates Aaron Donald and Jared Goff as they celebrate with the NFC trophy.

thing about Les is he is similar to Sean. They're both relentless in self-improving in looking at where they might come up short in a game or a draft or pick and trying to analyze what went wrong and not repeat the mistake.

"Les learned a lot from the mistakes we all made as a franchise. He had a great blueprint for how he would change but also understood when you make a coaching change, it's not just the coaching staff, the entire organization has to look themselves in the mirror and say, 'How do we get better?' Les was as introspective as anybody."

The Bears didn't waffle at all when they parted ways with their veteran coach, firing John Fox at the conclusion of the 2017 season. Chairman George McCaskey expressed his confidence in general manager Ryan Pace, announcing a contract extension while the team's record under him was 14-34. McCaskey believed in Pace's vision, saw evidence of improvement and ultimately knew the coaching job would be a tough sell if the GM looked like he was on thin ice.

Just as the Rams ended a streak of 14 consecutive years without a winning season in 2017, the Bears broke a seven-year playoff drought in 2018. The real question now is will the Bears continue to operate similarly to the Rams, just a year behind their timeline?

If the Rams again prove to be a model for the Bears, even if it's just somewhat close, buckle up and prepare for a thrill ride this offseason. Will Pace follow the franchise's most aggressive foray into free agency from 2018 — which doesn't account for the biggest move of all in the Mack trade — with another aggressive spring? His history in four years suggests it can't be ruled out.

That's what Snead did a year ago after the Rams went 11-5 before being upset in the first round of the playoffs by the Falcons. For as big as the Bears' offseason was, the Rams' was bigger.

Snead was bold, he was calculated and more than anything he was aggressive.

The highlights:
■ The Rams traded inside linebacker Alec Ogletree and

defensive end Robert Quinn. The Quinn deal wasn't surprising, but Ogletree and a seventh-round pick were sent to the Giants for fourth- and sixth-round picks less than six months after the Rams had signed him to a \$43 million contract with more than \$21 million guaranteed. The Rams believed Cory Littleton was ready to emerge and needed to create some salary-cap flexibility.

■ For the cost of a 2019 second-round pick and 2018 picks in the fourth and fifth rounds, the Rams got cornerback Marcus Peters and Aqib Talib in trades.

■ They let wide receiver Sammy Watkins exit in free agency, a move that should net them a compensatory pick this year, and they secured safety LaMarcus Joyner with the franchise tag.

■ They replaced by trading for wide receiver Brandin Cooks and then extended his contract.

■ Defensive tackle Ndamukong Suh was signed in free agency to pair with Donald. While Suh wasn't spectacular in the regular season, he has been a force in the playoffs.

■ With a major bankroll, Snead invested in his own players,

"Les learned a lot from the mistakes we all made as a franchise."

— Rams executive Kevin Demoff

signing Donald, running back Todd Gurley, center John Sullivan and right tackle Rob Havenstein to extensions.

■ During the season, the Rams traded to acquire outside linebacker Dante Fowler from the Jaguars.

The Rams emerged from a wilderness of losing, had one winning season and then asked themselves tough questions about how they could get better. Many teams in the same situation operate with the idea they can continue to build on most everything in place.

The Bears already have started their building for next season, signing right tackle Bobby Massie to a four-year contract. They have only two other starters headed toward unrestricted free agency — strong safety Adrian Amos and nickel cornerback Bryce Callahan — so there is less roster uncertainty than the Rams had a year ago.

Snead bristles at the suggestion the Rams went all-in on this season. His point is the plan is more calculated than that, a design that should put them in place to compete for a championship for several seasons to come. Pace is operating in the same manner, talking about a window to compete for a championship, not an all-or-nothing year.

The Rams have used a lot of draft capital to make moves for Cooks, the cornerbacks and more recently Fowler.

"If you wait on drafting those guys, you can find the window of Jared Goff's rookie deal closing in on you," Snead told the Orange County Register at the start of the season.

If the Bears follow suit, you should expect the unexpected come March and April. If the comparisons for the franchises continue, maybe the Bears will be the one at the Super Bowl this time next year.

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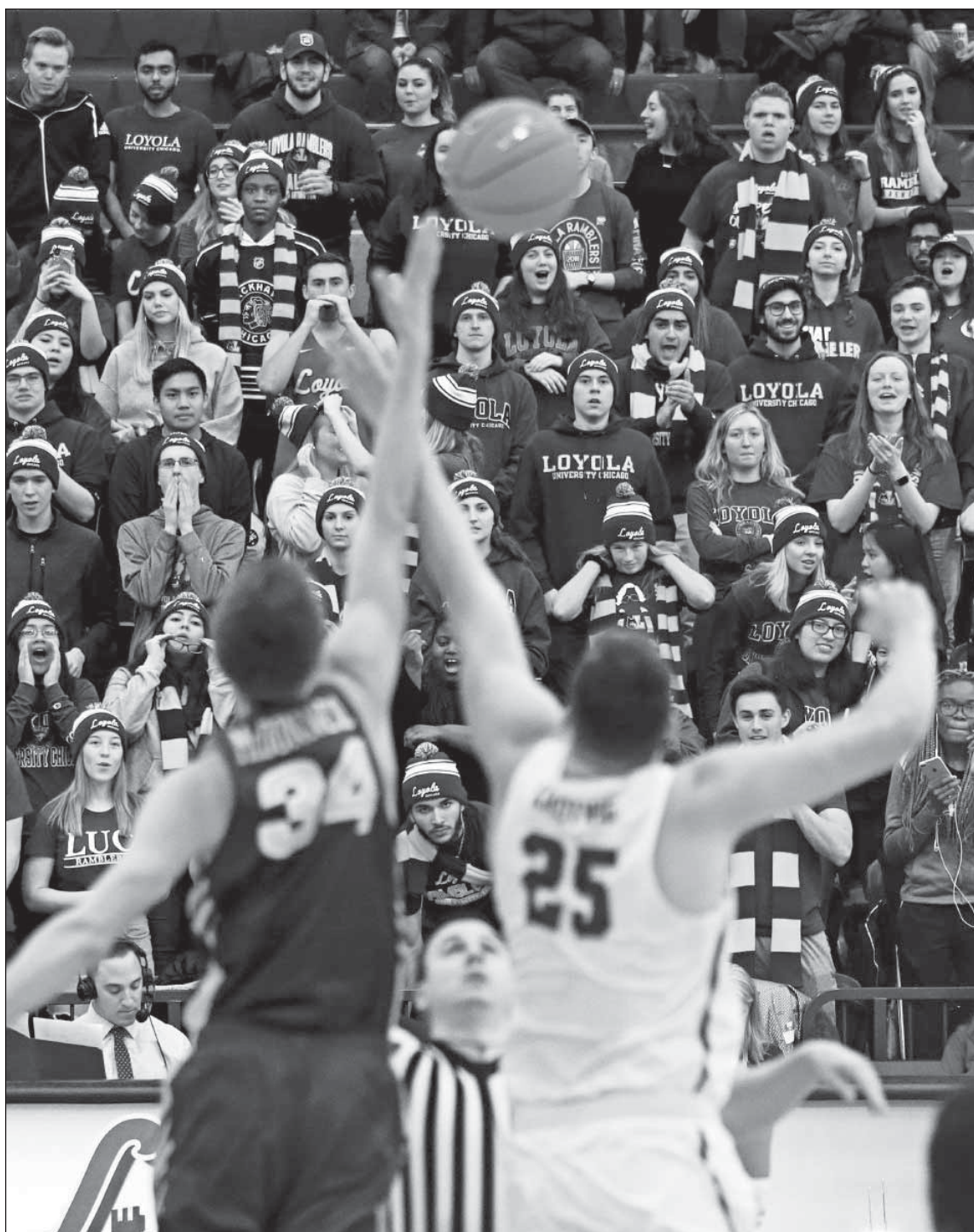
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COLLEGE BASKETBALL



Ramblers fans brave the cold to see a win

Ryan, from Page 1

The student section was packed and boisterous an hour before tipoff.

And, of course, Sister Jean Delores Schmidt was there.

"She said she wasn't going to miss it," senior associate athletic director Tom Hitcho said of the 99-year-old team chaplain. She took a handicap taxi from a location where she stays downtown to nearly the doors of the arena to minimize her time in the cold.

"Thank you for being at our game on this historic cold day in Chicago," Schmidt said during her traditional pregame prayer on the arena floor. "Cheer loudly and keep warm."

There was no charge to use the parking garage next to the Loyola student center.

DePaul hosted No. 14 Villanova at Wintrust Arena and also allowed fans to park for free and enter the arena through an enclosed walkway. Reporters at that game estimated about 2,000 fans showed up.

"It's always freezing when we go to Chicago," Wildcats coach Jay Wright told the Philadelphia Inquirer. "It's always been the coldest spot. I didn't go outside before when we went to Chicago, so I can't imagine what this is going to be like."

DePaul and Loyola said they followed their conferences' protocol that allows teams to play as long as state and local officials don't require a cancellation and as long as the opponent and officials make it safely to the arena.

Both schools canceled classes Wednesday and Thursday. That prompted some Loyola



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE PHOTOS
Loyola guard Marques Townes is fired up as the Ramblers battle against Northern Iowa on Wednesday at the Gentile Arena.

students to make the most of their day off. Some fans began lining up outside the arena at 1 p.m. for the 6 p.m. game.

They roared throughout the game, standing and screaming and stomping their feet as the Ramblers' overcame a 10-point deficit.

Coach Porter Moser grabbed a microphone at the end of the game and addressed the students from center court.

"You guys won the game for us tonight," he said.

He told reporters in a postgame news conference that many had warned him "nobody would be here" for the game. The attendance was 3,011 in an arena with a capacity of 5,000.

"It was a great atmosphere for 30 below," Moser said.

Loyola players said Moser reminded them to bundle. They met for a team breakfast and tried to hunker down until game time.

Before the game, teammates who lived off campus got rides to the arena.

Afterward some said they might walk home. "It's not that cold," said Marques Townes, who scored 19 points in the victory.

Some fans actually faced the freeze to find a little warmth.

"The heat in our apartment couldn't keep up," senior Luke Yeager said. "It's set on 85 but it's only 65. I knew the trip was worth it for the heat."

Those long gold-and-maroon-striped scarves made famous during last season's Final Four run became practical for Ramblers fans Wednesday. Fans braved the cold to add a maroon-and-white Loyola beanie — a giveaway to early attendees — to their collection.

The annual "Jesuit Jam" game, in which Jesuit Catholics helped host the game, was also a draw.

There was simpler motivation for some.

"I couldn't say no because the tickets were free," said Jose Zamudio, who drove to the game from Mundelein with his 12-year-old nephew Alex. "They're a good team. They have a lot of potential. They're worth checking out."

Mifsud, who didn't take off his shades during the game, wanted to provide extra support for Loyola, expecting the crowd might be thin because of the weather.

"When classes were canceled, we were all like, 'Maybe we stay (home) all day,'" he said. "But conference play is so clutch. I'm like, 'Is this game important? Yes, of course it is. Let's just do it.'"

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BLACKHAWKS & BULLS

Kurashev's sights are set on NHL

4th-round pick scored most goals in World Junior Championships

By JIMMY GREENFIELD
Chicago Tribune

Every year the World Junior Championships brings together teams full of future NHL stars.

The winning goal in the gold-medal game was scored by Finnish forward Kaapo Kakko, whose championship squad barely edged a United States team led by Jack Hughes.

Which of those players — who are expected to be the top two taken in June's NHL draft — led the tournament in goals?

Well, neither. That distinction went to Swiss forward Philipp Kurashev, a little-known Blackhawks fourth-round pick last year who finished the tournament with six goals and one assist in seven games.

"It was a pretty good tournament," Kurashev said. "I think it helped me to see that I can play against the best players in my age group and just against the best players. That was a really good (tournament) for me."

The Hawks haven't had much luck with fourth-round picks over the last 25 years. Since taking Eric Daze in 1993, the only player they've taken in the fourth round who developed into a consistent contributor was Niklas Hjalmarsson.

Kurashev, who won't turn 20 until October, is hoping he can break that trend. First, he'll have to convince the Hawks to sign him to an entry-level contract.

"I'm trying my best to show them what I can do as a player,"

Kurashev said. "Hopefully, they're happy. I'm working as hard as I can so that it happens."

Kurashev is averaging more than a point a game (21 goals, 26 assists, 42 games) in his third season with the Quebec Major Junior Hockey League's Quebec Remparts. Mark Kelley, the Hawks' vice president of amateur scouting, said he is very happy with Kurashev's season.

"He's getting a chance to play in all situations," Kelley said. "Power play, man down, he's matched up against top players and he's really thrived. Then he went to the World Juniors and he played on that Switzerland team and the spotlight was on him. He was the No. 1 center, he got all the tough assignments (and) power play and he was the backbone of that Swiss team."

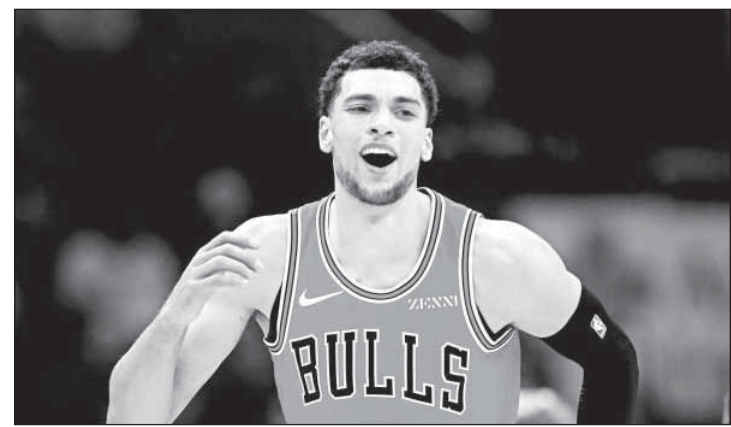
"If there was one team that was a huge surprise there, it was Switzerland and Philipp was a huge part."

When the Remparts' season ends, Kurashev plans to return home to Switzerland for a brief rest before heading to Detroit to spend the summer working out and preparing for next season. Not only does his agent live in Detroit, but he has family there as well.

Before that happens, though, he'll happily finish out what has become a special season for him.

"I feel like so far this season was pretty good and there's still half the season (left)," Kurashev said. "I just want to make this half better than the first one. I'm just trying to get better every day and work hard."

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ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Bulls guard Zach LaVine yells during the game against the Spurs at the United Center on Nov. 26. LaVine sat out against the Heat.

LaVine: Duke star will be a 'franchise-changer'

Bulls, from Page 1

Lauri Markkanen went for 14 points and 13 rebounds — his third straight double-double, a career first. Wayne Selden scored 20, making 4 of 6 from long range, and dished out a career-best eight assists.

LaVine rested what he called a Grade 2 sprain of his left ankle, an ailment that has dogged him since December.

"I think the All-Star break, with a little bit of rest, will help me out," he said. "It's never fully healed, so you sprain it one day and then it gets better, and you sprain it again. It will be that way for a little bit, but I still know I'm able to go out there and produce."

Not Wednesday. After Boylen called LaVine a game-time decision, the fifth-year guard was ruled out 40 minutes before tipoff.

That left the Bulls to trot out this starting lineup: Kris Dunn, Ryan Arcidiacono, Wayne Selden, Lauri Markkanen and Robin Lopez.

Not exactly the Golden State Warriors.

More like a lineup destined to give the franchise the best odds of being able to draft Duke's Zion Williamson.

"I mean, none of us want to go out there and lose," LaVine said. "I know I don't. I go out there to win every night and let the chips fall where they are."

That said, LaVine isn't blind. And he isn't deaf. He's aware of all the talk.

"It's not my decision who they're going to draft, who is in the draft," he said. "You can already see where (the Bulls) might be placed, but I try and stay in the present and get better with the team we have now."

"But yeah, that dude (Williamson) is a franchise-changer. You can already see it. He's what, 6-foot-7, like 280? He can jump like me, but he looks like an outside linebacker. He's a freak of nature. Dude will change a franchise."

Speaking of ... there's talk in every locker room about Anthony Davis, the Chicago native who wants to be moved from the Pelicans.

"It's the NBA, man," LaVine said. "You understand the business of it, at least I do. I've been traded before. You just have to understand that part of it."

"Anthony Davis is a top — shoot, where do you put him? He's definitely top five, but on any given night he can be the best player in the world, you know? That's the type of person he is, and if he wants to come home that will be great, but you never know what's going to happen."

LaVine is in the first season of a four-year contract worth \$19.5 million per.

The league is loaded with uncertainty, but there's one thing he knows — he cannot be traded before the Feb. 7 deadline.

"Yeah, I've got like a no-trade thing for my first year," he said, winking. "I'll be in Chicago for at least this year."

A full season past rehabbing after ACL surgery, LaVine is having his best season. Last year he averaged 16.7 points on 38.3 percent shooting. Now he's at 22.9 points on 45.2 percent from the field.

Boylen said he'd like to see LaVine make the All-Star team, with reserves being announced Thursday.

LaVine's take? "Numbers-wise I feel I'm one of the top guards in the East, but it's not always about you and your individual stats," he said. "I (have) All-Star numbers. I come in here and try to prove my worth every game. Sometimes when you don't have enough wins that doesn't help, and I can't do much about that."

"How many wins factor into All-Star consideration ... you want to be there, and I know I'll be there one day. I know I'm an All-Star-caliber player."

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COLLEGE BASKETBALL ROUNDUP

Teams putting up with cold shooting

Associated Press

The polar vortex couldn't stop college basketball in the Midwest.

Despite the deep freeze, a dozen men's games and four women's games in major conferences went on Wednesday night as temperatures approached or broke records.

In Indianapolis, school was canceled at Butler and other nearby schools — but the game between the Bulldogs and No. 10 Marquette wasn't.

Athletic department officials put heaters near the metal detectors at each gate, an attempt to keep security guards and fans warm as the temperature hovered near 3 degrees with a wind chill of minus-17 when the gates opened 90 minutes before tip-off of Mar-

quette's 76-58 victory. They also asked security guards to expedite the screening process to get fans safely into Hinkle Fieldhouse.

DePaul offered free covered parking and a complimentary shuttle for its game against Villanova at Wintrust Arena. Villanova blitzed DePaul with 15 3-pointers on the way to a 86-74 win. Femi Olujobi led the Blue Demons with 20 points and eight rebounds. Eli Cain scored 17, but DePaul (11-9, 3-6 Big East) lost for the fourth time in five games despite shooting 53 percent.

Officials at Iowa State tried to make the journey to Hilton Coliseum for its game against West Virginia less imposing by opening its parking lots on a first-come, first-serve basis. Typically, season-ticket holders can park closer.

Guilty plea: A former Oklahoma State assistant coach pleaded guilty to taking bribes from business advisers to steer them to star college athletes expected to turn pro.

Lamont Evans, 41, entered the plea in New York federal court to conspiring to commit bribery. He admitted receiving \$22,000 to steer players at South Carolina and Oklahoma State to certain financial advisers and business managers.

Langford done: Michigan State guard Joshua Langford will miss the rest of the season because of his injured ankle. Spartans coach Tom Izzo said the junior will likely need surgery. Langford has missed the last eight games. In the 13 games he did play Langford averaged 15 points.

BIG GAME

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BEARS

ROSTER RUNDOWN
SAFETIES

Part 10 of an 11-part review of the 2018 Bears season. Coming Friday: Special teams.

Bears safety Eddie Jackson grabs a deflection for a key interception in the Bears' Dec. 16 victory against the Packers.

ARMANDO L. SANCHEZ/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Lots of pickin' & grinnin'

Top-tier ball skills have made Jackson one of the NFL's best

BY BRAD BIGGS
Chicago Tribune

Players who have a knack for being around the football are not there by accident.

Even when Eddie Jackson intercepted a fourth-quarter pass off the hands of Packers tight end Jimmy Graham in the end zone on Dec. 16, that wasn't Jackson's man.

In a two-deep shell, Jackson was on the defense's left and after the snap he came up to double-team wide receiver Randall Cobb, helping nickel cornerback Sherrick McManis. His instincts, though, led him to the middle of the field, where Aaron Rodgers' throw was slightly behind Graham, leading to the tipped pass going directly to Jackson. It was a huge play that essentially ended the Packers' bid for a late rally.

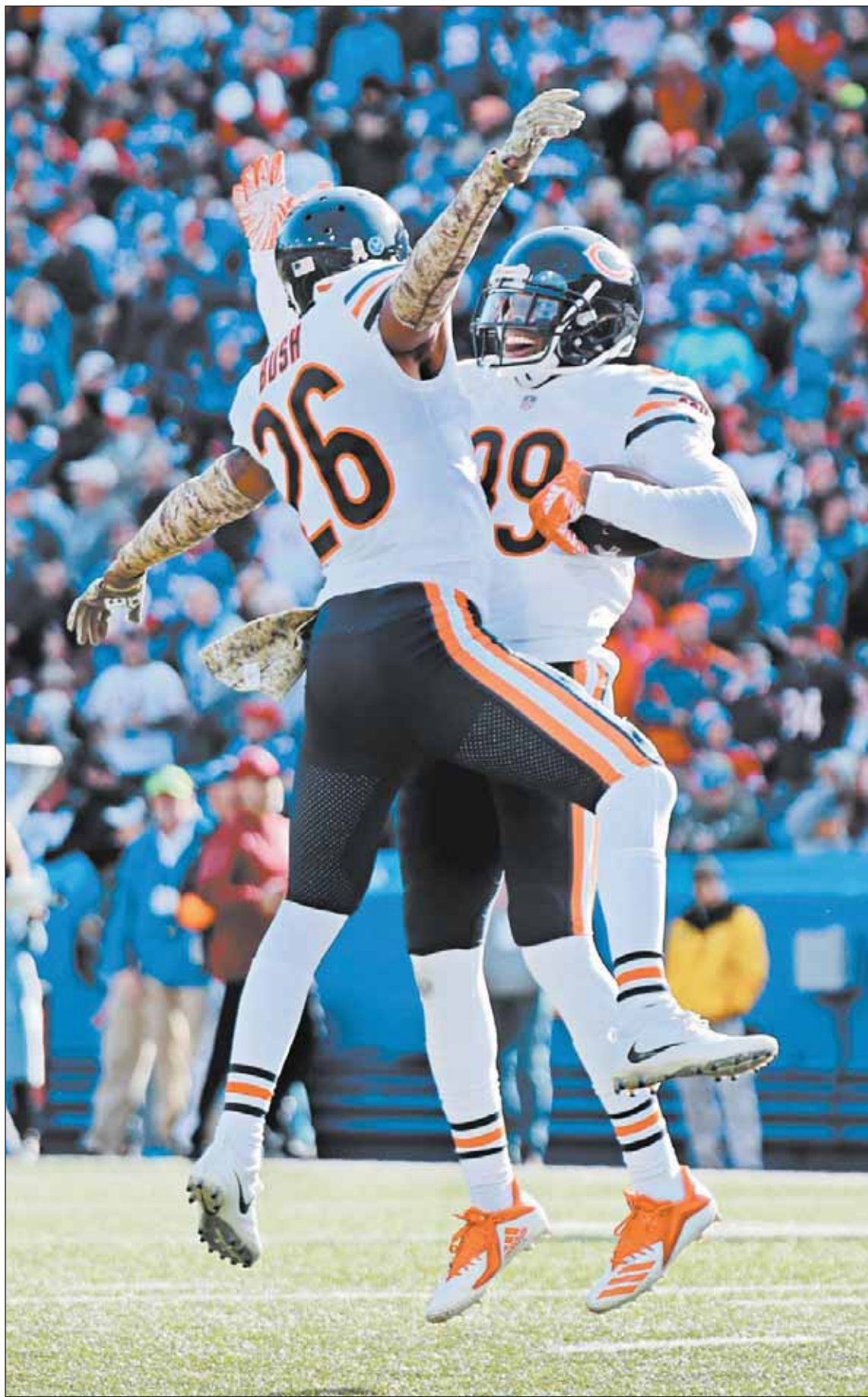
The play turned out to be the final one of the season for Jackson as he suffered a high ankle sprain after running the ball out and then attempting to slide down. It snapped Rodgers' NFL record of 402 consecutive pass attempts without an interception and was the Bears' first pick against Rodgers since Nov. 26, 2015.

In just his second season, Jackson has displayed top-tier ball skills, maybe the best of any safety in the league. He is a risk taker but takes calculated risks, something all the best ballhawks do. Some are more cavalier and will gamble to the point that their mistakes outnumber their big plays.

That's not Jackson, who will drop coverage and drive on an underneath route to put him in position to make a play, all within the framework of the scheme.

Jackson has a keen sense for the football, the best for a Bears defensive back since Mike Brown was in his prime. It's a trait coaches talk about developing through repetition, coaching and filmwork, but the reality is a player either has it or doesn't. Ball skills involve much more than the final act — catching the football. It's about being around the football to complete those plays. And with high football IQ and a sense for route trees, personnel, formations, down-and-distance and game situation, Jackson sets himself apart. Having good hands — he was recruited by some schools as a receiver — allows him to complete the plays too. That background as a receiver, and a returner as well, makes him dangerous in the open field once he has the ball.

That all came into play late in Week 11 against the Vikings at Soldier Field. The Bears were leading 14-6 midway through the fourth quarter. At the time, they were just a half-game ahead of Minnesota in the NFC North. The Vikings had first down on their own 11-yard line. Jackson broke on a corner route to Laquon Treadwell before Kirk Cousins released the ball. It wasn't a perfect throw, but even if it was, Jackson would have picked it off. He broke downhill knowing where the threats were and knowing where his help was with cornerback Kyle Fuller on the outside as a flat defender. The pick-six gave the Bears a two-score lead.



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Deon Bush helps Eddie Jackson celebrate after Jackson returned a fumble for a touchdown against the Bills.

2018 season review

There's no question the secondary benefited from the addition of outside linebacker Khalil Mack and the pressure created by the linemen, led by Akiem Hicks. But the front seven benefited from the secondary's tight coverage and discipline. Strong safety Adrian Amos led all defensive players with 1,028 snaps (97.7 percent) and Jackson was at 906 (86 percent) as the ankle injury forced him out of the final two regular-season games and the playoff meeting with the Eagles.

Jackson finished seventh on the team in tackles with 51 (41 solos) and was fourth in the NFL with six interceptions. He was fifth in the NFL with 16 pass breakups, which led all safeties. He had one sack, two forced fumbles, two tackles for a loss and one fumble

recovery. Jackson's five defensive touchdowns since the start of his career in 2017 are tied with the Jets' Erik McMillan (1988-89) for the most by a defensive player in his first two seasons. He had pick-sixes in back-to-back games against the Vikings and Lions, a big part of why he was named the defensive player of the month in November. As much as anyone, Jackson played a role in the Bears leading the NFL with 36 take-aways. He's an adequate tackler, but he doesn't have to be a knockout safety. His greatest strength is his acumen and ability to play center field with range. He takes good angles on the ball.

Amos was not an impact player to the same level, but he was a great fit in the system as a physical player, particularly effective in the box against the run. He was third with 72 tackles (58 solo) and had

one sack, nine pass breakups, two tackles for a loss and one fumble recovery.

Depth at the position enabled the Bears to trade Deiondre' Hall to the Eagles on the weekend of final cuts, a deal that will net them a 2019 seventh-round pick, one that originally belonged to the Broncos. Deon Bush was the third safety and got two starts in place of Jackson at the end of the season. He made six tackles and logged 152 snaps, the most since he got 333 as a rookie in 2016. DeAndre Houston-Carson played in the dime package and got more action after Bryce Callahan was lost to a broken foot when Sherrick McManis went from the dime role to be the fill-in nickel. Houston-Carson, who is effective blitzing off the edge, had 46 snaps and made four tackles with one quarterback hit.

ROLL CALL

Eddie Jackson
Signed through 2020
2019 cap hit: \$811,449
Adrian Amos
Unrestricted free agent
Deon Bush
Signed through 2019
2019 cap hit: \$851,556
DeAndre Houston-Carson
Restricted free agent

Free agency/ draft priority

The Bears will have a decision to make with Amos, who will be an unrestricted free agent. Conventional wisdom is they will not sink significant money into a strong safety when they are a year away from having to make Jackson one of the highest-paid safeties in the game. Amos has strong durability and while he's not a dynamic playmaker, he can match tight ends and is a good zone defender in quarters coverage, which the Bears leaned on a lot. He's a smart player and doesn't make a lot of mistakes. Other teams will have to ask themselves what Amos' ceiling is when considering him in free agency. Was his success, to a degree, a product of the players around him? Is Amos less valuable in a defense that isn't nearly as good? How would he look on, say, the 49ers when there is much more stress put on him?

Bush could be a one-year option. The Bears could consider bringing Amos back if he doesn't get the kind of offers in free agency he'll be seeking. They could draft a player with the idea of having a cost-controlled player to pair next to Jackson. They could consider a free agent, an avenue that has not been productive for the team in recent years. Think Quintin Demps and Antrel Rolle. It's an area of need but probably not as significant as some moves the Bears will want to make on offense and certainly not as pressing as the need to re-sign or replace Callahan. Houston-Carson is a restricted free agent and he could return, but the Bears are unlikely to tender him at \$2 million for the 2019 season.

Bottom line

Jackson is a bona fide star as an All-Pro selection and has quickly emerged as a leader in the locker room. As a fourth-rounder out of Alabama, he's one of the best draft picks the organization has made in the last decade with limitless potential as a game-changer.

Defensive backs coach Ed Donatell left to become the defensive coordinator of the Broncos and former NFL veteran Deshaun Townsend has replaced him. New coordinator Chuck Pagano has a background as a secondary coach and will surely have ideas for enhancing Jackson's game.

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BIG NUMBER

8 Interceptions for Bears safeties in 2018, equaling the number of picks for the entire Bears defense in each of the last three seasons. Oddly, the Bears had exactly eight interceptions in 2015, '16 and '17.

— eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE —



DENIS POROY/AP

Tiger Woods plays during the second round of the Farmers Insurance Open golf tournament on the North Course at the Torrey Pines Golf Course on Friday in San Diego.

Woods is peeking ahead in bid to peak at majors

BY DOUG FERGUSON
Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Tiger Woods wrapped up his week at Torrey Pines with a 67 to tie for 20th and said it was good to shake off some rust and see what needs work. It was his first competition in seven weeks, and only his second event since the Ryder Cup ended on Oct. 1.

Whether it's age or injury — both are relevant — keep in mind that for the first 12 years of his pro career, Woods never finished outside the top 10 in his first event of the year, winning six times. The streak ended at the Match Play in 2009 after he sat out eight months recovering from reconstructive knee surgery.

Dating to 2009, he has finished in the top 10 just twice in his first event of the year — a tie for fourth in the 2010 Masters and a tie for third in Abu Dhabi in 2012.

Even at his best, and when healthy, when Woods didn't win his first start of the year it was written off in some corners as spring training. Everything was geared toward that first full week at Augusta National. In some respects, that remains true.

It's about peaking four weeks every year, and Woods said that starts "months out."

But when does it become important to start seeing results?

"Just want to keep building, keep getting more crisp," Woods said. "It's hard to have four major championships. It's not easy. I've only done it 14 times."

Most players would love to peak at majors half as much — if that many — in their careers. While conceding that "only" 14 sounds like a lot, Woods put it into context by referencing Jack Nicklaus winning "only" 18 times in 164 majors.

"It's not easy to do," said Woods, who has played 80 majors, six as an amateur. "It's hard to have mind, body and soul come together at the same time. Luckily in this sport, we have four chances per year."

What has his attention this year is not getting ready for the Masters, but the quick turnaround for the next one with the PGA Championship moving to May. Last year, for example, there were nine weeks between the Masters and the U.S. Open. Now, there are four weeks between the Masters and the PGA.

"It's very different because it feels like it's our Players Champi-



NEVILLE HOPWOOD/AP

Haotong Li of China, who was embroiled in a rules furor, chips out of a bunker on the 14th hole during round four of the Dubai Desert Classic golf tournament, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

onship week," Woods said. "I'm familiar with the new date where we are with the Players (March). That's not a big change for me. But having the PGA in May is going to be a little bit different."

Miller time

Saturday at the Waste Management Phoenix Open is typically about the volume and antics on the par-3 16th hole. This year, NBC Sports will devote a fair amount of the broadcast saying goodbye to Johnny Miller, the biggest voice in golf over the last 30 years.

Miller announced last fall he would retire. The third round will be his final day so nothing will detract from the winner on Sunday.

The two-time major champion never had a problem saying what he thinks. This time, his biggest concern is to guard his emotions.

"This is going to be quite the one-day telecast for me," Miller said. "Yeah, I've given a lot of thought about this last event for me. I know it's time. I could feel it was time to step down, but I stepped down a little early in my playing career, and I think maybe I've done the same thing here with my announcing career."

"I'm looking forward to trying not to cry, basically."

Miller will be joined briefly in the booth Saturday by Paul Azinger, who replaces him as the lead analyst at NBC, and then

Azinger will call the shots on Sunday. Azinger's first full tournament as Miller's replacement will be the Mexico Championship.

New rules

Each week of the new year seems to bring a new rules debate, whether it's the knee-high drop or putting with the flagstick still in the cup. On Sunday in Dubai, it was the rule created to keep caddies from lining up the player.

And the debate was between two administrators.

Li Haotong was penalized two shots on the 18th green when he began to take his stance on a short putt with his caddie behind him. The caddie stepped away immediately and it appeared there was no intent to align him. If Li had stepped away and began his routine anew, there would not have been a penalty. But he was docked two shots, turning his 71 into a 73, and his tie for third into a tie for 12th, a difference of about \$100,000.

After outrage on social media for how bad it looked, European Tour chief Keith Pelley issued a statement that while the officials made the right call by the strict wording of the rule, the officials should have been allowed some discretion in applying the rule. He referred to the outcome as "grossly unfair."

Pelley said there needs to be a proper balance between main-

taining integrity and promoting golf's global appeal.

That prompted a statement a short time later from Martin Slumbers, chief executive of the R&A, which read more like a rebuke that even the modernized Rules of Golf that took effect Jan. 1 are not designed for officials to apply them based on how it looks.

"Whether the player intends to be lined up is not the issue," Slumbers said. "We appreciate that it was a very unfortunate situation and I completely understand Keith Pelley's concerns when a rules incident occurs at such a key stage of a European Tour event. But there is no discretionary element to the rule precisely so that it is easier to understand and can be applied consistently."

Bhatia's path

Akshay Bhatia tried again to get into his first PGA Tour event. He made it through the pre-qualifier, but then missed by three shots in Monday qualifying for the Farmers Insurance Open.

The 16-year-old from North Carolina plans to turn pro when he finishes high school, though the amateur game still holds plenty of appeal. He already is the first boy to win the Junior PGA Championship in consecutive years since it began in 1976. He would love to repeat in the Junior Invitational at Sage Valley in

Augusta, Georgia, again. He wants to be the No. 1 amateur, win the U.S. Amateur and play on the Walker Cup team this year.

"I know I can do it as long as I work on the right things," Bhatia said.

Bhatia recently was featured in the Whistle docuseries "No Days Off," which looks at prodigies in various sports. It showed a teen who is relentless in his work ethic, and Bhatia doesn't mind a perception that he is all golf and no play.

"It doesn't bother me what people think," he said. "I do have a life. I do have fun."

But he loves his golf.

He says he has tried Monday qualifying since he was 14, and once got into a playoff for the final spot at a Web.com Tour event at his home course. In the meantime, he has three American Junior Golf Association victories, winning the Polo Golf Junior Classic by 10. He won his second Junior PGA by holing a 40-foot eagle chip on the 18th hole to win at Valhalla.

"Especially in this game, you have to learn how to win, learn how to close," Bhatia said. "Any time you can put yourself in position like that, it's definitely key because it helps going to the PGA Tour and the Web.com Tour."

Divots

Fred Couples, Jim Furyk and Bill Haas have been given sponsor exemptions to the Genesis Open at Riviera. Haas withdrew last year when he was the passenger in a fatal car accident. ... Justin Rose ended one streak at Torrey Pines. He was the first winner in nine years to start the Farmers Insurance Open on the easier North Course. ... Gary Nicklaus, the third son of Jack Nicklaus who played two years on the PGA Tour, has received a sponsor exemption to the Oasis Championship on Feb. 8-10 on the PGA Tour Champions.

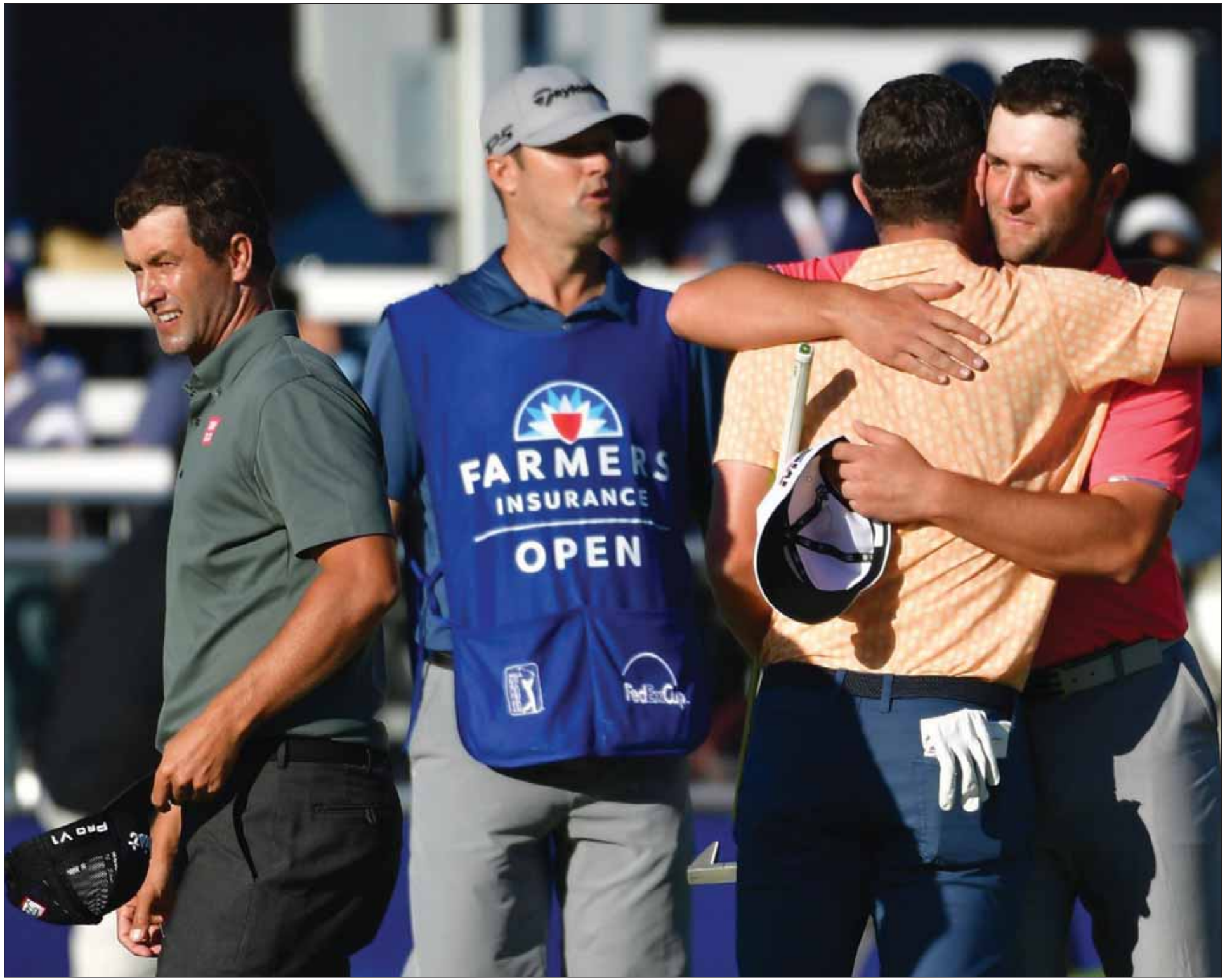
Stat of the week

With their 1-2 finish at Torrey Pines, Justin Rose and Adam Scott both went over the \$50 million mark in career earnings on the PGA Tour.

Final word

"I've made myself look silly enough through the years. It's nice to be left out of that for a change." — Ian Poulter, on not being part of the latest European Tour social media spot.

— eNEWSPAPER BONUS COVERAGE —



DONALD MIRALLE/GETTY

Justin Rose of England and Adam Scott of Australia finish their round on the 18th fairway at Torrey Pines to complete a 1-2 finish in the Farmers Insurance Open.

Rose, Scott able to reach \$50M milestone together

BY DOUG FERGUSON | Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Justin Rose won at Torrey Pines. Adam Scott challenged him to the final hole. And thanks to that 1-2 finish at the Farmers Insurance Open, both surpassed \$50 million in career earnings on the PGA Tour.

It's a feat achieved by only five other players. These days, it's little more than a monetary milestone.

But it was fitting they did it together.

Born 14 days apart in July 1980, they have been great friends since they tussled in South Africa at the Alfred Dunhill Championship in January 2001. Both were 20. Scott made a 4-foot birdie putt on the last hole to beat Rose and win for the first time as a pro. Oddly enough — or maybe not — Rose won his first professional title a year later in the same tournament.

What makes the timing so appropriate that both joined the \$50 million club on the same day is that their PGA Tour careers effectively began together, with a little help from the men who now run the PGA Tour (commissioner Jay Monahan) and the PGA of America (chief

executive Seth Waugh).

Go back to a rainy Labor Day in 2003 on the TPC Boston to find Scott closing with a 66 for a four-shot victory in the inaugural Deutsche Bank Championship, which had given him a sponsor exemption. The victory gave him instant PGA Tour membership. Rose also was given an exemption, shot 67 in the final round and finished third. He earned \$340,000 that day, giving him enough money to earn a tour card.

Waugh at the time was CEO of Deutsche Bank Americas, the title sponsor of a new tournament that had the Tiger Woods Foundation as the charitable arm. Monahan was hired as the tournament director.

"We gave them both exemptions," Waugh said Tuesday from Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he was caddying for his son in a PGA Tour Latinoamerica qualifying tournament. "Adam was pretty obvious. Jay called me and said, 'Let's talk about exemptions,' which I'd never done."

Monahan mentioned using a special exemption for international players on an English kid who had had a good British Open, turned pro and missed 20 consecutive cuts before getting his career on track. Waugh already was aware he was talking about Rose, who had won on three tours (Europe, South Africa, Japan) the previous year.

And then Waugh really got to know him.

"We get to the pro-am draw party Wednesday night at the statehouse in Boston," Waugh said. "It was a formal deal. Mitt Romney was the governor, and we're all giving our suit speeches. There's this tall kid by the seafood bar eating shrimp and looking lonely. I walk up to him and said, 'How are you doing? Are you Justin Rose?' I said, 'What are you doing here?'"

"He said Deutsche Bank was nice enough to give him an exemption and he thought he would come up and thank somebody," Waugh said. "He was staying all the way in Providence. I said, 'You just did.' But that's Justin. No agent, nobody telling him what to do. He ended finishing third. And the rest is history."

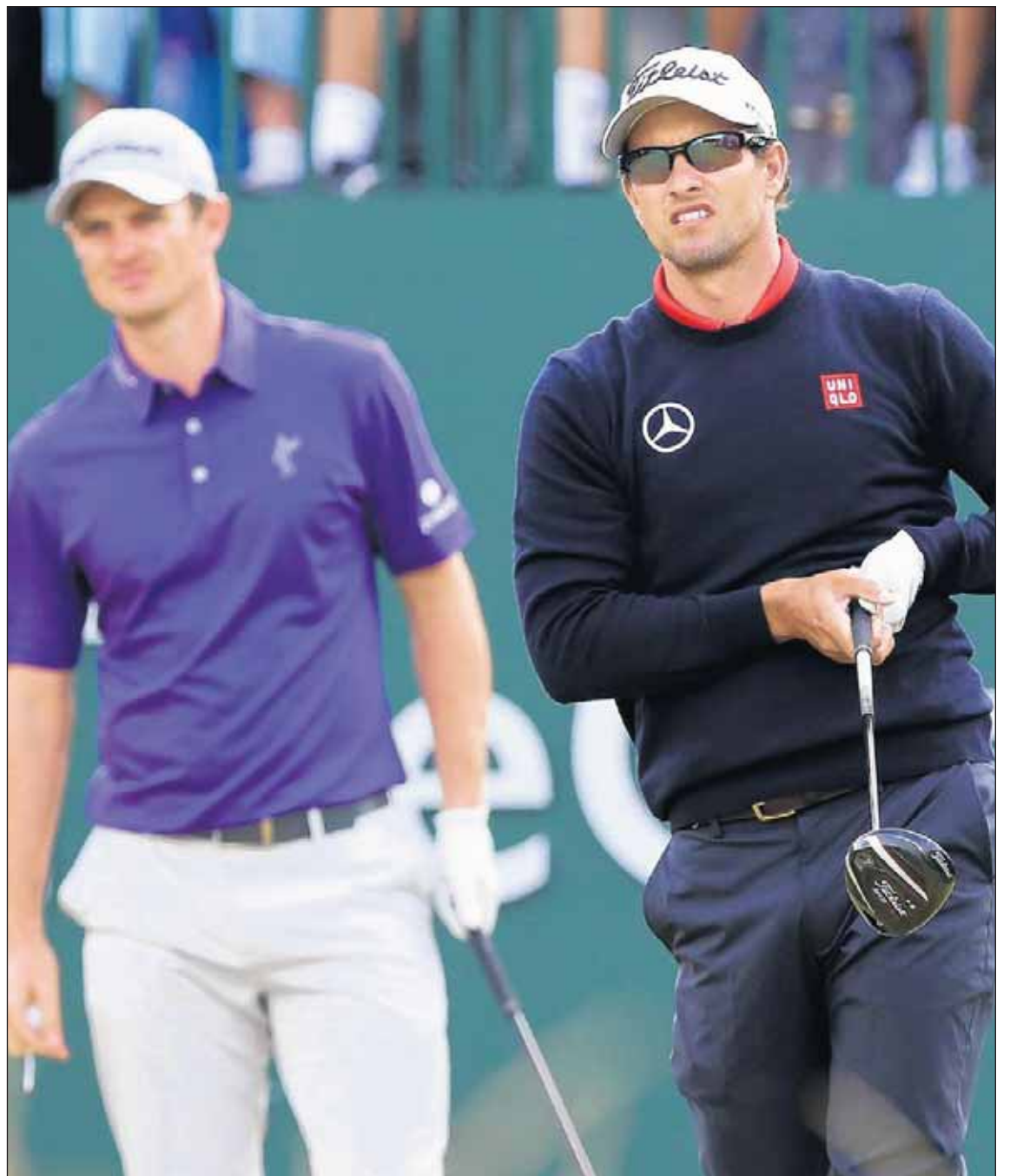
The history between Scott and Rose was just getting started.

They have piled up victories around the world, amassing long streaks of winning. Scott went 14 consecutive years with at least one victory worldwide and has 27 for his career. Rose won Sunday for the 22nd time worldwide, extending his streak to 10 consecutive years with at least one victory, including his gold medal at the Rio de Janeiro Olympics.

They now are neighbors at Albany in the Bahamas, both married with two children.

They each have won one major, which they won consecutively.

Scott finally delivered Australia a green jacket when he won the 2013 Masters. Rose sent him a



JON SUPER/AP

Adam Scott of Australia watches his shot off the first tee with Justin Rose of England during the second day of the British Open Golf championship at the Royal Liverpool golf club, Hoylake, England.

text message of congratulations, which prompted this famous reply from Scott: "This is our time."

Two months later, Rose won the U.S. Open at Merion.

He had practiced the week before the Masters with Scott in the Bahamas, even played a couple of rounds together.

"I took his money both times,"

Rose said.

And then Scott won the Masters, which made the text exchange really hit home.

Indeed, it was their time, and they kept going. Scott reached No. 1 in the world in the spring of 2014. Rose reached No. 1 in the world late last summer, and the Englishman extended his lead atop the world ranking with his

two-shot victory at Torrey Pines.

Waugh still thinks about that Monday afternoon at the TPC Boston, where Scott and Rose spent the entire week together, at restaurants and on the leaderboard. They have won so much and done so well that money doesn't define them.

In this case, it was simply a reminder of where it all began.



MICHAEL BROSILOW PHOTOS

DiMonte Henning, Jonathan Wainwright and Dominic Comperatore in "Junk" at Milwaukee Repertory Theater.

IN PERFORMANCE: 'Junk' ★★★ 1/2

Edgy, powerful 'Junk' for the rest of us

Ayad Akhtar's play about Wall Street's damage gets an audience with those who feel the consequences

By **CHRIS JONES** | Chicago Tribune

MILWAUKEE — To watch Ayad Akhtar's "Junk," an exciting, ambitious play about the glorification of hostile takeovers and the human costs of leveraged buyouts, in its 2017 Broadway premiere at New York's Lincoln Center was to surround oneself with financiers, lawyers, media types and other highly paid professionals both tut-tutting and marveling at what went on in the orgiastic 1980s, when debt was rebranded from liability to opportunity.

And people just like them made some very serious money.

To watch the same play on a Sunday matinee at the Milwaukee Repertory Theater — where it has been rewritten, clarified, tightened, recentered and restaged in the playwright's home town — is a completely different experience. In this proud industrial city, once a hive of small manufacturing businesses, far more of the audience was focused on what this trend actually did to the American worker, the people toiling for their lifetimes to create so-called shareholder wealth, only to see

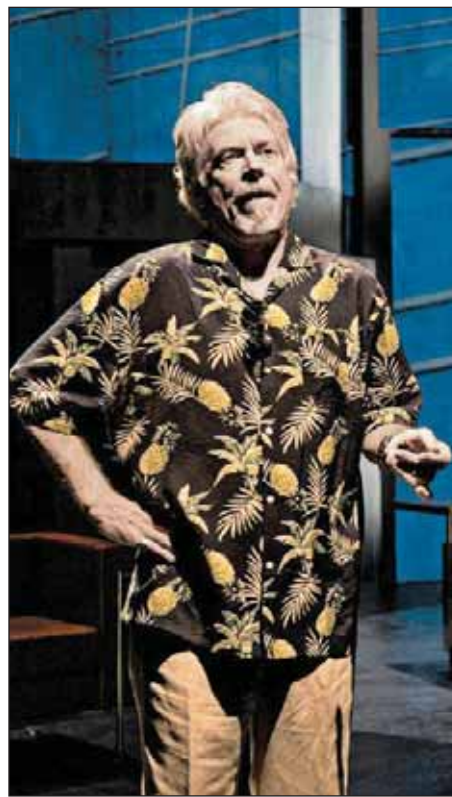
their sweat equity evaporate into collateral for a loan that could never be repaid, and their livelihood broken up and sold off for parts.

How could this be discerned? It could be read on faces, set hard in the dark.

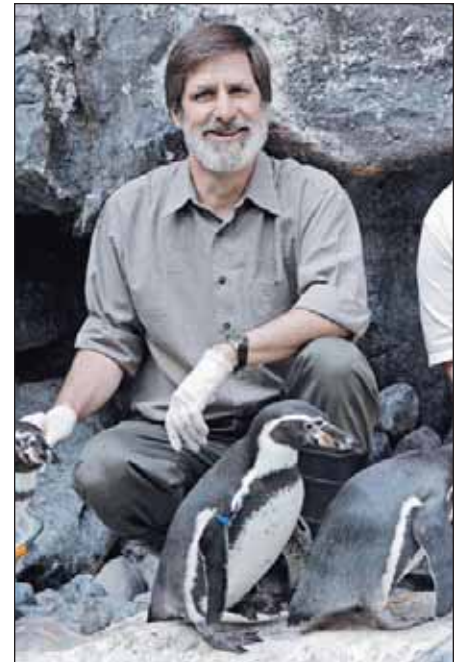
Nobody was laughing much at the wily goings-on or the intellectual audacity of financiers toting lines like, "debt signifies new beginnings." That's partly because most of us now know better — which is not to say that leveraged buyouts born of still-profitable companies have gone away entirely. They still lurk, as we journalists well know.

But one of the main reasons that past takeovers were successful was their opacity. White knights, poison pills and leveraged this, that and other were very hard for most Americans to understand in the 1980s, even those who claimed to know their way around business. And we still have little or no consensus on the morality of debt.

Turn to **Play**, Page 4



Norman Moses in "Junk" at Milwaukee Repertory Theater.



CHICAGO ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY 2007

Retiring Brookfield Zoo staff scientist Bob Lacy chills out with Humboldt penguins.

Pioneering scientist at Brookfield Zoo retires

Bob Lacy is renowned the world over for using software to help save species

By **STEVE JOHNSON**
 Chicago Tribune

Bob Lacy has visited the realms of polar bears in Norway's Arctic Circle, killer whales in Seattle's Puget Sound and flightless takahe birds in New Zealand.

The Brookfield Zoo conservation biologist has helped save, to one degree or another, all of those creatures, plus Montana gray wolves, Alabama beach mice, Iberian lynx, Galapagos penguins, Florida panthers, Key Largo wood rats and Puerto Rican parrots, to name but a few.

Lacy is, in a sense, a species whisperer, the guy who gets called in when, say, an animal population shows signs of crashing. In the Puget Sound area, for instance, the 2017 study he helped run told government authorities the outlook was not great for the native orca population, but if they were willing to make immediate and aggressive conservation moves, there was still hope.

"One thing that encourages me about this population is that, unlike some conversation stories, it's probably not too late," he said at the time. "There are only 80 animals, but that's still enough. They're probably not down to such few numbers they can never possibly recover."

The chief weapon in Lacy's tool kit hasn't been his forays into fieldwork, but the software he has written or co-written. Now 64, he predates the coding generation, but during almost 34 years working for the zoo in Chicago's western suburbs, he has developed much of the population modeling software that fuels animal management worldwide, whether in zoos or in the wild.

"Basically I play computer games all the time, but computer games for good reasons: to help protect the wildlife that otherwise would be in trouble," he said. "Part of my role is to essentially wave the

Turn to **Zoo**, Page 4

COMMENTARY

'Leaving Neverland' a gut punch to lifelong MJ fans

By **GERRICK D. KENNEDY**
 Los Angeles Times

REPORTING FROM PARK CITY, UTAH — Roughly an hour into "Leaving Neverland," it felt like my chest had caved in.

It was the first full day of the Sundance Film Festival and Park City's Egyptian Theatre was packed for the premiere of the controversial documentary about two men who claim Michael Jackson abused them sexually as children. We'd heard these stories before, but I tensed up about an hour into the film when James Safechuck, one of Jackson's accusers, began to describe how the singer introduced him to the concept of masturbation when he was 10.

The details were graphic, delivered with agonizing precision. As the words rolled out of his mouth, I felt the air in my lungs evaporate. I shifted and cringed in my seat, a dizzying rush of sadness, rage and confusion swirling around in my head.

The gut punches continued relentlessly during the nearly four-hour film, and it

wasn't long before I accepted that "Leaving Neverland" would force me — and likely many others who also feel a deep connection to Jackson's work — to see that none of us really knew him. And that maybe we'd been avoiding the truth.

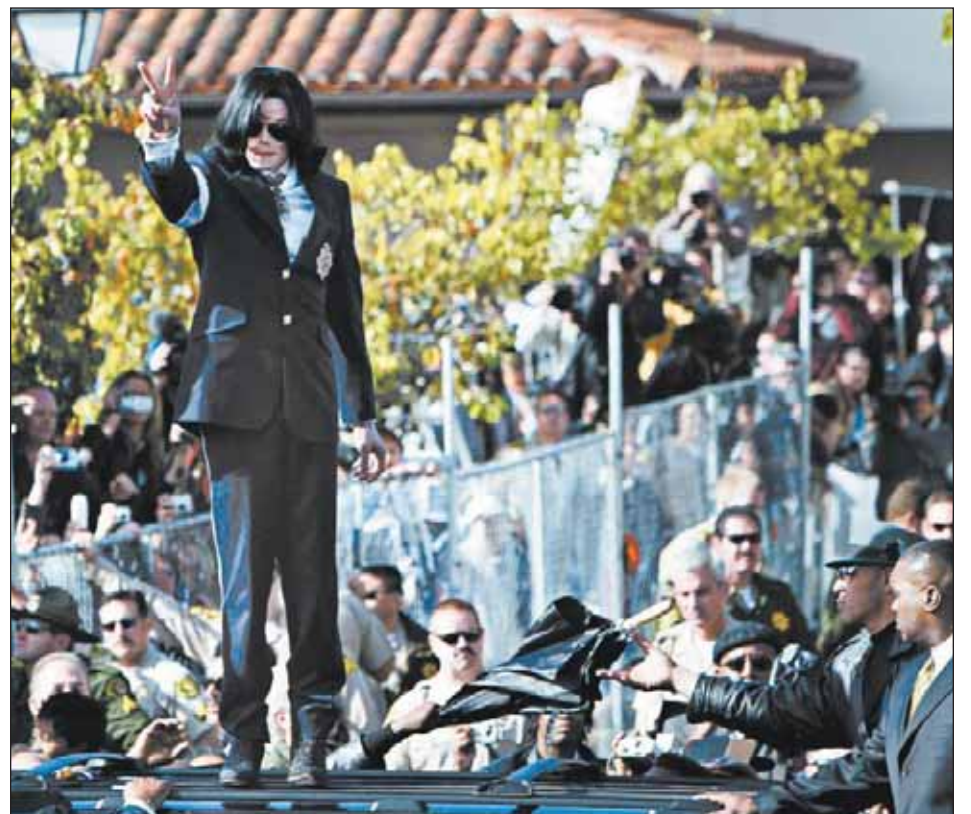
Another truth: I've spent a lifetime loving MJ.

I had been infatuated with him — and the entire Jackson family, for that matter — for as long as I can remember, but in 1992, when I was 5, Michael Jackson released the spectacular, star-studded video for "Remember the Time" and I couldn't catch my breath fast enough.

It was the first time I studied Jackson. I mastered every glide, foot spin, vocal tic and growl. I would perform on command for family members. There's even photo evidence of me, mid-dance. I really thought he was the coolest man in the world.

Michael Jackson was the reason why, at age 9, I begged my parents to make a detour on a family trip and take me to Gary, Ind.,

Turn to **Jackson**, Page 4



STEPHEN OSMAN/LOS ANGELES TIMES

Michael Jackson gives the peace sign to supporters while standing on top of the SUV he left Santa Maria Court in. Jackson was arraigned on child molestation charges in 2004.

CELEBRITIES

Tribune news services



ALBERTO E. RODRIGUEZ/GETTY

Peter Jackson says he's "thrilled and honored" to have been asked to make the Beatles doc "Let It Be."

Peter Jackson tapped for new Beatles film

"Lord of the Rings" filmmaker Peter Jackson has come aboard a project that Paul McCartney had previously hinted was in the works: a new Beatles documentary using the 55 hours of in-studio footage that were shot in early 1969 for the 1970 feature film "Let It Be."

No release date or plan has been set, but sources say there's every reason to suspect that the still-untitled film will come out in 2020 to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the "Let It Be" album and movie.

"The 55 hours of never-before-seen footage and 140 hours of audio made available to us ensure this movie will be the ultimate 'fly on the wall' experience that Beatles fans have long dreamt about," Jackson said in a statement. "It's like a time machine transports us back to 1969, and we get to sit in the studio watching these four friends make great music together."

The original "Let It Be" film has long been out of circulation. The film was restored for a planned DVD issue in the early 2000s, but that was scuttled amid reports about the movie's emphasis on tension in the recording studio, as the band recorded the album roughly a year before its breakup.

"Sure, there's moments of drama, but none of the discord this project has long been associated with," Jackson said. "Watching John, Paul, George and Ringo work together is not only fascinating, it's funny, uplifting and intimate. ... I'm thrilled and honored to have been entrusted with this remarkable footage. Making the movie will be a sheer joy."

— Variety



THIBAUT CAMUS/AP

Paltrow sued: Actress Gwyneth Paltrow has been accused in a new lawsuit of breaking a man's ribs and leaving him with a concussion when she smashed into him from behind while skiing at a Utah ski resort in 2016. Terry Sanderson, 72, said during a news conference that he was struck between his shoulder blades on a beginner run at Deer Valley Resort in 2016. Paltrow denied the claims through spokeswoman Heather Wilson, who said in an emailed statement: "This lawsuit is without merit and we expect to be vindicated."

Aguilera gets Vegas residency: Christina Aguilera is joining the growing number of musicians launching residencies in Las Vegas. The singer announced Tuesday that "Christina Aguilera: The Xperience" will open at Zappos Theater at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino on May 31. Aguilera announced 16 performances.

Cole, Mill to headline All-Star Game: Rapper J. Cole will headline the halftime show at the NBA All-Star Game. The seventh-time Grammy Award nominee will return to his home state to perform a medley of hits at the Spectrum Center in Charlotte, N.C., on Feb. 17. Meek Mill will open the game and perform an introduction of the All-Star teams.

Jan. 31 birthdays: Actress Minnie Driver is 49. Actress Portia de Rossi is 46. Comedian Bobby Moynihan is 42. Actress Kerry Washington is 42. Singer Justin Timberlake is 38.



ASK AMY

By AMY DICKINSON

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter @askingamy

Casual dater surprised by wedding

Dear Amy: I have been casually dating a friend off and on for over two years. He is 16 years older than I am. I never considered the relationship serious. Every time we went out, he initiated it. We never explicitly discussed relationship statuses, but he always gave the impression that he was a forever-bachelor.

Well, it turns out he has been long-distance dating a woman for the last five years, and five weeks after our most recent date he married her!

He hasn't told me any of this. I ran into the "best man" from his wedding, who basically said, "Yeah, he finally got married to his long-term girlfriend!"

I had no idea he was seeing anyone! I would never date a person who was committed to someone else.

To add a wrinkle, he and I are both board members of a nonprofit. Next month he is hosting an event that I have to help at, and his new wife will be there.

When given the opportunity, should I tell her that her husband cheated with me? I feel like once I meet her, if I don't tell her, I am now complicit in keeping his secret. But I don't want to ruin a marriage. Help!

— Not His Number Two

Dear Not Number Two: You describe the relationship with your male friend as "casually dating." You don't seem to have cared too much about your "relationship status." Surely it might have occurred to you that he might be seeing other people?

You don't know whether this guy and his now-wife were in an exclusive, committed relationship. This

long-distance relationship might have been (almost) as casual as yours was. Yes, it would have been best if he had been honest with you that he was seeing someone else at the same time he was seeing you, giving you the opportunity to make the most ethical choice.

He should have been brave enough to let you know personally that he had gotten married. Surely he knows he will be seeing you at these professional functions. If you don't think you can handle working alongside him, then you should contact him in advance to let him know how you feel about his actions.

But I don't believe that you are under any obligation to notify his wife that you went out with him now and then. What good would this do?

If Mr. Forever Bachelor asks you out again, then yes, definitely let her know.

Dear Amy: I am currently home on a break from college. I've been mostly entertaining myself — no problem there.

I asked my mom if I could see her mother's grave. My mom's mother died when my mom was an infant, and she is buried near where we live. Mom's answer was, "We'll see." My dad warned me that this is a real touchy subject for my mom, and I completely understand that.

She believes that I just want to see her mother's grave out of sheer curiosity, but I think it's more than that. How do I convince my mom that I am ready to see her mother's grave without her thinking I am too immature to face it?

— Curious about a Grave

Dear Curious: If you want to see this grave, then go find it yourself. When you do, you might see that it is little more than a marker, standing among other markers, delineating a life.

What you really want is to know more about your grandmother. I assume your mother wants to know more, too, although she has closed the wound around her loss.

Ask if she has any photos or stories to share. Sit quietly with her while she thinks about it. Be honest about your curiosity and gentle toward her. It is appropriate, and common at your age, to be curious about your family. Putting these pieces together is part of your effort to figure out who you are.

Dear Amy: "Leaning Toward Matrimony" mentioned feeling a little silly using the word "boyfriend" at age 35. I threw this word out of my vocabulary as I hit puberty decades ago. I do not consider myself a "girl." I am a woman.

I use the term "partner" to signify my yearslong relationship. I find this term better identifies what our relationship is and does away with calling adults "boys" and "girls," which is a pet peeve of mine.

— Someone's "Partner"

Dear Partner: "Leaning" wanted to change more than the nomenclature. She wanted to get married.

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BOOK REVIEW

Hidden story of gay official in 1950s D.C.

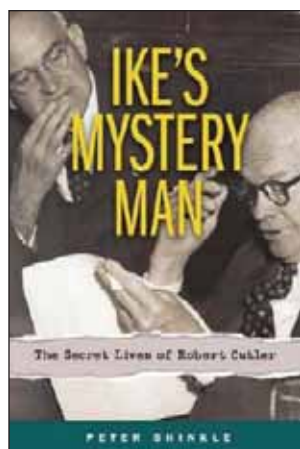
Bio sheds light on 'Lavender Scare'

By JAMES KIRCHICK
The Washington Post

In 1957, The New York Times published a profile of President Dwight Eisenhower's first assistant for national security affairs, a position that would eventually become known as national security adviser. "No man in the Government, with the possible exception of the President, knows so many of the nation's strategic secrets," the Times declared of Robert "Bobby" Cutler. The paper then employed a mess of contradictions to describe this Massachusetts Republican. "A proper Bostonian" who is also a "Rabelaisian with a salty vocabulary," "an earnest Episcopalian" and "a man who can move so quickly from ribaldry to piety and back to ribaldry again," "a 'slave driver' who can force his staff to work as hard as he works himself" but also "a charming and generous friend," Cutler was "a bachelor's bachelor ... who has had a lifelong love affair" not with any person but with his hometown, Boston.

To add another paradox, barely hinted at by the Times: Cutler was a gay man who sat atop the national security bureaucracy at a time when people like him were being purged from government service.

This we know thanks to a new biography, "Ike's Mystery Man: The Secret Lives of Robert Cutler." Written by Cutler's great-nephew, Peter Shinkle, it is based largely upon a set of secret diaries that Cutler wrote during his time in



'Ike's Mystery Man'

By Peter Shinkle, Steerforth, 401 pages, \$29.95

the Eisenhower administration and that he never intended anyone, except the (human) object of his affection, to see. While the interests of America's historical record — long bereft of gay history, which is often elusive by nature — may be served by revealing the intimate details of Cutler's interior life, whether he merits a full-length biography is another matter.

Born into a Boston Brahmin family, Cutler was a graduate of Harvard and Harvard Law School. After working as a lawyer, banker and political fixer, he got to know Eisenhower personally as an aide on his 1952 national whistle-stop campaign train tour. As much as Cutler's bloodline made him a natural fit for the WASP aristocracy leading the new Eisenhower ad-



JOSEPH SCHERSCHTEL/GETTY

President Dwight D. Eisenhower talks in 1952 with adviser Robert Cutler, the subject of the new book "Ike's Mystery Man."

ministration, his sexual orientation threatened his privileged position.

Shortly after swearing the oath of office, Eisenhower began weeding "subversives" out of the federal government. Elected amid the Red Scare, Ike had won the presidency partly because of a sense that the long-reigning Democrats were soft on communism, which in the public mind had become linked with homosexuality. A whisper campaign, abetted by FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover, tarred the recently divorced Democratic nominee, Adlai Stevenson, as a homosexual; Sen. Everett Dirksen, R-Ill., associated Stevenson with "the lavender lads of the State Department." Ike's campaign slogan, "Let's Clean House," alluded not only to corruption but sedition and sexual impropriety.

On Inauguration Day, Attorney General Herbert Brownell submitted a draft executive order to the new

president mandating security background checks for all new federal employees. The following day, Cutler suggested a more sweeping policy, one that had been proposed by a government commission during the previous Truman administration but never implemented. Under the proposed regulations, sexual perversion "should be a factor in determining whether an employee posed a security risk, alongside the more conventional menace of communist sympathies. While "sexual perversion" was undefined, its intended target was obvious: homosexuals.

As a result of Executive Order 10450, signed by the president on April 27, 1953, thousands of patriotic gay men and women lost their jobs in what later became known as the "Lavender Scare," far more than would ever fall victim to the Red Scare. Shinkle's contribution to history is his revelation that a gay man played an important bureaucratic

role in this tragedy by advocating a policy that lowered the threshold for dismissal from disloyalty to homosexuality.

There are not many more such previously undisclosed moments in this book, however, much of which treads familiar Cold War history. Cutler emerges as a bystander to far more significant figures like Secretary of State John Foster Dulles, CIA Director Allen Dulles and Hoover.

Following a leave of absence Cutler took during the "politically sensitive" period around the 1956 re-election campaign, which may have been prompted by rumor-mongering about his sexuality, Hoover wrote the returning administration official a letter: "Dear Bobbie," the FBI director — himself a bachelor dogged by gay rumors — began, conspicuously using the feminine form. Cutler, no less catty in his reply, used letterhead from the bank at which he was working,

embellished with the image of a Puritan and the motto, "Worthy of Your Trust."

"Ike's Mystery Man" becomes a genuinely engrossing read in its final third, when Cutler develops a romantic interest in a National Security Council staffer half his age. Thus begins, by his own description, "the greatest adventure of my life," an adventure that is by turns pathetic and illuminating. Pathetic, as the romance is unrequited yet strung along by the younger man, who at most admits to platonic love for Cutler. Illuminating, because it resembles the experiences of countless men and women who, forced for so long to mask their true selves, appeared to the world as mysteries.

James Kirchick, a visiting fellow at the Brookings Institution, is the author of "The End of Europe: Dictators, Demagogues and the Coming Dark Age." He is writing a history of gay Washington.

BOOK REVIEW

Bookish assassin is subject of gripping Korean thriller

By DENNIS DRABELLE
The Washington Post

It's a bull market for fictional hit men. Among recent assassin-centric thrillers is Malcolm McKay's brilliant Glasgow Trilogy: "The Necessary Death of Lewis Winter," "How a Gunman Says Goodbye" and "The Sudden Arrival of Violence," plus a couple of stand-alones by the same author. Now comes another gripping portrait of a killer for hire, "The Plotters," by Korean novelist Un-Su Kim.

Kim's protagonist, 32-year-old Reseng, began life as someone's discard. Found in a garbage can outside a convent, he was raised by the nuns until the age of 4, when he was adopted by an assassin known as Old Raccoon. The love of Old Raccoon's life is his immense library, and yet he neither sent the boy to school nor taught him how to read.

Even so, Old Raccoon caught Reseng with his nose in a book at the age of 9. Given the run of the library, the boy had "deciphered how the Korean alphabet worked by matching pictures to words." Old Raccoon reacted to the discovery by warning that "reading books will doom you to a life of fear and shame." But Old Raccoon's prophecy has not come true. For one thing, Reseng reads the way some people knit or doodle. "I don't read for any particular reason," he says. "I just don't know what else to do with my free time."

But books sometimes fail to distract. After making a kill, Reseng typically numbs himself by getting drunk on beer — a tactic he considers perfectly natural. "What

"The Plotters" is being touted as possibly doing for Korea what so many Scandinavian crime books have done for their countries: give readers a feel for a lesser-known part of the world by showing how its inhabitants handle crime and punishment.

would be really strange, he thought, was if someone who earned their living by killing others felt revitalized by it." Reseng views assassination as his fate, which he accepts in full knowledge that he himself is likely to be offed someday. As Seoul's assassins start picking one another off in an internecine war, Reseng graduates from potential victim to active target. While going about his work — and, later, defending himself — Reseng interacts with one vivid character after another. In addition to his bibliomaniacal father, there is the Barber, who not only cuts hair and shaves faces but also devotes his razor to less benign pursuits. And there are three oddball women: a homicidal avenger who is fond of "spicy stir-fried tripe with a side of liver and blood sausage"; her crippled sister, who laughs



'The Plotters'

By Un-Su Kim, translated by Sora Kim-Russell, Doubleday, 304 pages, \$25.95

more than seems possible; and Old Raccoon's cross-eyed ex-librarian. Turns out the three women are conspiring to end the vicious cycle of assassination — a project Reseng mocks as "an awesome plot to save the world." It is also a task for which the women hope to enlist him as the "idiot ... to pull it off."

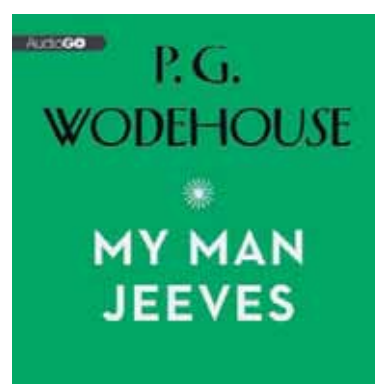
"The Plotters" is being touted as possibly doing for Korea what so many Scandinavian crime books have done for their countries: give readers a feel for a lesser-known part of the world by showing how its inhabitants handle crime and punishment. That's a lofty but misguided goal, because the Seoul in which this novel's action takes place is more dreamscape than gritty reality.

"The Plotters" is no primer for a visit to Korea. What it does offer is a vivid portrait of a mesmerizing central character — the stoic Reseng. It will also keep readers delightfully off-balance. In "The Plotters" Kim has mixed bookishness, crackpots and commissioned murder into a rich and unsettling blend.

Dennis Drabelle is a former contributing editor of The Washington Post Book World.

Audiobook roundup

By KATHERINE A. POWERS
The Washington Post



"My Man Jeeves: The Jeeves and Wooster Series" by P.G. Wodehouse, narrated by Jonathan Cecil, Blackstone, 4:51

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the appearance of P.G. Wodehouse's greatest gift to the world: Bertie Wooster and Jeeves. To honor the occasion, Blackstone has rereleased the late great actor Jonathan Cecil's narration of the stories in which the famous duo first figure. Scion of marquesses and an old Etonian, Cecil is matchless in rendering Bertie, the upper-class twit nonpareil and comes right up to the mark — as Bertie might say — in delivering Jeeves, his low, hollow tones cryptic and withering when it comes his charge's sartorial whims. ("Injudicious, sir," he said firmly. "It will not become you.") Four of the stories star our heroes, all set in New York, where Bertie finds himself entangled with wastrels even more hapless than he is. The remaining four feature idle young men of "almost human intelligence" and their several tribulations. A festival of language, happy conceit and peerless delivery: This is a recording for the ages.



"Never Home Alone: From Microbes to Millipedes, Camel Crickets, and Honeybees, the Natural History of Where We Live" by Rob Dunn, narrated by Sean Patrick Hopkins, Hachette Audio, 9:32

Rob Dunn's wild animal hunt through our living spaces — and our bodies — reveals that "homo indoors" as he styles us, lives amid millions of tiny, busy creatures, eating, excreting, procreating and expiring, including in freezers, stoves, shower heads, salt and ourselves. Narrator Sean Patrick Hopkins reads this revelatory, fact-filled book in a friendly, buoyant voice and seems just as pleased as the author himself to let us know that the microbial life found on toilet seats and pillowcases is "not as different as you might hope." Aside from introducing us to housemates whose presence we had not suspected, Dunn explains how the battery of chemicals we enlist to combat nonhuman life in our homes is exterminating benign forms, while malign ones rapidly evolve into poison-resistant villains. Biodiversity is Dunn's watchword and he shows again and again how nature takes care of nature far better than we can.



"Broken Ground" by Val McDermid, narrated by Cathleen McCarron, Recorded Books, 12:59

Val McDermid's genius at plotting, sense of place and attention to character are all on display in her fifth novel starring Detective Chief Inspector Karen Pirie of Police Scotland's Historic Cases Unit. The story juggles three diverse murders, that of a Highland athlete found dead and buried in bog — a crime with roots going back to 1944; a rape that left its victim incapacitated and, years later, dead from her injuries; and a fatal stabbing committed during a marital imbroglio. While these cases are picking up speed, an insolent male underling sent to spy on Pirie by her resentful, grudge-bearing boss is bent on undermining her and following his own ill-begotten schemes. To further complicate matters, Pirie finds herself attracted to a kilt-wearing Adonis whose animal magnetism may be joined to a duplicitous soul. Cathleen McCarron narrates the book in an intoxicating Scottish accent that adds yet another engaging dimension to an exceedingly clever and absorbing tale.

Katherine A. Powers reviews audiobooks every month for The Washington Post.

Zoo

Continued from Page 1

flag before we get to the drastic situations. The simplest reason is because I care about the wildlife."

To say he has an analytical mind is an understatement. This is something Lacy actually said during one in a series of interviews over the last couple of years: "For fun, I pulled up a fish and wildlife website the other day."

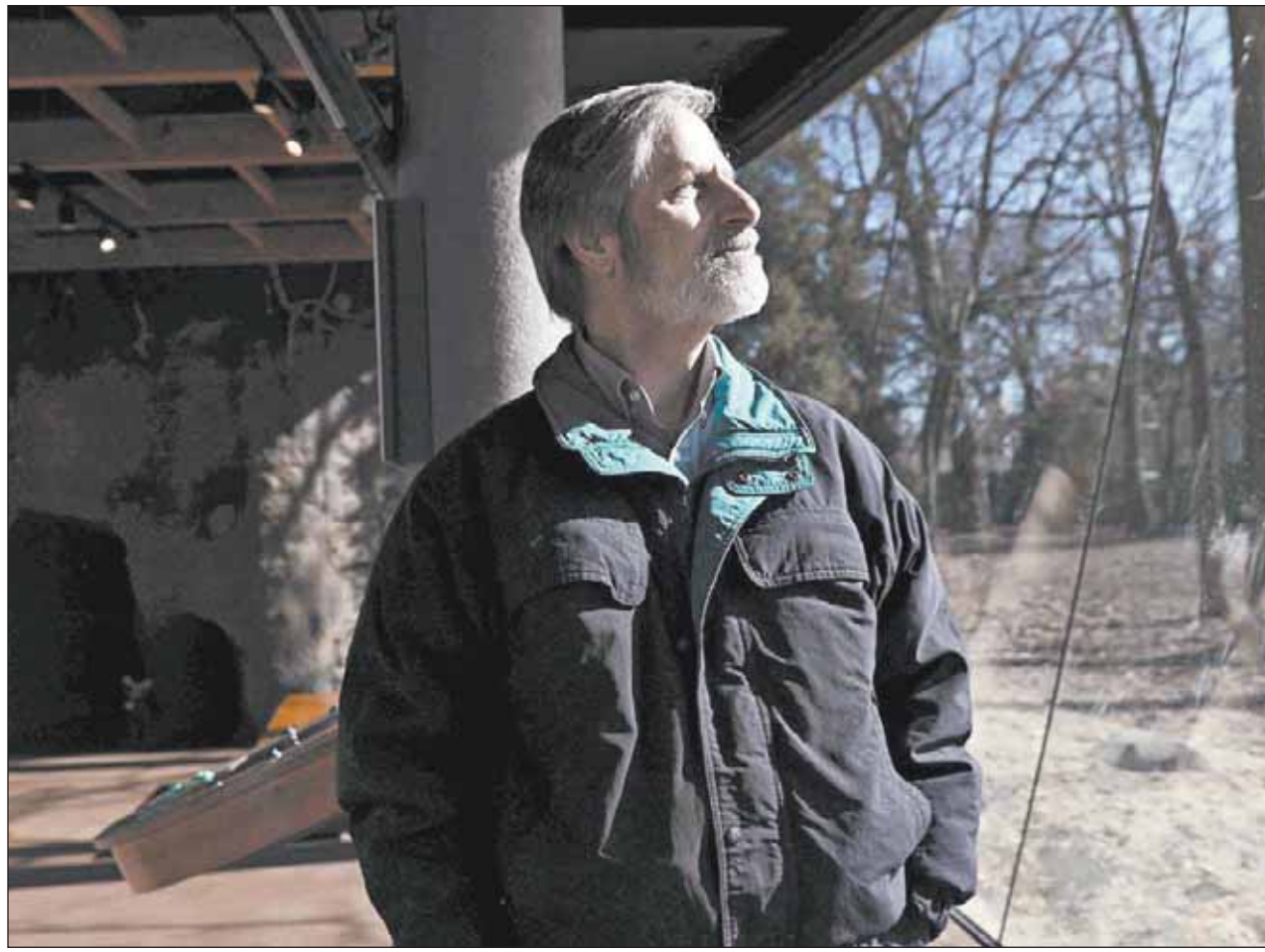
Lacy's goal may be straightforward, but his impact has not been simple at all. Pretty much anybody who works at high levels on behalf of animals will most likely know Lacy's name but certainly the studies he has done and the software he and partners developed: PMx, Vortex, Outbreak, MetaModel Manager.

Call up "Robert Lacy" on ResearchGate, a site where scientists share their efforts, and you'll find more than 8,000 citations of his research. Hit print on even an eight-year-old C.V. and then wait: 14 of the 20 pages are publications he has authored or co-authored. One of them: "Introggression level achieved through Florida Panther genetic restoration," from a 2000 edition of Endangered Species Update.

The C.V. also lists a full-page-plus of "Honors and Grants," including some of the highest awards in his field, such as the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's George Rabb Award for Conservation Innovation. That's named after the late Brookfield Zoo director who hired Lacy away from academia, in 1985.

"He's had a really broad impact globally," said Lisa Faust, vice president of conservation and science at Chicago's Lincoln Park Zoo. "He has had such an influential career because he is a super effective scientist. He's very productive, he does a lot of high impact research that he publishes quite well. He's a great collaborator so he works really well at bringing different groups together. The other thing that he really did well was to help translate a lot of his science so that we could actually practically use it to make management decisions."

Lincoln Park, for instance, currently uses two Lacy programs in its ongoing work with the Puerto Rican parrot population. PMx "we use to evaluate how genetically well suited potential mates are. We use this every year to help the



ABEL URIBE/TRIBUNE 2017

Bob Lacy says his work with Brookfield Zoo was "in a context that mattered."

aviaries select appropriate breeding pairs," she said. And Vortex "we'll use to model the long-term viability of the species and how different reintroduction and management strategies can help meet recovery goals."

Employing a scientist who works globally isn't something you might think Brookfield (through its parent Chicago Zoological Society) might do, but it's an honor to be able to do it, said Stuart Strahl, who, as Brookfield's CEO, has been Lacy's boss.

"To get to know him, as a scientist myself, is humbling," he said. "This man is beyond description, the quintessential conservation biologist."

The first thing to talk about "is how his brain works," said Strahl. "A lot of us can think and model things in three dimensions. But I think very few of us think in as many dimensions as Bob does. He is a true genius. I don't have to test him to say that."

But beyond the smarts, Strahl added, "The things he has in abundance are a collaborative spirit and a really deep caring for wildlife in nature. That spirit lent itself to running workshops all over the globe and it stimulated a lot of researchers to start thinking in the same way."

As the new year came, Lacy officially retired from Brookfield, but he hasn't quit. He'll continue consult-

"I think very few of us think in as many dimensions as Bob does. He is a true genius. I don't have to test him to say that."

— Stuart Strahl, Brookfield Zoo CEO

ing for the zoo and elsewhere and to develop tools for the Species Conservation Toolkit Initiative, the umbrella organization shepherding the various open-source software he has shaped (and that CZS has copyrighted). In a farewell letter to colleagues, Lacy said, "A major reason for my 'retirement' is so that I can focus more directly on a number of projects."

Lacy's renown is for what he's achieved mostly sitting behind a desk, often from his home near Maine's border with Canada, across the Bay of Fundy from Nova Scotia. But it is important, he says, to also take part in field work, to the degree possible.

"I rely on others to provide not only the data but even the questions that we're trying to answer," Lacy said. "My work is mostly working at the computer or in conference rooms. But I usually convince them that if I'm going to spend time working with them to help work through the issues and possible solutions, you know, it'd be nice if they take me out to

go see the animals -- which they usually do."

By visiting the habitats, he said, and by spending time with the on-the-ground scientists, he's learned which variables his programs need to take into account. He asks, Lacy said, "Is there anything else we should be concerned about here?" And about half the time the answers are, "Well, we hadn't talked about that, but yes, there is."

"You often get that information as much from sitting around literally in a bar at night or going out on a Zodiac (inflatable boat) to look at whales or seeing the forest fragments and actually seeing what the habitat is that the animals would have to cross to get from one piece of forest or another."

For an analog to his software in the consumer world, think of the game "Spore," or any of the "Sim" variants, or even the kids' game "Zoo Tycoon." In each, a set of dynamic life variables gets manipulated — food sources, breeding rates, environmental threats from climate to predators, etc. — and the

combination alters the outcome for the living creatures within the game.

"When I talk to people our age, they say, 'Well, what do you mean you're simulating where our wildlife populations are going?'" said Lacy. "I say, it's sort of like 'SIM Species.' Kids get it."

With the killer whales, for example, he was able to predict that multiple factors needed to improve to help the population, which is small, long-lived but slow to reproduce and in heavily trafficked waters surrounded by human population centers.

"What we came up with is probably doing no one thing will be enough," said Lacy. "If we could just get rid of all the boat noise, for instance, that wouldn't be enough. But if you put these factors together — reduce boat noise, improve some of the salmon stock, reduce interference (with breeding) — those things together, probably you could help the population."

This kind of analysis is vital, said H. Resit Akcakaya, an ecology professor at Stony Brook University who has also developed modeling software and worked with Lacy on projects. "Because we can't do experiments in most cases, we have to try to predict what will happen to species under different conditions," he said. "We put all our understanding into this mathematical

description of the population. It's much better to do these guesses based on mathematical rigor rather than just asking peoples' opinions."

Lacy earned bachelors and masters degrees in biology from Wesleyan University in Connecticut, then a Ph.D. in evolutionary biology from Cornell. As a biology professor at Franklin & Marshall College, in the early days of conservation science, he began developing software as a teaching aid.

He realized, he said, that the software tracking genetic variability, for instance, could be useful in the real world. And when Brookfield came knocking, he ignored academic peers who told him leaving academia would be "equivalent to dropping off the face of the Earth," he recalled.

The zoo, he realized, was a place to put his theory into practice. Meanwhile, the field of conservation biology has grown up around him, in no small measure thanks to the methods he helped to develop.

"The zoo hired me because the zoo needs to do it for real," he said. "They have the real need to make sure species don't become inbred and don't lose too much diversity."

Word began to spread of his methods, he said. The PMx software he developed (in partnership with frequent collaborators Jonathan Ballou at Smithsonian National Zoo and J.P. Pollak) became used throughout the zoo world.

And very broadly speaking, he and his collaborators began to be called in when people had a problem, as with the declining panther population in Florida. New experiences led to the development of new software that could take into account more complex situations.

"I could have remained in academia, been successful in that world, and done science that was interesting intellectually but largely irrelevant. (The focus of my research before coming to CZS was the genetics of some species of flies that eat mushrooms.)" he said in his retirement letter to Brookfield. "When I was approached by CZS to help build a conservation biology program, the pitch was irresistible: I could continue to focus my energy on areas of evolutionary and population biology that fascinated me, while doing it in a context that mattered."

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Play

Continued from Page 1

Seeing "Junk" a second time in director Mark Clements' new, 22-actor production (one of the biggest shows this theater has ever produced) made me appreciate the service Akhtar has done in explaining exactly what went on in America during an era of moral economic malfeasance for which we have yet to have a full truth-and-reconciliation inquiry. One of his central ideas was to chart how the subsequent no-money-down mortgage crisis — also hard to understand — was born of this same idea of using internal equity, or potential equity, as collateral for a new loan. It was simply a direct-to-the-consumer version of the same Ponzi scheme.

"Junk" was widely criticized in New York for plowing familiar territory, the kind of fields previously mowed in "Other People's Money," "Serious Money," "Wall Street" and the like. There is truth to that, although "Junk" is a smarter piece of writing. And in the new production, it's less of a financial thriller, less of an exploration of the great aphrodisiac that is sexy deal-making, and more of an explainer for those of us who feel more comfortable with such old-fashioned concepts as fairness, loyalty, careful analysis of options and ethical actions on the part of management.

That said, this is an edgy and invigorating

When: Through Feb. 17

Where: Milwaukee Repertory Theater, 108 E. Wells St., Milwaukee

Running time: 2 hours

Tickets: \$20-\$65 at 414-224-9490 or www.milwaukeekeerep.com

play, led in this new staging by two actors of sharp contrasts: Gregory Lington, who avoids most of the traps in the role of the dark buyout lord Robert Merkin, and James Ridge, the distinguished Wisconsin actor here playing the old-school, family-business target of all the unwelcome attention. There's also a juicy performance from Jonathan Wainwright, playing one of those immoral and amply compensated doers of dirty work that all shady dealers need.

Now at two hours and a single act, the revised "Junk" feels more morally centered. Clements' production also emphasizes another of the strengths of this piece — the implicit criticism of the lethargy of the legacy capitalists who failed to protect their loyal workers from these sharks, usually because they were offered golden parachutes of cash. That's part of the economic history of this country, too. The ongoing history.

And on Sunday in Milwaukee, you could see scales falling from people's eyes.

Too late? Never.

Chris Jones is a Tribune critic.

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Jackson

Continued from Page 1

so I could see where the Jackson family story began. I wanted to stand in front of the family's tiny house, the place where Jackson had sung and honed his talents.

Gary didn't feel much different from the neighborhood where I grew up, some 250 miles away in Cincinnati. Seeing where Michael and his sister Janet (another driving force of my Jackson fandom) started out and following the trajectory of his career gave me and many other young black boys hope that we too could dream without limits. Even as he transformed physically, he was still ours.

On the fourth day of my first dream gig — reporting for the Los Angeles Times — my hero went into cardiac arrest, induced by propofol and benzodiazepine. Michael Jackson was dead, and I was sent to the Hollywood Walk of Fame to interview grieving fans. I told my editors that I was "barely" a fan, afraid of losing my shot to write about him. But his death was like a train barreling into me, and I wept in front of the Times building before drying my eyes and doing my assignment.

In the decade since, I've written about Jackson's music, his estate, his brand and his kids.

I've listened to his unreleased songs at Marvin's Room, the famed studio where he recorded so many of his indelible records. My spine tingled as his voice bounced off those walls. I've stood inside the halls of



JAY L. CLENDENIN/LOS ANGELES TIMES

"Leaving Neverland" director Dan Reed, center, with subjects Wade Robson, left, and James Safechuck.

Hayvenhurst, the Jackson compound in Encino, quietly taking in the rooms where he'd once found solace. I've been a champion when posthumous projects have shown promise and a critic when they have not.

And I've grappled with my own thoughts about the heinous crimes he had been accused of. I've spent far more time than I can recall reading court documents, studying the allegations that trailed him, and although I wanted to believe Jackson and those who defended him in court, it became harder to sit with that certainty as time went on.

Sure, he had eccentricities beyond our comprehension, and an ever-shifting face that made him a punchline in life and death. But that alone wasn't proof he was the child sexual predator some claimed he was. When he would say he was incapable of harming anyone, let alone a child, we were inclined to believe him, even though the image of a grown man sharing his bed with a rotating group of

boys, and the shocking numbers that illustrate the general prevalence of child sexual abuse, should have challenged that assumption.

For me, those assumptions were challenged in 2013 when Wade Robson first came forward and claimed that Jackson did, in fact, sexually abuse him as a child. It was a stunning about-face from a man who had staunchly defended Jackson for years, testifying twice — once in 1993 when he was 11 and again in 2005 when he was an adult — that his former mentor had never abused him. Robson and Safechuck explain in the film that they were afraid of admitting the alleged abuse, that they wanted to protect Jackson and that they struggled to come to terms with their experiences.

But my love for Jackson felt distinct somehow, rooted in his messages of love, peace and healing that appealed to me as a kid and that became the soundtrack in my life. The music was gloriously inspirational, transcendent even. (And

still is — I haven't figured out yet what I'm going to do about that.) You might not have liked him, but there's probably a song of his that's never left your rotation. And the way this man moved onstage? It was nothing short of spellbinding. There was no one before him and there's been no one after.

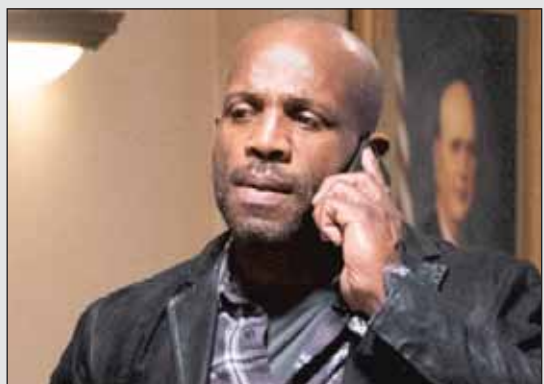
But I left that Sundance theater knowing that my love for the great entertainer Michael Jackson now could never be untangled from the narrative of the man that few of us actually knew.

To be clear, "Leaving Neverland" isn't a Michael Jackson documentary. To call it one would be to miss the point. It's a film about two men bound together by experiences they describe as devastating and the things they did to protect a man many saw as a god. It is about the lasting impact of trauma and the cost it can exact on victims and their families.

The film also challenges anyone who revered Jackson to consider what it was that we all saw happening — in Jackson's history and behavior, and in the accusations against him. Did we ask enough questions? Were we too quick to dismiss the accusers who were often in middle school, if not younger? For those who came forward with their stories, it must have been terrifying to go up against a giant like Jackson. The film begs us to consider why we didn't give them more credence.

We saw Jackson, and his pain, as he assured us that he could never hurt a child. But did we ever truly see these young boys?

WATCH THIS: THURSDAY



Billy Brown

"How to Get Away with Murder" (9 p.m., ABC): In the new episode "Be the Martyr," Nate (Billy Brown) sets out on a determined quest to confirm his suspicion about the real culprit in his father's murder, while Bonnie (Liza Weil) is beset with a wave of self-doubt. Elsewhere, Annalise (Viola Davis) skillfully turns the tables on an adversary in the courtroom. Melinda Page Hamilton guest stars; Jack Falahee and Aja Naomi King also star.

"Siren" (7 p.m., FREE): Ben, Maddie and Ryn (Alex Roe, Fola Evans-Akingbola, Eline Powell) find it nearly impossible to keep the sudden arrival of the mermaid pack hidden from the townspeople in the new "The Wolf at the Door." That task is complicated even further by how quickly the newcomers degrade on land, so they must somehow be sneaked back to the sea during a huge town event. Elaine (Sarah-Jane Redmond) grows more suspicious.

"Young Sheldon" (7:31 p.m., CBS): Sheldon (Iain Armitage) is used to getting pushed around every day, but after he forges an unlikely friendship with Tommy (guest star Ryan Cargill), his school's biggest bully, he uses this new alliance to settle some scores with big brother Georgie (Montana Jordan) in the new episode "David, Goliath and a Yoo-Hoo From the Back." Meanwhile, as school picture day arrives, Missy (Raegan Revord) steals Meemaw's (Annie Potts) makeup.

"The Orville" (8 p.m., FOX): Claire's (Penny Johnson Jerald) shipmates aboard the Orville share her happiness (however cautious) when her personal life unexpectedly takes an upswing in the new episode "A Happy Refrain." Elsewhere, Gordon (Scott Grimes) makes a grooming suggestion to Bortus (Peter Macon) that's decidedly unusual.

"Will & Grace" (8:30 p.m., NBC): The rebooted sitcom returns from its midseason hiatus with the new episode "Family Trip," which finds Will, Karen and Jack (Eric McCormack, Megan Mullally, Sean Hayes) unwittingly ingesting a hallucinogenic drug, which sends the two guys into a psychedelic meditation on whether they are, in fact, each other's soul mate.

"The Rap Game" (9:03 p.m., 1:04 a.m., Lifetime): After some paparazzi catch the kids looking plain and mundane, JD brings in April Roomet, a celebrity stylist, to help each of them find his or her own look in the new episode "Style Wars." While all the rappers try to bring their A-game to the photo shoot, JD still makes the top two battle for the feature piece in Popstar Magazine.

TALK SHOWS

"Conan" (10 p.m. 11:30 p.m., TBS): Actor Matt LeBlanc; comic Gary Gulman.*

"The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon" (10:34 p.m., NBC): TV host Seth Meyers; actress Danai Gurira; magician Dan White.*

"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 Viggo Mortensen; actress Rita Moreno; Summer Walker performs.*

* Subject to change

Hey, TV lovers: Looking for detailed show listings? TV Weekly is an ideal companion. To subscribe, go to www.tvweekly.com or call 1-877-580-4159

THURSDAY EVENING, JAN. 31

MOVIES

	PM	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00
BROADCAST	CBS 2	Big Bang Theory (N)	Young Sheldon (N)	(8:01) Mom (N) ©	Fam (N) ©	S.W.A.T.: "Encore." (N) ©	News (N) ♣	
	NBC 5	The Titan Games (N) ©		Brooklyn Nine (N)	Will & Grace (N) ©	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit (N) ©		NBC 5 News (N) ♣
	ABC 7	Grey's Anatomy: "The Winner Takes It All." (N) ©		(8:01) A Million Little Things (N) ©		How to Get Away with Murder (N) ©		News at 10pm (N) ♣
	WGN 9	blackish ©	blackish ©	Last Man Standing ©	Last Man Standing ©	WGN News at Nine (N)		WGN News at Ten (N)
	Antenna 9.2	Alice ©	Alice ©	B. Miller	B. Miller	Johnny Carson ©		3's Comp.
	This TV 9.3	Youngblood (R,'86) ★★ Rob		Lowe, Cynthia Gibb. ©		The Cutting Edge (PG,'92) ★★ ©		
	PBS 11	Chicago Tonight (N)		Queen Victoria and Her Nine Children ©		Rick Steves Special: European Festivals ©		Interview Show (N)
	The U 26.1	7 Eyewitness News (N)		The Game	Engagement	Broke Girl	Broke Girl	Seinfeld ©
	MeTV 26.3	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Gomer Pyle	WKRP Cincinnati	Hogan Hero	Hogan Hero	C. Burnett
	H&I 26.4	Star Trek ©		Star Trek: Next		Star Trek: Deep Space 9		Star Trek ♣
	Bounce 26.5	Living Single	Living Single	Last Call	In the Cut	XXX (PG-13,'02) ★★ Vin Diesel. ♣		
	FOX 32	Gotham: "Pena Dura." (N) ©		The Orville: "A Happy Refrain." (N) ©		Fox 32 News at Nine (N)		Modern Family ©
	Ion 38	Chicago P.D. ©		Chicago P.D. ©		Chicago P.D. ©		Chicago ♣
	Telem 44	Exatlon EE. UU. (N)		Jugar con fuego (N) ©		El barón (N) ©		Chicago (N)
	CW 50	Supernatural (N) ©		Legacies (N) ©		The Good Wife ©		Chicago ♣
	UniMas 60	Tres Milagros ©		Atrapada ©		Rosario Tijeras ©		Tiro de ♣
WJYS 62	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Joyce Meyer	Robison	Christian	Dn. Carson	Monument	
Univ 66	Jesús (N)		Mi marido (N)		Amar a muerte (N)		Noticias (N)	
CABLE	AE	The First 48: "Last Rap."		The First 48 (N)		(9:01) 60 Days In (N) ©		First 48 ♣
	AMC	The Breakfast Club (R,'85) ★★	Emilio Estevez, Molly Ringwald. ©			Revenge of the Nerds ♣		
	ANIM	River Monsters ©		River Monsters ©		River Monsters ©		Monsters ♣
	BBCA	Planet Earth II ©		Planet Earth II: "Jungles."		Planet Earth II: "Deserts."		Planet ♣
	BET	I Can Do Bad All By Myself		Get Rich or Die Tryin' (R,'05) ★★				
	BIGTEN	Women's College Basketball: Nebraska at Purdue. (N)		Passion & Perseverance		The B1G		
	BRAVO	Top Chef (N) ©		Million Dollar LA (N)		(9:01) Backyard Envy (N)		Watch (N) ♣
	CLTV	News at 7	News (N)	News at 8	News (N)	SportsFeed ©		Politics
	CNBC	Shark Tank ©		Shark Tank ©		Shark Tank ©		Shark ♣
	CNN	Anderson Cooper 360 (N)		Cuomo Prime Time (N)		CNN Tonight (N)		Tonight (N) ♣
	COM	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	Broad City	Other Two	Daily (N) ♣
	DISC	Building Off the Grid ©		Building Off the Grid (N)		Ed Stafford: First		Afraid ♣
	DISN	Raven	Raven	Bunk'd ©	Bizaardvark	Bunk'd ©	Bunk'd ©	Raven
	E!	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Chrisley	Dating (N)	Busy (N)
	ESPN	Wm. Basketball (N)		30 for 30 (N)		SportsCenter (N) (Live) ©		SportCtr (N)
	ESPN2	College Basketball (N)		College Basketball: Teams		TBA. (N) (Live)		Basketball
	FNC	Tucker Carlson (N)		Hannity (N) ©		The Ingraham Angle (N)		Fox News
	FOOD	Chopped ©		Chopped ©		Beat Flow (N)	Beat Bobby	Beat Bobby
	FREE	Siren (N) ©		(8:01) Role Models (R,'08) ★★	Seann William Scott. ♣			700 Club ♣
	FX	World War Z (PG-13,'13) ★★	Brad Pitt, Mireille Enos. ©			World War Z ('13) ★★		
	HALL	Summer in the Vineyard (NR,'17) Brendan Penny ©				Snowcoming (NR,'19) Lindy Booth. ♣		
	HGTV	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Flip or Flop	Hunters (N)	Hunt Intl (N)	Hunters
	HIST	Swamp People (N)		Swamp People (Season Premiere) (N)		Truck Night (Season Premiere) (N)		Truck ♣
	HLN	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic	Forensic
	IFC	(5:45) Groundhog Day		Uncle Buck (PG,'89) ★★	John Candy. ©			Animal ♣
	LIFE	Bring It! (N) ©				(9:03) The Rap Game (N)		Rap Game
	MSNBC	All in With (N)		Rachel Maddow Show (N)		The Last Word (N)		11th Hour (N)
	MTV	Ex on the Beach (N) ©		Floribama Shore (N) ©		(9:02) Siesta Key ©		Ex-Beach ♣
	NBCSCH	College Volleyball: UCLA at Loyola-Chicago. (N) (Live)				NHL Hockey: Flyers at Bruins ♣		
	NICK	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	Cheaper by the Dozen 2 (PG,'05) ★★	Steve Martin. ♣			Friends ©
	OVATION	(6:30) Days of Thunder (PG-13,'90) ★★	Tom Cruise.			Travel (N)	Travel (N)	Troy ★★
	OWN	20/20 on OWN ©		20/20 on OWN ©		20/20 on OWN ©		20/20 ♣
OXY	Chicago P.D. ©		Chicago P.D. ©		Chicago P.D. ©		Chicago ♣	
PARMT	Friends ©	Friends ©	Lip Sync (N)	Lip Sync	Dumb & Dumber (PG-13,'94) ★★		© ♣	
SYFY	Lost World: Jurassic Park		Jurassic Park III (PG-13,'01) ★★	Sam Neill. ©			Deadly	
TBS	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Big Bang	Big Bang	Drop/Mic	Joker's Wild	Conan (N)	
TCM	What Price Hollywood? (NR,'32) ★★		(8:45) A Star Is Born (NR,'37) ★★	Janet Gaynor. ♣				
TLC	Dr. Pimple Popper		Dr. Pimple Popper (N)		Untold Stories (N)		Stories ER ♣	
TLN	IMPACT	Wretched	Liberty Convocation		Life Today	Like You	Humanity ♣	
TNT	NBA Basketball: Bucks at Raptors (N Subject to Blackout)						Basketball (N Subject to Blackout)	
TOON	Samur. Jack	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Burgers	Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	
TRAV	The Dead Files ©		The Dead Files (N) ©		Kindred Spirits (N) ©		Haunt (N) ♣	
TVL	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Two Men	Two Men	King	
USA	Iron Man 3 (PG-13,'13) ★★	Robert Downey Jr., Gwyneth Paltrow. ©					Iron Man 3 ♣	
VH1	(6) Titanic (PG-13,'97) ★★	Leonardo DiCaprio, Kate Winslet. ©						
WE	Growing Up Hip Hop ©		Growing Up Hip Hop (N)		Marriage- Stars (N)		Hip Hop ♣	
WGN America	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	Last Man	
PREMIUM	HBO	Tag (R,'18) ★★	Ed Helms. ©		(8:45) Geostorm (PG-13,'17) ★	Gerard Butler. ♣		
	HBO2	High Main.	Crashing	True Detective ©		(9:15) The Losers (PG-13,'10) ★★		
	MAX	Elektra (PG-13,'05) ★★	Jennifer Garner. ♣		(8:40) Blade Runner 2049 (R,'17) ★★			
	SHO	(7:15) A Bad Moms Christmas (R,'17) ★★				SMILF ©		The Bourne Ultimatum ♣
	STARZ	(7:14) Life (R,'17) ★★	Jake Gyllenhaal. ©			Counterpart ©		Sicario ♣
STZENC	(6:10) American Dreamz		M*A*S*H (R,'70) ★★	Donald Sutherland. ©			Austin ♣	

Neil Young's long, tech-focused battle

Singer-songwriter attempts to create his own subscription service

By RANDY LEWIS
Los Angeles Times

The down side of being at the cutting edge is that a sharper one is just around the corner — something Neil Young discovered almost before he released his technologically advanced 2009 career retrospective box set "Neil Young Archive, Vol. 1."

That project, with which the veteran rocker presented all his recordings from the first decade of his career (1963-1972) on MP3, CD, DVD and Blu-ray formats, was outdated soon after it was released, to the extent that he knew that the next installment wouldn't be released in similar fashion.

A decade later, however, he's cut the ribbon on the full roll-out of his 50-plus year musical archive, as a budget-priced streaming service built on a high-quality streaming platform. NeilYoungArchives.com had a soft launch Dec. 19 as a subscription-driven service that costs \$1.99 per month — a bit more than a single song download on iTunes — or \$19.99 a year.

"We topped 10,000 subscriptions a while back," Young, 73, said from the road last week by phone the day before he arrived in Milwaukee to start a new solo tour. "I thought that was cool. I appreciate every one of them for being there — it's been a while. A lot of

these people have been part of my musical life for many years."

When he said, "It's been a while," he wasn't exaggerating. The archive project has been in the works for decades — many fans thought it was long overdue when the first installment finally saw the light of day in 2009.

Young's consistent answer to the question of "What's taking so long?" was that technological advances in the delivery of music to consumers kept outpacing his ability to put the project together in a way that satisfied him.

It's the same dilemma that ultimately took part in sinking his Pono high-resolution music player and store, which premiered right when consumers began abandoning downloading music in favor of streaming.

Young's new site carries through the basic design of the physical version released 10 years ago. Visitors to the site, who were able to access it free for several months last year during the introductory period, find a virtual file cabinet containing myriad folders for each of Young's studio, live and compilation albums, as well as files for each song, most containing lyrics and many with film, video, press clippings or other content within.

Those stretch back to his early years as an aspiring



DANNY CLINCH PHOTO

Veteran rock musician Neil Young has launched a new online archive available by subscription and offering what he calls the highest quality sound available to stream.

teenage rocker in Canada through his membership in celebrated rock bands including Buffalo Springfield and Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young. Solo projects, from Crazy Horse to the Stray Gators to Neil & the Pinks to the International Harvesters through the recent Promise of the Real, are also covered.

Users can play full albums, individual songs or hopscotch across the decades. A meter readout shows the streaming speed, which ranges from 1 kbps through 15,000 kbps, depending on subscribers' equipment and bandwidth

available from their internet service providers.

He developed the streaming protocol based on technology developed by OraStream, and the platform allows full-resolution sound files to be streamed not just on audiophile equipment in home sound systems but also over computers, smart speakers and smartphones.

"This is the first time the public has been able to hear high-resolution [audio] that's not dummied down music," he said, referencing the popular streaming services most consumers use. "So you really hear the

difference at the source."

He's so enthusiastic about the sound quality of his new service that it features a switch that allows users to easily compare the "master" version against one streaming at 320 kilobytes per second (kbps), which is considered high quality on most streaming platforms.

"The real reason I did it is so I can do my own music," he said. "It's the last time I want to go to record companies to make deals over high-resolution streaming. They're turning high-res music into an elitist thing. It should all be the same price.

I feel very strongly about that."

For those who haven't given up on owning a physical version of music they like, Young's website also includes a button that brings up a ZIP code-keyed list of independent record retailers near them.

Although the Neil Young Archives is dedicated to the output of a single artist, Young noted that there could be a ripple effect for other musicians interested in the platform's capabilities.

"For somebody who's got a lot of songs — Paul McCartney or Bob [Dylan] or Willie [Nelson] — anybody who's got a lot [of recordings] and wants to get their company into this, they could," he said. "It's a platform — anyone could use it."

The other advantage is it can — and will, Young promises — be updated regularly with new material.

Young recently found an early 1970s performance in Tuscaloosa, Ala., that he's pushing to the front of his planned releases, this one with the Stray Gators — steel guitarist Ben Keith, keyboardist Jack Nitzsche, drummer Kenny Buttrey and bassist Tim Drummond. "It's the 'Harvest' band playing all those songs, live in Alabama.

"I like how rejuvenating it is," Young said. "It lets me reflect on some of the things that have happened, to reflect on people who have happened. It excites me."

randy.lewis@latimes.com

JANUARY 31 TO MARCH 16, 2019

THE MOUSE TRAP

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Horoscopes



Today's birthday (Jan. 31): Together, you can realize dreams this year. Reinforce infrastructural support with discipline and integrity. Prioritize home and family. Resolve challenges with a partner this winter. Summer energizes your performance, before a peaceful escape inspires. Lay plans to realize your vision next winter. Friends bring new possibilities.

Aries (March 21-April 19): Today is a 9. Discover incredible beauty along the road. Stop and admire the view. Pay a kindness forward. Contribute anonymous acts of kindness.

Taurus (April 20-May 20): 8. Find hidden resources when you least expect it. Surprising actions lead to an unexpected windfall to shared accounts. Collaborate for shared passion.

Gemini (May 21-June 20): 9. Fall in love with your partner all over again. Find beauty in places you weren't looking. Work together for common joys and enthusiasms.

Cancer (June 21-July 22): 8. Make extra time for health and wellness. Enjoy a walk outside or other energetic ritual. Discover unexpected beauty or benefit. Try new flavors.

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): 8. You're especially persuasive and charming. Make a lovely connection with someone attractive. Romance develops naturally. Share some fun and beauty. Creative expression flows.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): 7. Weave love into your nest. Seek and find your own domestic bliss. Consider beauty, comfort and functionality. Find a treasure that inspires a shift.

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): 8. Good news travels fast. Connect with your networks to share in an exciting conversation. Provide words of encouragement and inspiration. Express from your heart.

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): 9. Your efforts can generate new profits. Pace yourself, and take regular breaks for better results. Make lucrative deals, and shift up your schedule to accommodate.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): 9. Put on your own oxygen mask before assisting others. You have the power, once your batteries are charged. Focus on what brings you happiness.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): 7. Rest, and consider long-range goals. Imagine your dream team, and make a list. Plot the possibilities. Use the idea as an excuse for a fun connection.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): 8. Discover a magical moment with friends. You can realize a shared vision. Create something beautiful together. Share a perfect sunset or lovely view.

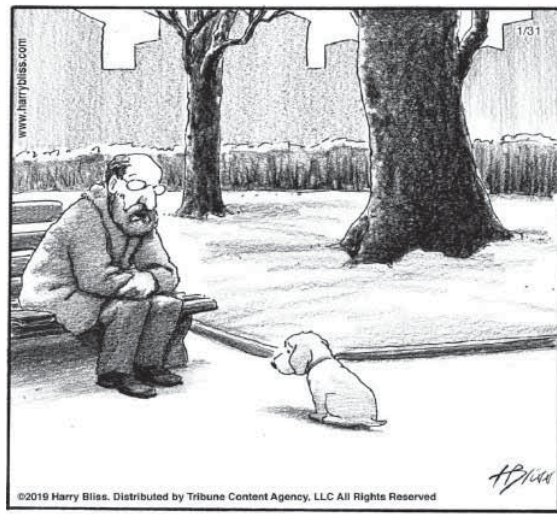
Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20): 9. Invest your heart into your work, and it grows. Your status is on the rise. Share what you love about it. Inspire others to excellence.

— Nancy Black, Tribune Content Agency

The Argyle Sweater



Bliss



Bridge

East-West vulnerable, South deals

North		East	
♠ AK 7 6 5	♥ J 4 3	♠ Q J 10 8	♥ 9 7
♦ K 8	♣ K 9 6	♦ 7 6 5 4 3	♣ 7 5
West		South	
♠ 9 4 2	♥ K 8 6 5	♠ 3	♥ A Q 10 2
♦ J 9 2	♣ Q J 3	♦ A Q 10	♣ A 10 8 4 2

The World Robot Championship was held last year in Orlando. The ability of robots to play bridge has improved steadily over the years and is quite good now. You might quibble with some of the bidding, but the play is usually first rate. Today's deal is from the finals of that event.

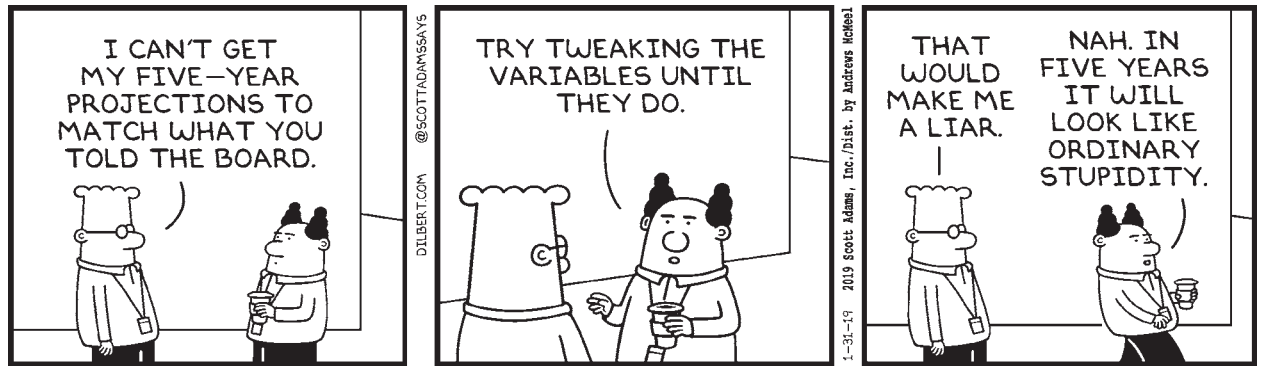
A human player might have hoped for a miracle in the trump suit and fallen back on the heart finesse when there was no miracle. The robots had a different idea. South won the opening diamond lead with its 10, led a spade to the ace, and ruffed a spade. The queen of diamonds was overtaken by the king and another spade was ruffed. Now the ace of diamonds, discarding a heart, followed by the ace of clubs and a club to the king.

West was down to just hearts and clubs. The lead of the king of spades gave West a Hobson's choice. It could ruff and lead a heart into the ace-hobson, or discard and be end-played with its trump one trick later. West chose to ruff and lead a heart.

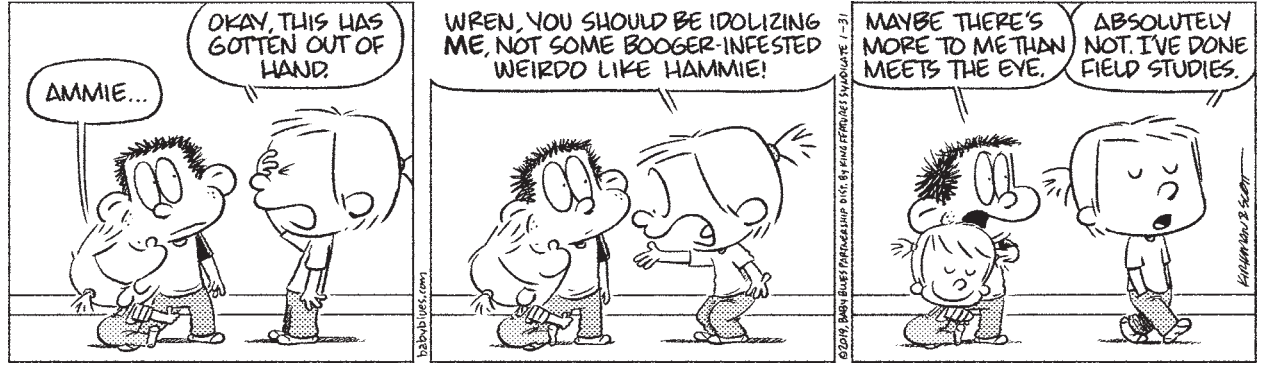
The play was card-for-card the same at both tables! So, should you run into a stranger who won't shake your hand and has a steely look about him, don't play him for money!

— Bob Jones
tcaeditors@tribpub.com

Dilbert



Baby Blues



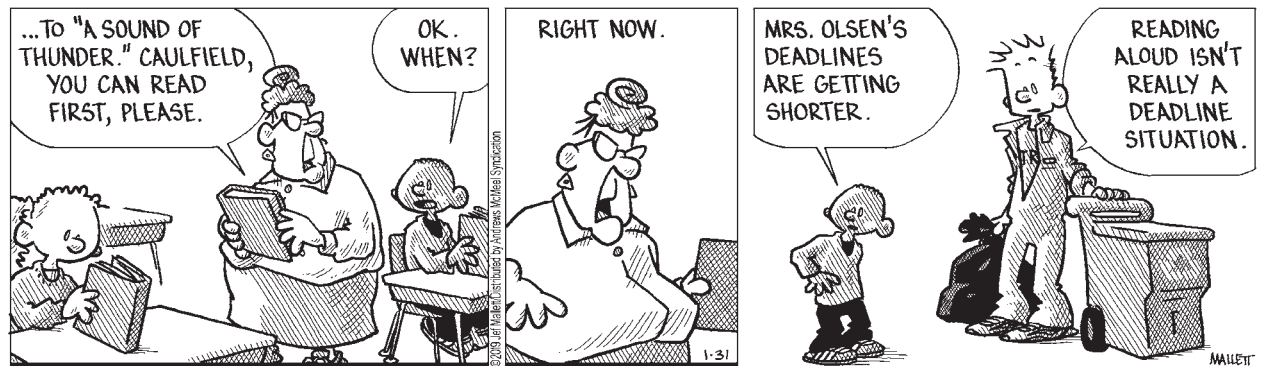
Zits



Mr. Boffo



Frazz



Classic Peanuts



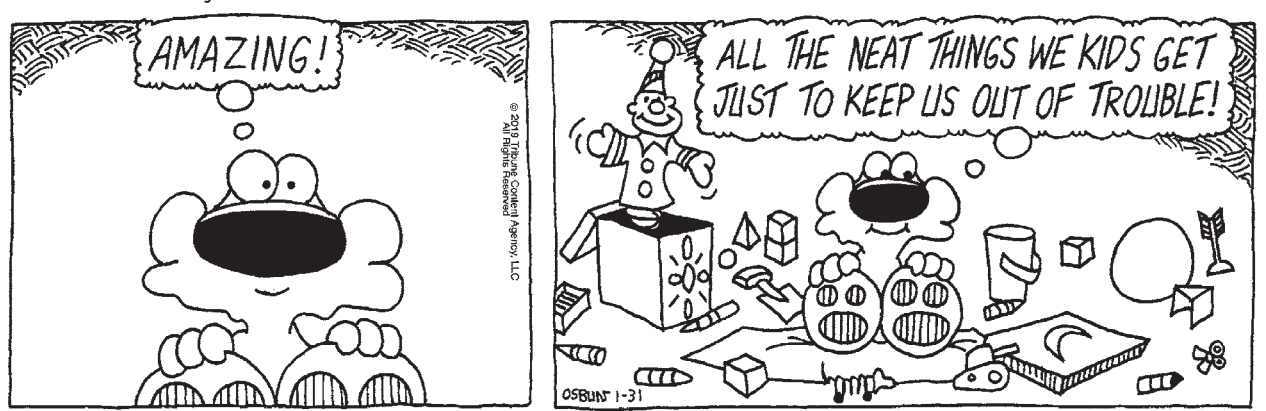
Pickles



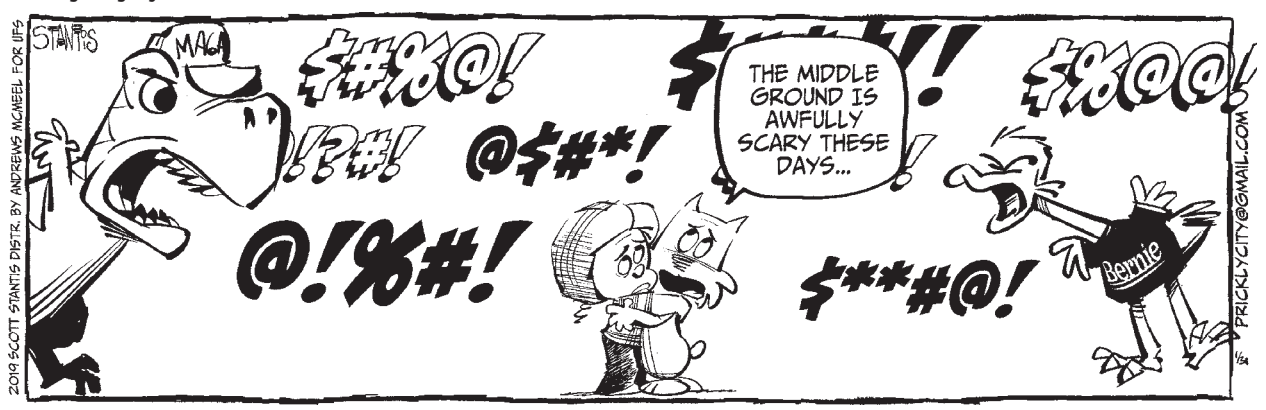
Dick Tracy



Animal Crackers



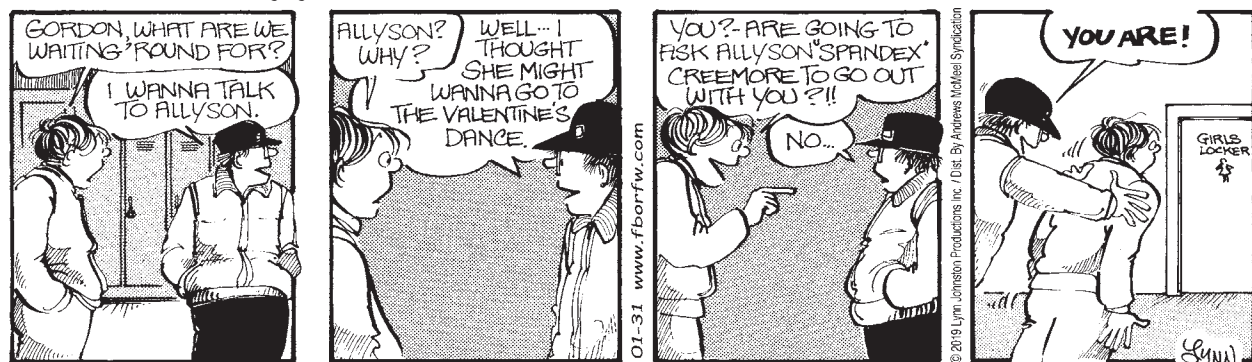
Prickly City



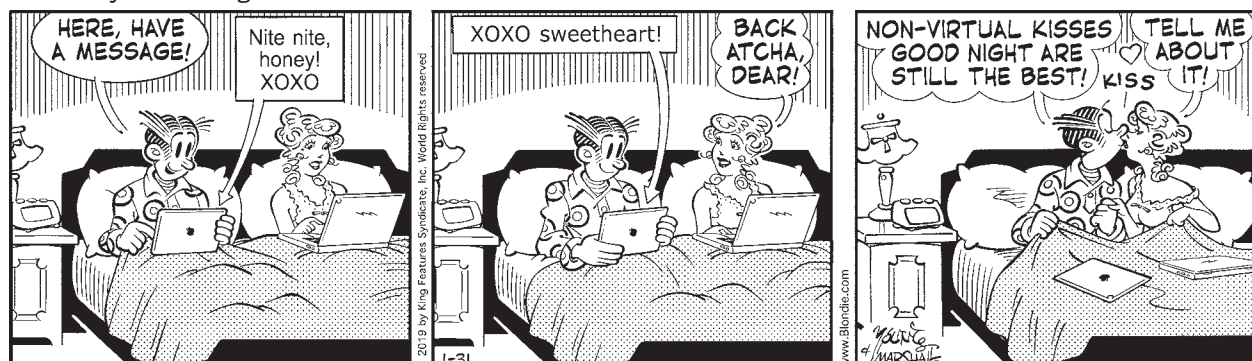
Dustin By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



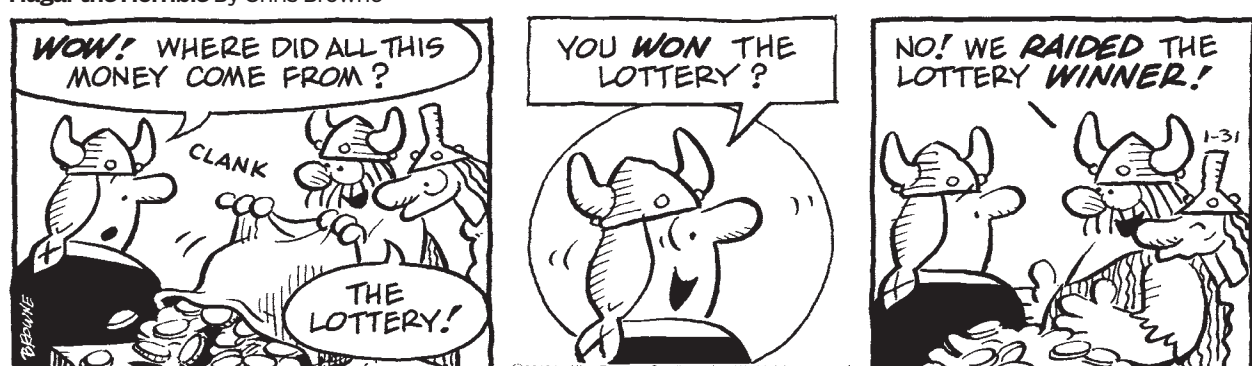
For Better or for Worse By Lynn Johnston



Blondie By Dean Young and John Marshall



Hägar the Horrible By Chris Browne



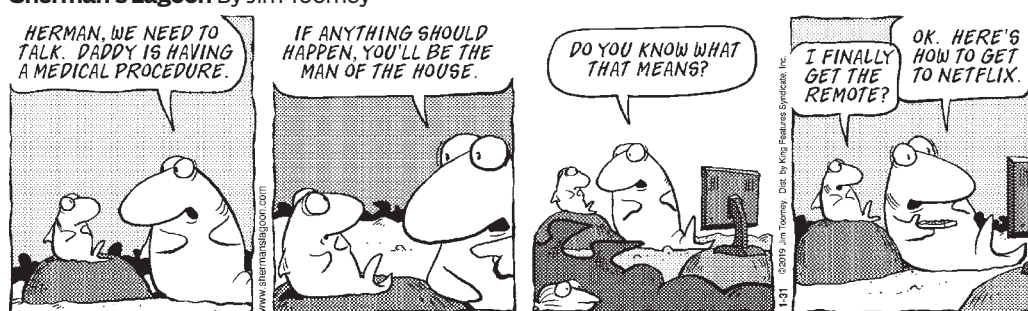
Mutts By Patrick McDonnell



WuMo By Mikael Wulff and Anders Morgenthaler



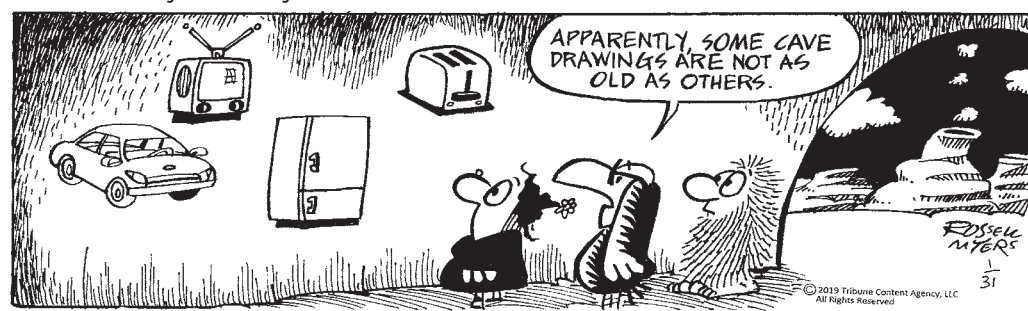
Sherman's Lagoon By Jim Toomey



Brewster Rockit: Space Guy! By Tim Rickard



Broom-Hilda By Russell Myers

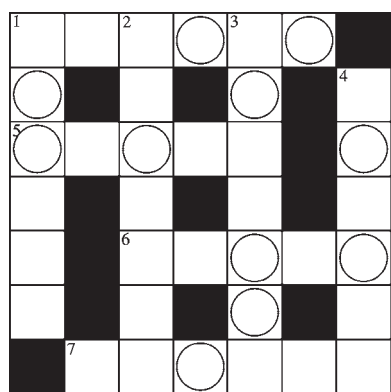


Trivia Bits

Donald Sutherland's character in the 1975 film "The Day of the Locust" shares his name with what other fictional character?
A) Clark Kent
B) Roger Rabbit
C) Barney Rubble
D) Homer Simpson

Wednesday's answer: Legend says that wearing amethyst jewels will prevent drunkenness.
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Jumble Crossword



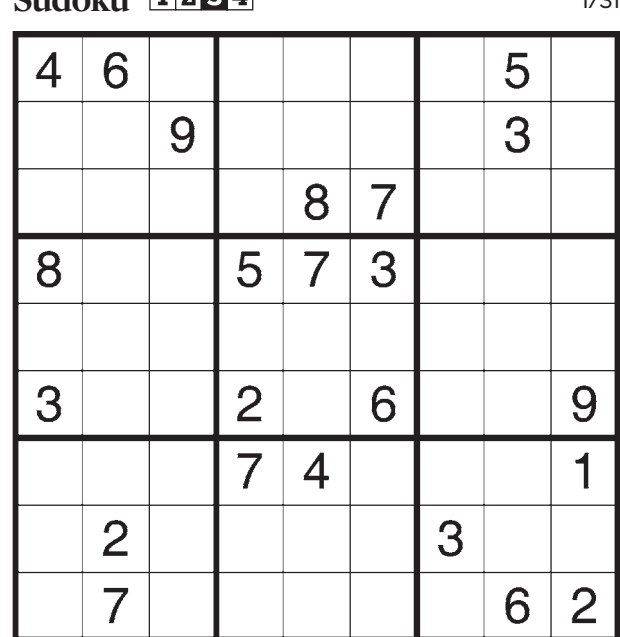
- CLUE ACROSS**
- Cried, howled
 - ___ trick
 - Now and ___
 - ___ Airlines
- CLUE DOWN**
- Southern marsupial
 - Imbue
 - Mesmerize
 - Let borrow
- ANSWER ACROSS**
- AIWEDL
 - GIMCA
 - ANIGA
 - TDENUI
- ANSWER DOWN**
- BTWAOM
 - NRIGNIA
 - CEHNTAN
 - DELANO

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 [Grid with circled letters]
CLUE: More than 500 million people watched the first ___ on television.
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ANSWERS: 1A-Walked 5A-Magic 6A-Again 7A-United 1D-Workout 2D-Enchant 4P-Loaned 4P-Moon landing
By David L. Hoyt.

Sudoku 1 2 3 4

1/31



2	7	5	9	4	1	3	8	6
4	3	8	6	2	5	9	1	7
9	6	1	8	7	3	5	2	4
7	2	6	5	1	8	4	9	3
5	8	9	2	3	4	6	7	1
1	4	3	7	6	9	2	5	8
6	1	7	4	9	2	8	3	5
3	5	2	1	8	6	7	4	9
8	9	4	3	5	7	1	6	2

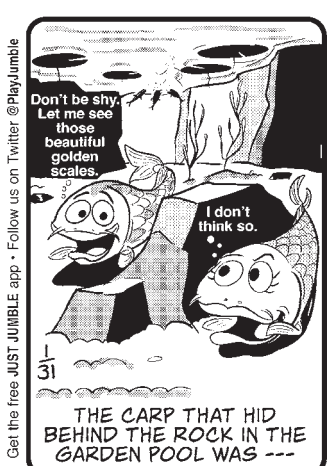
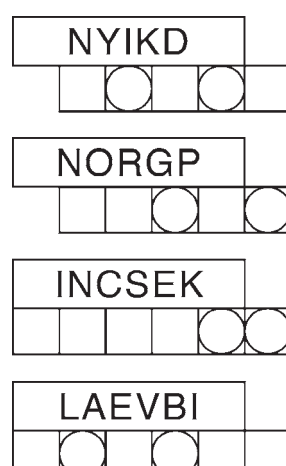
Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box in bold borders contains every digit 1 to 9.

Wednesday's solutions

By The Mephram Group © 2019. Distributed by Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

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



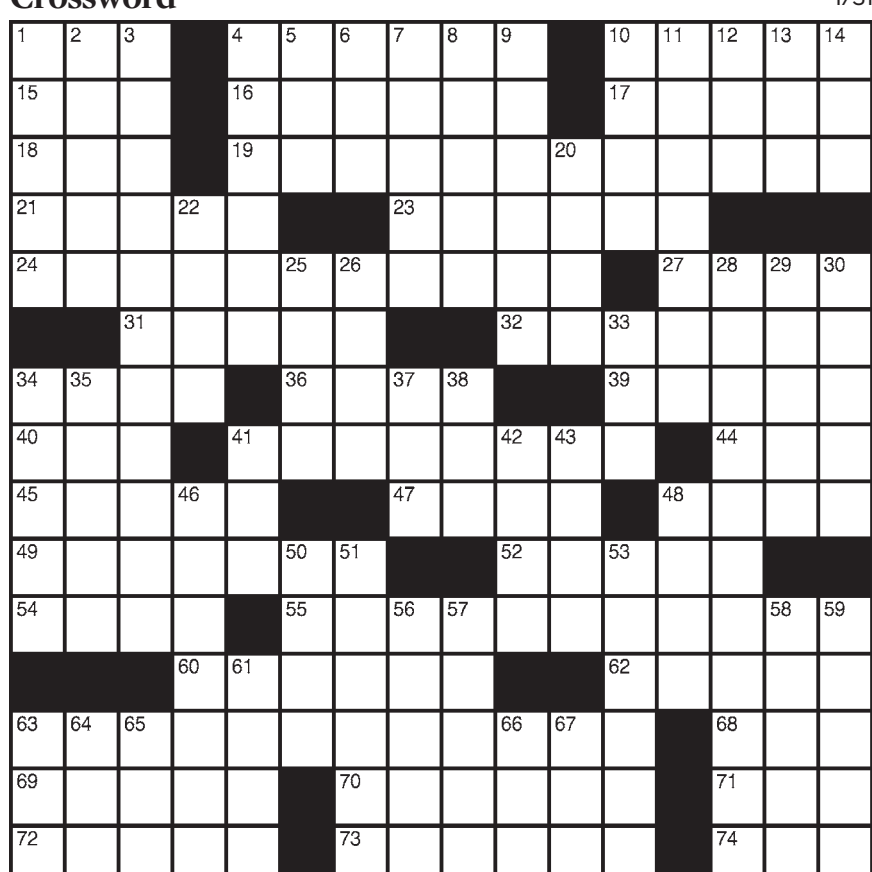
Wednesday's answers

Jumbles: GOOEY HARSH WETTER NAPKIN
Answer: The guitarist came up with a new melody, but didn't think it was — WORTH NOTING

By David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek. © 2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC. All rights reserved.

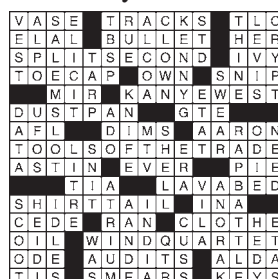
Crossword

1/31



- Across**
- Word that appears four times in a 1963 film title
 - Roof tiles
 - Deadens, as a piano string
 - Media agcy.
 - Roadster in the Henry Ford Museum
 - How sardines are packed
 - Mythical bird
 - With 63-Across, ending lines of a poem by 72-Across
 - Hydrocarbon group
 - 1995-2006 New York governor George
 - Alice Sebald novel, with "The"
 - The W in kWh
 - Athlete's peak performance
 - Wines and dines
 - Thrill
 - Credits list
 - Place for spectacles
 - ___ Navy; discount retailer
 - Harmful spells, in the Potterverse
 - Gen-___
 - Like universal blood donors
 - Nantes notion
 - Drill parts
 - Symbolized
 - Roof features
 - WWI battle river
 - Really cool place?
 - "Indubitably!"
 - Hot pot spot
 - See 19-Across
 - ___ Van Winkle
 - Tolkien ringbearer
 - Tell
 - Sheep's call
 - Poet who used the starts of 24-, 41- and 55-Across to describe the woods
 - Old-Timers' Day VIP
 - Unspecified amount
 - One curing meat
 - Saucer, e.g.
 - Like many '60s-'70s protests
 - ___ juice
 - Trough guy
 - Road sign caution
 - Move gently
 - Safecracker
 - Initial disco hit?
 - Smokey, for one
 - 1964 Anthony Quinn role
 - Religious belief
 - Dynasts of old Russia
 - What H, O or N may represent
 - Pirate riches
 - Choir group
 - ___ lift
 - Tiny bit
 - Lair
 - Great Barrier ___
 - Hot streak
 - Stretches
 - Sweet root
 - Actress Falco
 - Itch
 - Evening star
 - Southend-on-Sea's county
 - Focus group surveys
 - Water brand
 - Give back
 - Harness race pace
 - Fave pal
 - Be in the wrong
 - Egg ___ yung
 - "Mangia!"
 - Zeta follower

Wednesday's solution



By Ed Sessa. Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis. © 2019 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

CHICAGO WEATHER CENTER

chicagoweathercenter.com | BY TOM SKILLING AND WGN9



THURSDAY, JAN. 31

NORMAL HIGH: 32°

NORMAL LOW: 17°

RECORD HIGH: 65° (1989)

RECORD LOW: -12° (1985)

Extreme cold in the morning, snow later in day

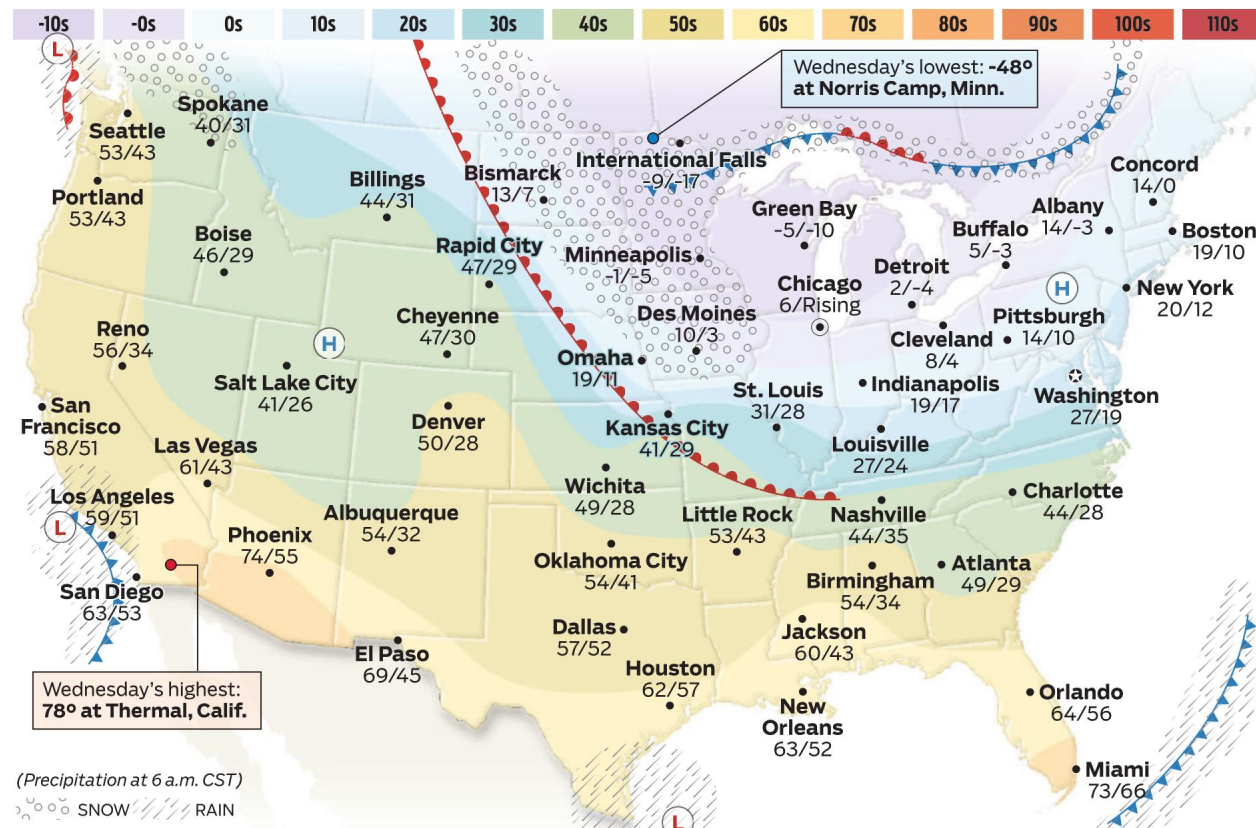
LOCAL FORECAST

HIGH **LOW**

6 Steady or rising at night

- **Wind Chill Warning until midday. Record low temperatures early in the morning—then accumulating snow later in the day.**
- Day starts with a temp near the all-time record low of -27° with readings in the area possibly in the negative 30s and wind chills -40 to -50 degrees.
- As clouds spread over the area, temperatures rise, breaking above zero with snow spreading into the area later in the afternoon and overnight.
- Total snow of 1-2 inches north and in the city with several inches possible south of Interstate 80.

NATIONAL FORECAST



The wind chill warning for wind chills minus 40 to minus 50 degrees will be in effect until noon Thursday. The all-time record low temperature for Chicago, minus 27 degrees, set Jan. 20, 1985, may be broken, and low temperatures around 30 below are quite possible in the area.

Clouds will be on the increase during the day, and temperatures will rise breaking through the zero-degree barrier for the first time since Tuesday afternoon. Snow will fall later in the day and continue overnight, accumulating an inch or two in northern portions into Chicago, with 2-4 inches possible in areas south of Interstate 80.

With mild air riding southwest winds, temperatures will reach well into the 30s Saturday and 40s on Sunday, possibly peaking around 50 degrees Monday as showers spread over our area.

FRIDAY, FEB. 1

HIGH **LOW**

23 **14**

Remnant light snow ending early, becoming partly sunny. Light south winds help bring warmer air that starts a weekend warm-up. Highs in the low 20s. Partly cloudy skies overnight.



SATURDAY, FEB. 2

HIGH **LOW**

39 **34**

Morning sun gives way to clouds with a slight chance of showers. Winds pick up out of the southwest boosting temperatures into the upper 30s. Some drizzle or light showers possible overnight.

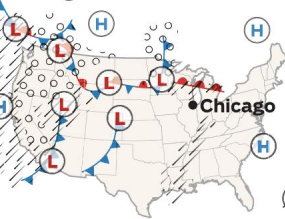


SUNDAY, FEB. 3

HIGH **LOW**

45 **39**

Gusty southwest winds maintain mild temperatures with highs reaching the middle 40s. A few showers possible during the day with a better chance deeper into the nighttime hours.



MONDAY, FEB. 4

HIGH **LOW**

50 **27**

Showers much of the day and very mild with highs around 50 degrees. Partly cloudy overnight. Gusty southwest winds shift northwest at night.



TUESDAY, FEB. 5

HIGH **LOW**

37 **25**

Mostly cloudy with a chance of showers during the day possibly mixed with a little wet snow. Highs in the middle 30s. Wet snow likely overnight. Northwest winds shift to the northeast late.



WEDNESDAY, FEB. 6

HIGH **LOW**

30 **10**

Cloudy and colder with snow likely. Highs around 30 degrees with falling temperatures in the afternoon. Clouds and a chance of snow showers overnight. Blustery winds out of the north.



ASK TOM

Dear Tom,
As a baby boomer, I attended Chicago Public Schools from February 1952 through the end of January 1965, and not once did we have school canceled for inclement weather. What were the lowest temperatures and biggest snowstorms during that period?
— Bob Johnson, Buffalo Grove

Dear Bob,
Chicago climatologist Frank Wachowski scanned the record books, and he found that while there was plenty of cold weather, extreme cold was not a major factor during your school years. There were only two days with minimum temperatures of at least minus 15, both in 1963. Jan. 21 had a high of 12 and a low of 15 below and Jan. 23, a high of minus 4 and a low of minus 18. In terms of snowstorms, only two brought a foot of snow or more to the city — 12.5 inches on Dec. 20-21, 1960, and 12.1 inches Dec. 21-23, 1961.

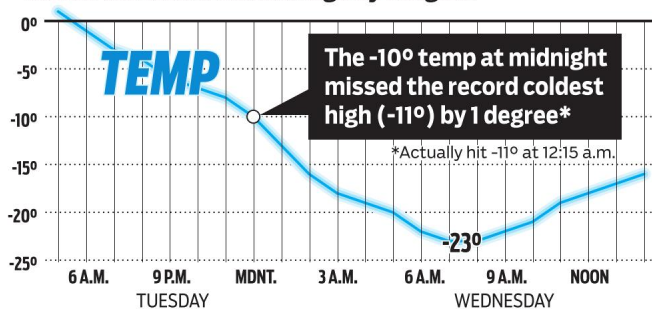
Write to: ASK TOM
2501 W. Bradley Place
Chicago, IL 60618
asktomwhy@wgntv.com

WGN-TV meteorologists Mark Carroll, Steve Kahn, Richard Koeneman, Paul Merzlock and Paul Dailey, plus Bill Snyder, contribute to this page.

Hear Tom Skilling's weather updates weekdays 3 to 6 p.m. on WGN-AM 720 Chicago.

Arctic chill Wednesday/Thursday with snow on the way

CHICAGO-O'HARE HOURLY TEMPERATURES



BARBARIC WIND CHILLS WEDNESDAY MORNING!

The -50° to -55° wind chills rivaled the all-time coldest wind chill

The coldest wind chill recorded at Chicago back on Christmas Eve 1983

- The old wind chill system registered a -82° wind chill on that date, and the new system currently in use (instituted in 2001) would calculate out to -57°.
- WEDNESDAY MORNING'S LOWEST TEMPS AND COLDEST WIND CHILLS
- | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| DeKalb | -25°/-56° | Sugar Grv | -24°/-55° | Morris | -23°/-53° | Freeport | -27°/-52° | Chi. N. Island | -21°/-50° |
| Sterling | -25°/-55° | DuPage | -24°/-55° | Washburn | -23°/-53° | Kankakee | -21°/-51° | Schaumburg | -25°/-49° |
| Rock Falls | -25°/-56° | West Chi. | -24°/-55° | Romeoville | -23°/-53° | Lansing | -22°/-51° | Wheeling | -21°/-48° |
| O'Hare | -23°/-52° | Rochelle | -26°/-54° | Lewis Univ. | -23°/-53° | Midway | -22°/-51° | Joliet | -21°/-46° |
| Aurora | -24°/-55° | Pontiac | -21°/-54° | Ottawa | -24°/-53° | Rockford | -25°/-51° | Valparaiso | -19°/-47° |

SOURCES: Frank Wachowski, National Weather Service archives

Based on average temps, Wednesday will go down as Chicago's second-coldest day on record

Top two coldest Chicago days

DEC. 24, 1983	JAN. 30, 2019
HIGH: LOW: AVG.	HIGH: LOW: AVG.
-11° -25° -18°	-10° -23° -16.5°

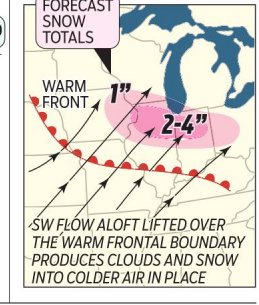
Chicago's coldest temp*

Jan. 20, 1985	-27°
Jan. 10, 1982	-26°
Jan. 16, 1982	-25°
Dec. 24, 1983	-25°
Jan. 30, 2019	-23°
Dec. 24, 1872	-23°
Jan. 17, 1982	-22°
Jan. 17, 1982	-22°

*Does not include Jan. 31, 2019 (to be determined)

THURSDAY'S SET-UP
Totals of 1-4" of snow over the Chicago area afternoon/evening

Impact afternoon and evening commute



PAUL DAILEY, THOMAS VALLE / WGN-TV

CHICAGO DIGEST

WEDNESDAY TEMPERATURES

LOCATION	HI	LO	LOCATION	HI	LO
Aurora	-13	-25	Midway	-8	-22
Gary	-9	-20	O'Hare	-10	-23
Kankakee	-9	-21	Romeoville	-10	-23
Lakefront	-7	-21	Valparaiso	-6	-19
Lansing	-11	-21	Waukegan	-11	-23

CHICAGO PRECIPITATION

PERIOD	2019	NORMAL
Wed. (through 4 p.m.)	Trace	0.05"
January to date	1.19"	1.68"
Year to date	1.19"	1.68"

CHICAGO SNOWFALL

PERIOD	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Wed. (through 4 p.m.)	Trace	Trace
Season to date	31.2"	30.9"
Normal to date	20.0"	3.1"

LAKE MICHIGAN CONDITIONS

THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Wind SW 5-16 kts.	SW 4-12 kts.
Waves 1 foot	1 foot
WED. shore/crib water temps 34°/32°	

U.S. SNOW COVER

JAN. 30	2019	2018
Area covered by snow	40.0%	28.9%
Average snow depth	4.5"	3.1"

TRACKING THE COLD

SINCE OCT. 15	O'HARE	MIDWAY
Sub-32° highs	21 days	19 days
Subzero lows	5 days	5 days

CHICAGO AIR QUALITY

Wednesday's reading	Good
Thursday's forecast	Good
Critical pollutant	Particulates

THURSDAY RISE/SET TIMES

Sun	7:04 a.m.	5:04 p.m.
Moon	3:55 a.m.	1:36 p.m.

THURSDAY PLANET WATCH

PLANET	RISE	SET
Mercury	7:19 a.m.	4:54 p.m.
Venus	4:08 a.m.	1:37 p.m.
Mars	9:51 a.m.	10:24 p.m.
Jupiter	3:38 a.m.	12:52 p.m.
Saturn	5:35 a.m.	2:50 p.m.
BEST VIEWING TIME		
Mercury	Not visible	
Venus	5:15 a.m.	10° SE
Mars	6:30 p.m.	46.5° SW
Jupiter	5:15 a.m.	13.5° SE
Saturn	Not visible	

SOURCE: Dan Joyce, Triton College

SHOWSTOPPING NEWS

From one of the most influential theater critics in America.

Chicago's own Chris Jones, covering theater news and reviews from Chicago to Broadway:

chicagotribune.com/theaterloop

Chicago Tribune
the Theater Loop
WITH CHRIS JONES

Chicago Tribune
HOMES



Naturally modern

Wood beams, stone walls bring outdoors in | PAGE 4

5 minor projects that can make a major difference PAGE 2 | Get a jump on spring starting seedlings indoors PAGE 5

5 minor projects that look major

HomeAdvisor

Quite often, our tolerance for outdated home interiors wears thin faster than our remodeling budgets expand. If you're looking for an affordable, demolition-free solution to your design woes, try one of these five high-impact projects. They'll make your guests wonder, "How'd they manage to remodel their home so effortlessly?"

Countertop cover-ups: You can make a drastic change to your countertops without the drastic effort and cost of replacement. Use one of many official countertop paint kits to get the look of granite, marble and other stones over surfaces made of Formica, laminate and solid surface. Or, apply a concrete overlay, which works over Formica, laminate, solid surface, ceramic tile and stones like granite and marble. You can also get custom-fabricated quartz overlays that fit over almost any material.

Think twice: Self-adhesive paper is an option, but it's less durable for daily use. Use it on decorative surfaces, but be wary of applying it in the bathroom or kitchen.

Zero-demo flooring: Removing old flooring can be difficult and time-consuming. If the old floor isn't warped, cracked, uneven or damp, you may be able to install new flooring right on top of it. You can either use floating or secured flooring, depending on your materials. Floating flooring locks together over stable surfaces like concrete, tile, wood, linoleum and vinyl without an adhesive. Secured flooring requires an adhesive, such as a thin-set, glue or nails.

Think twice: Be mindful of thickness if you use a hardwood for this project so that you don't have issues with floor height around doors, cabinets and trim.

Like-new cabinets: You can make it look like you have an entirely new set of cabinets with a quick refinishing. For this project, the existing materials are sanded, cleaned and given a fresh coat of paint or stain. Whether you do it yourself or hire a professional, it will cost much less than new cabinetry. And you can completely switch up the color and design. While you're at it, upgrade your hardware for a totally "new" look.

Think twice: If the cabinet surfaces aren't in good shape, consider refacing. Refacing costs



DREAMSTIME

Simple details like frame molding on the walls can add elegance and improve the design of an entire room.

more, but the cabinets get brand-new doors and a matching veneer to cover blemishes.

Fresh-faced tile: If you're living with garish, old-school tile, here's some good news: You can paint tile if you prepare it thoroughly and use the right paint. For preparation, you have to clean, sand, repair and prime the surface. Then, you finish it off with a specialized paint. Tile paints come in a range of colors and can even imitate stone. To complete

the transformation, consider adding a fresh layer of grout.

Think twice: There is a correct paint for each application. For moist environments like bathrooms, there is tub and tile paint. For high-activity applications like flooring, there are acrylic tile paints.

Trim and molding upgrades: Adding little details like trim and molding can really take your home's interior to the next level. You can either add flourish and

height to existing trim and baseboards, or you can create interest where there is none. Install molding on cabinet door and drawer fronts, around windows, on walls in a frame style, or on your ceiling in an intricate design. The possibilities are endless!

Think twice: Typically, homeowners use either wood, medium-density fiberboard (MDF) or polystyrene molding and trim for these projects. Keep in mind that MDF doesn't resist moisture well.

FINDS

Smart padlock opens with just a touch

BY GREGG ELLMAN
Tribune News Service

Just as I've experienced very recently, security can almost be too much when you misplace a key to the padlock securing your valuables (my tool shed).

With the Tapplock One+ smart padlock, there's no keyhole or combination dial. Instead the smart padlock stores your fingerprint and opens in 0.8 seconds when they meet.

One of the first things I won-

dered was what if it had to be opened while my fingerprint wasn't around? That was answered pretty quickly; the lock stores up to 500 fingerprints, so family, friends or neighbors have access without the need to place a key under a rock or texting a combination code.

With the accompanying Tapplock app, you can even track who unlocked the padlock and when. The app allows you to grant mobile access with the remote unlock feature via Blue-

tooth. A third unlocking method is with morse-code, by pressing long and short combinations on the power button.

The app can be set to limit users opening access with specific dates and times. Access can also be removed at any time.

With an IP67 waterproof rating, the padlock can withstand the elements in most any weather situation. According to Tapplock testing, it's fully functional between minus 4 and 140 degrees Fahrenheit along with being dust

and rust-proof.

There's an internal battery that should last up to a year on a single charge and up to 3,500 unlocks per charge (USB). The lock has a blinking red light when it goes below 10 percent of remaining power and the Tapplock app shows the power level.

Inside the lock is 128-bit encryption with a myriad of security protocols for enhanced protection. As for setting it up, once you have the app, a free account setup and your fingerprint ready, it's



TNS

almost instant.

The Tapplock is available for \$99 each. Bundle packages are \$179 for a pair and \$359 for a 4-pack. www.Tapplock.com

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Bringing the great outdoors indoors

BY MICHELE LERNER

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — When Jim and Jennifer Sergent bought their home in suburban Arlington, Va., two years ago, they appreciated its modern look — the exposed wood beams and the nature trail that passes in front of it. But the master bathroom left a lot to be desired.

“This is a 1990s Deck House, so it’s got an open post-and-beam structure that feels like an atrium, and that feeling extends right into our bedroom,” said Jim, a graphics editor at USA Today. “But when you opened the door to the master bathroom, it just felt different. The design aesthetic just stopped at the bathroom door.”

The mostly white bathroom looked cold and had the added discomfort of a small shower. Jim, who’s 6-foot-4, either bumped his head or stubbed his toe nearly every day.

“We wanted our bathroom to respond to the rest of the house, not only the wood but also the floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace in the family room,” said Jennifer, a freelance design writer. “It was Jim’s idea to build a shower with a natural stone wall that echoes the fireplace. We know design fashions come and go, but stone and wood will never go away.”

The Sergents’ instinct to bring natural elements into their bathroom is reflected in a growing trend among homeowners to incorporate more wood and stone into their interior spaces, sometimes in unexpected places.

“It makes people feel good when we bring in natural elements,” said Leigh Spicher, director of design studios for Ashton Woods, an Atlanta-based builder with communities



ASHTON WOODS

Atlanta-based Ashton Woods designers used a patterned wood wall behind the bed in a model home.



MARVIN JOSEPH/WASHINGTON POST

Jim and Jennifer Sergent transformed what had been a cold-looking bathroom with natural stone and wood.

in Arizona, Texas, Georgia, the Carolinas and Florida. “Using wood on walls or the ceiling of a bathroom fits in with the trend toward using wood for trim and entire walls in all kinds of homes, from modern to traditional styles.”

Wood and stone can be necessary to warm up a space, particularly in a modern house, said Jessica Parker, an interior designer and senior project manager with GTM Architects in suburban Bethesda, Md.

“In a modern house, you can add a stone wall around the fireplace or rustic wood beams to the ceiling to add warmth and texture,” Parker said. “We use stone and wood consistently, especially in homes with an

all-white kitchen or high ceilings. In a more traditional home, we install polished wood beams for a more refined look.”

Although hardwood is the most popular material for floors in homes today, and stone is common around a fireplace, homeowners and designers are introducing these materials in other places.

“The Sergents’ Deck House has tons of great windows and skylights, so it was a natural choice to bring in nature,” said Nadia Subaran, co-owner of Aidan Design in suburban Silver Spring, Md., who designed the couple’s kitchen and bathroom. A Deck House is a brand name of plans built with post-and-beam con-



JAMIE COBEL/RILL ARCHITECTS

A room with a high ceiling can seem cold; but wood can be used to warm it up.

struction, usually with open rooms and lots of exposed wood. “You always end up with a lot of hard surfaces in a bathroom, like porcelain and tile, so it’s becoming popular to bring in wood to soften the space.”

Wood and stone also can be used to add texture and definition to an open floor plan, said Jim Rill, owner of Rill Architects in Bethesda.

In one client’s home, “we used a wood ceiling and wood trim on a hallway to define the space and accentuate where you walk, versus where you gather, dine and cook,” said Rill. “The wood ceiling extends to the breakfast room and outdoor porches. You can feel like you’re inside when you’re outside, and you can

feel like you’re outside when you’re inside.”

Natural stone has been used to create a “grotto effect” in lower-level spa bathrooms that seem almost to be carved out of a cellar and make the house seem as though it has always been there, Rill said. Stone walls can be expanded around a fireplace to include arched niches for books and display space, he said.

In one master bedroom that Parker designed, she added a feature wall with a large wood-enclosed fireplace with a wood mantel.

“The room had very high ceilings and needed some warmth, so we went with this dramatic feature instead of a more traditional

small fireplace,” she said.

The adjacent master bathroom, a sleek space with glass and porcelain tile, is warmed up with an oversized shower with two walls of natural stone.

Although some homeowners use wood and stone indoors to highlight the nature found outside their home’s walls, others use these natural materials in contrast with their surroundings.

“In an urban environment, it’s almost more necessary to bring in wood and stone, so it’s not a cold interior regardless of the setting,” Parker said.

Michele Lerner is a freelancer for the Washington Post.

Tips for growing seedlings

BY TIM JOHNSON
Chicago Tribune

I have some friends who start plants from seeds for their summer gardens and I'm interested in trying to do this myself. Can you please provide tips for a first-time seed starter?

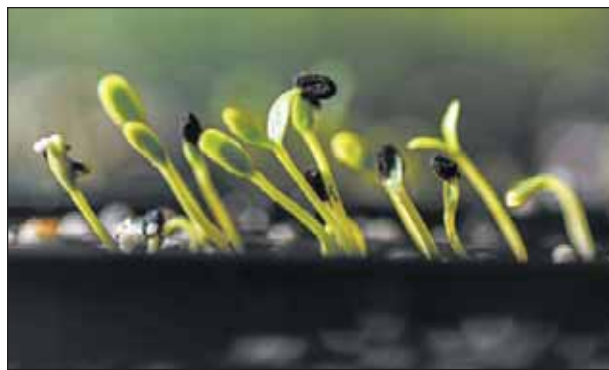
— Kristie McConnell,
Highland Park

Growing plants from seed is a great way to get access to plant varieties you cannot find in a garden center. It is best to start just a few varieties of seeds, since many plants have different requirements for successful germination. Follow the directions on individual packets as to which types of seeds require bottom heat, light or darkness to germinate. You also may need to do some research to find the germination requirements.

Some seeds might require a short period of chilling, soaking in water or nicking — breaking the outer coat of the seed so it can absorb water — before being sown. Different types of seeds also require different periods of time to germinate. Take the time to allow seeds to germinate and develop when deciding when to start them so they are ready to plant outside at the correct time.

Some seeds that are easy to start indoors include tomatoes, marigolds, basil, zinnia, coleus and cosmos. Tomatoes do not like cold weather, so time your tomatoes so they are ready to plant in the garden around Memorial Day. Some types of vegetables are best suited to direct sowing outdoors, since they germinate and grow quickly. These are usually marked “direct sow.”

Cool-season annuals (like larkspur, snapdragon, English daisy, ranunculus, pansy, Iceland poppy,



CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN

When growing seeds, start with only a few varieties, because plants have different germination requirements, and use trays or fiber pots plus a seed-starting mix.

forget-me-not and edging lobelia) can be planted in the garden by the second week in April. This is the time at the Chicago Botanic Garden in most springs after the smaller plants are hardened off. Iceland poppies are more sensitive to low temperatures, so it is better to plant them outside in the third week of April most years. This usually requires starting seeds 14 weeks ahead to have blooming plants ready for outside planting. It may be harder to have success with this group of plants as your first-time starting seeds.

Sow seeds in trays or fiber pots, using a fresh, pre-moistened, soilless or seed-starting mix. Most containers — even small paper cups or yogurt cups — work, provided that they are 2 to 3 inches deep with a hole in the bottom for drainage. You can also start the seeds in a tray designed for seed starting and transplant them later.

Sow large seeds in slightly indented rows or in the center of an individual pot and cover lightly with a thin layer of the mix. Finer seeds may be broadcast directly on top of soil. If you decide to sow multiple seeds into a pot, simply snip off the excess seedlings once they have germinated. Some types of seeds require a glass or plastic cover to provide supplemental humidity. Water seeds from the bottom or use a fine mister to keep the soil moist. Most seeds require a warm, bright location out of di-

rect sun to germinate. Ventilate covered seeds daily, especially in bright conditions.

When germination occurs, gradually increase light levels. Most seedlings require 14 to 16 hours of direct light to produce healthy stems and leaves. The characteristic legginess that can occur when seedlings are grown on a windowsill indicates that the plants are not receiving enough light intensity, or enough hours of light. Use a full-spectrum fluorescent bulb that is placed about 3 inches from the seedlings' foliage and adjusted up as the plants grow for supplemental lighting.

Rotate the pots regularly to keep the plants from leaning into the light if you are growing them in a window. Providing proper light levels is more important for plants that need to grow inside for six weeks or more.

When two sets of true leaves develop, transplant the small seedlings to a larger pot that contains a slightly coarser, “growing-on” mix. A plastic knife works well to lift the seedlings. Begin fertilizing with quarter-strength 10-10-10 solution about once a week. As the plant grows larger, switch to a half-strength solution once a week and reduce the fertilizer if you start to see excessive growth.

Tim Johnson is director of horticulture for the Chicago Botanic Garden in Glencoe.

ctc-realestate@chicagotribune.com

Go ahead and add to that compost pile in wintertime

BY BETH BOTTS
Chicago Tribune

With snow on the sidewalk and ice on the porch steps, a reasonable person might ask: Do I really have to take the potato peelings out to the compost bin? They wouldn't break down until spring anyway, would they?

In fact, there's probably action in your compost pile even in winter, according to Meghan Midgley, soil scientist at the Morton Arboretum in Lisle. The bacteria, fungi, pill bugs, nematodes, earthworms and other forms of life that digest dead plants to produce compost may have slowed down, but they didn't leave for Florida.

“All the organisms in your compost pile evolved in the soil,” Midgley said. “They've survived in the soil through the winter for millions of years.”

The outer, most exposed layers of your compost might look like a frozen wasteland. Microbes can't digest ice. But the interior is warmer, insulated by the accumulation of fruit and vegetable scraps, dried leaves, grass clippings, weeds, discarded annuals, frost-wilted vegetables and all the other plant matter you added all season long. Within that insulation, composters are still at work, producing rich, fluffy compost to spread over the roots of trees and other plants or mix into the soil when you start planting.

As the cold seeped in last fall, composting organisms retreated toward the center. Those left at the chilly outer fringes may be dead or just dormant, waiting for a warm spell, Midgley said. The ones farther in may be functioning slowly, but they still function.

Although a small pile will often freeze solid, a large enough pile — at least



MORTON ARBORETUM

A compost bin that holds in heat and blocks cold winds will keep compost warmer and more active during winter than an open pile. Adding leaves as insulation can help.

a cubic yard — nearly always has bacteria at work in the middle. They generate heat, creating an environment warm enough for other organisms to stay active as well. If you dig into the center of a compost pile on a cold day, you may see steam rise.

Compost will stay warmer and more active in a bin that holds in heat and blocks cold winds than in an open pile. Adding insulation can help if you've saved some of the leaves that fell from your trees in autumn. Covering your kitchen scraps with leaves might provide enough protection to allow the composters to go to work on your potato peelings.

Many factors affect how much compost is generated over the winter: the size, moisture and composition of the pile, the severity of the weather, how often you add leaves or dump your potato peelings. But the worst that can happen is that composting is delayed until the weather warms up.

Sometime in spring, there will be compost to spread for mulch over the roots of your trees and

other plants and to improve your soil with organic matter and microbes.

So what about those potato peelings? Is it worthwhile to brave the icy steps to add them to the compost?

It couldn't hurt, Midgley said. Kitchen scraps won't break down as quickly as they would in July. In fact, they may lie frozen until spring. But eventually, the composters will find them.

If you don't have a compost pile already, this is not the right time to start one, Midgley said. Wait until spring, when there is warmth and moisture. Or wait until fall, when fallen tree leaves provide abundant, carbon-rich compost fodder to start.

“Compost is basically a version of the way nature has built up soil all over the world,” she said. Winter isn't going to stop it.

For tree and plant advice, contact the Arboretum's Plant Clinic (630-719-2424 or plantadvice@mortonarb.org).

Beth Botts is a staff writer at the Morton Arboretum in Lisle.

Ways to to maintain clog-free drains

BY TIM CARTER
Tribune Content Agency

Yesterday I was perusing a national news website whose headlines more and more seem to resemble those of a sensational supermarket tabloid. Being a syndicated newspaper columnist, I find this transition most interesting.

One particular headline blared about the five things you should never put down your kitchen drain. I've been a master plumber since age 29 and have had the very good fortune to replace old kitchen drain lines and unclog newer ones choked with gunk and who-knows-what. I thought I might discover something I didn't know.

While there were one or two good tips in the article, a few of them had me scratching my head wondering whether the author had ever cleaned out a residential drain line to a kitchen or bathroom sink. I decided to share with you my experiences with residential drain lines and let you apply your own common sense. Beware, as a few of the details I'm about to relate might make you squirm just a bit.

It's useful to understand what the inside of drain pipes look like when new and what they look like after decades of use. New cast iron, copper, galvanized iron and plastic drain lines are quite smooth on the inside. You want smoothbore pipe so nothing gets snagged.

Unfortunately, a characteristic of older galvanized iron pipe is that it starts to develop a rough inner surface that actually starts to get clogged from small debris that grows hard-water deposits on the inside of the pipe wall. I've cut out galvanized iron drain lines from kitchen and bath walls, and the entire inside of the pipe is choked off with this hard calcified buildup.

Fortunately, galvanized pipe is rarely used now and it can be found in older homes built between 1900 and the late 1950s. Plastic plumbing drain lines swept the industry by storm in the 1960s and have become the go-to material for almost all residential plumbing drain installations.

I want to briefly discuss the size of pipes and what passes through them with little effort. The drain pipe beneath the toilet in



TIM CARTER PHOTO

Kitchen sink strainers are helpful in keeping drains flowing freely. The strainer traps larger food items.

your home is most likely a 3-inch-diameter pipe. Your body, on a regular basis, produces solid cylindrical waste that often might be 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter. You then add paper waste to the toilet bowl, flush it, and magically all of this ends up in a septic tank or your city's sewage treatment plant.

Now think about the lowly kitchen or bathroom sink drain pipe. Just behind the wall of the sink, there's probably a horizontal 1.5-inch-diameter pipe. Plumbers call this a branch arm. That horizontal pipe in a kitchen should travel no more than 42 inches before connecting to a vertical pipe, a stack, that should be at least 2 inches in diameter. Bathroom sink drains almost always connect to another 1.5-inch-diameter vertical stack instead of

a 2-inch one.

Imagine the size of solid material that can pass through the branch arms to the stacks with little effort if enough water is assisting in the process. In other words, a green pea should have no problems passing through a kitchen drain pipe.

Here are some best practices to keep your kitchen and bathroom sink drains clog-free for decades now that you understand how things pass through pipes.

Never allow grease to go down a drain. It solidifies and will clog drain pipes. I set aside used paper towels in my kitchen that are quite clean to sop up liquid grease from cooking pots and pans. These towels are then thrown in the garbage.

Never allow flour and egg mixtures into

your kitchen sink drains. Dump as much of this as possible into the garbage. Don't allow clumps of flour to enter the drain. Fill the kitchen sink with water halfway and wash and emulsify the flour coating on the pans and bowls. Pull the sink stopper and allow this fine slurry to rush down the drain into the main building drain. As crazy as it sounds, flush a nearby toilet to send the slurry on its way to the sewer plant or septic tank.

Keep the basket strainer in your kitchen sink strainer and allow it to capture larger food debris. Dump the debris in the garbage, don't use your fingers to push it through the slots in the strainer sending it down the drain.

If you use a disposer in your kitchen, fill your sink with water about halfway before you turn on the disposer. Remove the disposer drain cover and turn on the disposer. The giant slug of water will carry the sludge into the main building drain under your home. All too often, homeowners turn off the water at the sink too early, allowing the kitchen drain pipe to have a liquid slurry lying in the pipes.

Once a month pour a gallon of boiling water down your kitchen and bathroom sink. This hot water can dissolve rogue grease that somehow makes it into the drain, and it can dissolve some cosmetics that may be lurking in a bathroom drain.

If you notice a bathroom sink is starting to drain more slowly, take a few minutes and remove the stopper. The lever that makes your drain stopper go up and down does a great job of capturing hair. It takes only minutes of your time to remove that lever and any debris that's in the drain tailpiece where the lever operates. There are quite a few videos on YouTube showing you how to easily remove and reinstall this simple part of a bathroom sink.

Once a month pour a bucket of water into your sinks to get as much water as possible flowing down the drain as fast as possible. This is the closest thing you can do as a homeowner to pressure wash the inside of drain lines. Doing this can save you hundreds of dollars that you'd otherwise have to pay a drain-cleaning service if you abuse your drain lines.

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Hiring professionals to do home projects when it's the slow season allows you to take advantage of lower rates and better availability.

DREAMSTIME

HOME REMEDIES

Projects to tackle now

BY PAUL F.P. POGUE
Angie's List

With the holidays behind us and the coldest months settling in, you might not be thinking too much about getting professional work done in your home. But whether it's hiring a handyman to finish a to-do list or putting pen to paper for a big remodel, you can still complete some useful projects. And since winter is a slow period for many professionals, you might even be able to negotiate a better rate and get on the schedule quickly.

Winterize your interior: You may be a little late to the party, but it's not too late to prevent winter chills and save energy. Before committing to this project, you should have your home thoroughly evaluated to determine where energy is lost, how much insulation is needed and how much you might expect to pay.

You could find you need to add new insulation throughout your home and attic, or you may just need to install energy-efficient windows and doors. You should be able to recoup some of the costs because a

well-insulated home typically comes with a lower utility bill.

Another way to add more warmth to your home is to run your fans clockwise. This recycles warm air that has risen to the ceiling, pushing it back down to keep you comfortably warm.

Remodel your basement: Remodeling a basement during the winter months has several benefits. Since the basement is underground, all work will be completed indoors — meaning you won't have to open your home to the elements. Plus, in addition to the lower rates and greater availability of home remodeling contractors, winter also offers less humid air, lowering the chance of mold forming on exposed surfaces.

Install hardwood flooring: Winter provides the ideal setting for installing new hardwood flooring. The dry winter air helps to prevent gapping in the newly laid boards, while decreased humidity means there's less of a chance for water damage. The winter air also ensures a quicker drying time for any adhe-

sive involved. And new wood flooring tends to insulate better than worn flooring.

Clean your gutters: If you haven't cleaned your gutters recently, now is an excellent time to do so. All the leaves have fallen by now, so there won't be much new debris for a while. Clogged gutters can lead to foundation problems, ice dams, roof leaks and rotten fascia boards.

Update your kitchen and bathroom: Even if you don't do a full remodel, you can refresh these areas with some new hardware, cabinets or flooring. These are high-traffic areas of your home, and sometimes even small updates can give them a fresh new look in the dead of winter.

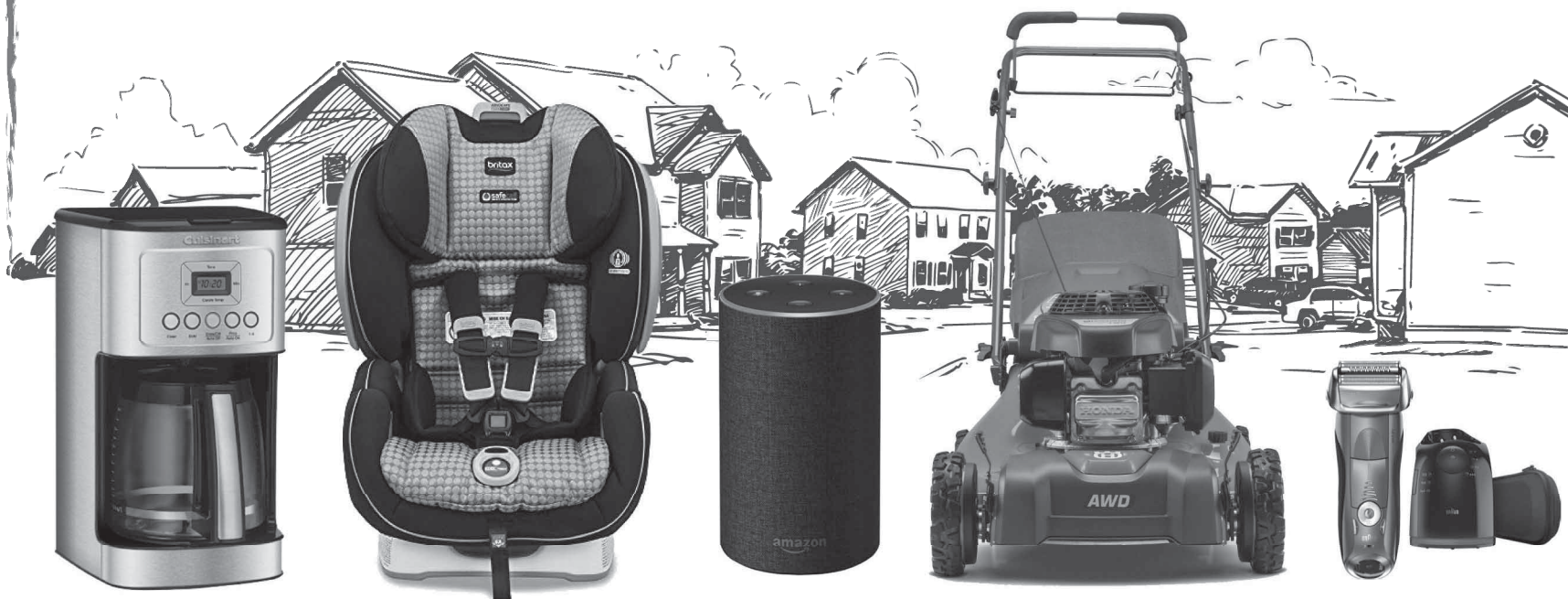
Paint your home's interior: New paint is one of the easiest and cheapest ways to give any room in your home a completely new look. Warm neutrals and bright pops of color can help you wash away the winter gloom. And if you're up for it, new paint provides the perfect new backdrop for a redecorated room.

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Orland Park \$219,900
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Tinley Park \$239,900
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