

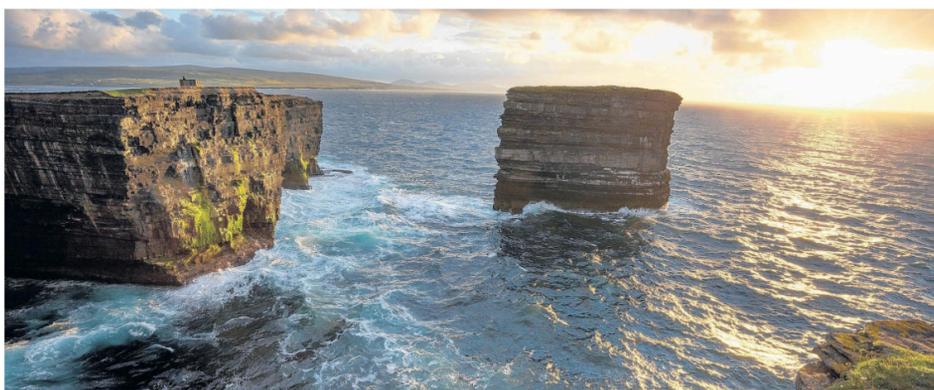
LIFE+TRAVEL

SPIRITS AND IRISH ASHES

A family rented a castle in Ireland on a sentimental trip to scatter parents' ashes and found love and laughter in the haunted island.

The 'sober curious'

A growing group of young Chicagoans are influenced by health and wellness concerns to experiment with alcohol-free living.



CHICAGO SPORTS

25 MARCH MAGICIANS

From DePaul's George Mikan in 1943 to Loyola's Clayton Custer last year, a look at the state's greatest tournament performers.

Heavyweight bout

Teddy Greenstein: After semifinal blowouts, the Big Ten gifts fans with a Michigan-Michigan State battle of heavyweights for the title.

THE TRIBUNE EDITORIAL BOARD ENDORSES LIGHTFOOT FOR MAYOR
EDITORIALS, PAGE 22

Final

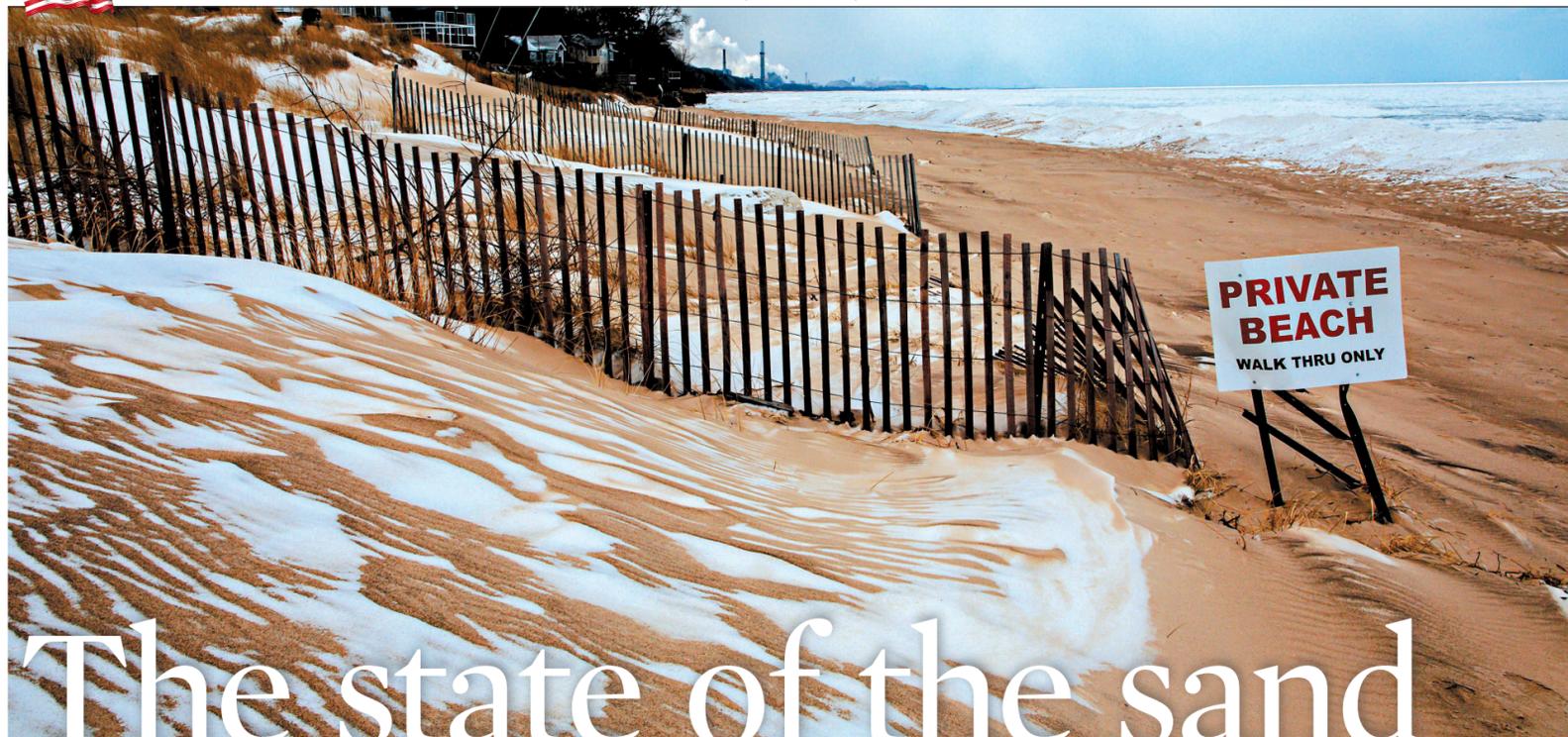
Chicago Tribune



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SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2019

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM



The state of the sand

Where can you walk on a Lake Michigan beach? It depends on which state you're in.

BY TONY BRISCOE | Chicago Tribune

When Ray Cahnman bought a beachfront home in Porter, Ind., a decade ago, he envisioned it as a place to escape the hustle and bustle of Chicago where he could just sit back and watch the Lake Michigan waves roll in.

However, on many idyllic summer days Cahnman found himself jockeying for position with throngs of beachgoers who spilled over from the nearby Indiana Dunes National Park. Last summer, Cahnman said, he had to contend with dozens of strangers camped in front of his home, loud music, barbecues and trash.

When the Lincoln Park resident purchased the beach cottage and 10 parcels of land for \$1.25 million, Cahnman said he understood his property rights extended to the water's edge. But after a recent court ruling, he and other lakefront property owners are finding out they don't own as much as they thought.

With more than 10,000 miles of shoreline, the Great Lakes states are governed by a patchwork of regulations. The confusion over

where the public can access the beach in front of private property and what they can do there stretches across the region.

Generally, all parties agree any shoreline that is submerged in water is owned by the state and accessible to the public. But each state differs on where the public is entitled to walk, ranging from "keep your feet wet" policies to the natural high water mark,

Turn to **Beaches**, Page 14

Near Porter Beach in Porter, Ind., beachgoers are urged to only walk through, not on private property.

ZBIGNIEW BZDAK/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"Edges and boundaries are where disputes occur and where laws are made. Nations go to war over it, neighbors go to war over it." — Jeff Smith, former general counsel for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources under Gov. Pat Quinn

Feds push for change on getting food stamps

Work law could affect 77% of Ill. recipients

BY ALEXIA ELEJALDE-RUIZ
Chicago Tribune

For at least a decade, most Illinois residents who receive food stamps have been exempt from a federal law that requires them to work or risk losing their benefits.

But a proposal that would make it harder to obtain those exemptions — a move designed to encourage people to find jobs while unemployment is low — has social service agencies in Illinois, like elsewhere, worried that the poor will only plunge deeper into poverty.

Some 38 million people nation-



TERRENCE ANTONIO JAMES/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Ravenswood Community Services in Chicago hosts a weekly food pantry. Such pantries help some supplement their SNAP benefits.

wide use the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, commonly known as SNAP, to buy groceries. Mostly, they are children, the elderly or people with disabilities.

But many other recipients — about 8 percent — do not have such disadvantages: they are considered able-bodied adults, under 50, who do not have children or

other dependents. Federal law limits them to three months of food stamps during a three-year period unless they are working, volunteering or in job training for at least 80 hours a month.

Still, many states, including Illinois, have received annual waivers from those limitations

Turn to **Food**, Page 16

Mayoral finalists wooing black votes in historic race

18 voting wards will have a major role in result

BY RICK PEARSON,
JUAN PEREZ JR.
AND GREGORY PRATT
Chicago Tribune

The two women trying to make history as the city's first black female mayor took time on a recent Saturday to visit a longtime fixture in the campaign for African-American votes in Chicago: the Rev. Jesse Jackson's Rainbow/PUSH Coalition.

High-energy, hand-clapping performances from the Howard University gospel choir provided both a backdrop and a contrast to the pitches Lori Lightfoot and

Toni Preckwinkle made to about 200 people in attendance at the civil rights organization's Kenwood headquarters.

Appearing on either side of the black university choir's performance of "As the Saints Go Marching In," Preckwinkle and Lightfoot sought in largely quiet and, at times, somber tones to address how they would deal with the problems facing the South and West sides.

But, aside from the choir, it was Jackson's son, Jonathan Jackson, who gained one of the

Turn to **Mayor**, Page 11

A wounded nation opens its heart

New Zealanders apply lessons from 2011's earthquake as shooting's death toll in Christchurch reaches 50. **Nation & World**, Page 25



Tom Skilling's forecast High 41 Low 27

Chicago Weather Center: Complete forecast in **Nation & World**, Page 37

\$3.99 city and suburbs, \$4.99 elsewhere
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AT THE FOREFRONT
UChicago Medicine



Gastroenterologist
Sonia Kupfer, MD

Sevilla's April Fair is a sparkling spectacle



RICK STEVES
Tribune Content Agency

Spring fairs enliven towns throughout Spain, but I've found that nobody does it bigger or better than Sevilla, the capital of Spain's Andalusia region. If you come in April, you'll find one of the most exuberant and colorful festivals in a country known for fiestas — the gigantic Feria de Abril (April Fair).

The fair is a vibrant and secular indulgence that comes two weeks after Holy Week and Easter, which is also an epic event — especially in Sevilla — that stirs the soul and captivates all who participate. After catching their communal breaths, cities like Sevilla use the fair to greet spring. For seven days, Sevillians gather at a huge fairground for a round-the-clock party that would leave the rest of Europe exhausted — and travelers are more than welcome to join in.

People parade around in their peacock finery, and springtime flirtations fill the air. It seems everyone knows everyone in what feels like a thousand wedding receptions being celebrated all at once. It's also a celebration of Andalusian heritage. That means fiery flamenco music, fine horses, artful bullfights and flamboyant clothes. Everyone seems to indulge in the driest of sherries and an unquenchable obsession for thinly sliced ham.

Any time of year, Sevilla pulses with Iberian passion. But in spring, the weather is ideal. The trees are covered with white and purple blossoms, and the air is heavy with the scent of orange and jasmine. It's a short window of time when southern Spain is at its



April Fair is a time for men and women to show off their traditional Sevillian clothing.



Sevillians of all ages party into the night in tents and out on the lanes of the fairground.

peak.

The fair is also Sevilla's peak social event of the year. Women sport outlandish, brightly colored flamenco dresses that would look clownish elsewhere, but are somehow brilliant here. A matching, folding fan completes the look — it's not merely to

cool off; it's also a crucial part of flamenco dancing, and can be used to flash coded messages in the flirtation rituals. Men wear the traditional caballero outfit — a short jacket and wide-brimmed hat (though nowadays, many wear business suits and ties or formal wear).

Over a thousand tents, called casetas, pop up in a large fairground across the Guadalquivir River from downtown Sevilla. Each colorfully striped tent hosts a private party for a family, club or association. Though it's supposed to be a private affair, casual tourists can have a fun and memorable

evening by simply crashing the party — it's not unheard of to strike up an impromptu friendship and be invited in.

Inside, the sherry spritzers flow freely. Each caseta is well stocked with a bar and buffet at the back filled with tapas — hors d'oeuvres speared with a toothpick, or atop a piece of bread — and traditional gazpacho (zesty cold tomato soup), among other regional delicacies. The most treasured is jamon — cured ham that's artfully sliced and savored with religious zeal.

Some of the larger tents are sponsored by the city and open to the public, but I find that the best action is in the streets, where partygoers from the liveliest casetas spill out.

Festival mornings are sleepy and relaxed. Around noon, the promenading starts. You can enjoy the parades of horses (nearly as dressed up as the people),

the locals in colorful costumes, and amusement park rides. The parading tradition has been part of the fair since it began in 1848. Back then, the festival was basically a county fair where livestock breeders showcased their animals. In keeping with the tradition, today's riders continue on to the bullring, where they meet up with other breeders.

As the sun sets, the bullfights end. The horse-and-fashion parade winds down, the streets are cleared of horses, and two-legged party animals take over. By midnight, the fino is flowing freely, and the casetas are rocking. Music is everywhere. Most casetas have their own soundtrack, whether a stereo, a live band, or just a friend who plays guitar. People take turns dancing flamenco. Bystanders clap along, play castanets, and cheer on the dancers with whoops and shouts. It's not unusual for entire families — adults, grandparents, and little kids — to stay up feasting, singing, and dancing until sunrise.

It all builds up to the weekend. As the fair reaches its close, the skies are lit up with a dazzling fireworks show, a tradition that dates back over a century. For the kids, the whole scene creates memories that will be replayed in the next generation.

Travelers love Spain. While filled with history, high art, and culture, Spain also knows how to celebrate, and Sevillians in particular do it with gusto. Festivals like April Fair help Spaniards maintain their cultural identity, with pagantry stoking local, regional, and national pride.

Rick Steves (www.ricksteves.com) writes European travel guidebooks and hosts travel shows on public television and public radio. Email him at rick@ricksteves.com and follow his blog on Facebook.

TRAVEL TROUBLESHOOTER

Where's the compensation for lost luggage from Iberia?

BY CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT
King Features

Last summer, my wife and I flew from Madrid to Munich on Iberia Airlines. The airline lost two of our bags.

We filed a lost luggage claim, and after many, many calls from Germany to Iberia's customer service office in London, the airline delivered one of our small checked bags five days later. It found my wife's larger bag and delivered it eight days after we arrived.

We sent receipts for items purchased by my wife since she had no toiletries and only the clothes she was wearing when she arrived in Munich. We also sent a registered letter to Iberia's customer experience manager in Madrid requesting \$495 in compensation for the items she had to purchase.

To this date, the manager we contacted has not responded, but Iberia's London office has denied the claim, saying there is "missing information" on the sheet. Instead of covering our costs and paying us \$495, Iberia is sending us \$162. It's Iberia's final offer.

I would like you to get someone to resolve this claim, if possible. We have double-checked all our receipts, and they are all clear and legible. My wife even made a separate list with each item purchased and the cost.

— *Benedict Valenti, Boynton Beach, Fla.*

A: I'm sorry about your delayed luggage. Iberia should have delivered your wife's bags to her in Munich when she arrived. Not five days later and not eight days later. (But it could be worse — remember last week's case, where the airline lost a reader's bag permanently?)

No one disputes the loss, the delay nor the fact that your wife had expenses for clothing and toiletries. But according to the documentation you provided, Iberia thinks your wife only ran up a tab of \$162. Hmm, \$162 for a week's worth of clothing and toiletries? (Have they ever

been to Germany?)

A look at the receipts you sent to Iberia suggests that everything was documented. If I didn't know any better, I'd say someone in the main office is just denying your wife's refund requests on a line-by-line basis, and on a whim.

The fix? Send a brief email to one of the Iberia executives. I also list the managers at International Airlines Group, Iberia's parent company, on my consumer-advocacy site.

When an airline loses your luggage but eventually recovers it, the airline has more flexibility on compensation. So Iberia

could have told you to take it or leave it. A closer look at your claim suggested that while you presented the receipts, you also could have included an itemized list that explained what your wife had purchased. You did, and I shared that new list with Iberia. It cut you a check for the full amount of your claim.

Christopher Elliott is the ombudsman for National Geographic Traveler magazine and the author of "How to Be the World's Smartest Traveler." You can read more travel tips on his blog, elliott.org, or email him at chris@elliott.org.



KQ ENTERTAINMENT

CELEBRITY TRAVELER

K-pop boy band's dream concerts

BY JAE-HA KIM
Tribune Content Agency

ATEEZ is embarking on a sold-out tour of the United States (including dates in Los Angeles, Chicago and New York), which will be followed by a European leg. "I want to take in the sights of many cities," says group leader Hongjoong, 20. "I want to visit the various landmarks in each city (like) Times Square in New York. If there's time, I'd also like to attend other artists' concerts." Though the South Korean band is less than half a year old, its enthusiastic fan base initiated this tour via MyMusicTaste, an online service that allows fans to request shows in their area.

An edited version of our conversation follows.

Q: If you could travel anywhere to see a musician perform, who would it be and where would you go?

Hongjoong: I'm a huge Camila Cabello fan, and if she were to hold a concert

"I ... believe there's certain music you can only create using the inspiration and sentiments felt while traveling."

— *ATEEZ group leader Hongjoong*

in Korea, I would definitely attend.

Seonghwa: The city isn't that important to me, but I really want to go to a Billie Eilish concert.

Yunho: I would like to go to one of Maroon 5's U.S. concerts.

Yeosang: A Justin Bieber concert in New York.

San: As long as I can go to a Bruno Mars or Justin Bieber concert, the city doesn't matter.

Mingi: A Jay-Z concert in New York.

Wooyoung: I went to a BTS concert when I was a kid and it left such a great impression on me that I would like to go again.

Jongho: I really want to go to a Bruno Mars concert.

Q: How have your travels affected you as a musician?

Seonghwa: I'm able to take in different things I'd probably never see otherwise. The more I'm exposed to these diverse sights and scenes, the better I can cultivate my emotions and ways of expressing them.

Wooyoung: I'm able to broaden my imagination and add more depth, because I encounter many new things while traveling.

Q: When you go away, what are some of your must-have items?

Hongjoong: My MacBook. Whenever I get a free moment, I like to jot down my thoughts, arrangements or lyrics about a certain place. I also believe there's certain music you can only create using the inspiration and sentiments felt while traveling.

Yeosang: I think it's really important to exchange money beforehand so you're able to travel without worrying.

Q: What's the most important thing you've learned from your travels?

Yunho: I've learned that it's important to plan out your travel itinerary before leaving and to pack accordingly.

For more from the reporter, visit www.jaehakim.com.