

LIFE+TRAVEL

'Essence of skiing'

Aspen has 153 new acres of terrain, an expansion that's been a long time coming. But the Colorado enclave also draws museumgoers, gourmands and influencers.

Making sense of menses: For women with suicidal ideation, menstrual cycles can cause a spike in day-to-day suicide risk, a UIC study finds. Therapists and doctors can help.



E. JASON WAMBSGANS/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

A+E

'A fantasy world under glass'

Do they still make pinball machines? They do. A huge new factory near O'Hare houses the headquarters of SternPinball, the leading pinball machine manufacturer in the world. Most of the machines sell to the 1%.

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Chicago Tribune



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SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024

BREAKING NEWS AT CHICAGOTRIBUNE.COM



What lies ahead for O'Neill Burke?

How state's attorney nominee narrowly won, and what it could mean

By A.D. Quig and Madeline Buckley
Chicago Tribune

After days of uncertainty, Eileen O'Neill Burke emerged as the choice of voters to be the Democratic nominee for Cook County state's attorney, with the former prosecutor turned defense lawyer, circuit court judge and appellate judge squeaking out a win by less than 1,600 votes.

O'Neill Burke bested Clayton Harris III, a former prosecutor himself who wound through City Hall and state government, academia and corporate lobbying. She will now face Republican Bob Fioretti in the November general election.

While any Republican is perceived as a long shot to win the post, whichever candidate comes out ahead is poised to transition the state's attorney's office into a new era after a period of unprecedented — and sometimes contentious — reforms implemented by outgoing top prosecutor Kim Foxx. Should O'Neill Burke ultimately win, she would quickly face formulating her own reform agenda, making cases to tamp down Chicago's persistent gun violence, and running an office struggling with morale issues.

"As much as numbers have gone down, the amount of street crime is extraordinarily high and has a tremendous impact on the community," said Richard Kling, a clinical professor of law at Chicago-Kent College of Law.

Based on the final hair-splitting results — which included 10 days of ballot counting following the March 19 primary — Democratic voters appeared evenly divided on whether more strident prosecutions or prioritization of diversion and prosecutorial discretion were the solution, said Jeremy Custer, the political director for Operating Engineers Local 150, which supported O'Neill Burke.

Turn to O'Neill Burke, Page 10

'America is watching'

As NCAA women's basketball tournament breaks records, Chicago coaches, fans excited

By Rebecca Johnson | Chicago Tribune

DePaul University's women's basketball team started out its season playing Iowa in front of a record-breaking crowd for the sport — 55,646 fans.

DePaul head coach Doug Bruno recalls the bus ride to the outdoor game at Kinnick Stadium in Iowa City and watching fans excitedly tailgating outside the football stadium before tipoff.

At that game in October, Bruno saw firsthand what he labeled the "catalyst" for the explosion in popularity of women's basketball — the "Caitlin Clark effect."

The Iowa superstar — and the national Player of the Year — was a main topic of interest this season, but other superb players, along with great games and intriguing storylines, put the sport in a brighter spotlight.

"I'm just so excited for the game of women's basketball — that America is watching," he said.

Millions across the country tuned in Friday night for the NCAA women's basketball Final Four in Cleveland, featuring Iowa's narrow 71-69 victory against UConn and South Carolina's 78-59 defeat over North Carolina State. The championship game will air Sunday

Turn to Basketball, Page 6

Above: Iowa fans Dani Pillman, center left, and Hannah Ludwig cheer as Iowa surges late in the second half of their women's Final Four game against UConn on Friday. Fans took in the game at Whiskey Girl Tavern on North Clark Street in Chicago's Edgewater neighborhood. Iowa beat UConn 71-69 to advance to Sunday's championship game against South Carolina. CHRIS SWEDA/TRIBUNE

INSIDE

Iowa looks to end South Carolina's run

South Carolina hopes to finish a perfect season with the program's third NCAA title. Standing in the way is Caitlin Clark and Iowa. On the men's side, Purdue and UConn will play for the national championship on Monday.

Coverage in Chicago Sports

INSIDE



CHRIS SWEDA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Dissecting, discussing shot technique

Mr. Big Shot: Connor Bedard's signature delivery for the Blackhawks "comes off like a BB, a rocket." **Chicago Sports**

The last abortion clinic in Missouri

Read an excerpt of Tribune reporter Angie Leventis Lourgos' new book "Life-Altering: Abortion Stories from the Midwest." **Opinion, Page 16**

Police district councils face discord 1 year in

Success hard to gauge amid slow steps toward community oversight

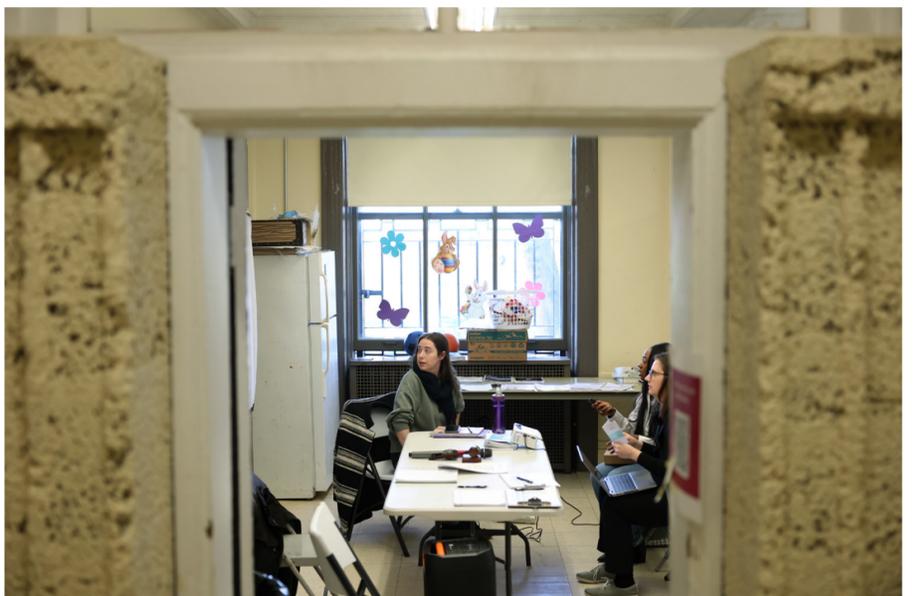
By Caroline Kubzansky
Chicago Tribune

Things had been tense on the Wentworth Police District Council for a while by the time Ephraim Lee walked out of the group's December meeting.

He apologized to the room for the council's dysfunction and said: "If you want to see this (unprofessionalism), then you can just go down to City Hall." Then he left.

Lee had only served on the brand-new civilian council for the 2nd Police District for seven months, which was meant to represent the civilian voices of Hyde Park and Kenwood residents in the affairs of the Chicago Police Department. But rifts

Turn to Councils, Page 14



Erin Vogel, 9th Police District Council member, center, prepares for the council's monthly meeting at the McKinley Park field house in Chicago on March 27. JOHN J. KIM/CHICAGO TRIBUNE

TODAY'S WEATHER



High 50 Low 48

Complete Chicagoland forecast on Page 26

\$5.75 city and suburbs and elsewhere 176th year No. 98 © Chicago Tribune



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Saint, seafood in this corner of Spain



Rick Steves

Whenever I'm in Santiago de Compostela, in the northwest corner of Spain, I have a three-part agenda: See pilgrims reach their goal in front of the cathedral, explore the market and buy some barnacles in the seafood section — then have them cooked for me, on the spot, in a café.

I make a point to be on the town square facing the towering Cathedral of St. James at around 11 in the morning. That's when scores of well-worn pilgrims begin gathering for the daily Pilgrim's Mass, a triumphant celebration marking their completion of the Camino de Santiago (the Way of St. James) — a 500-mile hike from the French border.

Since the Middle Ages, humble hikers have walked these miles to pay homage to the remains of St. James in his namesake city. Their traditional gear included a cloak; a pointy, floppy hat; a walking stick; and a gourd (for drinking from wells). The way is marked with yellow arrows or scallop shells (a symbol of the saint) at every intersection. Doing the entire route from the border to Santiago takes about four to six weeks. I've never met a pilgrim who didn't think the trek was a life-changing experience and well worth the sweat.

At journey's end, hikers complete their pilgrimage by stepping on the metal scallop shell embedded in the pavement at the foot of the cathedral. I just love watching how different pilgrims handle the jubilation.

To stand in front of the cathedral's stately facade is the hiker's dream. Routinely, pilgrims ask



Tiny percebes, or barnacles, are a local specialty in northwest Spain. The public market is always thriving in Santiago de Compostela. **RICK STEVES' EUROPE**

me to take their photo and email it to them. Then they say, "I've got to go meet with St. James," and as has been the routine for centuries, they head into the cathedral.

Santiago is a city built of its local granite. Most people picture Spain as a hot, arid land, but the Atlantic northwest of Spain enjoys far more precipitation than the interior (Spain's northwest corner is home to a temperate rainforest, an hour north of Santiago). Rain off the Atlantic has colored Santiago's granite green with moss.

Two blocks away from the cathedral, Santiago's public market is thriving, oblivious to the personal triumphs going on at St. James's tomb. There's something basic about wandering through a farm-

ers market early in the morning anywhere in the world: Salt-of-the-earth people pull food out of the ground, cart it into the city, and sell what they've harvested to people who don't have gardens.

Dried-apple grandmothers line up like a babushka cancan. Each sits on a stool so small it disappears under her work dress. At the women's feet are brown woven baskets filled as if they were cornucopias — still-dirty eggs in one; in the next, greens clearly pulled this morning, soil clinging to their roots. One woman hopes to earn a few extra euros with homebrews — golden bottles with ramshackle corks — one labeled licor café (coffee liqueur), the other, orujo casero (home-made grappa).

I see rickety card

tables filled with yellow cheeses shaped like giant Hershey's Kisses ... or, to locals, breasts. This local cheese is called tetilla to take revenge a prudish priest who, seven centuries ago, told a sculptor at the cathedral to redo a statue that he considered too buxom. Ever since, the townsfolk have made their cheese exactly in the shape the priest didn't want seen carved in stone. You can't go anywhere in Santiago without seeing its creamy, mild tetilla.

Stepping farther into the market, I notice spicy red chorizo — sausage in chains framing merchants' faces. Chickens, plucked and looking as rubbery as can be, fill glass cases. Fishermen in rubber aprons and matching gloves sort through folded money. There's a commotion

at the best stalls. Short ladies with dusty, blue-plaid roller carts jostle for the best deals. A selection of pigs' ears mixed with hooves going nowhere fills a shoe box. Neat rows of ears, translucent in the low rays of the morning sun, look as if someone had systematically and neatly flattened a basket of conch shells.

From one vendor I buy percebes (barnacles) at a third the price I'd pay in a bar. I get a little less than a half pound and hustle my bag over to the market café. There, Ramón and Julia boil them for a small fee. Feeling quite like a local — sipping my beer so early in the morning — I eagerly wait for my barnacles to cook.

Then comes the climax of my morning: Julia brings my barnacles, stacked

steaming on a stainless-steel plate, as well as bread and another beer. I'm set. Twist, rip, bite. It's the bounty of the sea condensed into every little morsel ... edible jubilation in Santiago.

Rick Steves (www.ricksteves.com) writes European guidebooks, hosts travel shows on public TV and radio, and organizes European tours. This column revisits some of Rick's favorite places over the past two decades. You can email Rick at rick@ricksteves.com and follow his blog on Facebook.

GEOQUIZ ANSWER

Milan and Venice. All three cities are at roughly 45 degrees north latitude.

CELEBRITY TRAVEL

Founder of firm hits bars in NYC

By Jae-Ha Kim
Tribune Content Agency

Born and raised in Massachusetts, entrepreneur Sahra Nguyen was inspired by her Vietnamese heritage when she founded Nguyen Coffee Supply.

"Vietnam's coffee industry specializes in the robusta coffee species, which is very different from arabica coffee — the dominant coffee species in America," said Nguyen, 37. "Robusta coffee has double the caffeine content, double the antioxidants and 60% less natural sugars than arabica, which means the flavor profile is more bold, dark chocolatey and nutty, with a clean boost of energy."

This interview with Nguyen has been edited for clarity and length.

Q: Tell me a little bit about where you grew up.

A: My parents escaped Vietnam on a boat after the war ended in 1975, and they came to the United States as refugees. I was born and raised in Boston ... surrounded by lots of immigrant families from the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Puerto Rico. ... Having a lot of exposure to diverse cultures at a young age helped shape my love for culture and community. I moved to New York in 2013.

Q: How much traveling have you done this year?

A: The whole team (went) to Anaheim, California, for Expo West. ... Earlier this year, I spent two weeks in Vietnam for work. That was a big trip.



Nguyen Coffee Supply's Sahra Nguyen said a trip to Paris with her now-husband helped them connect. **ERICS KUN**

Q: Do you go to Vietnam often?

A: Since most of my family still live in Vietnam and we import Vietnamese coffee beans, I have a lot of reasons to visit Vietnam each year. Oftentimes, I'm not able to do everything I want within each trip. For work, I often have to travel to cities where my relatives don't live, like farms and factories in Da Lat, Son La, Saigon and Buon Me Thuot. My relatives live in Hanoi, Quang Ngai and Nha Trang. So oftentimes I'm either going strictly for work or strictly for personal because it's hard to do both in one trip. For my trip in January, I visited four cities in two weeks, traveled on four planes and four road trips getting to all of my destinations.

Q: What is your favorite vacation destination?

A: Paris. This was the first trip I took with my now-husband, and it definitely helped us understand each other better. ... Plus, we love good food and drinks.

Q: What was a trip you took as a child that stands out?

A: I remember loving family trips to Water Country USA (in Williamsburg, Virginia). It wasn't super far from home, but these day trips represented pure joy, fun and laughter. My parents also brought me to Vietnam to see my relatives. Having exposure to life in Vietnam during the late '80s and early

'90s and seeing how poor my relatives were helped shape my perspective of the world, deepening my sense of gratitude and appreciation for different experiences.

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

A: To be humble, compassionate, kind and respectful.

Q: Where are your favorite weekend getaways?

A: I love enjoying all that New York City and Brooklyn have to offer. I met my husband when he was a bartender in Brooklyn. Our favorite cocktail is the boulevardier, so we love checking out cocktail bars around the city and ordering "the usual." There's no shortage of great bars in New York City.

Q: Do you speak any foreign languages?

A: I'm fluent in reading, writing and speaking Vietnamese. I leverage a lot of my Vietnamese language skills for conducting business abroad and doing interviews in Vietnam.

Q: What is your best vacation memory?

A: My best vacation memory was my honeymoon in Positano (Italy). I deleted Instagram and didn't check email, Slack or media apps for nine days. It was the most present I'd ever felt!

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

TRAVEL TROUBLESHOOTER

United canceled my flight, so why can't I get refund?

By Christopher Elliott | King Features Syndicate

I am writing to request a refund for tickets I had to purchase at the last minute after our international travel had already begun. United canceled part of our international itinerary without notice or remedy.

My wife and I had booked tickets through United.com from Albuquerque, New Mexico, to Keflavik International Airport in Iceland, with stops in Houston and Frankfurt, Germany. When we checked in at Albuquerque for our departure, a United representative told us that we couldn't check in for our flight from Frankfurt to Keflavik because Icelandair was not a United code-share partner airline. But the representative assured us that this was normal, and we would only need to pick up our luggage in Frankfurt and take it to the Icelandair ticket counter. We flew to Houston, and again, we tried to check on the status of our Icelandair reservation. But Icelandair's website and mobile app could not find our reservation. In Houston, Icelandair's customer service told us that the tickets were never issued and that the reservation itself had been canceled by the issuing travel agency the day before travel. Since we bought our tickets on United.com, I presume that United was the agency.

We found this out while our flight to Frankfurt was boarding. The United gate agent in Houston could not help. She told us that she couldn't even look up our reservation under its confirmation number since, again, Icelandair was not a partner airline. We had to repurchase the seats that had allegedly been canceled at a cost of \$1,959. It would be appropriate for United to refund that cost to make me whole. Can you help?

— Andy Wilson, Albuquerque, New Mexico

A: What a nightmare! You booked your airline tickets through United.com, so it's responsible for getting you to your destination. It doesn't matter if United has a relationship with Icelandair or not. The buck stops with United.

Normally, you would find out about a problem with your ticket well in advance of your flight. But it looks like United canceled the last leg of your flight just before you left. A last-minute call to Icelandair might have revealed the problem. But if you buy a ticket on United.com, and it sends you a confirmation number, you should be confident that you actually have a reservation for all the travel segments.

I don't think you had

much of a choice about buying a new ticket on Icelandair. You could have gone to the United ticket counter in Frankfurt and explained the problem, but if you had missed your flight, it would have screwed up your entire vacation — car rental, hotel stay, tours, etc. You were cornered and had to purchase a more expensive, last-minute ticket. And you're absolutely correct: This was something United should pay for.

You contacted United in writing and did an excellent job of keeping a paper trail. In response to your request, the airline offered to refund the unused leg but nothing more, claiming a "desynchronization of your ticket" caused the

problem.

"Due to operational changes, we're unable to guarantee flight times or aircraft types, especially when the flight is operated by another airline," the representative said. United apologized and deposited 5,000 "goodwill" miles into your account and refunded the canceled leg. That's a good start, but United needed to step up and cover the cost of your new flight. I contacted the airline on your behalf, and it issued a full refund.

Christopher Elliott is the chief advocacy officer of Elliott Advocacy, a nonprofit organization that helps consumers resolve their problems. Contact him at elliott.org/help or chris@elliott.org.