

# Shooter kills 8 at mall in Texas

Gunman is slain by an officer. Witnesses report seeing children among the victims.

BY JAKE BLEIBERG AND REBECCA BOONE

ALLEN, Texas — A gunman killed eight people and wounded seven others — three critically — in a shooting at a Dallas-area mall before being fatally shot by a police officer who happened to be nearby, authorities said Saturday.

Officials did not immediately provide details about the victims, but witnesses reported seeing children among them.

The latest deadly episode of gun violence to strike the country forced hundreds of shoppers and workers to lock down at Allen Premium Outlets or flee.

Dashcam video that circulated online showed a man step out of a vehicle outside the mall and immediately start shooting at people on the sidewalk. More than three dozen shots could be heard as the vehicle recording the video drove off.

Maxwell Gum, a 16-year-old shift leader at Wetzel's Pretzels, was on his lunch break when a family with limited English ran into the back of his store, urgently telling him, "Gun! Shoot!" as [See Texas shooting, A15]

# Ways to remedy slavery's harms

Panel suggests state offer descendants an apology, cash payouts and other reparations.

BY TARYN LUNA

California's Reparations Task Force voted on Saturday to recommend that the state issue a formal apology for slavery and potentially provide billions of dollars in cash payments, moving forward a historic effort to enact remedies and compensation for descendants of African Americans who were enslaved in the U.S.

The vote at a public meeting in Oakland marks the beginning of the end of the nine-member panel's two-year process to craft a report recommending reparations for slavery, which is due to the state Legislature by July 1.

The report will act as a manual for lawmakers and Gov. Gavin Newsom, who established the task force in 2020 to study and gather evidence of the harms of slavery and lasting discrimination, as state elected officials begin to debate righting the wrongs of the past.

The task force has heard testimony from more than 133 witnesses, such as scholars detailing California's racist history and economists who offered suggestions on how to quantify compensation for health disparities, mass incarceration and housing discrimination against descendants. Families affected by slavery shared their own experiences and called for various [See Reparations, A18]



CHRISTOPHER FURLONG Getty Images

## FRESHLY CROWNED

King Charles III and Queen Camilla appear on the Buckingham Palace balcony after enacting the arcane rites of coronation, the culmination of Charles' seven-decade journey to the throne. **WORLD, A3**

## LEGAL WEED, BROKEN PROMISES

# State to probe cannabis labor claims

A team formed in the wake of a Times report will investigate worker exploitation.

BY PAIGE ST. JOHN

WEAVERVILLE, Calif. — Acknowledging growing concern over the mistreatment of cannabis workers, California regulators have quietly assembled a team to pursue labor exploitation in the state's burgeoning weed industry.

The new unit, housed within the Department of Cannabis Control, recently solicited help from law enforcement agencies statewide to investigate cannabis operators who coerce or threaten workers, subject them to hazardous conditions or deny them pay.

The April 13 bulletin, obtained by The Times, said the unit seeks to create a "central repository" of cannabis-related human trafficking investigations.

Its launch followed the December publication of "Dying for Your High," a Times investigation detailing the plight of cannabis workers who are cheated, threatened with violence or even die because of unsafe working conditions. The newspaper identified abuse allegations against nearly 200 cannabis farms or contractors — half of them licensed by the state — since legalization. It found that 35 cannabis workers were killed on the job in a five-year span, a toll that has since risen to at least 37.

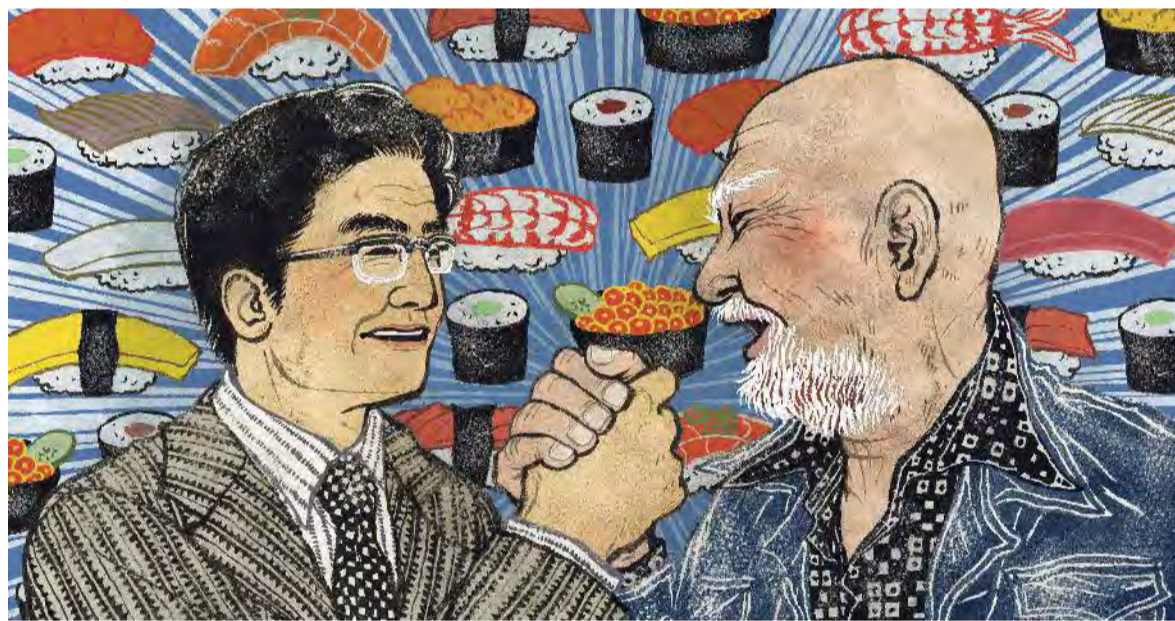
The story spawned a legislative town hall in March to gather information on exploitation in the cannabis industry, with the promise of additional hearings this fall. It has been taken up by others pushing for a centralized state agency to pursue labor trafficking investigations for workers in all industries. Though California in 2005 banned human trafficking in all forms, a state watchdog agency found that enforcement of the law is haphazard and often lacking, with no central agency to which victims can turn.

There is a growing awareness that California's cannabis explosion — a dramatic escalation by both legal and unlicensed cultivators seeking to capitalize on the [See Trafficking, A16]

## COLUMN ONE

# The friendship that brought sushi to L.A. and beyond

BY DANIEL MILLER



YUKO SHIMIZU For The Times

It was the meal that changed how Angelenos eat.

And it happened more than 5,000 miles from Los Angeles.

When Noritoshi Kanai and Harry Wolff Jr. sat down for dinner in Tokyo one night in 1965, they had no way of knowing they were about to stumble onto an idea that would upend American dining — and their own lives.

On this evening, the colleagues had more urgent concerns on their minds: how to salvage a foundering trip in Asia that was launched to find a novel food product to import to the U.S.

That item, it turns out, was actually on the menu.

Sushi. Kanai, who managed Mutual Trading



## L.A. dreams of sushi

Our guide to the top dishes, including amazing omakase and California rolls.

WEEKEND, L1

## And more online:

For stories on L.A.'s first sushi bar and the rice that boosted the cuisine's profile, visit [latimes.com/sushihistory](https://www.latimes.com/sushihistory)

Co., an L.A. wholesaler of Japanese food products, had suggested the restaurant, a family-run spot in the Ginza district called Shinnosuke. Wolff had never eaten sushi, but Kanai figured he'd be game.

"He'd try anything," Kanai recalled, laughing.

Before long, Shinnosuke's sushi chef was turning out a cascade of nigiri.

Tuna. Octopus. Cuttlefish. Scallop. Sea bream.

Wolff ate with enthusiasm. But the significance of the meal wouldn't become apparent until five days later.

That's when the restaurant sent a bill to Kanai's Tokyo office — for about \$275, which, when adjusted for inflation, is about \$2,650 today. It was, Kanai said, a [See Sushi, A10]

## Lakers hammer Warriors, take 2-1 series lead

Anthony Davis scores 25 and dominates on defense in the 127-97 victory. Game 4 is Monday. **SPORTS, D1**

## Irony of wildfire on tribal lands

Indigenous people say banned cultural burns could have saved territory. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

## Ransom paid in cyberattack

San Bernardino County pays up after hackers hit sheriff's network. **CALIFORNIA, B1**

**Weather**  
Morning fog.  
L.A. Basin: 70/54. **B10**

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## FOR REAL WITH AMY KAUFMAN

Who are the people shaping our culture? In her new column, Amy Kaufman will examine the lives of icons, underdogs and rising stars to find out — "For Real."

# Yes, Nick Cannon has 11 kids and six parenting partners. He also has a media empire.

Let's just talk about the kids first. Because that's what everyone knows about Nick Cannon — he has a lot of kids. He's fathered 12 — five of whom are less than 1 year old — with six women.

This was never his plan. He comes from a big family and always imagined he'd create the same for himself, but he's not trying to establish a clan or lead a cult. His problem, he says, is that he's a hopeless romantic — the butterflies, the first kiss, the ego boost. And when the dopamine rush subsides, he wants another hit.

Also, he says, he's a people-pleaser. So during the pandemic, when a number of his lovers began to express anxiety about their biological clocks, he obliged. "A lot of them are in the same age group," he says. "And I just wanted to give them what they desired. I kept saying, 'I can handle it.'"

That's how he ended up with a nursery in his office building — a neon-lit room with tumbling mats, a ball pit and toy instruments. Today, his 6-month-old daughter, Onyx, is the only one of his children using the space. It's 6 p.m. on a Monday, [See Cannon, A8]



JASON ARMOND Los Angeles Times

# J. STEWART WILLIS

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# WEEKEND

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L.A.

DREAMS



OF

SUSHI

This is your guide to what the best sushi city in America has to offer, from the ultimate California roll to spectacular omakase.



KASIA SERAFIN For The Times

**O**UR FIRST DATE was very L.A. We went on a 10 a.m. hike in Griffith Park. It was December 2020, so things were shut down because of the COVID-19 pandemic and options were limited. Pandemic times or not, a hike is a prime choice for a first date. You each arrive as the raw, sober and daylight versions of yourselves. Plus, you're *moving*, so there's somewhere for all of that excited energy to go.

After hiking for a few hours, yes, *hours*, he offered me a ride home. I was a recent New York transplant, so I didn't have a car. At the time, I didn't even know how to drive. I do now. (In 2021, I hired a man named Steve to basically be my dad-for-hire and teach me. Thanks to Steve, I'm now a proud California driver's license holder and I'm currently leasing a two-door Mini Cooper because I heard that they're easy to park. They are.)

So Josh, my date, drove me home after our hike. We had planned to hang out in the backyard, but upon arrival at my place, we quickly discovered that my neighbor was receiving a professional massage in the communal backyard. We decided to let her enjoy her "me time" in peace, so we stayed inside.

That's where it got almost cringe-level corny. (Sorry in advance for that, but this is my truth.) We continued to hang and chat in my little bungalow apartment in Los Feliz when I received a notification that the COVID test I had taken the day before was negative. After I announced the news, Josh asked, "Does that mean I can kiss you?" (Corny, yes, but consent in the COVID era? We love to see it.)

I couldn't say "yes" fast enough. We kissed and did other stuff too. Suddenly it was 3 p.m., and we realized that if he didn't leave then, we were in danger of him staying forever. That was mostly his call. As smitten as I was, I was 100% Team "Stay Forever!"

L.A. AFFAIRS

# He's walked a mile in my heels

JOSH HAD MADE A CAMEO ON 'RUPAUL'S DRAG RACE.' NOT MANY GUYS ARE THIS COOL. OR EMPATHETIC.

BY LIZ MAGEE

I put on a shirt blessed with the likeness of a drag queen by the name of Alaska Thunderf---. I picked up that shirt at the Glendale Galleria Hot Topic, which still carries clothes that celebrate my favorite pop culture icons.

Josh recognized Alaska's flawless face on my shirt and asked, "Do you watch 'Drag Race'?"

"Yes!"  
 "Oh, I was on the show."  
 "On the show? Like, what do you mean?"  
 "I was on the show. In drag."  
 He explained that he was a production assistant during

Season 9 of "RuPaul's Drag Race." During that season, there was a makeover episode in which that week's challenge was for each queen to put a crew member in drag. He signed up to be one of those crew members.

Being such a huge fan of the show, I felt as if he had made up that detail to impress me.

But it was true. He, a straight man, was comfortable and open enough to agree to be in full, professional-level drag on national television. He did the damn thing. He still has the size 13 kitten heels to prove it. In that episode, he was

paired with Shea Couleé. If you're a "Drag Race" fan, you already know that Shea is one of the best to ever do it. If you're a super "Drag Race" fan and remember the episode I'm talking about, I had just spent the day with Bae Couleé.

So much about that day was special. The warmth that he emitted when he first sat next to me. Feeling listened to and respected. A joke he made that genuinely made me laugh. The sexy way he walked and took up space. How we both felt comfortable enough to express our greatest hopes and biggest fears. Another corny content

warning here, but I felt as if I already knew him.

This first date was unlike every other date I had ever had. The "Drag Race" detail tipped it into "Is this guy real?" territory. Josh officially became the coolest guy I had ever met.

As a bonus, meeting him helped me heal my broken faith in straight men. I have dad stuff galore, and I've been hurt and manipulated by insecure and anger-driven men in my past. I was sort of convinced that most men I'd meet would be like this — that I would be looking for a man who "wasn't that bad" as opposed to a man who was *good*.

Things are definitely getting better with conversations and awareness about toxic masculinity on the rise. However, there are still men out there who aren't able to get beyond their own needs and wants, which they expect women to fulfill. They see women as more "other" than human.

They don't have the emotional maturity — or even the *want* — to really consider what it's like to walk a day in a woman's shoes. And yet this guy literally did that on the main stage of "RuPaul's Drag Race."

Spoiler: It did work out for us. For Josh and me, it has been more than two years since that fateful, fabulous first date that started in Griffith Park. We now live together in East Hollywood, where Josh runs his personal training business from our backyard gym.

Oh, and we're engaged!  
 > *The author is a comedy writer who has written for several Nickelodeon shows. Follow her on Instagram for her hot takes and pictures of her cat, Motley: @jokesmagee.*

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LEFT TO RIGHT: Tory Burch, Baccarat, Cartier, Swarovski, Ferragamo, Oscar de la Renta, Hermès, Miu Miu

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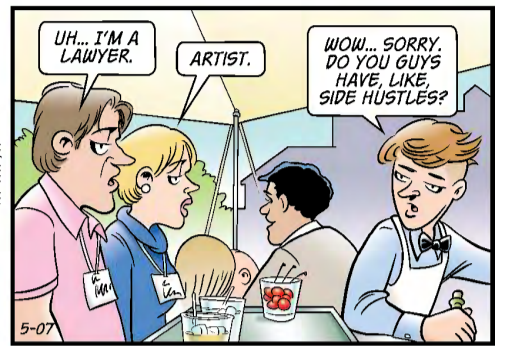
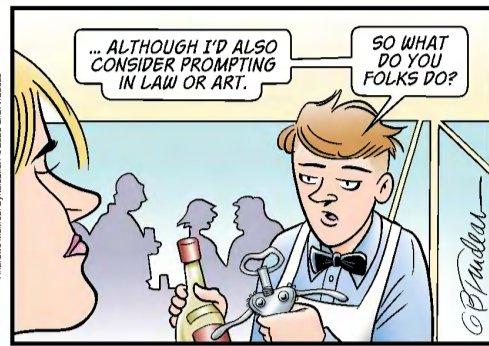
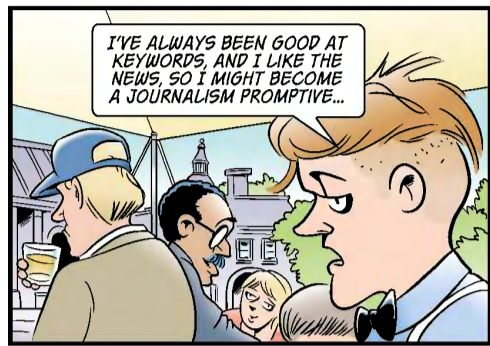
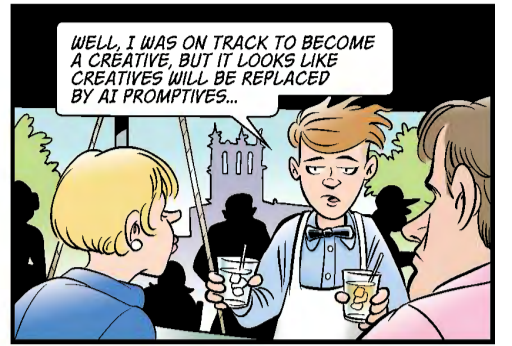
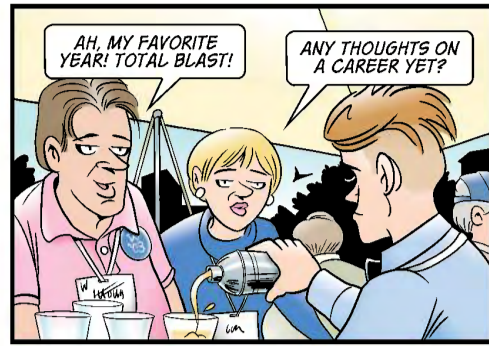
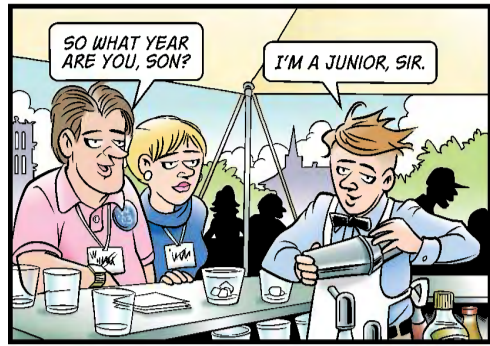
## PICKLES

by SEAN GORMAN



## DOONESBURY

By Garry Trudeau



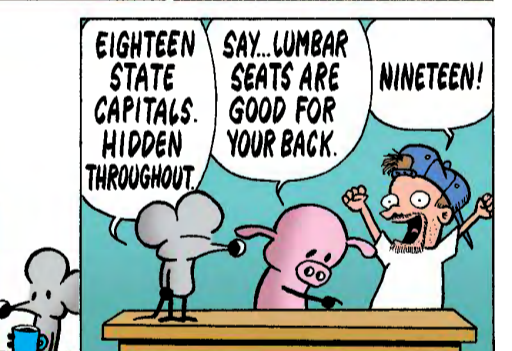
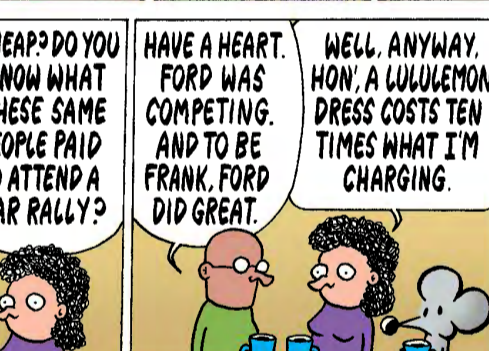
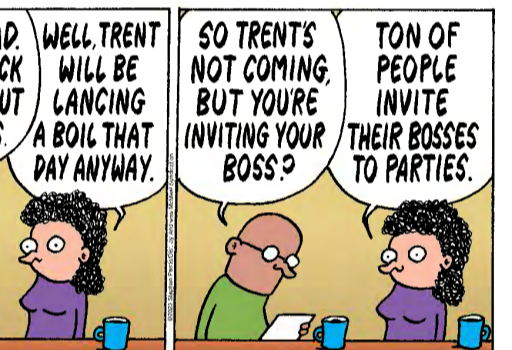
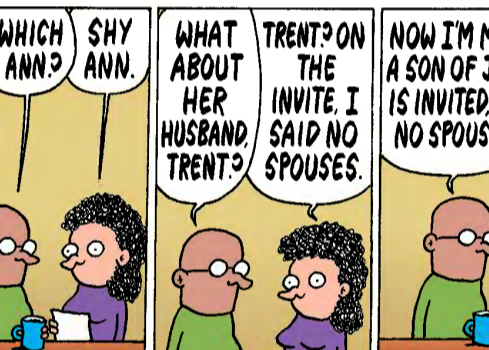
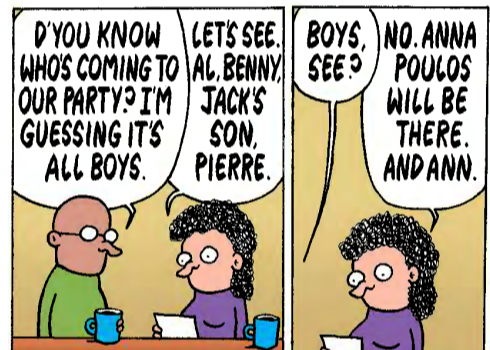
## CRABGRASS

By Tauhid Bondia



## PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

By Stephan Pastis



## LA CUCARACHA

BY LALO ALCAZAR

