













staff snap



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CHESEA BOES



No More Monkeying

You know you're in San Francisco when you can see the Golden Gate Bridge, have plans to eat at a great restaurant, and can't find a parking space.

San Francisco parking is a driver's worst nightmare. That's why many San Franciscans are using the Monkey Parking app, which allows drivers who score a parking spot to sell it for \$5, \$10, or even \$20 then hang out there until the buyer arrives to take their place.

Sound like a win-win? City Attorney Dennis Herrera says no. He says the City "will not abide businesses that hold hostage on-street public parking spots for their own private profit."

A cable car passes a parking meter near San Francisco's financial district.

Drink Up

Soft drink lovers in the Big Apple can keep super-sizing the sodas that come with their precious pizza. A N.Y. court ruled that the city Board of Health overstepped its bounds when it voted to ban the sale of sodas over 16 ounces in restaurants, stadiums, food carts, and movie theaters.

Health officials thought the ban would help fight obesity. Critics thought the ban was unfair and overprotective. The ban was scheduled to take place in March 2013.

The American Beverage Association

protested. They said people should be free to choose beverage size for themselves. New York's highest court recently agreed.

For now the big soda drought is over. But calorie-conscious Board of Health officials promise to appeal.

A New Way of Working

News Bytes

Madinah Nalukenge fills a plate with fried plantain and greasy meat. Her apron bulges with cash. Nalukenge started her food business in Kampala, Uganda with just \$10. Now she makes \$3,000 per month.

She isn't the only woman in Africa with a rags-to-riches story. Many African women with hungry children and unpaid rent are becoming successful entrepreneurs.

African women used to work mainly at home. Now they have created thousands of jobs. That breaks African stereotypes about what women can do.

Their work helps the economy. But many are so busy they must send their children to boarding school."There's no resting," says Nalukenge. "But at the end of the day we get our reward."



Spreading Virus

The world has seen Ebola outbreaks before, but never one like this. The Ebola virus is spreading across three African countries. It has infected 599 people so far.

Under a microscope, the Ebola virus looks like a string with two little knots at the top. It kills between 50 and 90 percent of its victims. It has no cure. Some people recover on their own. Many do not.

Workers from Doctors without Borders prepare Ebola treatment areas.

The international medical organization Doctors Without Borders has 300 staff working in Guinea, Sierra Leone, and Liberia. But they need more help. Many Africans do not understand how this disease spreads. Pray for the doctors and people of Africa.





A man holds his son at the Fua'amotu International Airport in Tonga. The gift plane is seen in the background.

Thanks, But No Thanks

Tiny Tonga is caught in a global power struggle. And the

Tonga is a Polynesian kingdom made up of 176 islands. So when China gave impoverished Tonga an airplane, Tongan officials were thrilled. A plane would bring more tourists, and more tourists mean more income.

But Tonga's neighbor, New Zealand, wasn't happy. They packed up their airline and went home. The N.Z. government began warning passengers of crashes involving the type of plane China gave and withheld about \$5 million in aid. Now tourism in Tonga is suffering. Some Tongans think New Zealand is acting like a bully. "It's a big world," says Stuart Perry, of Tourism Tonga. "Hopefully we can all work together."

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Art for Everyman

Did you know that you own more fantastic art than you'll ever have time to see? Really! Some great art hangs in the private homes of wealthy patrons. But architecture is an example of art that's for everyone. Public buildings are artworks that belong to you. When a builder puts great care into designing beautiful spaces, he is imaging God the Creator. God gives beauty and usefulness to the whole

world. Some call this God's providence, and others call it "common grace"—good gifts that everyone shares.

ART TO LIVE IN

A "Paper Church" in Kobe, Japan, was so admired that it stood for a decade before being replaced by a permanent structure. The church was constructed of cardboard shipping tubes. It was the work of architect Shigeru Ban.

The Pritzker Prize has been dubbed the "Nobel Prize of Architecture." And the Japanese architect is this year's winner. He took the prestigious award for combining exquisite artistry with everyday materials to promote humanitarian efforts around the world.

What does that mean, exactly? It means that Mr. Ban is using the craft of building in some pretty exciting ways. His work helps people in need. It makes a minimal impact on the natural world. And it brings art of unsurpassed beauty into the lives of regular people.

Mr. Ban enjoys designing homes and other buildings for wealthy people. Those clients are usually happy about the projects. That makes working with them enjoyable. But it's his work for the less fortunate that he loves most. And that's what drew the attention of the international Pritzker committee.

"We are mostly working for privileged people, with power and money," Mr. Ban says of architects. "I thought that architects needed to

use our experience and our knowledge for people who need help in a natural or manmade disaster. Even something like temporary housing, we can make more comfortable and more beautiful."

That's just what he does. Some have more of a social role. We could of the Mr. Ban's notable disaster.

relief buildings include temporary housing shelters after a 1995 earthquake in Kobe, Japan; a temporary auditorium for concert musicians to play in after a 2009 quake in L'Aquila, Italy; and the famous "Paper Church." He also volunteered his design skills after the 2011 earthquake in Christ-

AP Photos

church, New Zealand. The city's historic cathedral was destroyed. Mr. Ban designed a space that was set up quickly with available materials. It seats up to 700 people for worship.

In a disaster, building materials can be expensive and hard to find. That prompted Mr. Ban to use his fa-

vorite material: the simple cardboard tube. It reminds him of bamboo, a common Asian building material. And cardboard is easy to get because most people simply throw it away. But with a little waterproofing and fireproofing, Mr. Ban puts the tubes to good use, for the common good.



A STEP AHEAD

From toilet tissue to paper towels to gift wrap, dozens of cardboard tubes get thrown away or recycled by many households each month. When Japanese architect Shigeru Ban looked at the lowly cardboard tube, he saw a building material. He uses such tubes to make beautiful and useful spaces for living. That's one way of "precycling."

The committee that awarded the 2014 Pritzker Prize for architecture was impressed with Mr. Ban's creativity. "He is able to see in standard components and

common materials, such
as paper tubes, packing
materials, or shipping
containers opportunities
to use them in new ways,"
a jury representative said.
No doubt you recycle.
You've learned to sort your

Don't just recycle,
PRE-cycle!

garbage. Those materials will be reworked and reused. They won't take up space in a landfill. But recycling does take time, energy, and water. And it produces byproducts, such as wastewater, that must be dealt with. What if, rather than just recycling, you got involved with PRE-cycling too?

What's precycling, you ask? With a few good ideas, junk that might be tossed out or recycled can be reused. Not much, if anything, has to be done to change it first. Cardboard tubes as building materials are one example.

Another part of precycling involves making smart choices to avoid waste in the end. Drink tap water from a reusable container instead of buying individual bottles. Make your own yogurt—no cups to throw away! Wrap presents with part of the gift itself—such as putting a mug inside a cloth napkin or handkerchief.

How can you reduce the number of disposable things you bring home? Or what might you do with the water bottles, cans, pickle jars, and all that paper you currently toss into the recycling bin?

Perfecting

ho ever heard of a perfect ...
POTHOLE?

Mosaic tile artist Jim Bachor isn't just ranting about Chicago's eroding streets. He's doing something about them.

For this creative problem-solver, the perfect pothole has a nice, oval shape. That's because Bachor doesn't just fill the holes with cement or asphalt. He's using his own craft to turn potholes into public art.

And his upbeat attitude is bringing cheer to an issue that often makes people cranky. Step over one of his creations and you might notice that his tiles give the phone number of an auto repair shop. Drivers on that route could use that information—maybe to fix damage done by past pothole encounters! North of downtown—an area plagued with pitted paving—one of Bachor's mosaics reads "#21914," as if someone has counted that many.

"I just think it's fun to add that little bit of spark into an issue that people moan about," he says.

Bachor began filling the potholes on his own a little more than a year ago. He got the idea when one outside his home became a hassle. Each work of art uses the Chicago city flag in its design, along with the humorous comments to keep it interesting and light-hearted.

The artist, whose work also hangs in galleries, was first drawn to the ancient art form because of how long mosaic tiles can last. That makes them a good quick-fix for the pothole problem. But even so, his designs won't last forever in traffic. Nor can one man and his small crew solve the problem for a big city like Chicago. But for now, drivers and pedestrians can enjoy a little bit of art underfoot in place of a former nuisance.



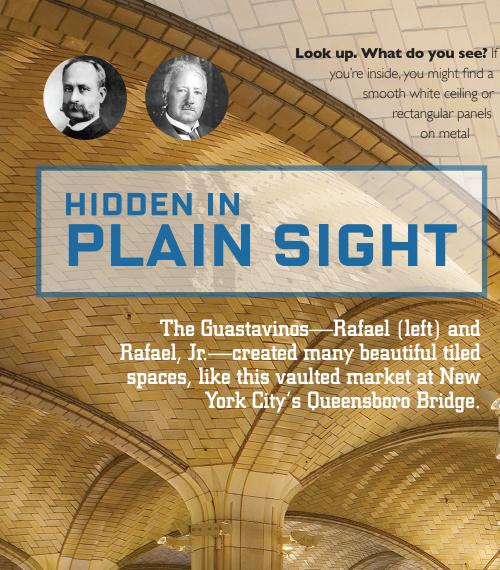
Potholes

PRE-cyclet paper, plastic, glass, and metal you currently toss into the recycling bin?

Cardboard tubes hold up the roof in Shigeru Ban's church design.

That's why it's been nicknamed the "Cardboard Cathedral."

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Look up. What do you see? If you're inside, you might find a

smooth white ceiling or rectangular panels on metal

dividers. Not much to draw your attention, right?

Unless we're visiting a famous historical site such as the Sistine Chapel in Vatican City, Italy, we might not notice great art right above our heads. Almost everyone knows that the chapel's ceiling features Michelangelo's elaborate painting of biblical

scenes.

But what about art in common spaces,

such as farmers' markets and train stations? In these places, men and women go about their mundane duties. They buy and sell food. They go to and from work. In New York City, those everyday

actions of millions take place under domed and arched ceilings arrayed with tiles in elaborate herringbone and basket weave patterns. The art is hidden in plain sight.

Tile artists Rafael Guastavino and son Rafael, Ir., have been mostly forgotten for their work on those tile vaults—amazing for being both structural and decorative. The Guastavinos were building from the late 1800s until the company closed in 1962. Credit for their work usually went to the architects who commissioned them.

Now new attention is being drawn to the fine craft of this pair of master masons. More than 1,000 buildings in 42 states feature tile work by the Guastavinos. That work is recognized in a new exhibition at the Museum of the City of New York, Experts think there may be more Guastavino works around the country. Could there be one in your town or city?

Spiral staircases at New York City's Columbia University ...

station in New York City

and the Cathedral of . John the Divine

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