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Opera Festival continues with Puccini's 'Tosca'

MEGAN BROWN

Chautauqua Opera Company's Festival Weekend continues today with Giacomo Puccini's grand opera Tosca, which - on first glance - might be an unconventional choice for an event celebrating women's rights and the 102-year anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which gave white women in America the right to vote.

But stage director Sarah Ina Meyers hardly thinks it is a misstep.

"The opera is extraordinarily vital, and perhaps, right now, more vital than ever," she said.

The weekend showcases the three operas that Chautauqua Opera will produce this season with Kamala Sankaram and Susan Yankowitz's Thumbprint, staged for the last time Thursday, Puccini's Tosca, and Virgil Thomson and librettist Gertrude Stein's The Mother of Us All, which wraps the festival at 8:15p.m. Saturday in the Amphitheater.

Tosca has its festival weekend performance at 4 p.m. today in Norton Hall, telling the story of opera singer Tosca and her lover Cavara-



GEORGIA PRESSLEY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chautauqua Opera Company Guest Artists Elaine Alvarez, soprano, and Chauncey Packer, tenor, perform in Puccini's Tosca, which has its final run as part of the Opera Festival Weekend at 4 p.m. today in Norton Hall.

dossi during 1800 amid a socially and politically turbulent two-day period in Rome. Tosca, with a crumbling and unruled Rome around her, must save her lover from Scarpia, the chief of police, who wishes to remove Cavaradossi from the pic-

ture and take Tosca for himself.

Thumbprint, on the other hand, takes place in late 20th-century Pakistan. Protagonist and real-life activist Mukhtar Mai must fight in the courts for justice for herself after being the victim of government-sanctioned rape.

While the two operas have very obvious differences, Meyers cannot help but see many thematic connections between them.

See TOSCA, Page 4

Drutman to ponder potential of multi-party processes

ARDEN RYAN

CIRCULATION MANAGER

A Democrat voting for a Republican, or vice versa, seems to Lee Drutman like an impossible chasm to cross these days. What



can America build to bridge that wide gulf? In Drutman's view, it's a "proportional multi-party democracy."

He believes the political reform America needs now is a solid third, or fourth, or fifth choice of parties beyond the two that currently lead national politics.

Drutman, a political scientist and senior fellow in the Political Reform program at the New America Foundation, will round out this week's Chautauqua Lecture Series theme, "The Vote and Democracy," with his lecture at 10:45 a.m. today in the Amphitheater, making the case for why we should embrace a multi-party system.

See **DRUTMAN**, Page 4

Ali to pitch three-part argument for multicultural work in U.S.

KAITLYN FINCHLER STAFF WRITER

With one foot in the door of the American dream, and one in the American nightmare, Wajahat

Ali's myriad



ALI

experiences have led him down the path of fighting for justice.

To some, America may not "seem racist anymore," but Ali, a writer, public speaker and former attorney, said this is not the case, and wants to make a three-step pitch to his Chautauqua audience.

Ali will give his lecture, "Go Back to Where You Came From: Or, How to Create the Ethnic Avengers," at 2 p.m. today in the Hall of Philosophy to close Week Five of the Interfaith Series Lecture "The Ethical Foundations of a Fully Functioning Democracy."

He said he wants his audience to invest in "a multicultural coalition of the willing," what he refers to as "the ethnic avengers."

See **ALI**, Page 4

IN TODAY'S DAILY



THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX

Brennan Center's Li discusses state of gerrymandering, offering both hopeful, daunting perspective.

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RESTORING FAITH

James Madison, Jesus Christ, Joseph Stalin — Auburn religion scholar Jortner traces history of Christianity, democracy.

Page 5



PRAYER AS **SUSTAINER**

Guest chaplain Jordan-Simpson preaches that prayer leads to action if you stand with God.

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Sunrise: 6:08 a.m. Sunset: 8:38 p.m.

H 82° L 61°

Sunrise: **6:09 a.m.** Sunset: **8:37 p.m.**

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Missed a story in the Daily this summer? Find it on our website using the search bar at the top of any page.

LITERARY ARTS



BRIEFLY

NEWS FROM THE GROUNDS

Saturday gate operations notice

Special gate and bus procedures will be in place to accommodate Saturday's Old First Night Run/Walk. For the race starting at 8 a.m. Saturday, Chautauquans are encouraged to avoid traveling in or out of the Institution grounds between 8 a.m. and 9 a.m. for the safety of race participants. All gates except the Main Gate walk-through will be closed at 8 a.m. Each gate will reopen after the last participant on the race route has passed, beginning with South Gate and continuing north. On-grounds bus and tram service will begin at 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

Passes for off-grounds spectators are available at the Main Gate Welcome Center Ticket Office and are valid from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. and are available until 8:30 a.m. Saturday.

School of Music news

At 10 a.m. today in Fletcher Music Hall, Craig Rutenberg leads an Opera Conservatory Masterclass. At 2 p.m. today in Sherwood-Marsh 101, Lydia Artymiw leads a Guest Piano Faculty Masterclass. At 2 p.m. today in Fletcher, Nurit Pacht leads a Violin Masterclass. At 4 p.m. today in Elizabeth S. Lenna Hall, Van Cliburn Bronze Medalist Christopher Taylor gives a Guest Piano Faculty Recital. At 6:30 p.m. tonight in Fletcher, Instrumental Students in the School of Music give a Viola Studio Recital.

Masks are required for these events; donations are

Nonperishable Food Drive

Chautauquans can dispose of sealed, nonperishable foods in the gold-papered cartons on the floor inside the north entrance of the Post Office Building for the Mayville Food Pantry. For more information, contact James Kullberg at 716-753-5201.

Chautauqua Men's Softball Playoffs

Chautauqua Men's Softball League invites you to watch the best of three playoff series. YAC PAC plays the Fish Heads at 5 p.m. today and the Slugs play the Arthritics at 6:30 p.m. today. All games are at Sharpe Field. The winning team in each series advances to the championship game.

Annual Team Tennis

The annual tennis match is from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Aug. 6, at the Chautauqua Tennis Center. Sign up in person at the center, call 716-357-6276, or email tennis@chq.org.

CLSC Class of 1993 news

The CLSC Class of 1993 will participate in the Recognition Day parade, starting at 9 a.m. on Wednesday in front of the Post Office Building. The members who are marching and other members who want to say "hello" and see them off should be behind the class banner at 8:45 a.m. This is our 19th anniversary.

CSLC Class of 2011 news

At 8:45 a.m. Wednesday, meet on Bestor Plaza behind our ciass banner the parade.

CLSC Class of 2012 news

CLSC Class of 2012 will hold its annual meeting at 9 a.m. Monday in Literary Arts Center at Alumni Hall. All members are encouraged to attend.

Chautauqua Women's Club news

The Chautauqua Speaks bonus program featuring Tally Bevis is at 9:15 a.m. today at the CWC House. The Flea Boutique will run from noon to 2 p.m. today behind the Colonnade. Mah Jongg will be played from 2:30 to 5 p.m. today at the CWC House.

The Contemporary Issues Forum featuring Sean Mc-Fate will take place at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Hall of Philosophy. Remember to pre-order your Friday Night Takeout Dinner at chautauquawomensclub.org.

African American Heritage House newsThe African American House invites you inside our new organizational site from noon to 5 p.m. today at 40 Scott. The AAHH opens its doors as a resource to those who seek to learn more about what we do.

Jumu'ah prayer

Jumu'ah, the Friday Muslim communal prayer, is at 12:30 p.m. today in the Hall of Christ, beginning with instruction, followed with Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf leading the prayer at 1 p.m. live on Zoom from New York City. The Jumu'ah service, which is open to all, combines the traditional elements of the Muslim worship experience with the opportunity to engage with questions to further your understanding about Islam. The Jumu'ah prayer handout is available in both Arabic and English transliteration, with detailed explanations for those who wish to join in prayer or understanding. No special dress is required, and all are welcome

Bird, Tree & Garden Club news

At 9 a.m. today starting at the lake side of Smith Wilkes Hall, meet naturalist Jack Gulvin for a Nature Walk & Talk. At 12:30 p.m. today starting at the main entrance of the Amphitheater, meet Chautauqua Institution Supervisor of Gardens and Landscapes Betsy Burgeson for a Garden Walk & Talk.

In a special event at 8:30 p.m. Sunday at Smith Wilkes Hall, join Twan Leenders, ecological restoration manager at the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy for an evening exploring the sounds and behaviors of insects and other wildlife at Chautauqua.

Post-lecture discussion

Kevin Reuning and Anne Whitesell, both assistant professors of political science at Miami University of Ohio, will facilitate a post-lecture discussion at 12:30 p.m. today in Smith Wilkes Hall.

Essayist Lazar to discuss 'creation of persona' in Writers' Center Brown Bag presentation

CHRIS CLEMENTS

Of all the teachers David Lazar had over the years, one sticks out: the famous short

story writer Raymond Carver. "I remember going up to him after he won the MacArthur - and Ray Carver sort of talked like a Ray Carver character - and saying, 'Ray, you've won this MacArthur, what are you going to do with it?" said Lazar, an essayist and the Week Five Chautauqua Writers' Center prose writer-in-residence. "He

He thought about asking Carver why he bought a Mercedes, but instead asked him "Why green?"

said, 'Oh, I just went out and

bought a green Mercedes."

"He responded, 'It's the color of money," Lazar said.

At 12:15 p.m. today on the porch of the Literary Arts Center at Alumni Hall, Lazar will give his Chautauqua Literary Arts Brown Bag lecture, "The Construction of Self in Nonfiction, or I Forgot to Remember to Forget... Myself, or Persona Grata."

"My lecture is going to be about persona – the creation of, and play with, persona in the essay form," he said.

Lazar, who has authored 13 books, said that the creation of a voice in writing is "really



LAZAR

crucial" to the process.

"It's especially crucial in the nonfiction form, where people are writing autobiographically," he said. "There's this relationship between the writing self and the self – but they're not the same thing. There's so much happening in that gap between the creative self and the lived self. I think it's an endlessly interesting thing to talk about."

In his own writing, Lazar said that persona and tonal variety is something he often thinks about, especially when it comes to organizing collections of essays, something he's well-versed in from authoring the collections I'll Be Your Mirror: Essays and Aphorisms, Oc-



Don't confine yourself to contemporary literature. That's narrowing the bandwidth of the possible. ... Going deeper into the cannon shows you what's survived, what's been great, what's been lasting, what's been, in fact, thrillingly inventive over the last several hundred years."

-DAVID LAZAR

Prose Writer-in-Residence, Chautauqua Writers' Center

casional Desire and The Body of Brooklyn. Ten of Lazar's essays have been honored as Notable Essays of the Year by Best American Essays.

"My work in prose poems is very much about using alternate personae, some of whom are playful to the point of being fictive," he said. Lazar has published two

prose poem collections: Who's Afraid of Helen of Troy?: An Essay on Love and Powder Town. Among the people Lazar

Michel de Montaigne, William Hazlitt and James Baldwin. "Baldwin's books of es-

says are really important

counts as influences on his

work are French philosopher

to me," he said. "(Baldwin) actually came in and taught one of my classes when I was in college, which was a pretty amazing experience."

Lazar said his advice to writers, like those taking his week-long Writers' Center workshop, is to "read. Read widely and strangely."

"Don't confine yourself to contemporary literature," he said. "That's narrowing the bandwidth of the possible, as far as I'm concerned. Going deeper into the cannon shows you what's survived, what's been great, what's been lasting, what's been, in fact, thrillingly inventive over the last several hundred years."



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SPENCER - 6:00 (R, 111m)Director Pablo Larrain's film imagines Princess Diana's existential crisis during the Christmas of 1991, as she considers divorcing Prince Charles and leaving the British royal family. "It's beautifully shot, really well-acted by **Kristen Stewart**, and has a fantastic score by Jonny Greenwood that I've already decided is my favorite of the year." -Claudia Puig, NPR FilmWeek "Finds new, closeto-the-bone layers in a character we thought we already knew." -Moira MacDonald, Seattle Times

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MARCEL THE SHELL WITH SHOES ON - 9:00 (PG, 89m) Comedian Jenny Slate's beloved animated character Marcel the Shell gets his big-screen debut in this hilarious and heartwarming

Friday at the

CINEMA

in this hilarious and neartwarming story about finding connection in the smallest corners. "An adorable little film with big life-lessons." -Rafer Guzman, Newsday "This unassuming animated gem...shames the bloat of big-studio cartoons by proving good things really do come in small packages. The result is unique and packages. The result is unique and unforgettable." -Peter Travers ABC News "Are you ready for a shell with a googly eye to make you cry? I wasn't." -Kristy Puchko, Mashable

LECTURE

Li discusses gerrymandering, 'thinking outside of the box' in America

SKYLER BLACK STAFF WRITER

Where the United States draws the line in election law has never been more important to the preservation of democracy – especially when it comes to representation, which Michael Li said is "the cornerstone of democracy."

Li, senior counsel at the Brennan Center for Justice, tackled the multidimensional issue of gerrymandering Thursday in the Amphitheater, discussing how redistricting has impacted politics and how it will continue to change in the future. His lecture was titled "The Fight Against Gerrymandering: How Are We Doing?"

Li practiced law at Baker Botts in Dallas for 10 years before joining the Brennan Center, where he specializes in voter rights and redistricting. Author of a widely cited blog on redistricting, Li is a regular commentator on election law and has appeared on MSNBC, NPR and "PBS NewsHour." He has also written for publications like the New York Times, Los Angeles Times and USA Today.

As the fourth Chautauqua Lecture Series speaker for Week Five's theme "The Vote and Democracy," Li opened his lecture by drawing on a conversation he had with Tuesday's 10:45 a.m. speaker Linda Chavez, chairman of the Center for Equal Opportunity.

On the front porch of the guest house on the grounds, Li asked Chavez if she was pessimistic or optimistic about the future of the United States, given the political and social strife afflicting the country – she responded that she was "worried."

Li asked the audience the same question before telling them that his talk would offer both a hopeful and daunting perspective on voter rights.

He launched into his discussion of gerrymandering by reciting Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito's opinion on the overturning of Roe v. Wade.

"He says, 'Women are not without electoral or political power. It is noteworthy that the percentage of women who register to vote and cast ballots is consistently higher than the percentage of men who do so," Li said. "Now, there's a lot that's wrong with those statements. ... At the heart of it is the idea that if you don't like the laws that are passed by lawmakers, just vote them out."

Alito's insinuation that the people of the U.S. can choose what happens in their country, however, discounts the injustices gerrymandering has in creating a majority unreflective of the actual population.

In reading Alito's opinion, Li thought of his home state Texas, which, in 2021, redrew maps that allowed Republicans to win the majority with only 44% of the vote, while Democrats had 56%.

"That, in short, is not what democracy looks like," Li said "... There is no more vivid illustration of why what Justice Alito says will work, won't."

In 2019, the Supreme Court had the opportunity to make partisan gerrymandering unconstitutional in Rucho v. Common Cause; but, the Court tabled the question.

"They said it is a political question that we are not going to decide," Li said. "When it did that, it has opened the door to partisan gerrymandering around the country, because now, as long as you can claim that you're doing it for political purposes, even if it's to target an opponent, even if it's to benefit yourself, even if it is to benefit your party, that's OK."

The Rucho decision made not only a statement on pol-

itics, but on discrimination. "The Supreme Court's decision in Rucho has opened the door not only to political

discrimination," Li said, "but

also to racial discrimination. if the courts are not willing to dig deeply and try to separate out when the motive is racial and when it is political."

Li connected the 2019 decision to the American Revolution and struggle for representation in British Parliament.

"Representation is important, and it's important that the bodies that make our laws and decisions for us should look like us," Li said. "That just doesn't happen if you put the thumb on the scale in the way that has happened in recent years."

To understand this imbalance, and redistricting in its entirety, Li briefed the audience on the dynamics of national politics in the last decade.

The first aspect he highlighted was that the rate of population growth is the slowest it has been since the Great Depression, climbing only 7.4% in the last decade. That growth is most prevalent in the South and the West, home to 40% of all

Population growth, in combination with racial demographics, affects redistricting.

The population growth of Black Americans increased by 2.5 million people in the last 10 years, and the South specifically has witnessed this growth with two-thirds of that increase living in the South. The South's growth also increased with half of all immigrants who have come to the U.S. in the last year settling there.

Another facet of national, racial demographics Li touched on was that for the first time in the last decade, the white population in the United States fell.

"This is a major driver of a lot of what is happening both in redistricting and in terms of our country's politics," Li said. "There's no question that demographic anxiety lies at the heart of a lot of what I'm going to talk about today."

The last piece of Li's briefing discussed the people who draw the maps themselves. In 2011, Republicans controlled 187 congressional seats, as opposed to Democrats' 75 seats. Republicans "maximized their advantages" and made it hard for Democrats to win back control.

"Had Donald Trump not been elected and had there not been sort of the suburban shifts that followed his election, it's likely that the House would have remained Republican all of last decade," Li said.

Having "set the table" for the discussion on gerrymandering, Li went on to define redistricting through the lens of seven specific examples.

First, he said that Democrats did fairly well in the last decade, now on a path to the majority in future years. In 2020, President Joe Biden won 197 Democratic seats by more than 8 points and won 30 seats by less than 8 points.

"Democrats drew maps in a way that suggests that they thought that the Biden coalition of recent years - the coalition of women and younger voters and voters of color and suburban, college-educated women - would hold together, largely," Li said. "That's a very optimistic version of the country. Republicans didn't – so Democrats drew seats that were a lot more like 54%, 53%. This is good enough for us. Republicans drew seats that were a little bit safer than that."

The maps, however, are still "wildly skewed," which was Li's second point. In the last decade, nine states had maps initially passed at the legislature that were considered significant partisan

gerrymanders. The third: Competitive districts are disappearing. Li

again pointed to Texas to il-

lustrate this phenomenon.

"It used to be in Texas that Republicans won, or Donald Trump won 11 districts by 15 or more points," Li said. "After redistricting, he wins 21, so it almost doubles. Republicans only have 24 seats in Texas. 21 out of the 24 seats they have are super-safe districts that Donald Trump won by 15 or more points, and that provides a lot of insurance - both against demographic change and political shifts."

Denton County, Texas, further demonstrates this shift. Situated in the 26th congressional district, Denton County is home to a high-tech industry and college-educated women who are typically left-leaning. The area was sectioned off to join a district with the Texas panhandle, 700 miles away. This maneuver joined the rural suburbs of Texas with an urban area in contoured ways to control majority vote.

"If you're scared of both people of color and of college-educated white women, there's only so much you can do, and you have to end up doing something like this," Li said, motioning to the gerrymandered map of Denton

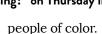
On a more positive note, the fourth example offered hope for the future, and lies in state courts. This decade, state courts in New York, Maryland, North Carolina and Ohio have struck down gerrymanders.

"Increasingly, people are looking to state courts and to state constitutions as a possible remedy for gerrymandering," Li said. "I think that state courts are oftentimes ignored in vain and state constitutions are ignored in vain. ... There's a rich state constitutional tradition ... to focus only on federal courts, and that's really not where all the action is at."

With the rising power of the state courts comes a counterattack. For example, Republicans wanted to impeach Maureen O'Conner, a Republican Chief Justice of the Ohio Supreme Court, after she struck down partisan gerrymanders.

"State courts are playing a bigger role, but there's also push back from state courts," Li said. "Also, watch for judicial elections in lots of these states to be highly, highly polarized going forward."

Li also brought up the independent state legislature theory, which asserts that only Congress can override a state law relating to federal courts or redistricting, not the state itself. When this doctrine - or theory, depending on who one asks - was raised after the Pennsylvania Supreme Court struck down the state's congressional map in 2018, the case was taken to the Supreme Court. Alito immediately denied it.



The general attitude to-

"Flash forward just four

ward the theory is now

years, and you have a majority

of the court deciding to hear

a case out of North Carolina,

deciding whether the North

Carolina Supreme Court has

the power to strike down a

congressional map for violat-

ing the North Carolina Con-

stitution," Li said. "At least

four justices agreed to hear

that case, and there seems to

be a path to a majority, and

that's really worrying be-

cause state courts are jump-

ing into the equation, and

now the U.S. Supreme Court

the sixth example, redis-

tricting reforms and their

successes and limitations, by

talking about the stark differ-

ences in Michigan and Ohio.

Michigan created an inde-

pendent commission aimed

to eliminate gerrymander-

ing. The commission re-

ceived half a million signa-

tures and passed with 60%

of the blue vote. Michigan,

which was previously one of

the worst gerrymandered

states in the country, is now

among the least gerryman-

ed a reform that left line

drawing in the hands of the

strike down a map, they can't

put in place a new map," Li

said. "They can only send it

back to the people who drew

the last gerrymandered map

and say, 'Fix this.' You would

think the Court telling you

to fix this would cause you

to fix it. That has not hap-

pened in Ohio, either at the

congressional level or the

Li included was that above

all, gerrymandering creates

a disappointing cycle for

The seventh and last point

By contrast, Ohio adopt-

While courts in Ohio can

dered states.

elected officials.

legislative level."

In 2016, volunteers in

Li then moved to discuss

could take them out."

changing.

"There is some good news for our communities of color in electoral politics around the country, which sometimes I don't think we do enough to acknowledge," Li said. "That is, that people of color are increasingly winning in districts where the minority share of the population is not particularly high."

Alabama is a state with prevalent racial discrimination drawn into the electoral districts. Li said that there is only one district in which Black voters enjoy political success, and the rest ignore the "Black belt" of voters at the bottom of the state.

"You see the band of Black voters stretching across Alabama? That's the Black belt," Li said, pointing to his slides. "That is the old cotton belt of Alabama that has hundreds of years of shared history, common challenges, common needs. In a lot of ways, the idea that the Black belt is divided up among four different districts is crazy, because everybody agrees what the Black belt is. Everybody understands that it has a shared history that stretches back, again, hundreds and hundreds of years."

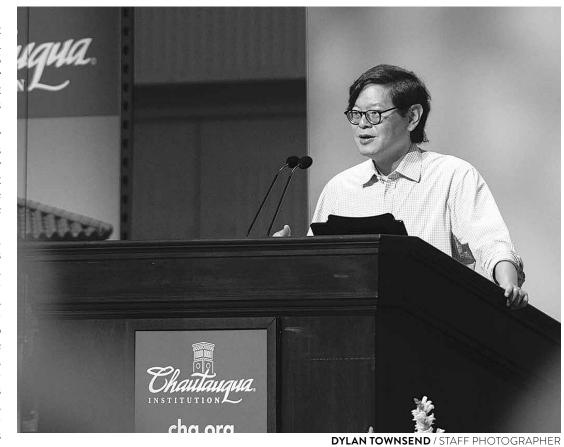
Li said that as gerrymandering persists, the effec-

tive use of the Voting Rights Act dwindles.

"I think really the challenge for us is going to be, increasingly with this Court, to think outside the box, and to think about other alternatives," Li said. " ... There's never really been a successful multi-racial democracy where there isn't a dominant group, and that's a challenge for us. How do we do that? I think it's important for us to be prepared to think outside the box, because that is a very dark place that we are in."

To conclude his lecture, Li noted that the original First Amendment the founders drafted would have created a Congress different from what was actually made, one with far more seats and members. Li discussed this original amendment as a way to say that "we should not, at this moment, be afraid to think outside the box."

"It is easy to curl up in a ball sometimes and think all is lost," Li said. "But at this moment, we should be brave like the founding generation was and we should, in the words of Scripture, 'fear not,' because if we're going to keep our country, it's up to us to redefine it. Every generation gets to define anew, and that is our challenge, our task."



Michael Li, senior counsel at the Brennan Center for Justice, gives his lecture on "The Fight Against Gerrymandering: How Are We Doing?" on Thursday in the Amphitheater.

DINING ON THE GROUNDS





Located at the Athenaeum Hotel



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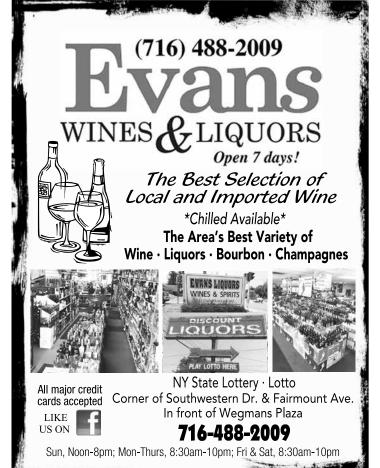
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For hours and menus, visit: dining.chq.org



FROM PAGE ONE

LOVETT

Lovett's country upbringing in Klein, Texas, shines through in his music, which encompasses genres such as folk, jazz and rock.

Lovett has also acted in numerous films, including 1998's "Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas," 1993's "Short Cuts" and 1992's "The Player." His most recent television appearance was his 2022 performance on the CBS drama "Blue Bloods."

With a discography of 15 albums, the "Cowboy Man" comes to Chautauqua on his 36th stop on his 2022 U.S. tour.

Lovett returns to the Institution with His Large Band after his first performance on the Amp stage in 2006.

"I've been wanting to bring Lyle Lovett for years, and am thrilled that he will be coming for his first visit to the Amphitheater since 2006," said Senior Vice President and Chief Program Officer Deborah Sunya Moore. "Fans will be craving a listen of old favorites and also songs from his new album, 12th of June."

In May 2022, Lovett released 12th of June, an 11-track record that contains originals as well as reimagined classics from Nat King Cole and Dave Frishberg. 12th of June comes a decade after his last album, 2012's Release Me and marks the first album with Verve Records.

A lot has changed for Lovett within those 10

years; in 2017, he became a father to twins, whose birthday inspired the name for 12th of June. Lovett will play songs from his albums of the '80s, and his most recent, which draws on the joys of fatherhood and his home in Texas, for Chautauquans to enjoy.

His 2022 tour is a homage to his Texan roots and familial ties, performed with the same 15-person band that he recorded the album Lyle Lovett and His

Large Band with in 1989.

"This album reflects the music I grew up around," Lovett told the music series "Austin City Limits." "My music is like me: I live on land that belonged to my grandfather. I live next door to my mother. I think the music reflects where I'm from and who I am."

Lyle Lovett and His Large Band will bring southern Texas to Western New York tonight in what Moore predicts to be a memorable

performance.

"From thanking crew for moving a piano on Twitter, to appearing on 'Dinner Drive with Kyle Petty,' to singing about fatherhood, Lyle Lovett is someone who is going to resonate with our audience and create a celebratory evening of great music," Moore said. "Friday night at Chautauqua with this Grammy Award-winning singer-songwriter is going to be an evening to remember."

TOSCA

"The same way in which Mukhtar Mai is trying to rescue her brother and in trying to save her brother, her love is then used against her ... that's very similar to what Tosca is trying to do," Meyers said. "She's trying to rescue her love, and Scarpia takes that love and perverts it and turns it against her."

Steven Osgood, the general and artistic director

of Chautauqua Opera, also sees these parallels.

"We have to broaden beyond the 19th Amendment in order to bring in Thumbprint and Tosca, but you don't have to go very broad," he said.

Echoing Meyers in saying

that Mai fights for her family, he included Susan B. Anthony in The Mother of Us All and her battle for every step toward women's suffrage.

Like Mai and Anthony, Tosca is truly fighting for the right to autonomy.

"Tosca has that same fight," Osgood said. "She steps up and says, 'I will fight for my right to live free and have the love that I want."

In all three of the operas, the women face betrayal by the men in power as they struggle to be seen, heard, and receive recognition of their humanity.

"The three operas show women fighting that exact same fight against betrayal and for their rights," Osgood said.

DRUTMAN

"We are at a moment of potential transformation of our democracy," Drutman said. "This is a real hinge point moment in history in which things could go in a lot of different directions. The stakes are incredibly high. But there's also a tremendous opportunity to innovate and build something new."

A political system with additional parties could "better represent the diversity and pluralism of America, providing ways to forge new compromises and bring new voices into our representative system of government that is always changing and evolving," Drutman said.

Many voters feel increasingly alienated by the lack of a political middle ground on which to stand, and feel obliged to "choose the lesser of two evils," Drutman said. A growing number of try," Drutman said. Americans now identify as Independents, rejecting the forced duality of the current system. Many are voicing wishes for more than two

options on the ballot.

How does the nation progress toward a multi-party system? One new initiative known as fusion voting – where multiple parties can support the same candidate on the ballot - would provide disheartened voters a step toward moderation in place of the two-party system. The increased influence this might present third parties "would be a tremendous step forward," Drutman said, in the building of a "much needed moderate party in our politics."

"Really, we need five or six parties to effectively represent the diversity of values, experiences and perspectives in this coun-

The key is striking a balance - a healthy range of political groups competitive enough to give voters the chance to make "real and meaningful choices," while avoiding excessive fragmentation.

Beyond these proposals, Drutman advocated for a broader move toward multi-member congressional districts, which would enable new parties to thrive. He has also made the case for enlarging the House of Representatives to ease proportional multi-party elections, a topic on which he testified Thursday before the Select Committee on the Modernization of Congress.

We need more diversity and pluralism in our elected bodies. We need new voices. There's a lot of perspectives that are not well represented there," Dru-

tman said. "Expansion is the best way to bring more people in without kicking out the people there now who also have valuable experience to offer."

Without expanding the House to include districts with multiple representatives, Drutman said, gerrymandering continues to hinder equal representation. This constituency manipulation, further enabled by mandatory redistricting following the 2020 census, allows candidates to win regardless of whether they have the majority's support or not, and exists solely because of the single-member district.

"A proportional voting system helps to combat the evils of gerrymandering, because if you have proportional multi-member districts, gerrymandering basically becomes irrelevant," Drutman said.

Drutman raised the ques-

tion of why seemingly more Americans than ever distrust the voting process and perceive their vote as insecure. He thinks it's an "outgrowth of our binary two-party system, fomented by political leaders" seeking to sow distrust and demonize opponents.

"Because this country is evenly split," Drutman said, "you have these narrow elections, and tremendous hatred for the other side. So it's natural – if the election margins are tight, you're likely to believe it if your side says 'the system is rigged, it was corrupt, they cheated."

In studying other countries with multi-party structures, Drutman has found that voters in losing parties are "more likely to accept their losses in proportional systems, because the stakes are lower. A coalition will form roughly around the political middle no matter what." In the current American system however, "if you get 50.1% of the vote, you get all the power," he said, leading voters to feel much more of a blow, especially when the competing side is seen as a dangerous and distant foe.

"It's hard to have legitimate elections when you don't think the other side is legitimate opposition," Drutman said.

In his talk, Drutman will reflect on the ways in which a multiplicity of parties will actually bring Americans closer together, not create further division. The gap between political extremes may be narrowed not by less political debate, but by more.

"Our binary arrangement shuts down thinking, Drutman said, but, "the more sides we have, the more thinking we do, and the more we're willing to consider."

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ALI

He wants Chautauquans to invest in hope during hopeless times, and to understand why diversity and inclusivity is a win for everyone.

"I can tell you as a Brown dude and as a Muslim, as a person who has been living this and talking about this for a long time, that many of our fellow Americans thought that the election of Obama, particular, signaled a

post-racial America," Ali said. He realized this as people referred to racism as "an old thing" and said to "stop whining and complaining, we've elected Obama." Ali said this dialogue then did a complete 180 after the 2020 murder of George Floyd.

"That seemed to be an inflection point for many people to be like, 'Oh we've got to talk about this," Ali said. "There's a moment when people realize, 'Oh, you have to fight for democracy. You have to fight for rights. You have to fight for freedom. And this thing called America, we took for granted, which we assumed was a multiracial democracy - even that we have to fight for."

Ali said the list of everything going wrong in America – climate change, human rights issues and abortion restrictions, to name a few - is "very depressing," and can make some people seem

selfish or cynical when it comes to fighting for rights.

"I think what we have witnessed, and are witnessing right now, is that it requires work," Ali said. "But it also requires people to throw down in the ring and (realize) the avengers aren't coming. You can't outsource

this problem."

Describing his life as a constant back and forth flip of rags to riches, Ali said he has a unique experience of what America looks like through the lens of both the dream and the nightmare. He said he started out as a privileged suburban kid and lost everything after 9/11; his parents were in jail and lost their money, their credit and healthcare coverage, which led to the American nightmare.

Another formative experience for Ali occurred 10 years ago, when he had a neardeath experience while at the gym. He had the pre-existing heart condition atrial fibrillation, and when he was on the treadmill, his heart rate spiked to 230 BPM, over double the average. "It made no sense, be-

cause I wasn't doing anything strenuous," Ali said. "It was just a very light workout, and so as a result of that, they had to defibrillate me three times to reset my heart rate." He then went into con-

gestive heart failure and

That moment of urgency has to be acknowledged and has to be met with a forceful response. It's going to require everyone to step up."

-WAJAHAT ALI

Go Back to Where You Came From: And, Other Helpful Recommendations on Becoming American

pulmonary edema, and his lungs were filling up with

"I almost didn't make it," Ali said. "As a result of surviving that, and then finally having the surgery, I thought, 'Life is short.' My only regret was if I die alone, I should've invested in a relationship, in a marriage. That was my one mistake. I should have started a family."

Knowing to some this may sound crazy, Ali said as soon as he thought about getting married and starting a family, his heart rate finally stabilized.

"Maybe this was a sign from the universe," Ali said, "Then somehow, like eight months after that, boom, got married. Still married." Ali said he will include

personal stories, such as this near-death experience, in his public speaking. While not too formulaic, he said he sustains a similar approach in most of his talks. First, he will make his three points, then tell a specific personal story, which he uses as a "Trojan Horse" to introduce the lecture theme, and make the lecture more of a conversation.

This will be Ali's second time speaking at Chautauqua - most recently in conversation with James Fallows in 2017 to examine American perception of Muslims post-9/11.

Ali said he's a pragmatist, not a "wide-eyed, naive optimist," and he understands the demons America is currently facing. But he wants people to leave with the belief that America is still worth fighting for.

"That moment of urgency has to be acknowledged and has to be met with a forceful response," Ali said. "It's going to require everyone to step up."

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RELIGION

Auburn scholar Jortner places need for trust-building in communities

ALYSSA BUMP

The nature of democracy, which puts the power of governance in the hands of the people, requires citizens to trust each other. Yet, this current moment has been referred to as an "Era of Distrust," with recurrent, tumultuous events chipping away at citizens' faith in democracy.

Adam Jortner, historian, author and the Goodwin-Philpott Eminent Professor of Religion at Auburn University, spoke Wednesday afternoon in the Hall of Philosophy, addressing, by citing history, what citizens should do to mend this distrust and enhance democracy.

His lecture, titled "The Gospel and the Ballot Box: A History," brought a new perspective to the discussion of Week Five's Interfaith Lecture Series theme, "The Ethical Foundations of a Fully Functioning Democracy."

At Auburn, Jortner specializes in religion, democracy and the foundation of America. He has also authored several books and articles.

"I decided I'm going to talk to you about the history of democracy and Christianity by talking about James Madison, Jesus Christ and Joseph Stalin," Jortner said.

Discussing the need for conversation and change by citing the term "unprecedented," Jortner made the point that using this word can cause panic, while its antonym - "precedented" - makes people relax; neither of these reactions are ideal when trying to create positive change.

Rather than worrying about whether there is precedent, Jortner said it is important to focus on the responsibility of a citizen in a crisis of democracy.

Quoting Madison's words from the Federalist Papers in 1787, Jortner said: "Prevailing and increasing distrust of public engagements and alarm for private rights are echoed from one end of the continent to the other. These must be chiefly, if not wholly, effects of unsteadiness and injustice with which a factious spirit has tainted our public administration."

Madison believed that factions are dangerous, defining them as a group of people - either a majority or a minority – with a shared passion adverse to the rights or interests of a community. Factions normally form through a difference of opinion in religion, politics or a number of other areas.

Pointing to the Bible and John 8, Jortner told the story of a woman who had been accused of adultery and brought forth to Jesus. When her accusers left, as they were also sinners and could not condemn her, Jesus let the woman go.

"I hope you all can see the importance of this story about Jesus facing down a lynch mob when we are talking about the question of Christianity and democracy," Jortner said. "Because what we have here is a political majority looking to score some points by promoting a bad idea."

Jesus was able to work at the local level by speaking to the accused woman, and Jortner said this is a recurring theme in the Bible.

"What's interesting is what Jesus does and does not do to restore peace and to seek justice," Jortner said. "He speaks and he loves. He does not take over the government. He does not lead a counter mob against the Pharisees. He does not condemn the people holding the stones."

Jortner asked why Americans now believe the government should be controlled by Christians, when this is not the example Jesus set. He hypothesized the reason comes from

the believed, supernatural power of God.

"We assume that God is God because of his power, and we assume that whoever has power will use it," Jortner said, "and that the goal of possessing power is to destroy our enemies, lay waste the ground they walk on and congratulate ourselves on our rightness."

People often project their own characteristics and traits onto a more powerful God, Jortner said, and they must be aware of this habit and learn to epitomize the traits Jesus had that they lack. In the Bible, Jesus refrains from violence and revenge, and embodies forgiveness; yet humans struggle with integrating these values into everyday life.

Switching focus to Joseph Stalin, Jortner noted how his party's rulings and ideologies permeated all levels of society through totalitarianism. While being in charge of political operations on a large scale, Stalin also had a role in personal decisions of people in the Soviet Union.

"As Hannah Arendt said, 'The nature of totalitarianism is the inability to think of anything outside the party," Jortner said. "Everything must be political our love life, our family choices, our sports - everything is predetermined by the politics of it."

Jortner used Stalin as an example of totalitarianism and autocracy, which can be interpreted as the opposite of democracy.

"Madison says there is a public good. Governments exist to serve the public good. Factions exist to compete with each other for their own good," Jortner said. "But over and above the factions, there's the public good."

To combat the rise of factions coming into positions of power, Jortner said it is vital to elect officials who have a sense of common good and will act to never see them. ... They beprotect the general inter-

est of the citizens. "Democracy itself is not the same thing as the public good," Jortner said. "... But democracy, in Madi-

When you build trust in the community, you knit things back together, and that gives the public good some strength. That can't be done on social media, but it can be done face to

-ADAM JORTNER

Goodwin-Philpott Eminent Professor of Religion, Auburn University

son's view, is a tool of the public good. The public good pre-exists the government. ... Life, liberty, pursuit of happiness – these things transcend the political order."

But to protect the common good and confront the issues of factions, Jortner said many do not know what they should do.

"When we encounter a group of people who are trying to do something wrong for political gain, to help themselves and not the public good, most of us are not able to make those people care about the public good merely by willing it so," Jortner said. "Our worry doesn't change the world."

Many people in modern society use social media in an unproductive way to attempt to preserve the public good; however, Jortner believes people who truly want to preserve democracy must speak up in their local communities and figure out how to talk to peo-

ple who disagree with them. "One of the big challenges of living in a country that has become dominated by social media is that you never have to talk to someone face to face," Jortner said. "... In other words, it is difficult to have a civil conversation with someone over a social media platform because you will come defined in our minds by their politics alone, and we are never able to see them as a person who ex-

ists outside of that." Engaging in civil conver-



GEORGIA PRESSLEY / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Adam Jortner, the Goodwin Philpott-Eminent Professor of Religion at Auburn University, lectures on "The Gospel and the Ballot Box: A History" Wednesday in the Hall of Philosophy.

sation with someone who has different political views builds community, according to Jortner, which in turn helps build public good and serves democracy.

"Having friends and acquaintances with whom we disagree is critical, and it's in real trouble because we have been allowed ... to cut people off because of their political opinions," Jortner said. "In other words, we say your politics has to pervade everything. I am not saying that we should ignore justice. ... I'm not saying we should never get angry, but we can't

just scream into the void. We can't just condemn and then be done with it."

Drawing from his personal experience of running for office as a Democrat in the state of Alabama, Jortner said many people were able to hold a conversation with him, despite what their political beliefs were.

"I ran as a Democrat in a very conservative area of east Alabama. How many people said to me, 'I won't shake your hand' of the 2,000 people I met? One," Jortner said. "They didn't agree with me. I know a lot of them didn't vote for me. But they were able to shake my hand, and sometimes, we shared a couple of words. And to me, that was important. ... It taught me that in the end, democracy is government by strangers."

To rebuild a democracy that people trust, Jortner believes people must try to create trust in every aspect of their lives.

"When you build trust in the community, you knit things back together, and that gives the public good some strength," Jortner said. "That can't be done on social media, but it can be done

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The Jane and Tom Becker Endowment for Amphitheater Programs supports the performance with Lyle Lovett and his Large Band at 8:15 p.m. tonight in the Amphitheater.

When Tom Becker announced that he would retire at the conclusion of 2016, Chautauqua's leadership committed themselves to honoring Tom and Jane's 32 years of service to the Chautauqua Foundation and Institution. Announced in October 2016 and backed with the generous support from the community, an endowment fund in their honor garnered commitments of \$1.8 million. In honoring Tom and Jane Becker, a lead group of over 50 Chautauquans ensured that the contributions Jane and Tom made to the programmatic quality of the Institution will continue to be felt in the years to come.

The Jane and Tom Becker Endowment for Programs underwrites lectures, performances or events taking place in the Amp, providing enjoyment and inspiration for current and future Chautauquan audiences.

The Beckers moved to Chautauqua County in 1985 when Tom was hired as the vice president for development at Chautauqua Institution. In 1990, he moved into the role of executive vice president of the Chautauqua Foundation before becoming its CEO. In 2003, he was elected president of the Institution. Since retirement, Tom has become a board member of the Ralph C. Sheldon Foundation in Jamestown, New York, which devotes financial assistance to advance the physical, educational and cultural well-being of the people in the southerly portion of Chautauqua County. Also upon retirement, Tom returned to the board of the Lincoln Institute for Land Policy and joined the board of the Spy Museum.

to the U.S. Economic De-

Beginning in 1985, Jane Becker served as executive director of the Private Industry Council of Chautauqua for 14 years and has worked as an executive coach and consultant since 2002. Jane also serves as a board member of the Dibert Foundation in Jamestown, which funds educational endeavors and opportunities to help the disadvantaged in Chautauqua County. Jane is a founding member of the Coalition of Chautauqua County Women and Girls. The Beckers have three daughters and four granddaughters and continue to live in Lakewood, New York.

Clinger Lectureship underwrites Drutman's morning presentation

Becker Endowment supports Lyle Lovett and his Large Band

The William and Julia Clinger Lectureship supports the lecture by Lee Drutman at 10:45 a.m. today in the Amphitheater.

was created in August 2007 by current and former members of the Chautauqua Institution Board of Trustees and directors of Chautauqua Foundation to honor William F. Clinger Jr.'s service as chairman of the board of Chautauqua Institution.

Pennsylvania. He attended The Hill School, received a bachelor's of arts from Johns Hopkins University in 1961, and a bachelor of Clinger Lectureship fund Virginia in 1965. He served in the United States Navy as a lieutenant from 1951 to 1955, and worked for the New Process Company of Warren, Pennsylvania, from 1955 to 1962. After being admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar Association in 1965, Clinger served in a private law practice in Warren and Bill was born in Warren, served as general counsel

velopment Administration. Bill was elected as a Republican to the 96th and was reelected to the eight suc-The William and Julia law from the University of ceeding Congresses (Jan. 3, 1979, to Jan. 3, 1997). While in the House of Representatives, he was chairman of the United States House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight. He also served as a delegate to the Pennsylvania state constitutional convention from 1967 to 1968, and the Republican National Convention in 1972. Bill served as a Fellow to the Institute of Politics through John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University (1997-1998) and as a senior fellow in the political science department of Johns

> ning in 1997. He was honored in 2006 with the Woodrow Wilson Award for Public Service from Johns Hopkins University. The post office in Warren was named in his honor for his years of service in Congress and the Warren community.

Hopkins University begin-

Chautauqua, worked at The Chautauquan Daily in his youth, served as commodore of the Yacht Club, a trustee from 1997 to 2007, and chairman of the board of trustees from 2001 to 2007. He also served on the Renewal Campaign Cabinet and the Idea Campaign Cabinet as a volunteer fundraiser. Bill was a third-generation Chautauquan and property owner. He passed away in

May 2021. Julia, who died in 2016, was a graduate of The Masters School in Dobbs Ferry, New York, and an honors graduate of Connecticut College for Women in New London, Connecticut. She was a member of the 1992 class of the Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle, a former board member and life member of the Bird, Tree & Garden Club and a life member of Smith Memorial Library.

Their four children and seven grandchildren have spent part of every summer of their lives at Chautauqua.

Chautauqua Institution **Corporation Meeting Set For August 13, 2022**

The annual meeting of the members of the Chautauqua Corporation will be held Saturday, August 13, 2022, beginning at 10 a.m., at the Hall of Philosophy, Chautauqua Institution, Chautauqua, New York. At that time, the Corporation will review the Institution's financial statements and elect an individual to serve as a Class B Trustee on the Board of Trustees pursuant to the Institution's bylaws. Chautauqua Institution's audited financial statements may be found at https://chq.org/about/board-of-trustees/.

Class B Trustee Nominations

election as a Class B Trustee.

Any member of the Corporation is eligible to be nominated for

Nominations for Class B Trustee must be submitted by a member of the Corporation.

All nominees for the position of Class B Trustee must be identified in writing to the

Secretary of Chautauqua Institution not more than thirty (30) days (July 14, 2022) and not less than ten (10) days (August 3, 2022) in advance of the annual meeting of the members of the Corporation, to provide the Secretary with sufficient time to ensure that each such nominee is eligible for election as a Class B Trustee, to ensure the compliance by the nominee(s), prior to election, with the requirements of the Corporation's Conflict of Interest Policy as required by the New York State Not-for-Profit Law, and potentially to make adequate arrangements for the logistics associated with presentation of multiple nominees for the position of Class B Trustee at the annual meeting of the members of the Corporation. The Institution will provide information about all eligible nominees prior to the meeting.

Voter Designations

Members who are not the sole individual owner of their property and who wish to cast a ballot for the election of Class B Trustee at the Saturday, August 13, 2022 Annual Corporation meeting must assign and complete the voter designation form which must be received and filed with the secretary of the Corporation no later than 10 days (August 3, 2022) prior to the Corporation meeting.

Proxy Voting

If you wish to assign a proxy for your vote, please contact the Corporate Secretary, Rindy Barmore, at rbarmore@chq.org. Voters wishing to assign a proxy must do so no later than August 3, 2022.

Note: All proxy, nomination, and voter designation forms must be issued by the Corporate Secretary in order to be eligible. Please contact the Corporate Secretary, Rindy Barmore at rbarmore@chg. org if you wish to receive forms or require further information.

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39 Nonsense 40 Blockhead 41 Portland

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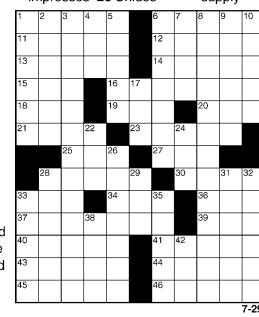
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42 Saloon supply



AXYDLBAAXR is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

CRYPTOQUOTE

V W D Q PWDAD KAD Q U CADKP PFCDAM

NDDX GUZQPKFQM, DTDQ

GUQRDO BKQ SDBUGD RFQC.

BWFQDMD XAUTDAS Yesterday's Cryptoquote: WALKING WITH A FRIEND IN THE DARK IS BETTER THAN WALKING ALONE IN THE LIGHT. — HELEN KELLER

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday

Difficulty Level ★★★

3 5 6 8 9 5 9 3 6 2 8 4 9 6 8 5 4 3 2 4 5 8 6 4 6 2 8 9 3 8 4 5 6 7 6 5 8 3 9 3 6 9 4

6

9

Difficulty Level ★★★

2

RELIGION

Prayer leads to action, standing where God stands, says Jordan-Simpson

he weather was a little iffy, with the possibility of rain, Thursday morning during the ecumenical worship service in the Amphitheater.

The Rev. Emma Jordan-Simpson reassured the congregation that if it did rain, she would do what her Aunt Doris did when Jordan-Simpson was a child.

'When rain or thunder threatened, Aunt Doris would tell us to 'Get somewhere, sit down and be quiet. God is talking. Listen to God.' When the storm was done, Aunt Doris would ask, 'What did God say?'" Jordan-Simpson said.

On Thursday morning, her sermon title was "Praying in Motion," and the Scripture reading was Matthew 6:5-13.

Jordan-Simpson had the honor of having a prayer she wrote included a book called Standing in the Need of Prayer: A Celebration of Black Prayer, published in 2003 by the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. The book contains a collection of photographs that capture many aspects of Black spirituality, coupled with prayers from the Schomburg

Coretta Scott King wrote the foreword to the book, and Jordan-Simpson read a paraphrased version of it:

"Throughout the epic freedom struggle, the great sustainer of hope is the power of prayer. From the slave ships, the auction block, the lash, people followed the drinking gourd," Jordan-Simpson read. "When homes and churches were burned and bombed, people lynched by racist mobs, the sustainer of hope was the power of prayer to open

"An open heart is how we make vital connections and overcome obstacles to discover God's will," she told the congregation. "King was convinced that prayer gives strength and hope of divine companionship in the struggle."

Trust is an important part of our relationship with God. "We have to trust God to be God in our real, messy lives," Jordan-Simpson said. "As we walk with our neighbors and kin over the rough road, it is hard to be in relationship with 'whosoever wills,' but we are all in need of grace. We are not instruments of God's will in the struggle for justice if we are closed off from the transformation of an open heart. The struggle demands an open heart.'

In the Scripture reading from Matthew's Gospel, Jesus told the crowd not to "heap up empty phrases when they prayed."

'Before we had a pandemic, we had an epidemic of closed hearts," Jordan-Simpson said.

In 2018, AJ Willingham, who writes for CNN about trends in American society, published an essay titled "How 'Thoughts and Prayers' Went from Common Condolence to Cynical Meme."

Willingham said that the phrase "thoughts and prayers" was repeated until it lost all meaning. It reached a point she called "semantic satiation," and said not only did the words no longer have meaning, they became "something ridiculous, a jumble of letters that feels alien on the tongue and reads like gibberish on paper."

"People with the power to make change can't, and so they offer up 'thoughts and prayers.' The phrase is cruel, cynical, poisonous and shows a smallness of spirit," Jordan-Simpson said. "It reflects the limitation of relationships and closed hearts."

She continued, "People say the same words without any action. It would be different if they had no power, but they have incredible power."



MORNING WORSHIP

COLUMN BY MARY LEE TALBOT

She gave an example of what people who are in pain hear when people with power say, "Our thoughts and prayers are with you."

"Sally and I should probably feel devastated, but we don't, because it is not happening to us or anyone we know. You don't matter to us, and if you did we would effect change, but we don't care," Jordan-Simpson said.

Jesus taught the crowd that prayer was more than words. Jesus offered them a posture of prayer to emulate so they could be with each other and with God.

When Jordan-Simpson's youngest child was 2 years old, she insisted on leading the family prayers at the dinner table.

"She would have us hold hands and would look around to see if our heads were bowed. If mine was not, she would say, 'Mommy, bow your head,'" Jordan-Simpson said. "Then she would say 'Our Father.' That was it and then she would look at each of us to seal the prayer."

Jordan-Simpson called this an act of coming together. Her child said "Our Father" not "My Father, just for me." She made

The world watches people of faith in prayer "performing, but God sees us," Jordan-Simpson said. "It is the point of prayer to stand in companionship and trust with God."

The Rev. Frank A. Thomas, in his lecture for the African American Heritage House on Wednesday, said companionship with God requires people to be naked.

"That makes me shiver," Jordan-Simpson said. "Nakedness looks like deep dependence on God, requires deep self-awareness, a refusal to ignore the real circumstances of life. We have to bring the pain, death and hunger around us because they are the matter of our lives."

God holds precious the lives of Indigenous people seeking water rights, Asian Americans who are victims of hate crimes and Black trans women whose murders are met with silence. "God knows where God stands," Jordan-Simpson said. "Our

prayers are postured where we choose to stand with God." The Psalms, she said, are honest communications of com-

panionship with God. "My husband and I will have been married 34 years in Au-

gust," she said. "He is the one person I have to be honest with. I might not want to be, but I have to be." The Psalms show that the people of Israel trusted God

with their rage, despair, revenge and joy. They trusted God to hold these emotions with them so they could expect to just be human. "We have to stand ready to be in God's presence so we don't waste God's time," Jordan-Simpson said. "God cares

to God, but where we stand. We lean into God, and God leans into us to do what we need to do. That is why 'The river is chilly and cold, chills the body but not the soul."

Author and abolitionist Frederick Douglass wrote that he had not really prayed until he prayed with his legs and trusted God enough to walk to freedom. Jordan-Simpson called this "prayer in motion."

Abolitionist and freedom fighter Sojourner Truth worked through the courts in New York to get her son Peter back after he had been sold.

"She held God accountable to God's own character," Jordan-Simpson said. "She told God, 'If I had something you needed, I would give it to you. You can make these people do for me, and there will be no peace until you do."

Jordan-Simpson continued, "Imagine a world turned to God with the spirit of Sojourner Truth. That spirit would stir the waters of the river."

In his book, Prayers for Dark People, W.E.B. Du Bois wrote prayers for students who were from the rural South. Their parents and grandparents had been enslaved, and he knew these children would understand the language of prayer.

"He knew that they had witnessed their land stolen, lynchings and violence, and he was determined to stand with them in their formative years," Jordan-Simpson said. "He spoke in the language of prayer so they could understand. He listened to God on their behalf." Jordan-Simpson uses a copy of Du Bois' for her prayers.

"I try to feel what he felt, to wake up to the words," she

said. "I am joined by the Spirit to do something in the world that breaks my heart; to see and feel the book keeps me in my body and keeps me moving to face the tragedies that break my heart."

The book inspires her during difficult times.

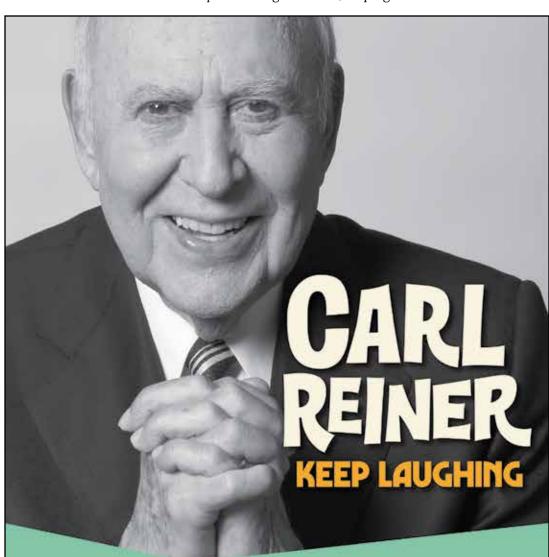
"The book helps me to speak when I feel like quitting," Jordan-Simpson said. "It keeps me connected to people I am not sure even like me. I am in the river trying to move, She urged the congregation that when they feel discour-

aged, to remember the people who put "their face to the rising sun," and worked for a future they would never see. They "prayed in motion," walking, fighting, moving, struggling.

"Prayer is not a jumble of words. The Spirit will move us so we go and stand with someone. Some of the most profound prayers have no words," she said. "Amen."

Deacon Ray Defendorf, co-host at the Catholic House of Chautauqua, presided. Linda Thompson Bennett, a member of the Motet Choir, the Chautauqua Choir and the Chautauqua Community Band, read the Scripture. The prelude was "Wedding Hymn," by Jennifer Higdon, played by members of the Motet Consort: Barbara Hois, flute, Debbie Grohman, clarinet, and Willie LaFavor, piano. The Motet Choir sang "Every Time I Feel The Spirit," a traditional spiritual arranged by William L. Dawson. Jim Evans served as soloist. The choir was under the direction of Joshua Stafford, director of sacred music and holder of the Jared Jacobsen Chair for the Organist. Nicholas Stigall, organ scholar, played "Partita on Detroit," by David Hurd, for the postlude. Unless otherwise noted, the morning liturgies are written by Chautauqua's Interim Senior Pastor, Natalie Hanson. Music is selected and the Sacred Song Service created by Joshua Stafford. For PDFs of the morning liturgies, send an email request to religionintern@chq.org.



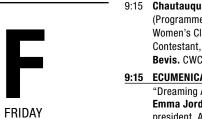


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PROGRAM



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JULY 29

- 7:00 (7-11) Farmers Market
- (7-9) "Dawn Patrol" Round Robin Doubles. (Programmed by the Chautauqua Tennis Center.) Chautauqua Tennis Center
- 7:45 Mystic Heart Interspiritua **Meditation: Spiritual Practices** of World Religions. Leader: Ed Bastian (Interspiritual Meditation). Presbyterian House Chapel
- **Episcopal Holy Eucharist.** Episcopal Chapel of the Good Shepherd
- 8:00 Daily Word Meditation. (Programmed by Unity of Chautaugua.) Hall of Missions
- 8:45 Catholic Mass. Episcopal Chapel of the Good Shepherd
- 8:55 (8:55-9) Chautauqua Prays For Peace Through Compassion. Hall of Missions Grove
- 9:00 Nature Walk & Talk. (Programmed by the Bird, Tree & Garden Club.) Jack Gulvin, naturalist. Meet at lake side (back) of Smith Wilkes Hall

Foundation

9:15 Chautauqua Speaks. (Programmed by the Chautaugua Women's Club.) "Miss America Contestant, Voting Rights." Tally **Bevis**, CWC House

- 9:15 ECUMENICAL WORSHIP. "Dreaming Anew." The Rev. Emma Jordan-Simpson, president, Auburn Seminary. Amphitheater and CHQ Assembly
- 9:15 Jewish Discussions. (Programmed by Zigdon Chabad Jewish House.) "Kabalah on Meditation and Song." Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House
- 10:00 Opera Conservatory Masterclass. Craig Rutenberg. Masks required. Fletcher Music
- 10:15 Service of Blessing and Healing. UCC Randell Chapel
- 10:30 (10:30-12) Morning Doubles. (Programmed by the Chautaugua Tennis Center.) Email tennis@ chq.org the day before to secure your spot. Chautauqua Tennis
- 10:45 CHAUTAUQUA LECTURE SERIES. "Breaking the Two-Party Doom Loop." Lee Drutman, senior fellow. Political Reform program. New America. Amphitheater and CHQ Assembly
- 11:00 (11-5) Gallery Exhibitions Open. Strohl Art Center
- 12:00 (12-2) Flea Boutique. (Programmed by the Chautauqua Women's Club.) Shoppers limited to 12 at a time in 15-minute increments. Behind Colonnade
- 12:15 Prose Writer-in-Residence **Brown Bag Lecture.** (Programmed by the Chautaugua Writers' Center.) "The

Psalm 98: 4

Shout for joy to the

Lord, all the earth,

burst into jubilant

song with music;

Construction of Self in Nonfiction, or I forgot to Remember to Forget; Myself, or Persona Grata." David Lazar. Literary Arts Center at Alumni Hall Porch

- 12:15 Challah Baking Class. (Programmed by Zigdon Chabad Jewish House.) Zigdon Chabad Jewish House
- 12:15 Twelve Step Meeting. Marion Lawrance Room, Hurlbut Church
- 12:15 Chautauqua Dialogues. (Sponsored by the Department of Religion.) Everett Jewish Life Center
- 12:30 Garden Walk & Talk. (Programmed by the Bird. Tree & Garden Club.) Betsy Burgeson, supervisor of garden and landscapes. Chautaugua Institution. Meet at the main entrance to the Amphitheater
- 12:30 Post-Lecture Discussion. Anne Whitesell and Kevin Reunins, assistant professors of political science, Miami University of Ohio. Smith Wilkes Hall
- 12:30 Jumu'ah Muslim Prayer. Hall of Christ Sanctuary
- 12:30 Play CHQ. DIY "I Voted" Stickers. All ages. Bestor Plaza
- 12:45 Catholic Seminar Speaker Series. "Technology as an Analogy for Theology." The Rev. Jacob C. Ledwon. Methodist House Chape
- Stroke of the Day. Learn a new tennis stroke. Chautauqua Tennis
- 1:15 English Lawn Bowling. Free Instruction followed by game. Fee. (Pay at Sports Club.) Bowling
- Tosca Operalogue. Chautauqua Opera Company. Norton Hall
- 2:00 INTERFAITH LECTURE SERIES. "Go Back to Where you Came From: Or, How to Create the Ethnic Avengers." Waiahat Ali. author, Go Back to Where You

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- 2:00 Guest Piano Faculty Masterclass. Lydia Artymiw. Donations welcome. Masks required. Sherwood-Marsh 101
- Violin Masterclass. Nurit Pacht. Donations welcome. Masks required. Fletcher Music
- 2:00 Public Shuttle Tour of Grounds. Fee. (Purchase tickets at Main Gate Welcome Center. This tour is handicap accessible.) Leave from

Main Gate Welcome Center

- 2:30 Mah Jongg. (Programmed by the Chautaugua Women's Club.) Memberships available at the door. CWC House
- 2:30 (2:30-4:30) Afternoon Doubles. (Programmed by the Chautauqua Tennis Center.) Email tennis@ chq.org the day before to secure your spot. Chautauqua Tennis Center
- 3:30 Chautauqua Dialogues. (Sponsored by the Department of Religion.) Hurlbut Church
- 3:30 Chautauqua Dialogues. (Sponsored by the Department of Religion.) UU House
- 3:30 Chautauqua Dialogues. (Sponsored by the Department of Religion.) Episcopal Cottage
- 3:30 Islam 101. "Islam in America." Sabeeha. Khalid Rehman. **Hurlbut Church**
- 4:00 OPERA. Tosca. Norton Hall Guest Faculty Recital.
- Christopher Taylor, piano. Masks required. Elizabeth S. Lenna Hall
- 4:30 Takeout Dinner. Farmer Brown's BBQ Pulled Pork Dinner. (Programmed by the Chautauqua Women's Club.) Fee. CWC House
- 5:00 Hebrew Congregation Evening

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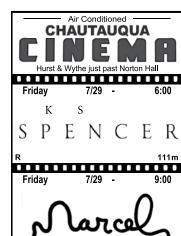
- 5:00 (5-6) Kids Clinic. (Programmed by the Chautauqua Tennis Center.) Chautaugua Tennis Center
- 6:00 Cinema Film Screening. "Spencer." Fee. Chautaugua Cinema
- 6:30 School of Music Viola Studio Recital. Donations welcome. Masks required. Fletcher Music
- 6:45 Community Shabbat Dinner. (Programmed by Zigdon Chabad Jewish House.) RSVP required. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House
- 8:15 SPECIAL. An Evening with Lyle Lovett and his Large Band. (Reserved seating available: purchase tickets at tickets.chq. org, or by visiting Ticket Office, Visitors Center or Amphitheater screen house during ticketing hours.) Amphitheater
- 9:00 Cinema Film Screening. "Marcel the Shell with Shoes On." Fee. Chautauqua Cinema

JULY 30

7:00 (7-11) Farmers Market

7:15 Mystic Heart Interspiritual **Meditation: Spiritual Practices** of World Religions. Leader: Carol McKiernan (Silent Meditation/Centering Prayer) Hall of Philosophy

8:00 Annual Old First Night Race. (Programmed by the Sports Club.) Prior to Saturday e-visit forms.oldfirstnight.com to sign



- up. Race day morning registration available at 7 a.m. for additional fee. Sports Club **Hebrew Congregation Sabbath**
 - Service, Rabbi Aaron Bisno and Susan Goldberg Schwartz. Kiddush lunch to follow. Hurlbut Sanctuary 9:30 Chabad Jewish House
 - **Community Shabbat Service.** Rabbi Zalman Vilenkin. Kiddush to follow at 12:15 p.m. Zigdon Chabad Jewish House
 - Torah Study. "Today's Torah for Today's Times." Rabbi Rob Morais. Marion Lawrence Room. **Hurlbut Church**
 - 10:00 NOW Generation Summerfest. Youth Activities Center
 - 10:15 Sabbath Morning Worship Service. Rabbi Rob Morais. Jessie Thorpe, cantorial soloist. Kiddush lunch to follow. Hurlbut Church Sanctuary
 - 11:00 (11-3) Pop-Up Flea Boutique Sale. (Programmed by the Chautaugua Women's Club.) CWC
 - 12:00 Play CHQ. Free play and equipment check out. Boys' Club
 - 1:00 (1-5) Gallery Exhibitions Open. Strohl Art Center
 - 2:00 Contemporary Issues Forum. "The Sneaky War: Russia, China, the U.S. and the Emerging Strategic Paradigm." Sean McFate, senior fellow, Atlantic Council. Hall of Philosophy
 - 2:00 Public Shuttle Tour of Grounds. Fee. (Purchase tickets at Main Gate Welcome Center. This tour is handicap accessible.) Leave from Main Gate Welcome Center
 - (Sponsored by the Department of Religion.) Focus on the preceding Contemporary Issues Forum. Chautauqua Women's Club at Hall of Missions

3:15 Chautauqua Dialogues.

- 4:00 Chamber Music. The Tempest Trio. Elizabeth S. Lenna Hall
- 5:00 Catholic Mass. Hall of Philosophy
- 5:00 The Mother Of Us All Operalogue. Chautauqua Opera Company. Smith Wilkes Hall
- 6:00 Cinema Film Screening. "Marcel the Shell with Shoes On." Fee. Chautaugua Cinema
- 8:15 OPERA. The Mother Of Us All. Amphitheater
- 9:15 Cinema Film Screening. "Spencer." Fee. Chautauqua



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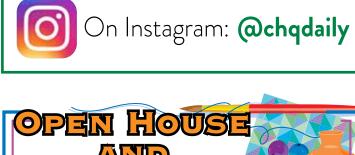
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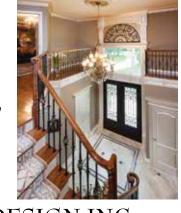


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