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CHICAGO AUTO SHOW

by Nate Daniels, editor



The 2024 show runs Feb. 10-19 at McCormick Place and opens to the public daily at 10am. Adult ticket prices are \$17; seniors ages 62 and older are \$12; children ages 4-12 are \$12; kids 3 and younger are free. Show hours vary by day so please check the site for details.

To purchase tickets to the 2024 Chicago Auto Show, or for more information, visit their website at: ChicagoAutoShow.com.

The Future's Front Seat! Forget rocket cars and flying saucers, the future of driving just pulled up to the curb at the Chicago Auto Show, and it's got some serious wheels. Buckle up, gearheads, because we're about to take a wild ride through the concept cars that stole the spotlight, leaving tire tracks of excitement and a whiff of "what if?" in their wake.

Cadillac Escalade IQ: Move over, Jetsons, this luxury SUV is about to redefine family road trips. Imagine a living room on wheels, where the kids can play virtual air hockey on the panoramic windshield while you cruise on autopilot, serenading them with holographic Frank Sinatra. And if the scenery gets boring? Just project the Grand Canyon onto the side panels, boom, instant road trip upgrade. Word on the street is the engineers even snuck in a hidden espresso machine, because who needs road rage when you've got caffeine?

Chevrolet Blazer EV: This electric beast is the wilderness explorer's dream come true. Imagine scaling Martian mountains with zero emissions, the only sound being the satisfying crunch of Martian gravel under its knobby tires. Forget gas stations, this thing charges wirelessly from passing solar panels, talk about sustainable off-roading! And get this: the roof doubles as a giant sunroof, so you can stargaze while you recharge. No need for a campfire, just roast marshmallows with a built-in laser beam (don't worry, it's totally safe).

Hyundai IONIQ 6: This sleek sedan is the lovechild of a spaceship and a minimalist latte foam art masterpiece. It's got more curves than a Kardashian selfie, but with a purpose: slicing through air resistance like a futuristic butter knife. Inside, it's all zen and eco-friendly materials, like recycled ocean plastic seats and a dashboard powered by photosynthesis (yes, really!). Forget traffic jams, this car practically levitates on a bed of positive vibes.

These are just a taste of the futuristic rides that graced the Chicago Auto Show.

**BUCKLE UP, GEARHEADS:
CONCEPT CARS AT THE 2024 CHICAGO AUTO
SHOW ARE BLASTING INTO THE FUTURE**

They're not just cars, they're glimpses into a world where driving is more than just getting from point A to point B.

Ford E-Transit: Okay, hear me out on this one. Vans. Not exactly the epitome of automotive excitement, right? But hold onto your hubcaps, because the E-Transit is about to revolutionize the delivery game. Imagine silent drones buzzing around the city, delivering your groceries before you even realize you're hungry. Or picture pop-up mobile clinics unfolding like origami cranes, bringing healthcare directly to people's doorsteps.

2024



Volkswagen ID. Buzz: Remember the iconic VW Microbus? Well, it's back, baby, and it's traded its flower power vibes for a full-blown tech revolution. This electric minivan is basically a mobile smart home, complete with voice-activated everything, a built-in projector for movie nights under the stars, and solar panels that power the whole shebang. Think of it as a giant rolling hug, ready to whisk you and your friends on sustainable adventures.

These are just a taste of the futuristic rides that graced the Chicago Auto Show. They're not just cars, they're glimpses into a world where driving is more than just getting from point A to point B. It's about exploration, connection, and pushing the boundaries of what's possible. So, buckle up, folks, the future of driving is here, and it's looking pretty darn electric (and maybe a little bit mind-blowing).

Some might scoff at the "pie-in-the-sky" nature of these concept cars. But hey, the Model T was once just a twinkle in Henry Ford's eye, and flying cars were science fiction until someone strapped wings to a lawnmower. So buckle up, gearheads, the future is coming, and it's got four wheels and a whole lot of electric dreams.

Not-So-Secret Secrets

The Chevy Silverado EV's "frunk" (front trunk) has a built-in cooler for post-mudding beers.

The Honda Prologue's seats massage with bamboo rollers – nature's way of solving road rage.

The VW ID.BUZZ has a built-in projector for outdoor movie nights. Now you can finally justify that popcorn machine purchase.

So, get ready for a future where gas stations are museums and stop signs are relics of a bygone era. The 2024 Chicago Auto Show just proved that the road ahead is paved with imagination, and the only speed limit is the laws of physics (at least for now). So buckle up, put down your phone (no selfies while driving, folks!), and let's embrace the electrifying future of automobiles. It's gonna be a wild ride.

Bonus Quips

"The Cadillac Escalade IQ is basically a mobile five-star hotel room. Just don't ask the concierge to fold your clothes – the robots haven't quite mastered that one yet."

"The Chevrolet Blazer EV is like a Swiss Army knife for the apocalypse. Just make sure you pack enough protein bars for the Martian road trip."

"The Hyundai IONIQ 6 is so aerodynamic, it could probably outrun a speeding ticket. Just don't tempt fate, folks."

"The Ford E-Transit is the ultimate proof that even vans can be superheroes. Just don't expect it to wear a cape (unless it's solar-powered, of course)."

"The Volkswagen ID. Buzz is the definition of good vibes on wheels. Just make sure you don't forget the vegan marshmallows for the projector movie night."

So there you have it, a sneak peek into the future of driving, served with a side of fun and a sprinkle of futuristic flair. Now, excuse me while I go daydream about cruising around Mars in a Chevy Blazer EV!

Bonus Fact

Did you know the Chevy Silverado EV's "Watts to Freedom" launch mode was inspired by a secret team of engineers who moonlight as drag racers? Now that's a story for another time...



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Clearing The Air

by: Mike at Night

We are required by law to bring our vehicles and pass a test for carbon emissions here in Illinois, otherwise you wouldn't be able to renew your vehicles registration. If you don't, you'll have your drivers license suspended and be fined. Mind you, there are NO testing facilities in the City of Chicago, where there are over 2 million registered vehicles! There are only 2 facilities outside of Chicago that are 4 miles or more from the city, which means hours on the road, contributing to emissions.

I recently had my "check engine" light come on, and had to get it fixed in order to pass the test. Now get this, it was fixed, but mechanic told me I had to drive 75 miles before the emissions facility would allow it to be tested, because the engine light gets reset after the work, and it's brought back to zero mileage. I didn't know, but 75 miles is the minimum miles emission testers require in order for it to be tested. So by driving 75 miles around

the city for no reason, just get tested, I'm contributing to global warming! Sorry, I just had to laugh!!

Meanwhile, the biggest offenders to emissions in our atmosphere are those who are jetting across the globe, leaving tonnes of CO2 carbon emissions in the air each and every day, which I can imagine would be more than all the cars emissions combined the world for a month, a year or perhaps more!

While climate change demands a shift towards sustainable practices, some celebrities continue to jet-set around the globe in luxurious private planes, leaving a significant carbon footprint in their wake. Here's a look at top US entertainers and their impact on the environment the most:

TAYLOR SWIFT: Her plane, dubbed "The Falcon," topped the 2023 list by Yard for emitting a staggering 22,923 tonnes of CO2, equivalent to roughly 1,779 average Americans' annual emissions. Critics argue this reflects frequent loaning, but the figure raises environmental concerns nonetheless.



FLOYD MAYWEATHER: This boxing legend's jet logged the most flights (177) in 2023, emitting 7,076.8 tonnes of CO2. Notably, one recorded flight lasted just 10 minutes, highlighting the issue of short, unnecessary trips.



JAY-Z: His Puma-owned jet generated 6,981.3 tonnes of CO2 due to 136 flights. While Puma claims the jet benefits athletes, the rapper's personal usage contributes significantly to emissions.

Private jets emit far more CO2 per passenger than commercial flights, making their environmental



impact disproportionately high. For example, the Mayweather's single 10-minute flight mentioned above produced as much CO2 as the

average person emits in an entire year. These short hops, often within the same state, raise questions about the necessity of private jets for short distances.

The issue goes beyond mere statistics. These celebrities, with their immense influence, could be leading by example, promoting sustainable travel choices and advocating for climate action. Instead, their frequent private jet use sends a conflicting message, undermining their potential to be positive environmental role models.

While celebrities have the right to choose their travel options, public awareness of the environmental consequences of private jet use is crucial. Holding them accountable and encouraging them to make more sustainable choices, even for business or leisure, can push the needle toward a greener future. Ultimately, celebrities have the power to influence societal norms and set a positive example for environmentally conscious living.



Continued >>

Clearing The Air

Alongside the previously mentioned jet-setters, several other US entertainers and high-profile personalities contribute significantly to private jet emissions. Here are more names on the top of the list.

KYLIE JENNER: The youngest Kardashian-Jenner sister notoriously logged 174 flights on her Global 7500 aircraft in 2023, emitting an estimated 4,465 tonnes of CO₂.



Many flights covered short distances, like one 12-minute hop from Van Nuys, California to Camarillo, California. This reality TV star and makeup mogul's jet, nicknamed "Kylie Air," came under fire in 2019 for taking a 17-minute flight, highlighting the issue of extremely short trips with

immense environmental impact. Her estimated annual CO₂ emissions from private jet travel are around 4,465 tonnes.

TRAVIS SCOTT: Kylie's partner, rapper Travis Scott, also makes frequent use of private jets, with his Gulfstream G650 generating 3,975.5 tonnes of CO₂ from 130 flights in 2023. Similar to boxing super star Mayweather, some flights clocked in at under 30 minutes. The rapper's jet, dubbed "Cactus Jack," logged 153 flights in 2023.



DRAKE: This Canadian rapper's Boeing 737 "Air Drake" is a behemoth in the sky, contributing an estimated 3,590.3 tonnes of CO₂ from 109 flights in 2023. While Drake justifies the jet for touring and business needs, its sheer size and frequent usage remain an environmental concern.



While details on specific flights are limited, Drake's frequent global travel undeniably adds to the overall carbon footprint of celebrity private jet usage.

KIM KARDASHIAN: Keeping up with the family's jet-setting ways, Kim Kardashian's Gulfstream G650 emitted 3,430.5 tonnes of CO₂ from 142 flights in 2023. Notably, the reality TV star and businesswoman often uses the jet for personal trips, highlighting the issue of luxury travel's environmental impact.



The reality TV star and entrepreneur's jet, dubbed "Kim Air," involve frequent private jet trips, contributing to the environmental burden.

OPRAH WINFREY: Even media mogul Oprah Winfrey isn't immune to the allure of private jets. Her Global Express XRS emitted 3,295.4 tonnes of CO₂ from 94 flights in 2023. While known for her philanthropic efforts, Oprah's jet, dubbed "Oprah's Gulfstream," adds to celebrity emissions.



Of course, these are just a few that are seemingly the worst offenders from data collected from various sources, and doesn't get to the hard core facts. I can only imagine that by digging deeper, professional researched data would uncover a lot more than the tips of the iceberg that we see. The objective here is to raise awareness about the issue and encourage a broader conversation about sustainable travel choices, even among the elite.

There are ways for celebrities and high-profile individuals

to mitigate the environmental impact of their private jet travel. These include offsetting their carbon emissions by investing in renewable energy projects or



carbon capture technologies can help compensate for the CO₂ generated by their flights.

They also can choose the best fuel-efficient jets and opting for newer models with lower emissions can make a significant difference.

Another way is by flying strategically. Meaning combining trips, avoiding unnecessary short hops, and maximizing passenger capacity can reduce the environmental footprint.

Ultimately, the responsibility for promoting sustainable travel lies with everyone, celebrities and elites included. By making conscious choices and advocating for environmentally responsible practices, we can all contribute to a greener future for our planet.

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The recent incident involving Taylor Swift and AI-generated “reveling” photos adds another layer of complexity to the conversation about familiarizing ourselves with this technology.

HERE’S HOW IT CONTRIBUTES TO THE GOOD, BAD, AND MESSY!

THE GOOD

Public outcry and advocacy: The public response to the incident has been overwhelmingly supportive of Swift, highlighting the growing awareness of online harassment and the need for stronger protections. This collective voice can drive necessary changes in policies and practices.

Technological solutions and countermeasures: Tech companies and researchers are actively developing tools and algorithms to detect and remove deepfakes, offering hope for mitigating the harmful impacts of this technology.

Open dialogue and community support: The incident has sparked important conversations about AI ethics, online safety, and the importance of supporting victims of deepfakes. This open dialogue can foster collaboration and proactive solutions to address these challenges.

THE BAD

Deepfakes as harassment: The incident highlights the potential of AI to be used for malicious purposes, with deepfakes becoming a tool for online harassment and exploitation. This raises concerns about the safety and privacy of individuals in the digital age.

Victim blaming and shaming: Unfortunately, some media narratives focused on Swift’s actions or appearance, minimizing the seriousness of the violation. This victim blaming reinforces the harmful culture of online harassment and distracts from the core issue: the misuse of AI.

Lack of regulation and enforcement: The incident underscores the need for clear legal frameworks and regulations to hold perpetrators accountable for creating and disseminating harmful deepfakes. Currently, laws in many countries lag behind the technological advancements, leaving victims vulnerable.

THE MESSY

Balancing free speech and individual rights: Striking a balance between protecting freedom of expression and safeguarding individuals from harmful online content is a complex challenge. Finding ways to combat deepfakes without infringing on legitimate artistic expression or stifling public discourse requires careful consideration.

AI literacy and digital awareness: The incident emphasizes the importance of educating the public about AI and its potential dangers. Raising awareness about deepfakes, their limitations, and how to identify them empowers individuals to protect themselves and others online.



The Taylor Swift incident serves as a stark reminder that AI familiarization requires a nuanced approach that acknowledges both its potential and its pitfalls. By critically examining the good, bad, and messy aspects of this technology, we can work towards a future where AI empowers rather than exploits, and individuals feel safe and respected in the digital landscape.

SELF TRANSFORMATION HEALTH & WELLNESS

THINGS HAVE CHANGED



by: Dr. Charla Waxman *BS, MBA, EdD*
Director of Business Development at Lake Behavioral Hospital

THE NEW NORMAL LOOMS.....

Covid-19 presented us with a host of changes in our lives that many of us never saw coming. It caused us to experience work and relationships, both personal and professional, through technology.

At first, we hated it. Zooming and face timing and incessant phone calls from home were cumbersome and annoying. Our work and home lives could not possibly be productive from the same location. We wanted to be in the workplace at our desks, seeing our colleagues in meetings and at the water cooler. We wanted to drive to Grandma's on the weekends to be with family.

Then the ease of zoom (once we mastered it), took hold and working from home began to feel just right. Visiting with the family was actually more frequent and meant no travelling, no driving risks, weather didn't matter, more family members could zoom and it was really fun! We even began connecting with friends and neighbors, re-energizing old relationships that had been left behind in the hustle and bustle of everyday living. Now workplace managers who are asking for a return to the office by employees are getting plenty of pushback. Wow! Things have changed.

The new normal is here and the newly-coined phrase "tele-everything" has taken over. Is this a good thing or has our society taken a turn for the worse?

For those of us who worked from home, for those of us who began shopping and ordering food online and for those of us who did online learning, we had to figure out how to get connected, get

things done, and get what we needed. The good news is, many of us are, by necessity, now much more technology-connected. The bad news is that there are also those who, for a multitude of reasons (lack of computer availability, discomfort with learning about "connecting" or lack of desire to do things differently) are now at a disadvantage in many life aspects. From social engagements to job seeking, to schooling and to resource connections, those without tele-knowledge and techno-support may end up lacking in life accoutrements.

work harder and smarter or employees work less and are more laissez-faire about their productivity.

All in all, this is a lot to think about and to mete out and understand. Mental health concerns and conditions will definitely be at risk. Change in the workforce, change in school and learning and continued social isolation will impact how people feel about themselves and their outlook on life. Change is hard. Coming to terms with this external force that has been placed involuntarily



Some believe that changes in the workplace due to Covid-19- augmented work environments, changing them to home-work locations has increased job satisfaction, saved people money, and reduced childcare concerns. Employers have argued both sides indicating employees

in our lives is not simple and it is not easy. Know yourself, know what you are equipped to manage and how tele-everything is going to work for you. This isn't going to happen overnight. We will be dealing with the outcomes of Covid and technological changes for a very long time.

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DEACON BLUES

by: **Jorge Suarez**

Chicago Producer, Music Aficionado

Late last month I drove out to the Arcada Theatre in St. Charles, Illinois to catch the Steely Dan cover band, Deacon Blues.



There are usually a handful of bands that specialize in recreating the original group. To my knowledge, there are quite a few Steely Dan cover bands but I was impressed with these 13 talented musicians.



All heavy weights in the music industry. We were in for quite an evening as popular hits such as "Black Cow", "Do It Again", "Aja" were played. There were a few jam sessions allowing for the legendary Chicago bassist, **Richard Patterson** (played with **Miles Davis**, **Michael McDonald**, and **Boz Scaggs**) to display his expertise as well

as drummer **Ben Johnson** (played with Ramsey Lewis), keyboardist and lead singer **Thomas Linsk** and keyboardist, **Ben Lewis** (plays with **Gary Sinise's Lt. Dan Band**), and main man founder/guitarist and singer, **Steve Kikoen**.

Certain classics such as "Rikki Don't Lose That Number", and "Hey Nineteen" had the audience on their feet.



I was also impressed by another Chicago musician, vibraphone icon **Jason Patterson** who also solo jammed. On the sax was **Cash Michaels**, **Tim Bales** on trumpet and on percussions, Trombonist **Rich Lapka**, and **Megan Thomas**, whom also threw down with a percussion solo. Megan was involved with the Echoes Of Pink Floyd project.

After a short break, the band performed "Bodhisattva".

A song created for the Peanuts Gang and there is an interesting story behind this song. The song was originally created by Steely Dan. The word refers to a person whose aim is to become fully enlightened.



The group performed "Josie" and "Kid Charlegmane". So much talent in one band but hats off to the female trio/singers. **Ebonie Taylor**, who belted out a rendition of the **Staple Singer's** "I'll Take You There", **Pamela Rose** who belted out **Ami Stewart's** "Knock On Wood," and **Sally Blandon** singing **Amy Winehouse**.

Just when I thought the show was over, my all-time favorite "Reelin' In The Years" kicks in. Throughout the show, visuals of original Steely Dan members, flashed on the screen, along with a creative light show. What a way to end the evening. I've done some research and there are a handful of Steely Dan cover bands. It's difficult to rate until you've listened to more than one, but I would definitely revisit this band.

COMMENTARY UNCENSORED



by: Screamin' Rachael
Recording Artist, Entrepreneur, Publisher, Music Mogul, House Music Icon, sometimes Controversial, with a dash of Opinionism for good measure.

The opinions offered in this column are "uncensored" and are intended for "open dialog" and "entertainment purposes" only. Use of this column not intended to replace or be a substitute for any professional, financial, legal, advice or any other professional service. The opinions or views expressed in this column are those of the columnist, and not necessarily those of anyone else.

Oops I did it again! Literally spilled the TEA! You know there are certain advantages with the digital age. Now anyone can tell their story and spread the word FAST! Something I've been interested in for quite sometime is podcasting.

I've talked and talked and talked but never got around to it, until a couple of Saturdays ago **Jorge Cruz**, a friend who I have worked with for many years, told me we are doing a podcast tomorrow on Sunday! Well that did sound ambitious and kind of scary, but it's not. I mean you can make things a lot more complex and build a podcast studio or be bare boned like us. You can even use your phone, but I think it's best to use a computer. So here we go! Step 1) Open a Zoom account. Step 2) Learn how to set up a meeting. Step 3.) Start recording. Step 4) Start Talking. Im sure there are lots of other platforms that you can use, but I've used Zoom for a long time. I know there are services to send out your content. But all I did on my end was record on my computer, and then upload it to YouTube.

You do need a YouTube account, but everything I've talked about is free. I'm not too tech savvy but this isn't difficult stuff. So Jorge said "send me some questions," but I'm lazy and it's more work than I had time for. We both agreed to just be ourselves. Now you can look for "Trax Records First Official Podcast," on just about any digital platform! I personally prefer written word like this column. However, I would encourage others to try podcasting if they have been thinking about it. If you have the gift of gab and can just let it flow, then this is easier. No editing required, unless you want to.

Now what's crazy is that you're literally uncensored. I feel that It's liberating being completely uncensored, both here and in the podcast. Believe me, I've been completely and thoroughly warned not to do either of these things. In spite of the warnings, I went ahead anyway. I just got sick of everyone trying to censor me, especially because of legal gag orders. Luckily those on the other side who have disregarded their gag orders are free game. Sometimes I name names, other times I drop hints, but we're the information age, where the truth will eventually come out.

We always seem to get in trouble with our small team at TRAX Records, no matter what. Perhaps it's because on our team we have two strikes against us. Jorge Cruz, is a transgender avant-garde artist, and I'm a woman. It's hard not to take it personally when It feels like the message they are sending us is:

"How dare you try to run a legendary company?" in what's considered a mostly male dominated industry. All the big boys say we can't, but we've been here doing it for many years.



Ok we aren't rich, but somehow everyone literally wants to take what we have, or change the way we do things completely! However, it wouldn't be fair not to mention supporters like DJ ThadX, label manager, and fantastic producer, and Mark, my counterpart, who prefers not to be named because he's behind the scenes person that likes his privacy. He is very grounded and a good business professional. He reminds me everyday that Jorge and I are not normal. He also reminds me that we do not live in the real world, but regardless, he respects our creativity and the fact that we won't let anyone stop us.

Speaking of "big boys," let's talk about TaP Music. They do management and publishing. TaP's management roster includes such artists as **Caroline Polachek**, **Lana Del Rey** and **Ellie Goulding**, while its publishing roster boasts **Yaeji** and **Dermot Kennedy** and others.

Before TaP launched a massive lawsuit against me, they were managing Dua Lipa and others I mentioned above. TaP's music co-founder, CEO and manager **Ben Mawson**, was also involved with the BBC's Eurovision participation, the United Kingdom's song contest. He also is involved in Sports Management and has offices around the world.

Well the first thing TaP did was contact my attorney. They asked if I would be interested in selling TRAX Records. They said they "would make me a very rich woman," but I would have to step aside. Much to everyones surprise, I simply said no! My husband and other associates could not believe that I did not ask them "how rich and how far!" I am crazy, but I don't give a damn, because it's not about the money! Now when you tell rich and powerful people no, they aren't used to hearing it. So since I didn't sell out, their next course of action was to launch a lawsuit and use **Larry Heard** and **Robert Owens** against us! I don't blame the artists, we are all just pawns in the game of big business.

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>> **UNCENSORED** *Continued*

It's how Rockefeller got so rich by buying up the little guys, or crushing them to eliminate the competition. Capitalism 101.

So, they couldn't buy me out, now game was to sue me for copyright infringement and take the ENTIRE COMPANY! At one point during our meeting, they said I could keep proceeds from 50%, if I would just step away... I told them that my answer was again, NO! I wasn't around when those guys signed their contracts, but I imagine and knew what was in them.

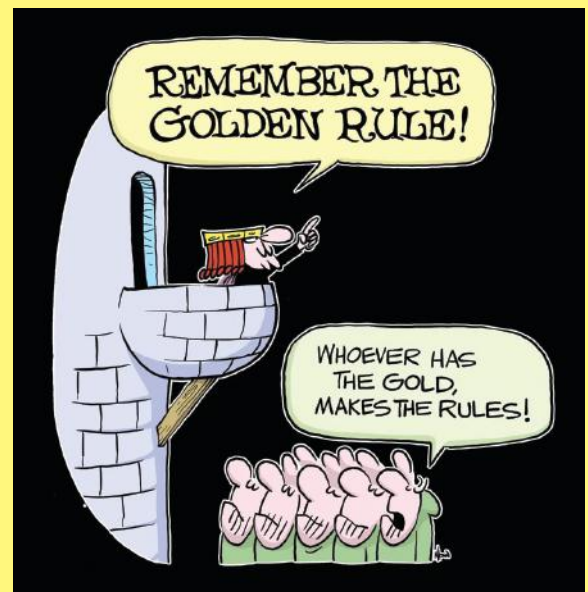


Dua Lipa & manager Ben Mawson

Ok, at one point when they told me they wanted their music back, I said YES IMMEDIATELY! That wasn't enough, big boss Mr. Mawson said "if I didn't sell the entire company, he would never stop litigation!" So the playbook strategy for those who don't sell out is to sue them, tie them up in litigation involving them with a long and costly legal battle, until ultimately they run out of money. Look up "predatory practice," the game plan is big no secret!

I asked Mr. Mawson why someone as big as him wanted to take away my little company? He managed Dua Lipa, and she was one of the biggest pop stars in the world. I told him that my new artists and I were happy the way we were. He said "we have a better way." Well like Jorge said, "who the hell are they and what do they do?"

Well we settled which included a confidentiality clause, and gag order. Their attorney quickly broke all of that by speaking publicly, so game on! He said they won among many other disparaging remarks! If you read the lawsuit you would think I was a white, greedy, racist bitch, but I proved I'm not. I feel that I won because I got to keep my company. Mr. Mawson came back after all that and said he'd still like to be my partner. I've have to say I went a little crazy and probably got too emotional.



I questioned why their attorney resorted to slander. Well said Mr. Mawson, "He no longer works for me." I asked why their publisher John Truelove lied about me in the press accusing me of making tons of money? Well Ben said, "He's the publisher and that he had nothing to do with him." Meaning what? I screamed "HOW COULD I EVER TRUST YOU?" A snake is a snake and though he said he could help me and my career, all the lies they told and the slander really hurt. In fact they even wound up getting money NOT BECAUSE THEY WON. Our Attorney advised never to give it to them. All I wanted was an apology and I never got one.

I used to let hurtful people get to me, but now I don't. By the time you read this Dua Lipa will have bought the rights back to her publishing catalog from TAP Music Publishing. SHE SPLIT! We had all the rights but gave them back. However, she had to pay. I nearly lost everything defending the company, but in the end I would gladly do it all again.

Anyway there is a lot more juicy stuff in the podcast, so give it a listen. Is there a moral to this story? I guess if so, it would be the Golden Rule "whoever has the gold, makes the rules," a saying made popular by cartoonist Johnny Heart that ran in a newspaper in the early '60s

Crazy people like me don't put a price on someones head! Perhaps you are one of us... So thanks to all the artists and fans that believe and support us. Maybe you are broke, as most of us are these days. Just "like-us" on social media and spread the music. Kind words and hearts go a long way.

To get more details about what happened, you can listen to the podcast. There's a link on: www.traxrecords.net that will take you to it.

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by Nate Daniels, editor

Have you heard of 211? It's a free hotline connecting people to everyday services and are working to make connecting with health and social service support easier. 211 Metro Chicago is a free 24-hour helpline that serves Chicago and the suburban Cook County area. It's essentially a referral service with an extensive database of organizations and businesses. It's a partnership between United Way, the city of Chicago and Cook County.

The service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. "There's bilingual services in English and Spanish, but whatever language you call in, we will find someone who can translate for you.

The 211 hotline has assisted more than 100,000 people across Cook County. The service is free, and you can reach them by calling, texting or asking a question through the 211 Metro Chicago website.

Here is a list of (x)11 numbers reserved for special purposes:

211 - Community services

Where available, 211 services provide free and confidential services that help people across North America. Questions about human trafficking, disaster assistance, food, health, housing utilities, as well as jobs and support for veterans or some of the services offered.

311 - Municipal government services

Many large cities have deployed 311 services to offload non-emergency requests from citizens. Without 311, quite often cause of this nature end up at already over-burdened 911 centers, creating further congestion, and potentially blocking emergency call traffic. By deploying a 311 Center, constituents are able to inquire about any service, from trash collection to reporting graffiti, or a pothole requiring street repair. Also, Social Media text messages from Twitter allows citizens to establish an interactive, multimedia touch point that promotes goodwill with citizens young and old. T

411 - Often used for directory services

Even though the phone company published a printed copy of the telephone book, 411 information services are often established to provide directory assistance or local information. With pay phones decreasing and cellular services in, usage has declined.

511 - Traffic information services

511 has been established for road and weather information as the transportation and traffic information telephone hotline. Where available, mobile and landline travelers can dial 511 for information and updates about their location.

611 - Reserved (local telephone company repair)

Like 411 services, 611 has been reserved in the NANP but not specifically assigned to a particular use. In some areas, 611 was historically used as a test code for linemen on the street

711 - Telephone Device for the Deaf (TDD) and relay services

Every telephone company must connect persons who dial 711 to a Telephone Relay Service (TRS) from a device on a working number. This rule was extended to include all VoIP telephones in July 2007 by the Federal Communications Commission.

811 - Call before you dig service

In March of 2005, the FCC established 811 as the universal number that would coordinate location services for underground public utilities.

911 - Emergency Services

Single-number access for all emergency services, including police, fire and medical.

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ASK CHAR

The views and/or advice expressed here are my personal opinions, based on my life experience, and don't necessarily reflect the opinions of any other individual or organization. Have a question? eMail me at AskChar@boiMAG.com

Dear Char,

"I am constantly arguing with my best friend and I'm not sure what to do, is it time to let go, or is there hope for salvaging our relationship?"

Dear Arguing in Aurora,

What creates a friendship? It usually is built around common interests. You might begin by spending time together doing things that you each enjoy or by exploring new places or things that you can teach each other about. The friendship builds with a good blend of the new and old in activities and in interest.

In almost all relationships, we do begin to see things that we don't necessarily find appealing. With friendship, sometimes the loyalty and emotions connected to the relationship can cause us to overlook those things.

Over time and with the familiarity of the relationship, the things that bother us about our friend put pressure on the relationship. The feelings of comfort in your relationship may cause the differences between you to rise to the surface and uncomfortable conversations begin to occur.

I am sure that sometimes you think, "Maybe I should just let this argument go and just start over". You may feel selfish or self-centered for thinking mean thoughts or placing all the blame for the disagreement on your friend. Other arguments have you feeling, "This is enough! I am not going through this again, it is over!" If the friendship has value, then anxiety hits as you realize that memories of fun times may be all you will have and future fun times are at risk.

What to do? First look at what causes the "fights" and how do they end?

Is it just normal relationship friction or are there big issues, like character or ethics concerns that have been discovered?

Second, look at what a toxic friendship looks like. If you are answering yes to these questions, maybe this relationship has run its course:

Are you feeling like you are putting more into the relationship than he/she is?

Is there a change in loyalty?

When he/she asks to go out, do you feel a sense of dread?

Are you making excuses to leave early or to not spend time with them even when you aren't arguing?

Do you just generally hate how you feel when you are with him/her?

Does this person make you feel bad about being you?

Does each disagreement contain foul language, accusations, gossiping behind your back or even threats?

Real friends have real conflicts. It is inevitable. But what the conflicts look like, how long they last and what the next meet-up looks like and feels like should be taken into consideration. If you answered yes to the toxic relationship questions, you are at risk and an ending may be in order. If bickering is about opinions and current events and is aggravating, but stimulating conversation, maybe there are some actual life lessons being learned and new ways of hearing each other may be all that is needed.

Seek longevity in friends, but always seek health. If you just feel like you need to look at your own behavior more and feel like professional help could be needed, call Lake Behavioral Hospital. 855-990-1900, 24/7/365, is the call to make for a free confidential level of care assessment.

Understanding Quantum Computing: How Does it Differ from Traditional Binary Computing?

Quantum computing is a fascinating field that challenges the traditional binary computing systems we are all familiar with. While binary computing uses bits to represent information as either a 0 or a 1, quantum computing utilizes qubits, which can exist in multiple states simultaneously thanks to the principles of superposition and entanglement.

It's like having an army of mini-me versions of yourself working on different parts of a puzzle at once

Imagine you're at a party, and everyone is either wearing a black or white hat. In binary computing, each person can only wear one hat color at a time, black or white. However, in quantum computing, people can wear both colors simultaneously! This means that qubits can hold more information and perform calculations much faster than traditional bits.

The Principles of Superposition and Entanglement

In quantum computing, qubits can exist in a superposition of states. This means that instead of being limited to just 0 or 1 like classical bits, qubits can be in a combination of both states at once. It's like Schrödinger's cat being both alive and dead until observed!

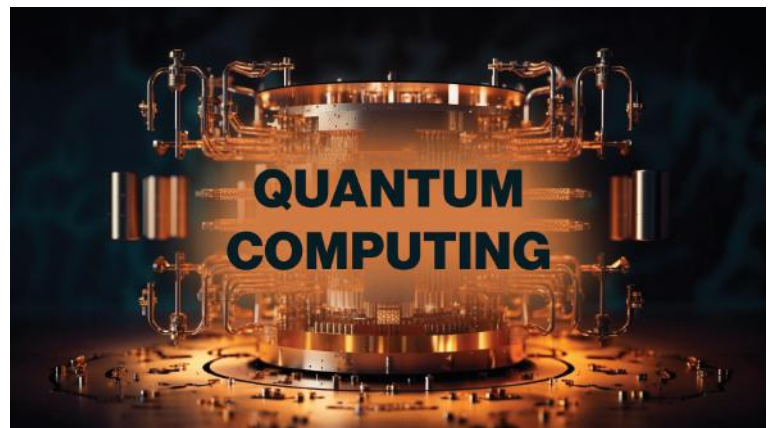
Entanglement takes this mind-boggling concept even further. When qubits become entangled, their states become linked, no matter how far apart they are. It's like having two friends who always finish each other's sentences – except in the quantum world, this connection happens instantaneously!

The Power of Parallelism

This ability for qubits to be in multiple states simultaneously allows quantum computers to perform parallel computations. While classical computers solve problems one step at a time, quantum computers can explore many paths simultaneously. It's like having an army of mini-me versions of yourself working on different parts of a puzzle at once, talk about multitasking! This parallelism gives quantum computers the potential to solve complex problems much faster than classical computers.

Quantum Computing: The Wild West of Technology

Quantum computing is still in its infancy, and it's an exciting time to be part of this frontier. Scientists and researchers around the world are racing to harness the power of qubits and unlock the full potential of quantum computing. As we dive deeper into this non-binary world, we'll explore the principles behind quantum computing, understand its advantages over traditional systems, tackle challenges in implementation, and discover its practical



It's like having a supercharged sports car zooming past a bicycle – sorry, classical computing, but you've been lapped!

applications across various industries. So buckle up and get ready for a wild ride through the quantum realm!

Continued >>

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In the early 1980s, physicist Richard Feynman first proposed the concept of quantum computing as a means to simulate and solve complex problems that were beyond the capabilities of classical computers. His idea was based on harnessing the principles of quantum mechanics, which allow for the existence of superposition and entanglement. However, it wasn't until the late 1990s that significant progress was made in developing practical non-binary quantum computing systems.

"QUANTUM COMPUTING" DID SOMEONE SAY NON-BINARY?

Breakthroughs in Non-Binary Quantum Computing

One key breakthrough came in 1995 when mathematician Peter Shor developed an algorithm that could efficiently factor large numbers using a non-binary quantum computer. This algorithm demonstrated the potential power of non-binary quantum computing and sparked further interest and research in the field. Since then, scientists and engineers have been working tirelessly to overcome various challenges and limitations to make non-binary quantum computing a reality.

The Rise of Non-Binary Quantum Computing

Non-binary quantum computing has gained increasing attention and momentum in recent years due to advancements in qubit technology, error correction techniques, and improved understanding of quantum algorithms. With major players like IBM, Google, and Microsoft investing heavily in research and development, we are witnessing a new era in computing that promises unprecedented computational capabilities.

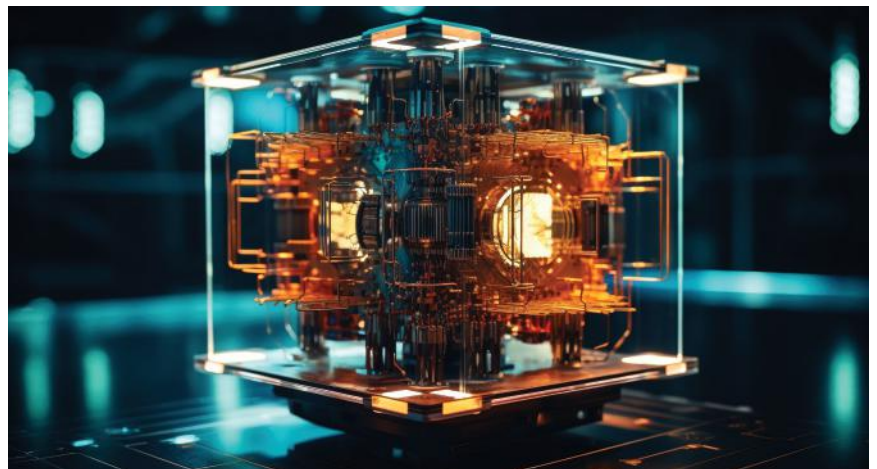
Superposition

One fundamental principle behind non-binary quantum computing is superposition.

In classical computers, bits can only exist in one state (either 0 or 1) at any given time. However, qubits used in non-binary quantum computers can exist simultaneously as both 0 and 1 due to superposition. This allows for exponentially more possibilities and computational power.

Entanglement: Quantum Coherence

Another crucial principle is entanglement, which refers to the correlation between qubits that enables them to share information instantaneously regardless of their physical separation.



This phenomenon of quantum coherence allows non-binary quantum computers to perform complex computations in parallel and achieve remarkable speed-ups compared to classical systems.

Measurement and Quantum Gates

This is an essential aspect of non-binary quantum computing as it collapses the superposition into a definite state, providing the final result of a computation. Similar to classical logic gates, manipulate qubits by applying operations such as rotations or flips. These gates are used to build quantum circuits that execute specific algorithms.



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