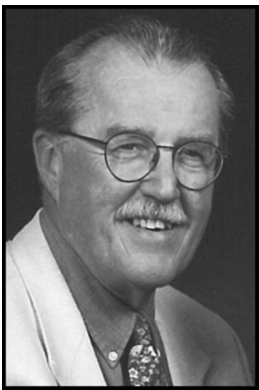


# OBITUARIES

## FRANCIS E. BURNETT

PRESEQUISLE - Francis E. Burnett, 85, passed away April 18, 2016. Visiting hours will be at Faye Funeral Home, 5 Erskine St. in PI from 1 to 2pm Saturday, April 23, 2016 with a Memorial service to follow at 2pm. fayefuneralhome.com



ARMAND A. PLOURD

ROCKLAND - Armand A. Plourd 76, died peacefully, surrounded by his loving family, Wednesday, April 20, 2016, at Sussman House in Rockport. Mr. Plourd was a longtime local business owner, as well as Personnel Safety Director at Dragon Products. He was the beloved husband of Helen Doherty Plourd.

Family and friends are invited to visit from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Sunday, April 24, 2016 at Burpee, Carpenter & Hutchins Funeral Home, 110 Limerock Street, Rockland. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at 10:00 a.m., Monday, April 25, 2016 at St. Bernard's Catholic Church, 150 Broadway. Interment will follow at Coughlin Cemetery, Rankin Street. All are invited to a light reception immediately following the burial, at 104 Limerock, adjacent to the funeral home.

To read a full obituary, and to share a memory with the Plourd Family, please visit their Book of Memories at

www.bchfh.com.

## In Memoriam

In Loving Memory Of  
**ROGER JOSEPH GARRITY**  
Feb 11, 1935 - Apr 21, 2015



It's been a year since you left us, our hearts still ache with sadness, and many tears still flow. It broke our hearts to lose you, but you did not go alone. A part of us went with you the day God took you home.

All our Love,  
Corinna,  
Ang, Lori, Joe and Kathy

# Harold J. Morowitz, biophysicist and witty essayist, dies

BY BART BARNES

THE WASHINGTON POST

Harold J. Morowitz, a biophysicist known within his field as a leading authority on the origins of life and to the wider community as an author of humorous essays on subjects including the thermodynamics of pizza, overpriced breakfast cereal and the use of the guillotine, died March 22 at a hospital in Fairfax County, Virginia. He was 88.

The cause was complications from sepsis, said a son, Noah Morowitz.

Since 1988, Dr. Morowitz had been a Clarence Robinson Professor of biology and natural philosophy at George Mason University in Fairfax County. He had earlier spent 32 years at Yale University, where he became a professor of molecular biophysics and biochemistry.

Morowitz's research led him to propose ideas about evolution and the origins of life on Earth. In a departure from many other theories in this area, he suggested that life was generated through the working of fundamental physical and chemical laws on the environment that existed immediately prior to the emergence of the first living organisms.

And he was prominent among those involved with efforts to link the scientific concept of entropy to the origin of life. Entropy is a unifying concept that provides insight into the behavior of physical systems on the basis of the flow of energy to them and from them, and how their overall orderliness or disorderliness increases or decreases. His books included "Energy Flow in Biology" (1968).

In the early 1980s, Morowitz testified in the Arkansas court case McLean v. Arkansas — sometimes called "Scopes II" — in which parents, scientists, religious groups and others successfully challenged a state law calling for the teaching of "creation science" in schools alongside evolutionary biology. Morowitz gave expert testimony that there is no scientific basis for the creationist belief in the origin of life and therefore it should not be taught as science in the public school curriculum.

At George Mason, he was one of the first faculty members to join the Robinson Professor program, which brings to the university's Northern Virginia campus distinguished senior faculty members at other institutions to

focus on undergraduate teaching.

This semester, he was teaching an honors course, "Reading the Arts: Biological Themes in Literature." He had written essays on this theme, one of which he began by confessing, "For years I have been practicing English without a license."

He helped establish at George Mason the Krasnow Institute for Advanced Study, named for the late Northern Virginia businessman Shelley Krasnow, who gave \$20 million to GMU. A body of scholars, including four Nobel Prize-winners, determined that the institute would function as a think tank to study the brain. Morowitz was its director from its opening in 1993 until 1998.

Harold Joseph Morowitz was born in Poughkeepsie, New York, on Dec. 4, 1927. His father was a newspaper and magazine distributor. He graduated in 1947 from Yale, where he also received a master's degree in physics in 1950 and a doctorate in biophysics in 1951.

He was on the Yale faculty from 1955 to 1987, including five years as master of Pierson College, one of the residential colleges at Yale.

Morowitz, who lived in Fairfax County, was author or co-author of 19 books and was a consultant to NASA on space missions.

As an essayist, he liked to explore the application of scientific principles to such happenings as the retention of heat in a freshly baked pizza, the physics of washing a load of laundry, homeopathy, admissions to American medical schools, the evolution of snakes, the baking of bagels, the mixing of a martini, and a cross-cultural analysis of bathing habits.

In an essay titled "The Kindly Dr. Guillotin," he wrote of Dr. Joseph-Ignace Guillotin, a physician and deputy in the National Assembly of France in the early stage of the French Revolution who recognized and promoted the swift and efficient decapitation contraption that came to bear his name.

Guillotin, according to Morowitz, thought this method of execution was in keeping with the equality principle of the revolution by subjecting all capital offenders, nobility and commoners, to the same method of death. Previously commoners had died by the noose and aristocrats by the axe.

# Film looks at world of obit writers

New York Times department subject of behind-the-scenes documentary

REUTERS

LOS ANGELES — There are questions every famous person wonders, like, how many ugly pictures are there of me on the Internet, and has the New York Times already written my obituary?

The answer for most people is no. Although the Times has about 1,700 "advances," or drafts on file, the paper typically starts an obituary if someone is an octogenarian, has been in and out of Cedars-Sinai recently, or has a well-publicized drug problem.

As papers across the country run fewer daily obituaries, those tasked with summarizing a life in 800 words for the history books are becoming a rarer breed. A new documentary, "Obit," directed by Vanessa Gould, screening this week at the Tribeca Film Festival focuses on the New York Times obituary department. Like the 2011 documentary "Page One" that centered on the Times media desk, "Obit" offers a fly-on-the-wall look at the "death beat."

Director Vanessa Gould stumbled on the subject when her friend Eric Joisel, a French paper sculptor, and subject of her previous film, "Between the Folds," died. Gould alerted papers around the country to

Joisel's death and received a call from the New York Times' veteran obituary writer, Margalit Fox.

"[She] asked me guiding questions about his life, and I tried to map out the salient path," Gould said. "It made me really think about what the New York Times was doing with its obituary page and why they would commit pretty valuable journalistic real estate to an unknown French paper artist. Even after the obit ran, it lingered with me."

Gould approached the Times to see if they would participate in a film, and six years after Joisel's obituary ran, the documentary premiered at Tribeca.

The film explores how writers craft these pieces, and how editors decide what is newsworthy. The paper's general rule of thumb is if you made news in your life, your death also will be news.

"The household names, the Hollywood stars, the sports stars, those kinds of people are pretty obvious to us, and their fame alone will get them a large obituary when the time comes," William McDonald, obituaries editor at the Times, said.

But, as the film explores, editors also look for lesser-known figures who made a lasting impact.

"We look at people who may not be as prominent but

otherwise did something really important, and meaningful, who may deserve the attention even if they didn't get a lot of it in their lifetime," McDonald said. "We look for people who changed the way we live."

Like most major news outlets, the editors prepare advances for prominent people. That means they are often weighing how likely it is someone could die.

"How old they are is a factor. If they are in the middle of their career we may not want to do something too soon, especially if they have more years to go, so we tend to write them when they are older and their body of work is done, and we can sit back and assess the full story and not have to go back and touch it up every three months," McDonald said. "Risk factors, if you are living a kind of life on the edge, maybe doing some things you shouldn't be doing, or if you are the president of the United States in a high security position, that will be a factor for us."

The paper gets word someone has died from all sorts of sources including family members, TMZ, agents and publicists.

"For politicians, and especially Hollywood stars, if you had of flack in life, they will do this one last act of spin for you in death," Fox

said. "We have literally gotten glossy press kits with 8-by-10 photos for the dearly departed."

It's easier to predict the demise of the elderly, but the paper has recently been caught off guard by several deaths such as David Bowie, Philip Seymour Hoffman, and despite several brushes with death, Amy Winehouse.

"We discovered [Philip Seymour Hoffman's] death on a Sunday morning — it was Super Bowl Sunday two years ago, and I was throwing a Super Bowl party, and I had to leave my own party to write the obit," Bruce Weber said.

Weber went into the office, and he happened to call an acquaintance of Hoffman who had found the body. The paper sent a reporter to the actor's apartment, and Weber dialed his theater sources. As he had for thousands of other subjects, Weber spent the day quickly researching Hoffman's career.

"Everybody is going to die," Weber said. "The Times is becoming the last place in American journalism where acknowledgements of worthy lives and newsworthy lives can be acknowledged."

The film does not currently have distribution, and it is being sold by Cinetic.

# Syracuse legend Pearl Washington dies at 52

SPORTS XCHANGE

Syracuse basketball legend Dwayne "Pearl" Washington has died of brain cancer, the school announced Wednesday. He was 52.

Washington was diagnosed with a brain tumor last summer and underwent surgery in August. The tumor was originally discovered and treated in 1995.

Washington played for Syracuse from 1983 to 1986, leaving after his junior season when he was chosen by the Nets with the No. 13 pick in the 1986 NBA draft. He played two years in New York and one in Miami before announcing his retirement after a brief NBA career in 1989.

Washington averaged 15.7 points and 6.7 assists per game at Syracuse and was chosen as a consensus All-American after the 1984-85 season. With Washington on the team, the Orange went to the NCAA Tournament three times and posted a 71-24 record. He ended his career as Syracuse's all-time leader in assists that still ranks third all-time.

Last season, Syracuse head coach Jim Boeheim spoke about Washington's place in the history of the program.

"There was no better guy and there's nobody who has meant more to our basketball program than Dwayne Washington," Boeheim said.

Washington's number 31 jersey was retired by Syracuse on March 2, 1996.

This past season's Syracuse team honored Washington by wearing orange warmup shirts with "Pearl" and "31" inscribed in white.

"During my time as Chancellor, I have come to learn how much the Syracuse community loves and treasures Dwayne 'Pearl' Washington," Syracuse chancellor Kent Syverud said in a statement. "Our thoughts and prayers are with Pearl's family and friends, and all those in Orange Nation who loved him."

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo wrote on Twitter: "My heart goes out to the family, friends and many adoring fans of Brooklyn native and Syracuse basketball legend, Pearl Washington."

# How politics and hip-hop saved the Hamilton \$10 bill

BY AMBER PHILLIPS

THE WASHINGTON POST

Alexander Hamilton seemed destined to share his starring role on paper currency with an American woman, thanks to the immutable forces of bureaucracy. His bill was up next for a redesign right as President Barack Obama decided to finally put a woman on one.

But something else Hamilton couldn't have fathomed — a Pulitzer-prize-winning hip-hop musical of his life becoming a hit that very same year — probably played a role in keeping the \$10 bill all to himself. Well, that and the fact that a viral campaign and women at the highest levels of political power wanted Hamilton to stay and someone else — specifically President Andrew Jackson — to go.

On Wednesday, they got their wish. The Treasury Department announced it would be putting Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill — an about-face from its original plan to put a woman (just who, specifically, was undetermined before Wednesday) on the \$10.

The original plan seemed to catch off-guard the advocates of putting a woman on U.S. currency, who had exclusively focused their efforts on the \$20 bill that frames controversial pro-slavery, pro-Native American-removal president Andrew Jackson's face.

At first, backlash to Hamilton was kind of muted. It was tough to complain about finally getting a woman on a dollar bill, but it also wasn't really what advocates wanted. "I'm excited to hear that our mission will be accomplished," Susan Aides Stone, Women on 20s director, told The Washington Post's Ylan Q. Mui and Abby Ohlheiser. She added she was resigned to letting Jackson stay on because it'd be quicker to swap out the \$10.

But as Ohlheiser reported, advocates felt there were solid reasons for getting rid of Jackson. Slate initially pitched the idea of doing away with the seventh U.S. president's face on the \$20 bill in 2014, writing: "Andrew Jackson engineered a genocide. He shouldn't be on our currency."

A group that calls itself W20, or Women on 20s, picked up the idea and ran with it. Earlier in 2015, before Lew's announcement, it coordinated an online campaign to replace Jackson. It went viral. More than 600,000 voters nominated Tubman, the nation's most famous abolitionist and the conductor of the Underground Railroad, to replace the man you could argue is her polar opposite.

W20 added its own convinc-



REUTERS FILE

A statue of Alexander Hamilton stands in New York's Central Park in 2015.

ing arguments for why Jackson should go. If the \$20 honored a woman by 2020, it'd also mark the 100th anniversary of women's suffrage, which would be neat. Plus, no one's actually sure why Jackson ended up on the bill in the first place back in 1928. The man didn't even like paper currency, after all, favoring gold and silver coins.

The proposal made it to Capitol Hill, too — if only symbolically. In April 2015, Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, D-N.H., introduced a measure to put a woman on the \$20 bill and got an introduction in the Senate — even as it was the sole duty of Treasury to make the decision, not Congress. Shaheen indicated there was a lot of support for her idea: "The incredible grassroots support for this idea shows that there's strong support for a woman to be the new face of the \$20 bill."

And if the Treasury was feeling pressure for its decision not to boot Jackson, it was also getting an increasing amount of pressure for its decision to boot Hamilton. The ethnically and musically diverse Broadway hit "Hamilton" was becoming too popular to ignore, as The Post reported in April. (The play won its Pulitzer just two days ago.)

A relatively overlooked founding father became the epitome of cool, and suddenly the fight to change the \$20 over the \$10 became as much about honoring a woman as it was about protecting the legacy of a man.

None other than the musical's writer, Lin-Manuel Miranda, gave the impression he personally lobbied Lew to keep his guy on.

I talked to @USTreasury about this on Monday. Sec. Lew told me "you're going to be very happy."

As The Post reported in

April:

"Hamilton," which takes an admiring look at the founder of the United States' financial system, debuted on Broadway nine months ago. It's gripped the country so deeply with the story of Alexander Hamilton that some tickets are going for \$1,365 per seat on the resale market, the L.A. Times reports.

Lew's a noted fan. He gushed in New York magazine about both the show and meeting Lin-Manuel Miranda, who plays Hamilton and wrote the hit musical, after the performance.

"When I met him, I said, 'Well, I've made my case,' " Miranda told the New York Times, concerning that backstage meeting.

Lew again met with Miranda the day before the cast played selections of the musical for the president last month.

"On Monday, Secretary Lew welcomed Lin-Manuel Miranda to the U.S. Department of the Treasury," said a Treasury department spokesperson in a statement, Variety reported. "The secretary and Miranda talked about the enduring mark Alexander Hamilton left on our nation's history and the secretary provided a brief tour of Hamilton's possessions and portraits on display at the Treasury Department. The secretary thanked Miranda for the ingenious way in which he has been able to tell Hamilton's story and ignite a renewed interest in one of our nation's founding fathers. Secretary Lew also reiterated his commitment to continue to honor Alexander Hamilton on the 10 dollar bill."

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