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Burlington Free Press

WEEKEND

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Cup of care
& ambition

Iconic performer's
empire stretched
far beyond music

Jessica Guynn, Hadley Hitson
and Betty Lin-Fisher

USA TODAY NETWORK

"I have a big dream
of having a big
empire based in
Nashville. What I
really want to do is
just to (do) – what
I've always done –
own myself."

Dolly Parton

In 1973, Dolly Parton wrote "I Will Always Love You" to soften the blow of leaving her business partner Porter Wagoner after years of producing hit country duets together.

Parton was ready to pursue a solo career. So she played the song for Wagoner to express her gratitude and her need to move on. The story goes that he cried, then let her go.

Released in March 1974, the country single reached No. 1 on the Billboard Hot Country Songs chart and caught the attention of Elvis Presley, who wanted to record it himself. But that would have meant Parton relinquishing half the publishing rights and therefore half the royalties.

Much as she loved Presley, she turned him down. When Whitney Houston recorded the song for the 1992 movie "The Bodyguard," the hit generated millions of dollars for Parton.

The decision to hold fast to her publishing rights early on resulted in a catalog of more than 3,000 songs – a treasure trove that generates compounding royalties and a rich musical legacy that she alone owned.

It was just the first in a series of savvy business moves to maintain complete financial and creative control that would come to characterize Parton's storied career.

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ABOVE: Dolly Parton sits in the bedroom of her apartment at Dollywood in 1999 as she discusses new areas she and her business partners planned to expand into. Over her career, Parton cultivated a fortune that Forbes pegs at \$450 million.

MICHAEL PATRICK/KNOXVILLE NEWS SENTINEL

Fire chief
takes on
international
leadership

Beth McDermott
Burlington Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

South Burlington Fire Chief Steven Locke has been sworn in as president and board chair of the International Association of Fire Chiefs, placing the Vermont fire service leader at the head of the world's largest organization representing fire and emergency service leaders.

The ceremony took place Aug. 14 during a conference in Kansas City, Missouri, according to a community announcement. The International Association of Fire Chiefs represents about 12,000 fire and emergency service leaders worldwide and has served the profession since 1873.

Locke's election follows a decade of leadership within the organization. He joined the organization's board of directors in 2016 and later served as treasurer and in several vice presidential roles before assuming the association's top

See LEADERSHIP, Page 2A

Esox bar
closing after
50 years

Brent Hallenbeck
Burlington Free Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

A "working-man's bar" in Burlington — as management liked to call it — has shut down after nearly 50 years in business.

Esox, which proclaimed in bold letters printed on a window that it was "across from the divorce court," announced Aug. 16 on social media that it has closed.

"Offered \$75 short of doubling our

See CLOSING, Page 2A



A window at the former location of Esox bar on Main Street in Burlington is shown Aug. 25.

BRENT HALLENBECK/BURLINGTON FREE PRESS

School-issued devices may track more than homework

Cate Charron
Indianapolis Star
USA TODAY NETWORK

INDIANAPOLIS – Orion Barbosa was sitting in class, frustrated with her teacher's lecture, when she sent a message to a friend using a messaging ser-

vice on her school-issued Chromebook.

"Oh my gosh, if he doesn't stop, I'm gonna punt him into the sun," she recalls the message saying. A few hours later, in math class, she texted the same friend something like, "If you give me 20 bucks, I'll slap him right now," about a friend who was annoying her.

By the end of the day, she and her friend were sitting in the principal's office with printouts of their messages in hand. She was questioned, and later lectured at length, since school administrators thought her jokes may have been a threat.

"That was a very scary realization of

like, 'Oh, they can see everything,'" Barbosa said. "A lot of people are like, 'Oh, well, it's a school device, you should know that you're being monitored,' but I think it's the intensity of the surveillance that takes people by surprise."

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