



Kelly Hanna, whose leg was amputated in 2020, received at least 18 artery-opening procedures on her legs from a Michigan doctor.

Patients Lost Limbs as Doctors and Health Care Giants Prospered

This article is by Katie Thomas, Jessica Silver-Greenberg and Robert Gebeloff.

Kelly Hanna’s leg was amputated on a summer day in 2020, after a Michigan doctor who called himself “the leg saver” had damaged her arteries by snaking metal

OPERATING PROFITS
‘The Leg Saver’

wires through them to clear away plaque.

It started with a festering wound on her left foot. Her podiatrist referred Ms. Hanna to Dr. Ji-had Mustapha. Over 18 months,

he performed at least that many artery-opening procedures on Ms. Hanna’s legs, telling her they would improve blood flow and prevent amputations.

They didn’t — for Ms. Hanna or many of his other patients. Surgeons at nearby hospitals had seen so many of his patients with amputations and other problems that they complained to Michigan’s medical board about his conduct. An insurance company told state authorities that 45 people had lost limbs after treatment at his clinics in the past four years.

Dr. Mustapha is no back-alley operator working in the shadows of the medical establishment, an investigation by The New York

Device Makers Finance
Cottage Industry for
Risky Procedures

Times has found. With the financial backing of medical device manufacturers, he has become a leader of a booming cottage industry that peddles risky procedures to millions of Americans — enriching doctors and device companies and sometimes costing patients their limbs.

The industry targets the roughly 12 million Americans with peripheral artery disease, in

which plaque, a sticky slurry of fat, calcium and other materials, accumulates in the arteries of the legs. For a tiny portion of patients, the plaque can choke off blood flow, leading to amputations or death.

But more than a decade of medical research has shown that the vast majority of people with peripheral artery disease have mild or no symptoms and don’t require treatment, aside from getting more exercise and taking medication. Experts said even those who do have severe symptoms, like Ms. Hanna, shouldn’t undergo repeated procedures in a short period of time.

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Creators Lead
Data Rebellion
To Protest A.I.

By SHEERA FRENKEL and STUART A. THOMPSON

For more than 20 years, Kit Loffstadt has written fan fiction exploring alternate universes for “Star Wars” heroes and “Buffy the Vampire Slayer” villains, sharing her stories free online.

But in May, Ms. Loffstadt stopped posting her creations after she learned that a data company had copied her stories and fed them into the artificial intelligence technology underlying ChatGPT, the viral chatbot. Dismayed, she hid her writing behind a locked account.

Ms. Loffstadt also helped organize an act of rebellion last month against A.I. systems. Along with dozens of other fan fiction writers, she published a flood of irreverent stories online to overwhelm and confuse the data-collection services that feed writers’ work into A.I. technology.

“We each have to do whatever we can to show them the output of our creativity is not for machines to harvest as they like,” said Ms. Loffstadt, a 42-year-old voice actor from South Yorkshire in Britain.

Fan fiction writers are just one group now staging revolts against A.I. systems as a fever over the technology has gripped Silicon Valley and the world. In recent months, social media companies such as Reddit and Twitter, news organizations including The New York Times and NBC News, au-

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ALBERTO PEZZALI/ASSOCIATED PRESS

A Surprise at Wimbledon

The unseeded Marketa Vondrousova beat Ons Jabeur in straight sets in the women’s final. Page 25.

‘They Just Think It’s Baseball, but Weird’: In Texas, an Unlikely Craze for Cricket

By J. DAVID GOODMAN

PRAIRIE VIEW, Texas — Drive northwest out of Houston, and as cow pastures wrestle back the flat expanse from the city’s tentacled sprawl, there arise along the road, suddenly, improbably, many, many cricket fields.

Head south to find a small cricket stadium nestled in the

suburbs, or west to find fields sprouting in county parks.

The game of cricket — a bat-ball-and-wicket contest of patience and athleticism that was born in Britain and is barely understood by most Americans — has surprisingly taken hold in the land of Friday night football. A surging population of South Asian immigrants around Houston and Dallas imported their favorite sport to their adopted home, where it has grown amid a

Lone Star culture of competition in all things, especially sports.

Cricket’s swift rise in Houston has attracted international attention and helped make Texas the launching pad for the sport’s first American professional league, Major League Cricket, whose inaugural season began on Thursday outside Dallas.

“One of the unknown things about Houston is the diversity of the population from many cricket-playing countries,” said

Tim Cork, a deputy consul general at the British consulate in Houston. “There are Indians, Pakistanis, there’s obviously a huge number of Brits here, Australian accents wherever you go.”

The number of people of Indian heritage in Texas has doubled over the last decade to half a million, according to estimates from the Census Bureau’s annual survey, with 73,000 in Harris County, which includes Houston, and 64,000 in suburban Fort

Bend County.

“When I came to this country, the only sport I knew was cricket,” said KP George, the county judge in Fort Bend, who immigrated from India in 1993. When he was elected in 2018, none of the county parks had a cricket field, he said. Now there are seven, and each is reserved for play months in advance.

“There’s a huge demand,” he said. “We’re working on a couple

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MAURICIO LIMA FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

There are many types of mines. This one sprays shrapnel.

INTERNATIONAL 4-11

Poisoned by Bootleg Liquor

Iran’s ban on alcohol has led to a wave of deaths linked to a flourishing and unregulated market. PAGE 4

2 Polluters Meet on Climate

The U.S. envoy John Kerry travels to China as Washington and Beijing restart talks on global warming. PAGE 10

NATIONAL 12-21

Hollywood’s Moment of Angst

The movie and television business is being buffeted on a dizzying number of fronts. The strike by actors is only the latest disruption. PAGE 18



SPECIAL SECTION

Turn Off the Stove

It’s summer, and for many of us it is simply too hot to actually cook. So we offer 24 recipes that skip the heat.

ARTS & LEISURE

Meet Postmodern Barbie

Margot Robbie and Ryan Gosling on the complexity found in turning dolls with a history into movie characters. PAGE 10

A Return to ‘Justified’

Timothy Olyphant seems relaxed about reprising the role of Raylan Givens, which transformed his career. PAGE 14

SUNDAY STYLES

Where the Trees Tell Tales

The Folly Tree Arboretum in East Hampton, N.Y., has gathered 250 specimens with interesting histories, like the useless Osage orange. PAGE 10



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Messi Officially in M.L.S.

The superstar is expected to join Inter Miami this week on a contract that runs through the 2025 season. PAGE 27

Gay Broadcaster’s Path

An openly gay broadcaster in minor league baseball has major league aspirations. It hasn’t been easy. PAGE 27

SUNDAY BUSINESS

Making the Next ‘Squid Game’

Netflix is thinking globally but acting locally, building worldwide audiences by focusing on regional tastes. PAGE 1

More Doom Than Balloons

Listening in on the pre-release preparations at a chatbot start-up revealed workers’ fear, panic and dread. PAGE 1

SUNDAY OPINION

Nicholas Kristof

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