

Auto evolution  
by **Tom Beaman '70**  
CostcoConnection  
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If it's been a while since you shopped for a car, it can be confusing, even intimidating, to consider all of the options offered in today's automobiles.

Here is a guide to understanding the latest automotive technology, as well as tips to help you navigate the choices for the best way to put yourself behind the wheel.

So it's time for a new ride. Today's vehicles have capabilities once only dreamed of. Here's what it all means.

#### The bells and whistles

The new auto technology can be daunting, but it's based on safety and comfort.

Understanding the dashboard. The dashboard has truly become a command console. Drivers can now:

- Stop and start their vehicle with the push of a button, and on some models even from their smartphone.
- Call for emergency assistance.
- Maintain a preset distance from other cars with adaptive cruise control.
- Let their car search for a parallel parking space and steer the vehicle into the spot.
- Help detect a flat with a tire pressure monitoring system.

"Infotainment" systems help drivers:

- Plot a course with onboard satellite navigation.
- Make calls and listen to/respond to emails and messages hands-free with Apple CarPlay and Android Auto.
- Choose from hundreds of channels on satellite radio.

Advanced driver assistance systems. As any mom will tell you, it's good to have eyes in the back of your head. Today's cars can help drivers be more aware of their surroundings and can even step in to help them avoid a collision.

"Features like blind-spot warning, around-view monitors, forward automatic braking and lane departure warning are all intended to keep you safer using cameras, radar and sonar," says Carla Bailo, president and CEO of the Center for Automotive Research in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Previously confined to the most expensive models, many of these features are available across the board.

Radar and cameras can identify other vehicles, cyclists, pedestrians and large animals, day or night, warning the driver if they detect an imminent collision, and can automatically apply the brakes if the driver doesn't react in time.

Sensors can also detect vehicles in blind spots during normal driving and traffic approaching from the sides when reversing out of parking spots.

A 2019 study by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety and the Highway Loss Data Institute revealed a 56% reduction in the rate of front-to-rear crashes with injuries in cars equipped with forward collision warning and automatic braking.

Hybrid or electric?

Over the years, as gas prices have soared and concerns about the environment have grown, hybrids have appeared in every vehicle segment.

Karl Brauer, executive publisher for Cox Automotive, overseeing Autotrader and Kelley Blue Book, says hybrid and batteryelectric vehicles serve the needs of different drivers, while offering zero or reduced fuel usage. To help sort through the maze of hybrid offerings, here are some basics.

Mild hybrid vehicles typically use an additional battery to assist the gas-powered engine to help increase fuel economy. Once the vehicle reaches cruising speed, the gas engine takes over. The batteries are recharged by capturing energy during braking, using the electric motor as a generator and storing the captured energy in the battery. A mild hybrid can boost fuel efficiency 10% to 15% and reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 25%.

"You can drive a mild hybrid just like a traditional car. They're great for conservative drivers who want better fuel efficiency without altering their driving behavior," says Brauer.

Full hybrid vehicles alternate between a gas-powered engine and electric motors, which are powered mostly by lithium-ion batteries. As with mild hybrids, the vehicle captures energy during braking and stores it in the battery. By combining battery power with a smaller engine, full hybrid vehicles can get from 40 to 50 miles per gallon without sacrificing performance.

Plug-in hybrids offer the fuel economy and performance benefits of other gaselectric models, but they can also be charged by an external power source. Plug-in hybrids offer a larger battery

and a range between 10 and 60 miles where they can be driven in electric-only mode. They can be charged in your garage or at the growing number of charging stations in city centers or shopping areas. Installing a 240-volt system at home can let you charge most plug-in hybrid battery packs in less than an hour.

Full hybrids and plug-in hybrids default to whichever power source provides the best efficiency in a given situation. That's typically electricity at low speeds when you need an extra boost for starting from a green light, and the gas-powered engine at high speeds or when the battery is nearly depleted.

"Full and plug-in hybrids are great for drivers who have low daily driving needs. They offer pure electric motivation for short trips and long-range capability without range anxiety," says Brauer.

Battery-electric vehicles (BEVs). There are now 16 fully electric vehicles on the market priced from \$30,000 to over \$100,000, with a typical range of 200 to 250 miles.

Bailo says electric vehicle range is increasing exponentially with every new battery that's introduced. She adds, "As technology improves, the price of electric cars will come down."

BEVs and plug-in hybrids may be eligible for a federal income tax credit of up to \$7,500.

Autonomous driving?

Many companies are testing autonomous cars on city streets. "It's inevitable," says Larry Burns, former head of research and planning at General Motors. "No new chemistry has to be invented to be able to create commercially viable autonomous vehicles. It's just a matter of learning and innovation."

He notes the technology is being tested today with "robo-taxis" that are used on hospital complexes, and by long-haul trucking and package delivery services. Silicon Valley startup Voyage is testing a self-driving taxi service in The Villages in Florida. "This isn't going to happen like flipping a light switch," Burns says. "But within three to five years, it's going to be clear to everybody that this is where the future's headed."

Many cars today include limited autonomous features that are designed to assist drivers, but not replace them. The driver should always be ready to assume control of the vehicle if the need arises.

Some systems use a camera and radar to maintain a gap with the car in front at a preset distance and to help to keep the vehicle centered in its lane, even on slight curves. The system can bring the vehicle to a full stop, hold it in place and bring it back up to speed when traffic starts moving again.

Pushing further into the autonomous zone, some systems enable hands-free driving on more than 200,000 miles of limited-access freeways in the U.S. and Canada using LiDAR map data, highprecision GPS and a network of camera and radar sensors. The system alerts drivers when it detects that they need to pay more attention to the road.

While we haven't yet attained the flying cars that were supposed to have arrived by now, there's no denying that we are in the midst of an exciting era of automobile evolution. Whether you're in the market for an electric, hybrid or traditional new or used vehicle, it's a braver (and safer) new world of driving.

Financing options

Buy or lease—what's best for you?

"If you lease, your monthly payments will likely be much lower, you're always going to have a new car with the latest safety features, it'll probably be more fuel efficient than the previous generation and it's always going to be under warranty," says U.S. News & World reporter John Vincent, who covers the auto industry. "But when the lease ends you have no equity to use for a trade-in."

He cautions that when you buy a car, you pay sales tax on the entire price of the car, not just on the amount due at the lease signing and the monthly lease payments. "You're going to pay a lot more sales tax when you buy," he says.

"The most important thing you'll ever do when looking at financing is to get everything arranged ahead of time," says Karl Brauer, who oversees Autotrader and Kelley Blue Book. "Have a confident sense of how much you're going to spend, then go to multiple banks and get a very concrete level of confidence of what your financing options are and how much the financing will cost you."—TB

"BEVs produce no exhaust emissions and have a very smooth, refined ride. They are perfect for drivers who can charge their vehicles overnight and rarely need more than 200 miles of range," says Brauer.

<http://www.costcoconnection.com/connection/202003/MobilePagedReplica.action?pm=2&folio=36#pg39>

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Looking to Help? Many Local Groups in Need of Volunteers, Funds

March 30, 2020 11:32 am

Brent Warren

Columbusunderground.com

Editor's note, 3/30/20, 11:33 a.m.: this article (originally published on March 18), has been updated with more information on ways to support local nonprofit organizations.

Keep up with regular news updates regarding Columbus and Ohio's response to COVID-19 here.

The needs are many in Central Ohio as it becomes more and more clear that the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on local residents and businesses will be both wide-ranging and long-lasting.

Multiple efforts have sprung up on social media within the last week to connect those in need with those willing to help. Conversations among neighbors on Facebook and NextDoor highlight a desire to help seniors and other at-risk individuals who may need groceries delivered or prescriptions refilled. Some of that outreach has led to more organized efforts, like the Mutual Aid Central Ohio group or another called Meals During Crisis Central Ohio.

Leaders of local nonprofit organizations are applauding the outpouring of generosity but stressing the need to also rally behind groups that have been in the business of helping our neighbors for years, many of which are struggling right now and in great need of help.

**Michael Corey '01**, Executive Director of the Human Service Chamber of Franklin County, singled out several organizations that are in particular need of donations – LifeCare Alliance (which provides Meals on Wheels), Children's Hunger Alliance, and the Mid-Ohio Foodbank, as well as the many local, neighborhood-based food pantries that the food bank supports.

Both the United Way and the Columbus Foundation have set up emergency response funds which are currently accepting donations.

Some organizations have also posted calls for non-monetary donations and assistance – the YWCA Columbus posted a needed items list on its website, the Red Cross is in great need of blood donors, and many food pantries are asking for help assembling pre-packaged boxes of items to give away as they shift away from on-site shopping.

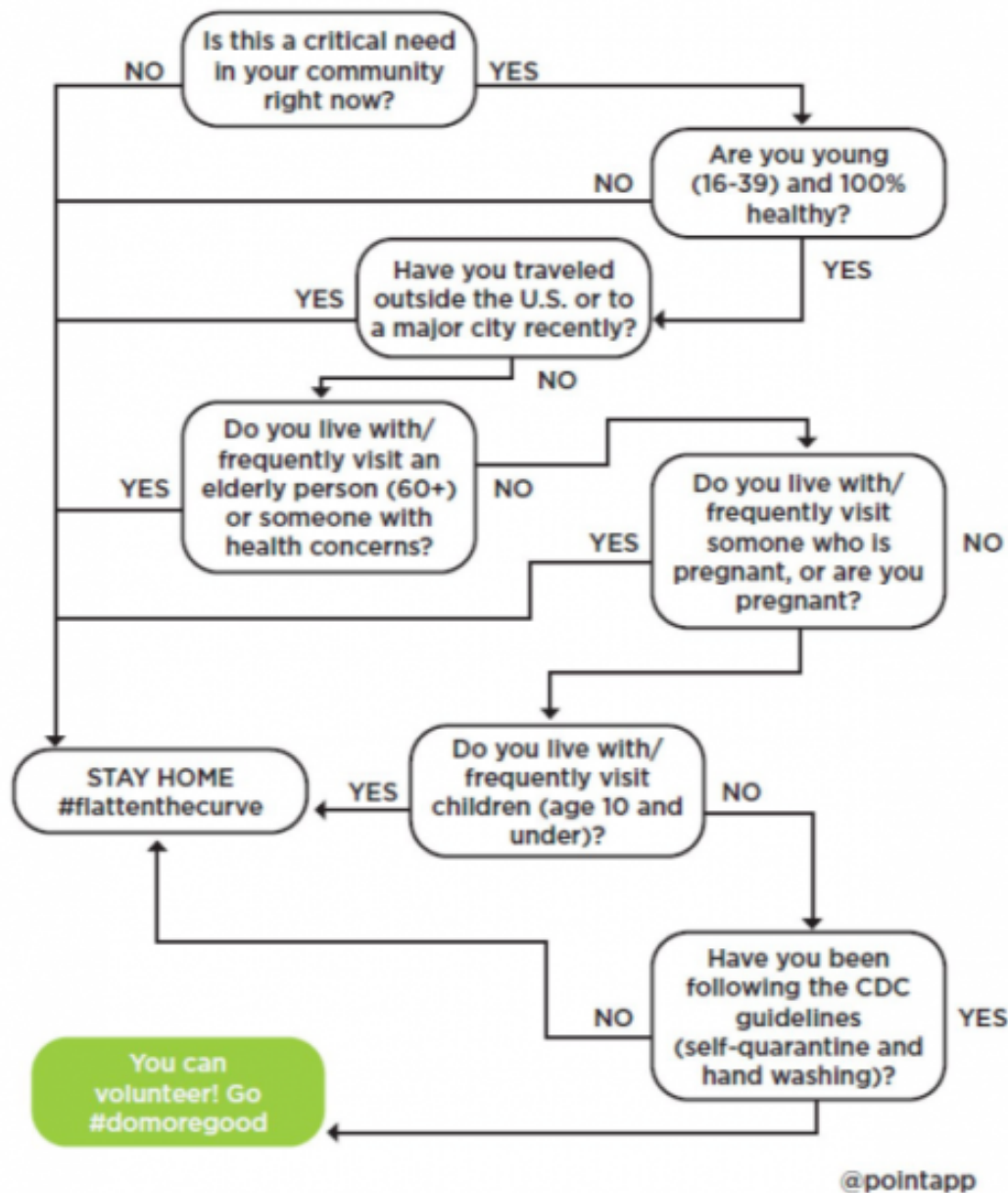
Corey also emphasized that citizen advocacy is needed, as crucial decisions are being made at the local, state and national levels about how to respond to COVID-19.

"There's a surge of generosity and an eagerness to help, which is absolutely amazing," he said, "but among the most important things right now is to advocate to the state and to Congress to support nonprofits and healthcare providers with ample resources, and to eliminate any and all roadblocks for people so they can remain home and safe at this time."

"This is going to be a marathon, not a sprint," Corey added, "and that will also be true of the philanthropy and do-gooding that so many are eager to provide right now."

Update: a new website has been launched with a list of local nonprofit organizations – sorted by neighborhood – that are in need of material donations or volunteers.

## Can I volunteer during COVID-19?



<https://www.columbusunderground.com/local-groups-in-need-of-help-bw1>

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Why Online Brands Can Succeed Where Legacy Retail Has Stumbled

**Ricky Joshi '97**

Mar 13, 2020,08:00am EDT

Forbes

Anyone who follows e-commerce or disruptive retail has likely read about an unexpected phenomenon: Online direct-to-consumer (DTC) brands are opening successful physical locations, while traditional retailers are struggling. In fact, it's such a hot topic that I recently spoke on the subject to a packed audience at CES. My company, Saatva, is also part of this trend. After 10 years as an online-only company, we recently opened our first brick-and-mortar, a 3,300-squarefoot viewing room in midtown Manhattan.

Leading traditional retailers have always aimed to set up shop in populated locations with high visibility and foot traffic. In most cases, they have also aimed to cultivate an environment that converts potential customers into buyers.

And digital businesses are no different. But the smartest digital businesses go beyond this. Here's how the shift from clicks to bricks is different — and why DTC brands will succeed where traditional retail has failed.

DTC brands have inherent advantages.

DTC brands were built to outperform traditional retail online, and they often have similar advantages offline. Some areas of advantage are:

- **Proprietary Brands:** DTC brands have unique products that are not sold elsewhere. It's not the typical "showrooming," where you go into a store, find something and then shop online for a better deal. For example, there is no place to buy an Away suitcase other than in its store or on its site. It owns its brand.
- **No Legacy Systems:** DTC brands don't have huge, expensive legacy systems that make a physical store hard and expensive to manage. In fact, because they already run their businesses online, they are free to use more nimble solutions for things like point-of-sale (POS) systems and operations.
- **Better Utilization Of Space:** DTC brands typically don't have a lot of SKUs and therefore don't need much square footage. Instead, they have a simple yet effective product mix. Many traditional brands, by contrast, have inventory bloat. They carry too much product, which means they need much bigger stores. That gets very expensive in premier locations, so often they get relegated to lesser locations to float the size.

DTC experiences (online and offline) are cutting edge.

They understand that offline stores are extensions of their online experience, and they've learned to leverage innovation. They aim to offer superior execution in these areas.

- **Exceptional Experiences:** Digital brands have learned that offering an exceptional experience is everything — and they have translated this onto their offline offerings. You won't find a DTC

brick-and-mortar with just products and prices under bright lights. Rather, similar to their websites, they aim to provide beautiful, comfortable, immersive experiences.

- **Consistency:** Everything that customers expect from the web experience they get at the brick-and-mortar: the branding and the products, sure, but also the customer service and product education. In fact, in our viewing room, our web customer reviews are highlighted on screens at the entrance.
- **Technology:** Technology is one key way to deliver a seamless experience. At my company, all of the individual products are showcased with tablets displaying product attributes. We recently partnered with a very large tech company as a beta site for some of their newest retail audiovisual and behavior-sensing technology, which will give us even more data to improve the experience.

DTC brands don't rely on in-store sales.

Because they're online-first businesses, they don't have to rely solely on actual in-store sales as the measure of success — rather, they can take a more holistic perspective. The physical location can almost literally function as a billboard for the brand. Often, DTC brands don't care whether you buy online or in store. They focus on other metrics, such as:

- **Overall Lift:** DTC brands look at overall lift within the local area after a store launch. They've also seen that potential customers located near a store will convert at a higher rate, whether they pull the final trigger online or in-store.
- **Local Performance:** They look at all sorts of metrics, from local ad performance to improvements in overall marketing mix in the area. They also understand how to best leverage local advertising placements.
- **Email Capture:** The store gives DTC brands another way to form relationships with customers and collect email addresses, which can then be used to share newsletters and provide information about their products.

DTC brands leverage data.

Native online brands can utilize large amounts of data to inform store location decisions. A retail store with no online presence has to rely on more generic information and gut. DTC brands can pinpoint the highest-value location within a city based on deep historical knowledge, using the following:

- **Online Sales Data:** They can look at online sales history within five-, 10- or 15-mile ranges to narrow in on where to launch a store within a given market.



- Customer Data: DTC brands know their customer profiles very, very well. That means they can target areas with the most similar customer demographics.
- Product Data: They've spent years figuring out product-market fit through testing. They know which products sell. They don't have to guess on product makeup, positioning or pricing.

People talk a lot about the “retail apocalypse” these days. What's clear is that we're in the middle of a retail revolution, and if online brands continue to lead the charge with innovative, customer-focused practices, they are likely to be the ones that survive and thrive.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/theyec/2020/03/13/why-online-brands-can-succeed-where-legacy-retail-has-stumbled/#32b7aba03c97>

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The Right Bobs for the Job  
By Louis Jacobson '92  
Princeton Alumni Weekly

Three Bobs — **Bob Schoene '64** (Princeton'68), Bob Mauterstock '68, and Bob Weber '68 — use their collective wisdom to help others navigate life's second half

Over the past 50 years, three members of Princeton's Class of 1968 — each of them named Bob — built distinguished careers in financial planning, medicine, and counseling. Not long ago, they decided to bring their divergent expertise together to help their Baby Boomer peers confront the realities of aging.

The three alums — Bob Mauterstock '68, the financial planner; Bob Schoene '68, a pulmonary and critical-care physician; and Bob Weber '68, a former member of the Jesuit order and clinical psychologist — have offered a two-hour presentation that they call Success in the Second Half at their class reunions as well as to groups in Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C.

“Life is fleeting and fragile,” Mauterstock says. “It is important to focus our energy on the critical aspects of our lives while we can.”

On the trio's agenda are topics such as how to craft a family financial plan, how to prepare for serious medical challenges, and how to achieve spiritual comfort. “There is a symbiotic nature to the messages,” Schoene says.

The three originally met as freshmen on the football team. Mauterstock, who lives on Cape Cod, has written four books, including Caring for Your Elderly Parents: Timely Advice for Baby Boomers. Schoene, from the Bay Area, specializes in high-altitude physiology and exercise, which has taken him to Mount Everest, Denali, and the Andes. And Weber taught and practiced at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital, and he co-authored the book The Spirituality of Age: A Seeker's Guide to Growing Older.

Over the years, Mauterstock, Schoene, and Weber kept in touch mainly through Reunions. In preparation for their 50th in 2018, Mauterstock approached the other Bobs to see if they'd like to collaborate on a program. When they agreed, he asked classmate Bob Faron '68 — yes, a fourth Bob — to place it on the reunion schedule. About 150 people attended, asking the Bobs a mix of pragmatic and existential questions.

The strong turnout convinced the three to take their program on the road, and they plan to continue doing so. "We believe we have a very important message," Mauterstock says. "As we age, we need to find the balance between the financial, medical, and spiritual aspects of our lives."

At the session in Washington, Mauterstock and Schoene emphasized the importance of end-of-life health directives, saying the key was communicating honestly with family members. Weber, meanwhile, urged audience members never to stop asking the larger questions about themselves. "I'm never able to get a final, definitive answer" to all the questions, he said, but by asking them, "I always learn something." Marc Lackritz '68, who attended the sessions both at Reunions and in D.C., said the Bobs' counsel and takeaways "were clear and concise" and "backed up by scads of research and data."

Asked for his overarching advice for people in their second half of life, Weber told his peers that even though aging presents challenges, they shouldn't "miss the many opportunities that our aging offers us."

<https://paw.princeton.edu/article/right-bobs-job>

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The Power 100: Here are Columbus' most influential leaders, Part 3

By Doug Buchanan — Editor in chief

Columbus Business First

Mar 4, 2020, 1:45pm EST Updated Mar 5, 2020, 12:39pm EST



## **Joel Pizzuti**

*President, Pizzuti Cos.*

Pizzuti Cos. develops just about all kinds of real estate, putting Pizzuti at the heart of many of the city's building fronts. His company this year is overseeing multiple mixed-use projects near the main branch of the Columbus Metropolitan Library along with warehouse developments around the region's outer ring, furthering the local logistics and transportation business. Pizzuti oversees all this activity as president of the company, and his efforts have expanded the developer nationwide to cities like Nashville and Orlando.

PIZZUTI COS.



[https://www.bizjournals.com/columbus/news/2020/03/04/the-power-100-here-are-columbus-most-influential.html?iana=hpmvp\\_colum\\_news\\_headline?ana=e\\_colum\\_bn\\_editorschoice&j=90495](https://www.bizjournals.com/columbus/news/2020/03/04/the-power-100-here-are-columbus-most-influential.html?iana=hpmvp_colum_news_headline?ana=e_colum_bn_editorschoice&j=90495)

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6 gunshots, 5 surgeries, weeks of rehab: An Indianapolis teen struggles to return to class

**Caroline Anders '17**

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IndyStar

The boy is 15 years old and full of metal. Bullet fragments are stuck in his arms, his leg, his side. A rod runs through his leg, and a plate and screws hold his arm together.

Da'Quincy Pittman limps into school on a rainy Monday morning in late February. It's his first day back in nearly two months, and his clothes hang differently than they did before. After five surgeries, a stay in the ICU and weeks of rehab, he's down maybe 20 pounds.

In the center of his forehead dangles a twist of hair, adorned with three beads: red, clear, red. Since that night, he's called them his lucky beads.

He arrived after the morning rush, bleary-eyed but still careful to hold the door for his mother. The school's chief of staff hurries over, already crying.

They flit around him — the principal, the chief of staff, his mom.

"Quincy," one says. "I'm going to get you a schedule, OK?"

"Did you have any breakfast today?"

He shakes his head.

"Can you hold a pencil yet?"

He nods.

Da'Quincy is one of about 480 middle and high schoolers at his school on the far east side of Indianapolis. The teachers and staff hug and feed and clothe their students, but they can't always keep them safe. Da'Quincy is one of five who has been shot in the last year.

On the night of Dec. 29, three men jumped Da'Quincy and a friend in the parking lot of an apartment complex. They threw open the doors of the car he was sitting in, shot him six times and stole the Jordans off his feet.

Indianapolis' death toll is soaring. Over the past decade, the number of homicides climbed nearly 80%. A 2016 study found that Indiana had the highest rate of black homicide victims in the nation.

The Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department had investigated 36 homicides as of the end of February, compared to 19 as of the end of February 2019, according to IndyStar's database.

Da'Quincy's school, the James and Rosemary Phalen Leadership Academy, charts buses to drop off students at their doors when after-school activities end. A five-minute walk to the bus stop isn't worth the risk. One student gets picked up at his door because his bus stop is on the corner where his mother was shot and killed.

Gwendolyn Hardiman, the school's chief of staff, has been in education for 38 years. She wears fashionable glasses and long, intricately done nails. The students call her Grandma.

"Soon as you hear it on TV you wonder, 'Is it one of ours?' " she says.

Phalen is a public charter that opened nearly three years ago, when teachers at other far-east-side schools got fed up with the fistfights and failings. Nicole Fama, Phalen's 41-year-old principal and regional director, was the principal of PLA at School 93, a school under the Phalen umbrella that was getting tired of sending its students to underperforming high schools.

Phalen Leadership Academies founder and CEO Earl Phalen heard about School 93's troubles and asked Fama what was keeping her up at night. She told him she just wanted the kids to have a safe place to go after middle school.

Phalen bought a trashed, abandoned school and got to work. The James and Rosemary Phalen Leadership Academy became one of 20 Phalen Leadership Academies around the nation, including five in Indianapolis. The first year, it only offered seventh and eighth grade. Then ninth, then 10th. The plan is to expand each year to cover all of high school. Da'Quincy will be in Phalen's first graduating class.

The school sits off of 42nd Street and Mitthoeffer Road, surrounded by a clump of gas stations and roads clogged with potholes. Grandma doesn't stop at those stations, but she still makes sure her car never gets all the way to empty so she doesn't have to stand outside too long.

Phalen is a structured place. Administrators and teachers always refer to students as scholars. The kids sometimes call Fama things like Ops and Federal, because she doesn't mess around. She keeps a baggie of drugstore drug tests in her desk.

But Phalen is also a home. Some of the students call Fama "Mom." There are washers and dryers for those who don't have running water. Deans drive students to get haircuts. Grandma keeps a pack of mini deodorants under her desk for when the boys get musty.

t's a place where the principal takes care of bullet wounds.

Fama keeps her "doctor's bag" — a Saks Fifth Avenue bag that carries a jumble of gauze and ointments — in her desk for when bandages need changed. She doesn't have any medical training, so she tries to imitate what the wrapping looked like when she first saw it. She's gotten pretty good.

"When I went to school, school was school," Grandma says. "But this is everything."

Phalen's teachers and administrators have to be nurses, mental health experts, confidants and parents.

"You slide in academics — if you can," Grandma says.

Da'Quincy's mom is a nursing assistant, but she'd never taken care of a fresh gunshot wound until her son was full of them.

Shirley Collins, 38, has five sons, and she wants them to stay in the house.

"I really can't trust the world," she says. "I don't want to let my kids out of my sight."

But Da'Quincy has been asking to go back to school, and she thinks he's ready.

Fama isn't so sure. A Barack Obama campaign poster and a portrait of Michelle look down from the wall in her office as Da'Quincy explains that he left his arm brace and some of his medicine at home. His mom says he won't take his vitamins or drink his Ensure. She says he doesn't like physical therapy because his therapist is a man who won't let him get away with anything.

Grandma is back in the office, pears and carton of milk in hand. She's beside herself. "You can't lose ground!"

Months ago, Da'Quincy was a star wide receiver on the football team. He's adamant that he'll play again, anywhere that will let him, but the adults aren't convinced. He might have to coach.

Now Fama and Grandma spoon-feed him applesauce. He doesn't argue.

He wanders down the hall to his first class, escorted by a friend and looking a little dazed as he navigates a rush of handshakes and hugs.

He tries not to think about the shooting, but sometimes he can't help it. It gnaws at him. It makes him look over his shoulder.

A girl runs up squealing and squeezes him too hard. A teacher chides, "Honey, don't do that to him!"

In the hall, he runs into Mudder, who was shot just a month before he was. Mudder grins at him, the hard lump of a bullet still lodged between his eyes.

Hero's welcome over, it's time for geometry.

Almost every student at Phalen knows someone who's been shot. They hear gunfire as often as thunder.

Taevion, 14, lives at Carriage House, an apartment complex about half a mile from the school, where four young adults were killed a few weeks ago. That night, she rolled out of bed and dropped to the ground.

She drops to the ground about three times a week. She rearranged her room a long time ago so her feet would face the window — so she wouldn't be shot in the head.

When she hears gunshots, she texts everyone who lives around her "You cool?" or "You straight?" If they don't respond, she knocks on their doors.

Rashad, 12, knows to turn off all the lights and TVs when he hears shots and hide in his room with his little sister.

When one boy on the basketball team heard gunshots, he lay on top of his grandmother to protect her. A group of students were shot at as they walked home from drama practice. A different group was shot at leaving a basketball game. One boy used to stay up all night because he was scared. He'd sleep at school.

Nevaeh's mom was shot with an AK-47 when she was pregnant with her. And what does the 13-year-old think when she hears gunshots?

"I know somebody finna die. 'Cause it's the usual stuff."

Mudder was riding in a car when he was shot. Da'Quincy was sitting in one. Another Phalen scholar was at a party. A fourth was in his dad's front yard. The fifth was on his front porch.

"I keep screaming," Fama says. "I'm waiting for people to be outraged, and no one is."

When Mudder was shot on Thanksgiving Day, students started calling and texting her.

She rushed to the hospital and held his hand. The students looked at her like she should be able to fix it. To fix any of it.

"We feed them. We clothe them. We take them places. We pay for things for them," she said later. "And so when something bad happens, you know, it's an instinct to run to your parents. I was in tears. I was like, 'What did you think I could do?'"

"I could do a lot, but I can't stop a bullet."

Da'Quincy's biggest fear was always being shot, but he didn't think it would actually happen. He doesn't like needles and couldn't imagine bullets.

He thought he would focus on football and school, and his life would be smooth. On the night of Dec. 29, he was sitting in a car with a friend, talking on the phone with some girls, when he saw three men walking up and felt something wasn't right.

"Lock the doors," he said, but the men were already climbing in. They demanded everything he had. He told them the truth: He didn't have anything but his shoes.

"You think I'm playin'?" one asked.

They shot him six times. No one has been arrested.

Da'Quincy remembers a woman trying to get him to drink bottles of water as they waited for help. He remembers not knowing where the blood was coming from, but knowing his hoodie was drenched. He didn't realize how many times he'd been hit until the paramedics cut his clothes off in the ambulance and he saw the holes.

When his mother saw him on the hospital bed, she passed out.

"I'm sorry," he told her. "I'm sorry."

He remembers being hooked up to all the machines. He remembers being calm. He thought of the bullet rooted in Mudder's forehead. He remembers not crying.

"I swear to God, I didn't think I was going to make it."

He came to school a few weeks after the shooting because he wanted to talk to the football team. Before, he was an athlete. Sitting in front of them in his Pac-Man pajamas, he told them he couldn't lift a spoon to his mouth. He couldn't wipe himself.

He had a message for them.

"This ain't what we need to go through," he said. "Stay in the house where you safe."

Phalen is supposed to expand to offer 11th grade next year, but that project is nearing a standstill. At least \$1.2 million is needed just to open the doors in the fall.



One Monday afternoon, Fama launches into a series of tense meetings about how they're going to make that happen. They have no idea.

"We've had our backs against the wall before," Grandma reminds her. "We'll just wait and see what happens."

But Fama's tired.

A dog park in Broad Ripple just got a \$600,000 facelift. The City of Carmel took out loans to help fund a luxury hotel project that's now more than \$18 million over budget.

Some kids at Phalen are going home to places where the lights being on isn't a given. They're begging for more after-school activities to stay where it's safe for just a little while longer. But until the renovations are done, Phalen is out of space.

A boy came in earlier that morning and asked Fama's dad, Coach, for something dry to wear. He had missed the bus and walked an hour to school so his mom wouldn't whoop him. He was drenched. Coach dutifully put his clothes in the dryer and found him a sweatshirt.

Fama doesn't have the \$3.5 million she needs to build her scholars a gym, and she doesn't know where she's going to get it.

"You take better care of dogs than you do children on the east side," she says. But she's talking to herself.

Mr. Dwenger launches into his lesson on finding the volume of a sphere. Da'Quincy puts his head in his hands. The student sitting behind him answers every question. Da'Quincy plays with his shoelaces and picks at his lip. His foot, full of nerves still fried from when the bullet shattered his femur, is aching. An announcement over the loudspeaker reminds everyone tomorrow is school picture day.

Da'Quincy makes it 18 minutes into geometry.

He limps back to Fama's office, calculator in his back pocket, and doesn't stop to talk to anyone this time. He's so irritated with how much his foot aches, he can't think about anything else. He opens Fama's door.

"Already, my sweetheart?" she asks.

He spends the rest of the morning with the nurse, lying with his knees tucked to his chest, knit blanket pulled over his head, curtain drawn around him. The signs on the wall tell him he's brave and tough and important, and remind him to stay hydrated and wash his hands.

He tries to go to the bathroom, but he feels like his body is shutting down. He collapses to the floor.

He has to be helped back to bed, and he's mad. He wants to be able to do things himself.

Da'Quincy knows he's pushed it too far today, but he assures the nurse he feels OK now. She calls Mom anyway.

"It might just be too much for him to be here today," she says quietly.

When Mom arrives, they settle Da'Quincy into a wheelchair and help him into her minivan. He promises he's going to take his iron pills and be back tomorrow.

Sometimes he thinks people assume he's going to fall and crash. But he's determined not to.

"I feel like they don't understand that I want better than what most people expect," he says.

He prays he'll make it. He prays for better days. He trusts God's plan for him.

Last week, despite six gunshots, five surgeries and weeks spent relearning how to be a teenager, the boy who hates needles but is full of metal turned 16.

<https://www.indystar.com/story/news/education/2020/03/09/indianapolis-teen-shot-6-times-struggles-first-day-back-school/4953804002/>