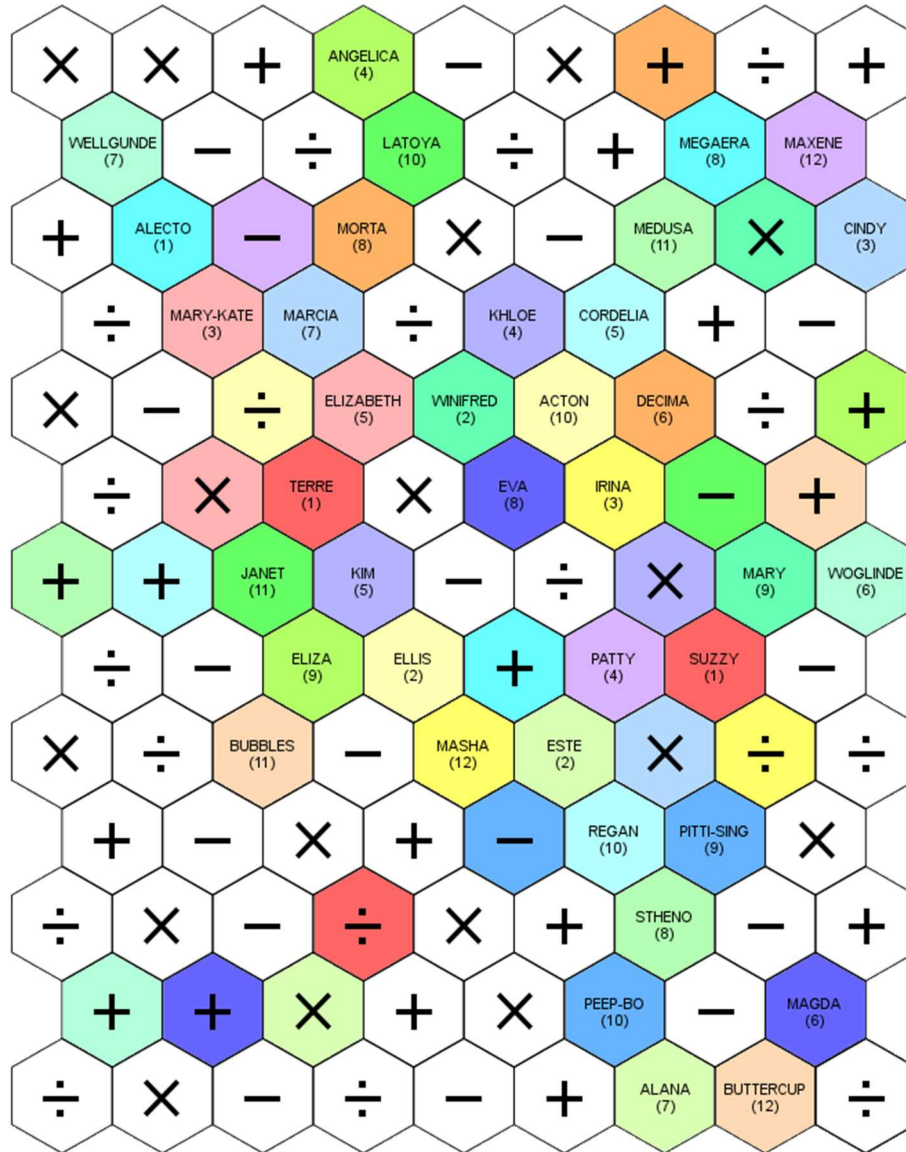**<3**
Adam Maresca & Nick Mitchell
*Answer: **VAN NUYS***

The title of this puzzle has two non-heart readings. "Less than three" is the first, which is what you have: the Penguin only spotted two members of the Terrible Trio, and out on the ice are 19 pairs of sisters whose third is missing. The more abstract reading of the less-than sign is an incomplete triangle, completed by numeral 3. The solution involves finding the hexagonal cell that forms an equilateral triangle with the two visible sisters, and using the operator inside on their numbers.

(While there is a second theoretical point that can form an equilateral triangle with the line formed by a sisterly pair, the alternate location is always either off the grid or lands on another name, encouraging formation of the correct triangles.)

Olsen	MARY-KATE	**ASHLEY**	ELIZABETH		3	x	5	15	O
Powerpuff	BUBBLES	**BLOSSOM**	BUTTERCUP		11	+	12	23	W
Bronte	ACTON	**CURRER**	ELLIS		10	÷	2	5	E
Haim	ESTE	**DANIELLE**	ALANA		2	x	7	14	N
Gorgons	STHENO	**EURYALE**	MEDUSA		8	+	11	19	S
Rhinemaidens	WELLGUNDE	**FLOSSHILDE**	WOGLINDE		7	+	6	13	M
King Lear	CORDELIA	**GONERIL**	REGAN		5	+	10	15	O
Brady	MARCIA	**JAN**	CINDY		7	x	3	21	U
Kardashian	KHLOE	**KOURTNEY**	KIM		4	x	5	20	T
Andrews	MAXENE	**LAVERNE**	PATTY		12	-	4	8	H
Roche	SUZZY	**MAGGIE**	TERRE		1	÷	1	1	A
Fates (Rome)	DECIMA	**NONA**	MORTA		6	+	8	14	N
Chekov play	MASHA	**OLGA**	IRINA		12	÷	3	4	D
Schuyler	ELIZA	**PEGGY**	ANGELICA		9	+	4	13	M
Jackson	JANET	**REBBIE**	LATOYA		11	-	10	1	A
Hocus Pocus	WINIFRED	**SARAH**	MARY		2	x	9	18	R
Furies	MEGAERA	**TISIPHONE**	ALECTO		8	+	1	9	I
Mikado	PEEP-BO	**YUM-YUM**	PITTI-SING		10	-	9	1	A
Gabor	MAGDA	**ZSA ZSA**	EVA		6	+	8	14	N

Once you complete the triangles and the simple arithmetic, alphabetically order all the missing sisters (each starts with a unique letter) for "OWENSMOUTH AND MARIAN" to be revealed. These two towns (later respectively renamed Canoga Park and Reseda) were founded at the same time, along with a third town: the final answer, **VAN NUYS**.

Author's Notes

<u>Adam</u>: Providing two sisters and having to use the third to figure out the puzzle was already in place when I got my mitts on this one; after a handful of trio substitutions, I eventually hit on the faux-triangulation and mathematical operators. In all honestly, deciding to set it in the Iceberg Lounge was a fluke of using cyan while playing with the hex grid and thinking about the game board for *Hey, That's My Fish!* where you tap away the ice blocks.

<u>Nick</u>: I enjoyed blending the classics with popular culture. I'm only sorry that we couldn't also include Elsie, Lacie and Tillie in this puzzle.