

Be careful who you call your friends. I'd rather have four quarters than one hundred pennies.

— Al Capone

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NEWS OF LINCOLN PARK, LAKE VIEW, NORTH CENTER & LINCOLN SQUARE

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Lane Tech's Dalton Scantlebury defended by Lincoln Park's Keyshawn Barfield.

Lincoln Park handles Lane 62-46

BY JACK LYDON

Lincoln Park hosted Lane Tech (9-9, 4-3) Jan. 9 for a key game in the Chicago Public League's Red Shield conference. Basically, the championship of the North Side. The Lions (15-1, 6-1) handled the Champions winning 62-46.

Some might have thought that with Lincoln Park ranked #11 and having a gaudy win/loss record, it would be all Lions. But Lane Tech has played top competition this season. The top competition: #1 DePaul Prep, #2 Kenwood, #6 Brother Rice, #12 Curie, #13 Niles North—twice, formerly ranked St. Ignatius as well as top out-of-state competition at a Washington, D.C. shootout.

And the Champions just knocked off #19 Whitney Young on Jan. 7.

The Champions are much, much better than their record indicates.

With the size and length that the Champions possess, their ability in recent games to hit

three-pointers and playing on Lincoln Park's small home court, this thing could have gone either way.

It went Lincoln Park's way, and it started early. The Lions jumped out to an 8-0 first quarter lead. The Lions were amped up and playing tough inside and out. Hitting shots and grabbing boards on both ends.

"[Our] guys they came in with a lot of fight," said Lincoln Park head coach Joshua Anderson.

"They executed. They were mentally locked in. They played harder. They played tougher. They played technique. They boxed out. They did exactly what I told them to do. I told them the shots that would be open. That's just all from our execution."

Lane rallied and made it game. Lane's Zach Mazanowski quickly added five points late in the first quarter bringing them right back. Even so, the Lions would maintain a six to 10-point lead throughout

LANE see p. 12

Will five existing Broadway TIFs preclude city from getting enriched?

City may have long wait to see new tax revenue from Broadway upzoning plan

BY BOB ZULEY

One critical aspect of the proposed city plan for upzoning Broadway between Montrose and Devon designed to create high density development has been publicly ignored by the Dept. of Planning and Development [DPD] and its Greek Chorus of media mouthpieces, including Streetsblog Chicago and Chicago YIMBY: the five existing Tax Increment Financing [TIFs] districts.

Upzoning fans see the proposed 18,000 new housing units along this stretch as part of a cure to Chicago's financial troubles. Only it seems to ignore an existing barrier imposed by the city itself: Tax Increment Financing Districts [TIF].

DPD defines TIFs as a special funding tool used by the city to promote public and private investment across the city. Funds are generated by growth in the Equalized Assessed Valuation [EAV] of properties within a designated district generally over a period of 23 years with property tax revenue monies set-aside exclusively for TIF use and deprived from city coffers. Even longer-living is the CTAs Red Purple Line TIF [RPM], which lasts for 35 years.

"If you're standing on any street corner in Chicago, there's a one-in-three chance that you're standing in a TIF," wrote Chicago Policy Review in 2023. TIF's exist to spur redevelopment in areas that are "blighted" by capturing

incremental increases in property tax collections.

The area of Broadway selected for the proposed upzoning change and high-density development lies within five TIF districts. They are the Bryn Mawr/Broadway TIF [dates: 1996-2032]; the Hollywood/Sheridan TIF [dates: 2007-2031]; the Lawrence/Broadway TIF [2001-2025]; the Wilson Yard TIF [dates: 2001-2025]; and the RPM TIF [dates: 2016-2052].

At one-half mile wide, the RPM Phase One TIF district is an extraordinarily large TIF encompassing 3,126 acres of land and was designated to help finance the rehabilitation of the CTA's Red and Purple lines on the city's North Side that run parallel to Broadway.

The district includes 16,704 parcels of land generally adjacent the Red Line L tracks running from Devon Ave. south to North Ave.

Proponents of the new, upzoned high-density proposal see a cash cow ready to address the city's massive unfunded pension crisis, helping public schools and the Chicago Teachers Union, first responder services, and infrastructure investments. While planners envision 18,000 new residential units along Broadway earning an estimated \$30-60 million in annual tax revenue, one noted TIF expert warns, 'not so fast.'

Tom Tresser is a Chicago-based civic educator, public defender, and TIF expert who spoke to this reporter about the TIFs on Broadway. Tresser recognizes

the DPD as "the back door office for the real estate industry." He says "TIFs are only used to build things, not serve the needs of people." The 124 TIFs in the city act as a "slush fund" for City Hall policy makers.

Of the five TIFs encompassing the Broadway upzoning area, Tresser says without hesitation, that by design, "100% of property taxes from newly built developments and any increase of revenue for 23 years will go into TIFs. Zero revenue will be captured by the city."

That is unless the city plans to annually declare unspent funds as "surplus" cash and disperse the money to the various taxing bodies, as the Mayor's office just did in December, in declaring a record \$570.8 million as TIF 'surplus.'

The Civic Federation of Chicago has cautioned the City about the use of TIF to fund Chicago's exploding operational overhead and annual spending. "While the use of unallocated funds within a TIF district, may provide temporary budgetary relief, these funds are one-time in nature and not guaranteed to recur every year."

"The Civic Federation believes that TIF surplus funds are not panaceas to solve budget shortfalls. The City's continued reliance on these funds highlights the need for more significant structural reforms (including efficiencies and increased revenues) to put the City in a better finan-

BROADWAY see p. 12

Tranquil shelf ice on city's shoreline belies danger below

Survival unlikely if you fall through into cold, turbulent water

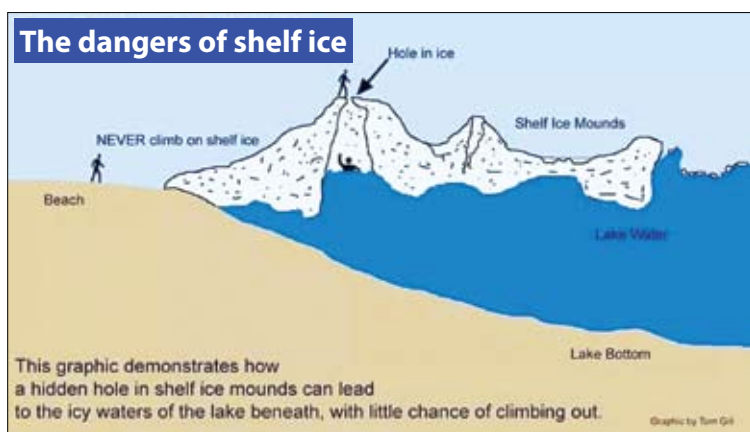
BY BOB ZULEY

During the very cold winters in Chicago, one phenomena occurs that is both mesmerizing and deadly – shelf ice along the Lake Michigan shoreline. Shelf ice is ice that forms when a portion of a lake surface freezes and is often washed up on shore.

It is common within the Great Lakes and typically accumulates on the eastern and southern shores although Chicago has shelf ice, too.

Shelf ice forms from float ice but seldom becomes large enough to support humans or large animals. And it can kill you and your pets.

Created by wind and waves, the shelf ice is a jumble of ice chunks pushed onto each other. Often covered with surface snow, it is unstable and deceiving, making it difficult to discern where



Shelf ice forms from float ice but seldom becomes sturdy enough to support humans, so stay off of the ice. Example of float ice off Berger Park.

the snow-covered beach ends and from where the snow-covered shelf ice begins.

One way to find that border is to fall through the ice into the freezing waters below.

Many pieces of ice become jammed together but throughout the structure are gaps and pockets of air. Since each pocket develops independently, each is a different thickness creating variations in strength, density and depth.

One thing they have in common is that they jut out over extremely cold liquid, water. Over time, the 'shelf' extends out from the shore in a floating ledge that may be very thick depending on the size of the ice pieces and the size of the air pockets.

The ice may be stabilized by grounding on the shore of the lake bottom, and it can vary from a large flat surface to a jumbled pile of blocks with parallel ridg-

es. Because of the uneven surface and possible gaps and air holes throughout the shelf ice, the ice may give way unexpectedly. One may plummet several feet through an air pocket into open water below the ice surface. Self rescue is difficult due to the friability, the tendency of particles to break apart, of the ice and the rate cold water will sap body energy.

And once you or your pet is in

the water, panic takes hold and you'll have little time to find safety. Hypothermia can take hold within minutes of falling into freezing water, with the full effects becoming noticeable within 10-30 minutes, depending on the water temperature and the individual's body condition; however, the most critical danger is the immediate "cold shock" response

SHELF ICE see p. 12



We know when we smell a rat



By Thomas J. O'Gorman

The new year appears to be set and reset from familiar Chicago weather patterns.

Could it be the width and breadth of Lake Michigan that methodically contours the winds and the waves? Can the frosty expanse of Prairie heartland geography be unfolding a classic Midwest winter?

I always looked forward to such winter wonderlands as a child, before the weather-mongers' wild warnings and fears attempted to rant us to desperation with their "panic peddling" bulletins.

Last week it appeared the weather bulletins from classical radio station WFMT were exercising some type of operatic excess. Between the Chopin and the Strauss they were warning all Chicagoans of the dire possibilities of winter snow storms about to fall.

And all their intermittent Shakespearean-like weather-war predictions rose to crescendos that seemed a tad over the top among lifelong Midwesterners. I wondered what Pere Jacques Marquette, SJ and Louis Joliet would have thought of such alarmist 21st century lingo while camped above the Chicago River in makeshift huts at what is today Damen Ave. back in 1673.

How pressing and emphatic WFMT's weather warnings became. My old pal Norman Pellegrini, the grand program director from 1953 to 1996, in the station's "heyday," would have been appalled at the antics of station personalities, today, so emotional and worried over weather. He'd not interrupt Bach or Beethoven, Stravinsky or Copeland's music on the air for an

over-wrought 2025-style weather warning. He'd note that it was all below the dignity of the station's classical nobility.

And I'm not letting WTTW, the supposed "Window to the World" educational TV monster, and partner of WFMT, get away with their heightened weather dramas. I kept waiting for a tape of Studs Terkel to announce the blizzard dangers that lurked across Chicago's neighborhoods.

But Studs would be appalled at the fury of such weather alerts.

Back in the day, Mayor Richard J. Daley would have shut the stations down for their cheap panic peddling, especially after multiple failures of any blizzard to arrive.

We must drop blame where blame is appropriate. At the desk of the head of programming and operations, Roger Wright, or President and CEO Sandra Cordova Micek. Or perhaps Rene Crown, herself, Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees. Maybe we just need some competent members of the WFMT's board to exert some executive influence, like Bob Clifford, Graham Grady, Sandra Guthman or Norman R. Bobbins. Just thought the influence of people with both feet on the ground might be helpful.

Chicagoans actually know how to navigate in the foulest of weather. We just need to know serious impending danger lurks. What we don't need is all the fine arts hand-wringing that imperils not only our choice of classical music, but our common sense.

If we want weather-panic, we'll turn on The Weather Channel.

It also makes good sense to recognize when some of our fellow Chicagoans are totally off base. If common sense isn't the highest priority, then please keep still.

That's particularly true during these final years of Mayor "Teachers Pet" Johnson. When his pronouncements, mandates and excuses just don't seem to add up. Especially when predictions are wild that he will crack under the pressure of President-to-be Donald Trump.

President Trump's proposed round-up of illegal immigrants

now living in our nation seeking a fresher, more rewarding life for themselves, should not sound like the plan to rid Europe of Jews. How could any rational American not revolt at the prospect of Trump's crew going into action against some of the hardest working people in our nation?

Sure, take away the criminals, but leave the hard workers alone.

Will the Johnson regime make common cause with President Trump's gang? Will Elon Musk be calling the shots on Pennsylvania Ave., and Chicago City Hall? Now that's something worthy of panicked news bulletins. But it was Rahm Emanuel who first brought Musk to Chicago, hoping he'd dig us a big tunnel out to O'Hare. Where is that tunnel?

Mayor "Teachers Pet" Johnson has balked or struck out at every incompetent juncture of his failed attempt at governing Chicago. What secrets are the mayor and his regime hiding from Chicago voters?

What "buried alive" evidence of crimes, failures, and falsehoods are they desperately concealing behind closed doors on City Hall's 5th floor? What employment scams, pension frauds, Chicago Teachers Union blackmail, misplaced campaign contributions, and secret deals and payments await federal discovery and judicial judgement?

Machine corruption did not end with Mike Madigan's arrest. We can do the math, and follow the money.

Chicagoans have learned well the strategies and structures of local politics. We know when we smell a rat, the stink is real. We recognize fairness when it abounds. And we know what it looks when it has been battered and abused.

We stand at an unusual juncture in 2025 as winter unfolds, recognizing our civic and moral responsibilities. That of protecting the rights of our fellow citizens to be free of the lies, half truths, deceptions and false judgments that disfigure our livelihood and righteous living.

The "boondoggle" we now suffer is fashioned through the self-

serving and political errors of incompetents. But it does not have long to live. So we are all obliged to speak the truth, forgive but never forget, act with justice and kindness, always lifting up those who find such a journey difficult.

Despite our bad weather. No matter how deep the snow.

RIP: North Siders join in the grief of their neighbors at Saint Benedict Parish who woke to the sad news that **Fr. Steve Kanonik** had passed away unexpectedly on Jan. 6. As the pastor of Saint Benedict Parish he was a beloved leader to the parish and a devoted friend to all. We mourn this loss and pray that he is welcomed fully into the embrace of heaven. May the angels come to meet him. May perpetual light shine upon him.

BARNYARD BERTHA: **Ald. Ray Lopez** [15th] is seeking stricter regulations on backyard chickens. Not making this up. Now he's in a pickle cuz there is muscular resistance among urban chicken coop owners. They're standing firm. They've got their bib overalls in a bind. Perhaps he can take a page from the City Council's budgetary Star Wars-like budget rejection vote episode. When someone made mountains of cash allegedly available to aldermanic staffers. I think I heard \$200,000 was apparently falling like "manna from heaven." Maybe those greenbacks would ease worries over avian influenza. Is that for real? Farmer Lopez, I mean Ald. Lopez, wants to beef up the barnyard inspections, banning or restricting owning farm animals in the city. E-I-E-I-O.

NO CREDITS: Isn't it strange that the North Side history collection, formerly known as the Ravenswood Lake View collection, is on exhibit in North Side **Ald. Matt Martin's** office rather than at the Sulzer Library? "What

Our Neighborhood Looked Like " would not be possible if the Ravenswood Lake View Historical Assoc. had not begun collecting and donating local history since 1935. Why no mention or credit? They continue to meet, collect, do programming and donate to the library.

FIELD MUSEUM: First Bites Bash: Chicago's premier foodie event returns to Field Museum. Tickets now on sale for the celebratory kick-off event for the 18th annual Chicago Restaurant Week. In keeping with the annual tradition, the event will be held Thursday, Jan. 23 at Chicago's Field Museum from 6 to 9 p.m.

CONGRATS: Congratulations to Cubs Radio Broadcaster **Pat Hughes** on winning the 2024 Illinois Sportscaster of the Year Award.

WORLDWIDE: Chicago Symphony Maestro **Riccardo Mutti** had the New Years honor of conducting the Vienna Philharmonic broadcast heard around the world.

GO SHAM-ROCKS: Thrilled to welcome Park Ridge native and former NFL safety, **Tom Zbikowski** as the new Head Football Coach of the St. Patrick's High School Shamrocks. A standout athlete at Buffalo Grove High School, an All-American at the Univ. of Notre Dame, and an NFL veteran with the Ravens, Colts, and Bears, Zbikowski brings an impressive resume and a passion for mentoring young athletes.



Pat Hughes
Courtesy Matt Dirksen



Tom Zbikowski

RAT see p. 8

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As Chicago transit crime jumps, activist calls for action

BY THE CENTER SQUARE

With the number of crimes being committed at Chicago Transit Authority [CTA] stations now sharply on the rise, Violence Interrupters Executive Director Tio Hardiman is demanding top city officials do more to keep riders safe.

New data show that more than 1,300 offenses were reported through September of last year, representing the most crimes perpetrated across the system since the onset of the pandemic. With Green Line and Red Line riders being among those most likely to be victimized and battery being the most common offense, statistics show about 1.3 out of every 100,000 rides across the system ended with a crime being committed.

"The majority of crimes that take place on the CTA train system could have been prevented," Hardiman told The Center Square. "On behalf of Violence Interrupt-

ers, I've offered my assistance to CTA. My Violence Interrupters have relationships with some of the high-risk young people that ride those trains looking to commit crimes and a few times we were able to talk young guys down from trying to rob and hurt people. We know how to detect potentially violent situations before they become violent. You have other organizations doing good work as well."

Researchers note the Green Line stop in the heart of Englewood at 63rd and Ashland is home to the highest crime rate between Oct. 1, 2023, and Sept. 30, 2024, at about 1.9 out of every 100,000 rides. Overall, about 1.3 out of every 100,000 rides across the system ended with a crime being committed, with battery being the most common offense and Green Line riders being among those most likely to be victimized.

Hardiman said it should come as no surprise to anyone that some of the most rampant crime occurs in neighborhoods like

Englewood and the West Chatham area.

"It's the same when it comes to gun violence," he said. "In Englewood, it comes in like No. 2, so a lot of the crime is taking place in like the Chatham area, Greater Grand Crossing area. Those trains ride through those areas."

Hardiman further argued that allowing more organizations like Violence Interrupters to figure into what comes to be the solution could easily prove to be a win-win for the city.

"We can implement a pilot program on the Green Line or the Red Line and take a look at the numbers and mediate a lot of the conflicts that take place on those trains," he said. "We could also have support organizations with us where we can offer help to those young guys. A person may want to join a jobs program, alternative school system or find some type of job training initiative to get them off the trains committing crimes because we'll work with them

State of the three wards presentation Feb. 6

The Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce is hosting their annual state of three wards Annual Meeting - called Lincoln Park 2025 - starting at 8 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 8. The meeting is by ticket, and will be held at Whirlyball, 1825 W. Webster.

Hear from Ald. Brian Hopkins [2nd], Ald. Scott Waguespack [32nd], and Ald. Timmy Knudsen [43rd] to learn more about future plans and exciting programs from Lincoln Park.

In addition to this lively discussion, the LPCC will hold their annual election of directors. For reservations call 773-880-5200.

on a regular basis, changing the way they think about victimizing people."

Bally's warns investors 'heightened criminality or the perception of danger' could torpedo Chicago casino

BY CWBCHICAGO

Deep inside a nearly 250-plus page regulatory filing, the owner of Chicago's still-unbuilt casino warns investors that crime could have a material impact on its operations here.

Bally's Chicago filed the dense "registration statement" on Dec. 27 as it prepared to sell \$250 million in stock and included the warning that "business interruptions in Chicago due to crime or civil unrest could

adversely affect us." It was among dozens of downside risks itemized in the filing.

"Our business and our assets are planned to be primarily located in Chicago, a city which has recently experienced very high levels of criminality and civil unrest," Bally's said on page 54 of its filing.

The company stated that "heightened criminality or the perception of danger among our customers" could impact the Chicago property's bottom line.

Another round of civil unrest could be

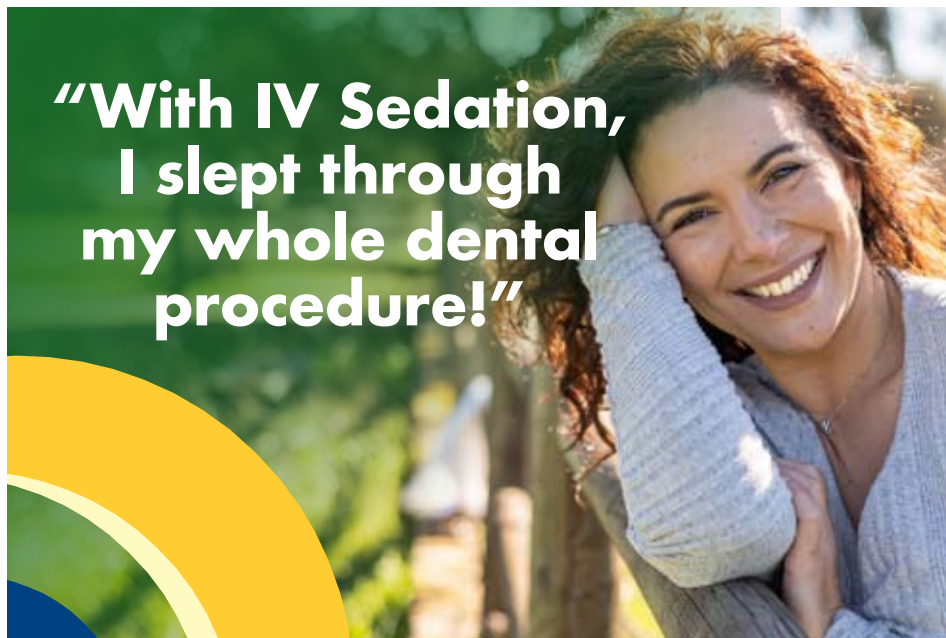
a real problem, the company said, because "we currently do not have business interruption insurance in place." Even "if and when" the company gets such insurance, the policy may not cover its losses.

Crain's Chicago Business was the first to report on Bally's decision to mention crime in its filing. The outlet spoke with Erick Gordon, a Univ. of Michigan professor who has taught securities law.

"Bally's, by disclosing a Chicago crime risk, is saying that it sees the risk as be-

ing significant enough to require warning potential investors about it," Gordon told Crains.

"Politicians and boosters can try to downplay Chicago's crime and looting, but when a company that depends on local goodwill and customers feels it has to protect itself from lawsuits by disclosing the risk that crime and civil unrest could materially hurt its business there, the city needs to face the reality of how it is perceived."



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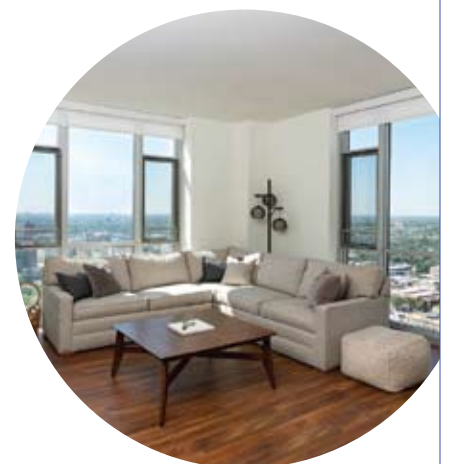
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Memories of Cabrini-Green and Halsted St. in the 1950s



The Home Front

by Don DeBat

Cabrini-Green has gone through many dramatic changes over the last four generations, and has created lasting memories for many long-time Old Town residents.

Back in the early 1950s, the corner of North and Halsted was a melting pot of ethnic groups, predominantly Germans and Italians, but plenty of Irish, Hungarians, African-Americans, Southern whites, American Indians and Roma (“Gypsies”) to add to the stew.

Before that the neighborhood was an urban slum called “Little Hell.” The name was derived from the large gas house that was located there that was used for heating, cooking and lighting, whose night time flames lit the skies at night.

Little Hell was generally bounded by La Salle St. on the east, Division St. on the North, Chicago Ave. on the South and the Chicago River to the west. Between 1880s and 1930, Chicagoans referred to the heart of the Little Hell slum as “Death Corner,” a moniker well-earned given that the intersection of W. Oak St. and Milton Ave. (Milton Ave., changed names to Cleveland Ave. in 1909) was the scene of well over 100 unsolved murders.

The North Side’s first great gangster, Dion O’Banion, was a product of this district. Later, it was the childhood home of this reporter.

In 1949, long before what most of us have come to know as Cabrini-Green was fully developed, Siebens Brewery on Larrabee St. was selling cool steins of German beer for 10¢.

The bustling corner at North and Halsted supported such neighborhood business establish-



(L-R) Don and Chester DeBat in 1649 N. Halsted Garden late 1950s. Exterior photo of the frame 3-flat purchased in 1948. The author’s 1954 Buick is parked in front.



ments as the United Cigar Store, Schneider’s Meat Market, Newman’s Shoes and the Greek’s Soda Fountain, where five-cent Coke and penny candy were sold.

A German language movie house, the Kino Theater, was at North Ave. and Orchard. But most neighborhood kids flocked to the Plaza Theater at North and North Park to view shoot’em-up Westerns like “Red River,” starring John Wayne. Later, The Plaza was razed to make way for new affordable high-rise apartments.

In 1956, the Community Conservation Board and the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development designated virtually the entire area for urban renewal to preserve Old Town from Cabrini-Green’s inevitable encroachment.

This writer grew up at 1649 N. Halsted in the early 1950s, attended the nearby public Newberry School and later, Lane Tech College Prep. I personally witnessed the destruction of West Old Town by the negative impact of urban renewal and construction of Cabrini-Green, which consisted of 23 high-rises built for more than 15,000 low-income

residents.

When my parents purchased on Halsted St. for \$4,500 in 1948, the post-Chicago Fire three-flat frame building was still regulated by rent control. Monthly rents were \$18.

The primitive one-bedroom apartments were still heated with pot-belly coal stoves and only had half-baths.

One renter made her own soap. Her son, Wayne, collected bicycle parts, which filled the front room. The back yard was a virtual prairie filled with three-foot-tall weeds.

When my 17-year-old brother, Alfred, first saw the building he said it looked haunted. Then, he cried. Nevertheless, housing was hard to find in Old Town after World War II.

Two years after the initial purchase, in 1950, we moved into the first vacant apartment that became available. Over the next 25 years, my cab-driver father, Chester Louis DeBat, renovated the building. He added new gas space heat, a room addition with three full bathrooms, fresh siding, storm doors, a new roof and gutters.

My brother did a gut rehab of the third floor and turned it into a bachelor pad.

My father, who had a green thumb and hailed from New Orleans, built new picket side-yard fences and transformed the weed-filled back yard into a beautiful Southern Garden filled with flowers.

Following are some of my childhood memories, along with recollections of other members of my family, who later resided in Old Town and Lincoln Park:

- 1954: During a Newberry schoolyard fight with a White kid,

an African-American girl, who I didn’t know, kicked gravel in my face when I was down. I was nine years old.

- 1955: Thieves broke down our front door and stole my father’s vintage 1940s record player, along with his Tony Martin and Frank Sinatra records and console radio.

- 1956: While biking in Lincoln Park, three teens jumped out of the bushes and stole my best friend’s bicycle. Later that year, at age 11, I was propositioned by an attractive hooker on the corner of North and Halsted.

- 1957: My father was assaulted by three gang-bangers in the alley east of Halsted St. One thug broke my father’s nose with a steel pipe. After my Dad got mugged, he went into defense mode. He kept a baseball bat by our apartment’s front door and carried a snub-nose .38 caliber revolver.

- 1958: I was playing in a friendly interracial basketball game on Clybourn Ave. just south of Sheffield Ave. One player from Cabrini-Green wrongly accused me of stealing \$10 out of his jacket. He followed me home, and said: “Better pay up! Have you ever felt the cold steel of a zip gun?” Despite the threat, I refused to pay.

- 1959: It’s 11 p.m. on a Saturday night. After hanging out with my teen buddies on a side-street corner, I was accosted by a gang while walking home. “Got any cigarettes? Got any cash? They asked.

I imagined the worst. Amid a sea of angry faces, I saw Eddie, a basketball buddy. “Let him go. He is okay,” said Eddie. Later that year, a 17-year-old drunk was strangled with a belt under the next-door porch.

- 1961: A gang war—like a scene from the 1961 movie “West Side Story,”—was viewed from

our third-floor front porch on Halsted St. It erupted between a Puerto Rican gang and Black gang over a woman. A guy playing poker with friends in a first-floor apartment next door wasn’t happy that a Puerto Rican whistled at his girl who was sitting on the front porch. So, he cracked him on the head with an empty whiskey bottle. Then, a gang banger tore a 2-by-4 leg off of our front deck bench to use as a club in the battle.

Another Puerto Rican was stabbed that night and bled out on the hood of my 1954 Buick. Traffic on busy Halsted St. stopped as five Puerto Ricans jumped into a four-door 1954 Ford and sped off with the car-doors flapping.

- 1966: During summer vacation, my Univ. of Missouri college roommate, Don (Garbo) Garbarino, and I enjoyed a game of fast-pitch with a white-rubber ball and a chalk-marked box on a wall at Newberry School.

One day, Booker and his buddy “Slim,” two Cabrini-Green dwellers, showed up and challenged us to a game of fast pitch at \$2 per match. Booker, who looked like Hall-of-Fame baseball player Willie McCovey’s baby brother, hit the first ball 450 feet over a tall tree on Burling St. The ball landed in a back yard on Halsted.

Later, we stopped throwing Booker fast balls. Once we tossed sinkers, curves, knuckle-balls and screw-balls, we eventually learned Booker couldn’t hit a breaking ball. In one game, Booker and Slim struck out 19 times. They were friendly, competitive guys.

- 1977: At age 17, my future wife, attended college while living in the Gold Coast. She was taking a cab to O’Hare Airport to visit her family for the holidays.

MEMORIES see p. 9

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Don't lose your property!

What to do if your taxes were sold at the Annual Tax Sale

BY MARIA PAPPAS

The 2022 Annual Tax Sale, conducted by our office directed by Illinois law, was probably a worrisome process for property owners whose property taxes were delinquent and sold. Understanding how the process works and what steps to take can make the difference between catching up on your taxes or risking losing your property.

Each year, delinquent property taxes are offered at the Annual Tax Sale so that local governments receive the revenue needed to operate. The property itself is not sold, but a third party pays the outstanding tax amount and places a tax lien on the property.

The tax buyer then receives the right to repayment of the taxes, with applicable interest—or the

right to go to court to request ownership of the property, if payment is not received.

Tax buyers may not make changes to the taxpayer's information or take any action regarding the property prior to obtaining a tax deed through the court.

If your taxes were sold at the Annual Tax Sale, here are the next steps:

- Request an "Estimate of Redemption": This document is obtained through the Cook County Clerk's Office. It will provide a detailed calculation of the total amount you need to pay to redeem (pay back) the taxes for your property.

- Redeem your taxes: You have the right to regain control by paying the tax buyer the amount they paid at the Annual Tax Sale, plus applicable interest. This process, called redemption, is also handled through the Cook County Clerk's Office.

Once a tax buyer acquires your tax debt in the Annual Tax Sale,

the only way to redeem your delinquent taxes is to pay the debt, interest, and fees in a single payment. Partial payments are not accepted. That is why it is crucial to redeem your taxes as soon as possible to avoid an increase in the amount owed.

Property owners have 30 months to redeem sold taxes for residential properties and approximately one year to redeem sold taxes for commercial properties. After this period, the tax buyer can go to court to obtain ownership of your property.

If your 2022 delinquent taxes were sold at the Annual Tax Sale in Dec. 2024 and you are unable to redeem your taxes, consider seeking an attorney about other options available to resolve your situation.

Acting quickly, understanding the process, and taking advantage of available resources will help you resolve this situation and maintain control of your property.

On our office's website, cook-countytreasurer.com, you will find more information.



Maria Pappas

Four arrested, 20 charged as part of drug trafficking ring

BY CWBCHICAGO

A drug trafficking investigation centered on the Northwest Side has resulted in federal narcotics and firearm charges against four individuals.

The investigation, led by the Chicago Police Dept. and Homeland Security Investigations [HSI], utilized covert surveillance operations, undercover narcotics purchases, and wiretapped communications to shut down an open-air drug market Humboldt Park. As part of the investigation, on Jan. 8, law enforcement executed a court-authorized search of a residence in and discovered

multi-kilogram quantities of fentanyl, heroin, and cocaine packaged for distribution.

The investigation, led by the Chicago Police Dept. and Homeland Security Investigations, utilized covert surveillance operations, undercover narcotics purchases, and wiretapped communications to shut down an open-air drug market Humboldt Park.

Charged with federal drug offenses are Jauan Brown, 38, Brianna Moore, 26, and Ayanna Ross, 21. Charged with illegal

firearm possession are Brown and William Davis, 38. All suspects are from Chicago.

The four defendants made their initial appearances in federal court in Chicago on Jan. 8.

In addition to the federal charges, 20 individuals were charged in state court as a result of this investigation.

The federal charges were announced by Morris Pasqual, Acting U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, Sean Fitzgerald, Special Agent-in-Charge of HSI in Chicago, and Larry Snelling, Superintendent of CPD.

The case was part of an Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force operation which identifies, disrupts, and dismantles drug trafficking organizations and other criminal networks.

Lincoln Park Preschool Fair Jan. 25

The Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce hopes to make choosing the right preschool easier with the first-ever Lincoln Park Preschool Fair, partnering with the Lincoln Park Library Branch, 1150 W. Fullerton.

This event takes place 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 25. The Fair offers an opportunity to connect with some of the neighborhood's top preschools—all in one convenient location.


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In 2024, comedian Bill Murray showed up to Navy Pier to honor his friend, Harold Ramis. Photo courtesy Barry Brecheisen/Eater Chicago

It's Groundhog Day

Celebrate annual Harold Ramis Day Feb. 2

Fans of the Movie Groundhog Day are invited to join the second annual free celebration of Harold Ramis' extraordinary life and career with an official Groundhog Day Celebration 2:59 p.m. Feb. 2 at Harry Caray's Tavern Navy Pier. (Ramis was a partner in the restaurant.)

To commemorate Chicago's officially declared Harold Ramis Day, cast members from the celebrated 1993 comedy Groundhog Day, co-written and directed by Ramis, will participate in this special public event on Navy Pier, 700 E. Grand Ave. The event is open to the public.

Cast members scheduled to appear include Stephen Tobolowsky (Ned Ryerson), Peggy Roeder (the Piano Teacher), and Richard Henzel (the DJ).

The movie "Groundhog Day," starring Bill Murray, was released in 1993, heightening the day's popularity. Murray plays a Pittsburgh weatherman who finds himself living Groundhog Day over and over again until he improves his character enough to continue with life. A famous scene depicts Murray asleep in his bed as the Sonny & Cher song "I Got You, Babe" plays before his alarm wakes him up at 6 a.m. "Get up and check that hog!" the radio announcer says.

When the alarm clock flips

from 2:59 p.m. to 3 p.m. Feb. 2 at Navy Pier, and "I Got You Babe" plays, cast members will share remarks about Harold and the film. Fan favorite "Ned Ryerson" (Stephen Tobolowsky), as the new "President of the Chicago Groundhog Club," will lead the Groundhog Day Ceremony, during which Chicago Harry, a live groundhog, will emerge from his tree stump to reveal if he sees his shadow (predicting six more weeks of winter).




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Police Beat...

'Give me the bong or I'll shoot you!' man warned while robbing Edgewater store

A Rockford man is charged with robbing an Edgewater store where he allegedly ordered the cashier to "Give me the bong or I'll shoot you!"



Paul McMahan

Paul McMahan, 44, did not leave with a bong, but he did steal a \$25 vape during the January 3 incident, according to the allegations.

An employee at The Green Arch Food Mart, 5555 N. Broadway, told police that McMahan implied he had a gun while reaching into his pants pocket and demanding a bong. Ultimately, though, McMahan grabbed the vape from a shelf and walked out, a Chicago police report said.

The worker called 911 and a cop on patrol who heard the robber's description realized it was McMahan because they had an "interaction" earlier in the day, according to the CPD report.

A CPD surveillance camera recorded footage of McMahan leaving the food mart and walking down the street. Officers found him in the 5500 block of N. Kenmore a short time later.

Prosecutors did not ask Judge Susana Ortiz to detain McMahan, so the judge released him on electronic monitoring. He is charged with robbery and misdemeanor retail theft.

Cops hunt business burglar in Edgewater, Rogers Park



(Top)The burglar is seen in images taken from a video released by Chicago police. (Bottom) The burglary suspect is seen in a surveillance image taken at the Argyle Red Line station on Jan. 9.

Images courtesy Chicago Police Dept.

Police are asking people in Edgewater and Rogers Park to be on the lookout for a burglar who has been breaking into small businesses at night. He has struck at least three times already this year.

Area Three detectives released a short video (below) showing the suspect walking in the 1200 block of W. Devon around 4:25 a.m. last Thursday and approaching the River & Roads Cafe storefront at 1259 W. Devon.

CPD said the burglar entered the businesses by breaking windows with a screwdriver. Once inside, he stole cash from registers and offices.

In addition to the Rogers Park break-in, the man is suspected of burglarizing a shop in the 1100 block of W. Granville around 12:35 a.m. Jan. 3 and another business in the 6200 block of N. Broadway sometime on the night of Jan. 8 through Jan. 9.

Police said the suspect is Black and wears all black clothing, including a coat with a fur-lined hood and brown boots.

Tips can be shared with investigators by calling 312-744-8263 about crime pattern #P25-3-003.

Man accused of sexually assaulting 11-year-old is missing after cutting off his ankle monitor

A Lakeview man on pretrial release for a case in which he is accused of sexually assaulting an 11-year-old girl has gone missing after removing his electronic monitoring bracelet. The Cook County Sheriff's Office said on Jan. 10 that Jorge Wenceslao Mondragon-Bahena, 48, removed his ankle monitor in March 2023 and has not been seen since.

Mondragon-Bahena was working as a cook at a Wrigleyville establishment at the time of his arrest and lived in the 3500 block of N. Southport, according to court records.

On Oct. 6, 2022, prosecutors charged Mondragon-Bahena with predatory criminal sexual assault of a child in connection with an assault that allegedly occurred in Aug. 2015.



Jorge Mondragon-Bahena

Mondragon-Bahena and the victim were together in a residence when he pulled her onto a bed, removed her clothing, and lowered his shorts, prosecutors said during Mondragon-Bahena's initial bail hearing. He proceeded to perform a sex act on the girl but stopped when the child's mother, who had been running errands, returned home earlier than expected, prosecutors alleged.

The woman allegedly walked in on the incident and found her daughter with no pants on and Mondragon-Bahena naked. She immediately kicked Mondragon-Bahena out, took her daughter to a hospital, and filed a report with Chicago police. Mondragon-Bahena allegedly contacted the child's mother repeatedly to apologize and ask for forgiveness.

Prosecutors said DNA testing found male saliva on the girl's undergarment, and the material was scheduled to undergo further testing after investigators secured a sample of Mondragon-Bahena's DNA. Mondragon-Bahena

Prosecutors said the case stalled because Mondragon-Bahena's whereabouts had been unknown for several years. Investigators arrested him in Oct. 2022 after learning that he was working as a cook at the Wrigleyville venue.

Prosecutors did not ask Judge Susana Ortiz to hold Mondragon-Bahena without bail during his initial court appearance. Judges in Illinois were not authorized to hold defendants without bail under the cash bail system unless prosecutors requested it first. Instead, Ortiz ordered Mondragon-Bahena to pay a \$10,000 cash bail deposit and go on electronic monitoring. He was released on those conditions within days.

About six months later, on March 11, 2023, the sheriff's office received a "strap tamper alert" from Mondragon-Bahena's ankle monitor, indicating that someone may have been trying to remove the device, according to court filings. Officials declared him AWOL the next day after failing to locate him.

The sheriff's office said on Friday that it believes Mondragon-Bahena is working at a restaurant in Chicago. The agency said he has been known to use the aliases Oscar Flores and Wenceslao Mondragon.

Anyone who knows his whereabouts can contact the sheriff's office at 708-865-4700.

Gunmen carjack two Lakeview drivers within minutes, suspects detained

Two drivers were carjacked at gunpoint within three minutes on Jan 10 in Lakeview, Chicago police said. Two suspects are in custody.

The first driver was carjacked

around 11:49 p.m. in the 2900 block of N. Sheffield. A CPD spokesperson said two men, one armed with a gun, walked up to a 58-year-old man as he parked his car. They forced him out of his silver 2025 Toyota Camry and drove away.

Officers found the Camry abandoned a short time later in the 1000 block of W. George, about a block away.

The second carjacking occurred around 11:52 p.m. in the 3100 block of North Sheffield. A 48-year-old man told police he was driving when two men approached and pulled handguns on him, according to CPD. The men forced him out of his 2018 Honda CRV and drove away.

Members of the hijacking task force used the city's license plate reader network to locate the car as it exited the Dan Ryan Expressway at 83rd St. around 12:40 a.m. Officers found the Honda abandoned moments later in the 8200 block of S. May and, with the help of CPD's helicopter unit, arrested two people who ran from the car. Charges were pending, the police spokesperson said.

Man charged with carjacking woman in Rogers Park

A 56-year-old Downstate man has been charged with carjacking a woman in Rogers Park nearly two years ago. Chicago police on Jan. 7 announced vehicular hijacking charges against Carlos Stillwell of Decatur, saying he forced a woman from her car in the 7000 block of N. Paulina on April 14, 2023.



Carlos Stillwell

Stillwell's detention hearing on Tuesday afternoon.

In a story about the carjacking published shortly after it occurred, CWB-Chicago reported that a 33-year-old woman was in her car when a man walked up and tried to engage her in conversation around 7:16 a.m. He proceeded to open her driver's side door, then battered her and pulled her from her vehicle, a CPD spokesperson said at the time.

The man jumped behind the wheel of the woman's SUV and headed south. Chicago cops tracked the vehicle and found it unattended behind the 6200 block of N. Clark a short time later, the spokesperson said. The woman's purse was found near the car, and a clothing item and an earring that may belong to the offender were discovered inside her vehicle. They likely may have come off as the woman and hijacker struggled for control of the car.

CPD officers arrested Stillwell on Jan. 6 at the Skokie courthouse. Court records show he was making an initial appearance there on vehicular hijacking charges stemming from an incident in Evanston.

Stillwell received a 21-year sentence for a 2010 armed robbery in Skokie, according to court records.

Chicago cops revisit case of woman who's been missing since 2021

Chicago police on Jan. 7 made the unusual move of re-issuing a missing person bulletin, hoping someone will help them crack the case of a woman who has not been seen in nearly four years.

Cheretha Morrison was 38 when she dropped her daughter off at school in the 2000 block of W. 62nd St. on Feb. 26, 2021. According to the CPD's updated bulletin, she was last seen a short time later driving her silver 2006 Porsche Cayenne in the 6900 block of S. Throop.

School administrators contacted Morrison's family when she didn't pick her daughter up after class.

Morrison's car was found three days later in the 7400 block of N. Win-



Inset: mugshot Jemaal Muhammad, one of four men responsible for muggings on the Red Line.

Man charged with committing two Red Line robberies convicted of another CTA robbery in 2023

Chicago cops have arrested one of four men responsible for mugging passengers on the Red Line in December, according to a CPD media statement. Records show the man was convicted in 2023 of committing another robbery at the Roosevelt CTA station downtown.

Jemaal Muhammad, 20, of DeKalb, is charged with three counts of robbery after police arrested him in the first block of South State St. on Jan. 7. His arrest came on the same day that mass transit detectives released surveillance images of the robbers and asked for help identifying them.

CPD said Muhammad was one of the men who mugged a 15-year-old boy on a train near 95th St. around 10:52 p.m. Dec. 29. Less than 10 minutes later, he and his accomplices

robbed a 44-year-old man on a train near 79th St., police said.

The community alert issued on Tuesday also linked the group to a third robbery near the Cermak Red Line station late on Dec. 20. Muhammad is not charged with that case, according to CPD's media statement.

In June 2022, Muhammad was charged with committing an aggravated robbery at the Roosevelt CTA station in the Loop, according to CPD and court records. He received a three-year sentence in March 2023, but did not spend any time in prison after receiving credit for time spent in the county jail and the state's standard 50% credit for good behavior.

CPD continues to hold the vehicle. Family members said Morrison, who was almost four months pregnant when she went missing, had argued with someone on the phone the day before she went missing. Friends of Morrison have reported that she was involved in a "toxic" relationship, but police have not linked anyone to her disappearance or even stated if they suspect foul play.

Morrison was 4'-11" tall and 140 pounds when she went missing. She has brown eyes, a piercing on the right side of her lower lip, and several tattoos: a large Heart with the word "Cheryl" inside of the heart and R.I.P above the heart on her left upper arm; the word "Glorious" on her left forearm; a large rose on her right upper arm; and the name "Rita" on the right side of her neck.

CPD's Special Victims Unit is handling the investigation. They can be reached at 312-747-8380.

Cops issue more warnings about months-long surge in armed robbery sprees

In a video frame provided to this reporter, armed robbers are seen hovering over a victim in West Town last week.

Chicago police have issued their third warning in three days about the armed robbery crews that are actively prowling neighborhoods from the West Loop to the West Side. Robbery sprees have been occurring repeatedly in the area since Nov. 22, 2024, but CPD is only now telling the public about the problem.

Ald. Gilbert Villegas [36th] pointed to the robberies as another reason he believes CPD should open a satellite station for the Near West Side.

One robbery crew has "targeted people walking their dogs and in the street—taking phones, wallets, purses, and other valuables," Villegas said. "Since the closure of the old 13th [District] station at 937 N. Wood St, there has been a gap in coverage and patrols."

"I reiterate our calls to Mayor Johnson's administration to reopen the facility to increase police response times and presence. Enough is enough; our 36th Ward residents deserve to be safe."

CPD's latest alert, issued Jan. 7, warns about six robberies that oc-

urred in under three hours on Dec. 27. Two or three robbers jumped out of a stolen white Kia Optima to rob victims at gunpoint on the street, the warning said. The crew pistol-whipped some of the victims.

The alert links the following robberies to the same group of people: 1000 block of N. California at 3:55 p.m.; 800 block of N. Cicero at 5:35 p.m.; 2200 block of W. Taylor at 5:45 p.m.; 500 block of W. North Ave. at 6:07 p.m.; 2100 block of N. Sheffield at 6:20 p.m.; 1600 block of W. Fullerton around 6:23 p.m., and on the 1200 block of W. Fullerton at 6:30 p.m.

CWBChicago reported on the morning after the robberies that police recovered the stolen getaway car in Avondale. While the community alert did not include descriptions of the suspects, we reported that the victims generally described the robbers as Black males in their mid- to late teens wearing dark clothing.

On Jan. 6, detectives issued a separate warning about three hold-ups that occurred on the morning of Jan. 3.

"Three male African American offenders arrive in a stolen vehicle and exit armed with handguns and take all personal property from [the] victim, then re-enter the vehicle and make good in their getaway," the alert said. CPD said the robbers were between 17 and 23 and wore black hoodies, black pants, and black ski masks.

The robberies occurred in the 1200 block of W. Randolph at 5:38 a.m.; the 700 block of N. May at 6:20 a.m.; and the 100 block of N. West-ern at 7 a.m.

CPD issued its first warning about the robberies on Jan. 5. It linked the Randolph, May, and Western robberies to two additional robberies that morning in the 300 block of N. Avers and the 3200 block of W. Lake.

On Jan. 5, about 12 hours before CPD issued its first alert, another robbery spree swept across Bucktown, the West Loop, and other Near West Side neighborhoods. A 77-year-old woman and a 75-year-old man were among the victims.

Previous reporting

On New Years Eve, at least six

Demographics tell a Chicago, and community-wide post-COVID story

BY BOB AND JOANNE KITSOS

While Chicago's neighborhoods went through significant changes during and since the COVID-19 pandemic, demographic data indicates there is good news for the city, and especially the North Side. This is according to Ed Zotti, a journalist, author/editor, data nerd and a transit, urban planning consultant.

Zotti shared his findings during a program hosted by the Edgewater Historical Society [EHS] at the Edgewater Branch library on Jan. 11. During his presentation, "Chicago's Demographic Shifts Since COVID," Zotti offered information about population shifts, focusing on the concentration of college graduates throughout the city, racial/ethnic distribution in communities, and median household income from 1980 to 2023.

"Since COVID, the population did go down by about 29,505," he estimated, "but it's a question of who left." Across the city, there has been a growing number of college graduates from the four major ethnicities, Hispanics, Non-Hispanic whites, Blacks and Asians. From 2000 to 2023 Zotti said 400,000 college graduates were added to Chicago's population, primarily from Big Ten schools; and that 90% of those college graduates were not born in the city.

Of note is that many people who left Chicago from 2019 to 2023 did not have a college degree. Also, according to Zotti, data show that the Black community declined by 440,000 since its peak in 1980. Much of the Black population moved to the South, including Atlanta, Houston, Dallas and Washington, D.C. "The result is that the people who stayed are the most educated," Zotti said, "and the city is slowly becoming less segregated."

City of Choice

For some people, Chicago has become what Zotti describes as a "city of choice."



The Edgewater Historical Society hosted the demographic shifts program on Jan. 11. Left, Society President John Holden and guest speaker Ed Zotti, urban planner and former Chicago Reader editor, Chicago Sun-Times columnist, and author of *The Barn House, Confessions of an Urban Rehabber*.

Photo by Joanne Kitsos

That is, people who would seem to have a wide variety of options chose to move to Chicago, unlike the pre-and-post World War II great migrations when people moved to Chicago to take factory jobs.

There also are "neighborhoods of choice" meaning people cluster in areas that are in proximity to particular amenities. Edgewater, for example, can be considered a neighborhood of choice as residents may choose it for its proximity to Lake Michigan, shopping, dining and transportation.

Zotti also noted another reason that Edgewater is a neighborhood of choice is that property values are not yet exorbitant. Furthermore, the community of about 43,000 residents is becoming more integrated with no ethnic predominance. He said, "Edgewater is remaining stable, with no huge demographic shifts, which is a big distinction compared to other areas."

On the whole, Chicago is more affluent than it used to be. It remains mostly middle income, Zotti said shifting from lower middle class to upper middle class. He

added, "We need to keep those college graduates coming. Chicago is more resilient than it was 50 years ago."

Over those 43 years he reviewed, he showed graphic data that explained how the North and Northwest sides (and Hyde Park, Beverly and Morgan Park) have gathered the broad majority of college graduates and saw the greatest rise in home prices and income.

He showed how the North Side's 'choice' neighborhoods are already densely popu-

"Since COVID, the population did go down by about 29,505," Ed Zotti estimated, "but it's a question of who left."

lated, as 35% of the city's land mass holds half of the city's total population.

He summed up Chicago's post-COVID story conclusion, saying "Demographically speaking, the city got through COVID just fine, and it is more resilient that it was 50 years ago." He also said that the city was more affluent than it used to be, "but not so wealthy that it can afford a 'soak the rich' approach." He said that city-wide, Chicago's household income was 83% of the greater metropolitan area's medium income.

However, he sees two areas on which the city should focus. "The key to revitalizing the South Side is to build a multi-ethnic professional community on the south lakefront," Zotti said. "As for the North Side, keeping housing affordable will be a continuing challenge—even for Edgewater."

19th District beat meeting at Sulzer Jan. 21

The 19th Police District will be holding their first Beat Meeting of the year for Beats 1911/1912 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 21, at Sulzer Library, 4455 N. Lincoln Ave.

Neighbors are invited to come meet their Beat and CAPS officers who will discuss current area crimes and various community issues pertaining to areas from the River east to Damen Ave., and from Irving Pk. to Lawrence; and from Damen Ave. east to Clark St., and Irving Pk. to Lawrence Ave.

Networking party Jan. 29 at Verve Wine

Start the new year by meeting new people and growing your network at Business After Hours networking party at Verve Wine, 2349 N. Lincoln Ave., 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 29.

This event is co-hosted by the Lincoln Park Chamber of Commerce as an opportunity for professionals to connect, unwind, and explore some of the wines from across the globe, while tasting food from ilixir.

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Under one roof, 10th Annual sleepout for homeless Feb. 21

This year, thousands of Chicagoans experienced homelessness, and one in five households faced hunger. To address these challenges, Care For Friends is hosting their 10th annual Sleepout for Homeless on Friday, Feb. 21, hoping to raise funds to provide resources to help those in need.

Care For Friends this year is looking back to 1968, when the Church of Our Saviour in Lincoln Park opened its doors during the unrest and protests of the Democrat National Convention. Youth seeking refuge found sanctuary in the pews, spending the night under one roof.

To honor this history, they will be holding their "Sleepout" inside at 5749 N. Kenmore, for an all-night event.

This sleepout is more fun when there are a lot of people participating - and this year they have an unlimited number of spots for sleepers who might want to join in.

The sleepout is a crucial fundraiser for Care for Friends, and it secures nearly a third of their annual budget.

Those who might like to participate can visit the event website at <https://careforfriends.org/sleepout-homelessness/>.

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Martin Luther King Jr. Day at history museum Jan. 20



Martin Luther King speaks to the Old Town Gardens apartments rent strikers at Olivet Community Center on Cleveland Ave.

Martin Luther King Jr. will be celebrated at the Chicago History Museum, 1601 N. Clark St., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday, Jan. 20.

The celebration is included with general admission, which is free for Illinois residents on this day.

At this family-focused celebration of King's ongoing influence on the fight for civil rights in the

US, guests may enjoy hands-on engagements, musical performances, and opportunities to learn about how to become more civically engaged in your community.

During a visit to Chicago, King spoke to the Old Town Gardens apartments rent strikers at Olivet Community Center, 1441 N. Cleveland Ave.

Metro History Day seeks volunteer judges

The Chicago Metro History Day Assoc. [CMH] is looking for judges for both the Junior Division (grades 6-8) and the Senior Division (grades 9-12).

On March 1 and March 8, CMH will host about 1,400 students who have created exhibits, documentaries, websites, papers, and performances on historical topics. In order to make these regional contests successful, they need 350+ volunteer judges to offer constructive evaluations of their work.

Those who wish to volunteer

should visit www.chicagohistory.org/education/chicago-metro-history-day/.

Teacher and student registration open on Jan. 21, and student registration is due by Feb. 14.

CMH is a project-based program that encourages students to become historians, conduct research and share their conclusions. Guided by their teachers, students in grades six through 12 choose their own topics connected to an annual theme, and then conduct research, analyze sources, make an argument, and finally produce a project to show their work.

Students make websites, performances, documentaries, papers, and exhibitions which are evaluated by community volunteers at annual competitions. This rigorous program prepares students for high school and college expectations and tries to help youth become informed, engaged citizens.

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INSIDE PUBLICATIONS



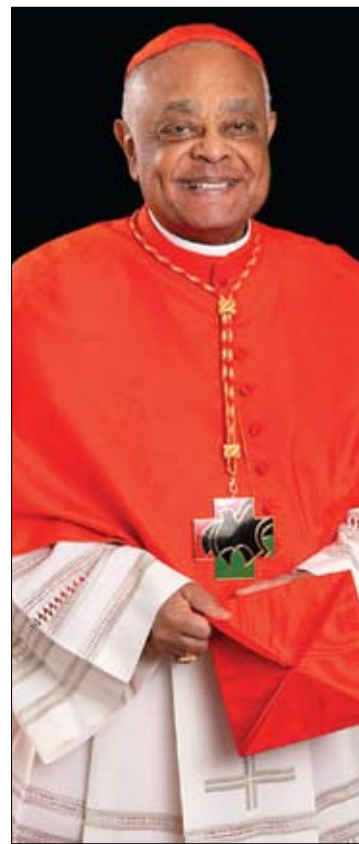
Virginia Halas McCaskey



RL's Christopher



Debi Catenacci and Sherrill Bodine.



Wilton Cardinal Gregory

RAT from p. 2

FAREWELL: Best wishes to South Side Chicagoan **Cardinal Wilton Gregory** on his retirement as Archbishop of Washington D.C., first ever African American Cardinal.

END OF AN ERA: **Bruce DuMont** has announced that he is ending his "Beyond the Beltway" syndicated radio program after 44 years. Bravo Bruce, we all tuned in and paid attention.

PRESIDENTIAL HONOR: **Ralph Lauren**, himself, the man who taught America how to dress, has received the Presidential Medal of Freedom at the White House from **President Joe Biden**. The first American fashion designer to be so honored.

GREAT LUNCH: I had the best lunch ever at **Ralph Lauren** with **Sherrill Bodine** on the eve of her departure for her around the world four month ocean voyage, and biscotti diva **Debi Catenacci**, preceding her holiday on Maui for the next weeks... young **Christopher** was our go-to-guy for a grand afternoon filled with *Veuve Clicquot*. **Peter Axelsen** was on his toes.

BADABING: Welcome back *BadaBing Wings*, 4754 N. Clark St. *Bada Bing Wing's* are ranked some of the best in Chicago. The business closed suddenly last June after founder/owner, **Jose Lopez**, 42, tragically passed away.

Afer soft reopening they will now accept in-store orders and offer special discounts.

WHO'S WHERE: Happy Birthday to **Ken Moll, Jr.**, in Sardegna with the family... and to **Dr. Rose Gomez** who jinglebelled her birthday in Switzerland... and Chicago artist, **Cynthia Prokop**, who was, as always, a New Year bambina... And don't forget the Chicago Bears' **Virginia Halas McCaskey** who

just turned 102... **Eshaghy Family** in Acapulco, Mexico dancing in the streets for the... Irish President, poet **Michael D. Higgins**, presented **Pope Francis** with a genuine Irish Black Thorne stick to help maneuver papal walks... **Sherry Lea Fox** and **Paul A. Iacono** luxuriating in Paris where the Champagne is just right... Happy 2025 to our Chicago snowbirds in Florida former Labor Sec-



Irish President Michael Higgins (right) with Pope Francis.

retary **Lynn Martin**, and **Susan Gohl** and **Jonathan Graybil**, not to mention **Jane Justic**, all near Naples, and **Leslie Hindman**, **Sugar Routbord** and **Kay Krehbiel** in Palm Beach... **Christopher Clinton Conway** at Shutters



Jose Lopez

in L.A. with Irish PR maven **Sharon Plunkett**... **Cheryl Larsen** with nieces **Elaine** and **Olivia** at the Walnut Room... **Richard Paddor** and **Christopher Mejia** in Australia on a 14-day cruise from Sydney to Auckland, New Zealand... **Diane Abt** with **Michael Zielenziger** in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico... For **Leah Chavie's** recent 50th birthday

bash her pals all assembled in the same pink pajamas, **Kelley Panzaella**, **Al Igor**, **Julia Jacobs**, **Michelle Kat**, **Nikki Stotka Jacobson** and **Kelley McCarthy**... **Dr. Joaquin** and **Jennifer Sutton Brieva** getting some R&R near the famed "Love Sculpture" in St. Petersburg, FL... Proud new grandma **Grand Duchess Maria Teresa of Luxembourg** took to Instagram to share the first selection of photographs of **Prince**

Félix and **Princess Claire's** newborn son **Prince Balthazar of Nassau**... **Dan** and **Laurie Baker Lawlor** exploring the Sedona desert after celebrating **Danny Lawlor Jr.'s** 40th birthday back... **Takara Beathea-Gudell**, superb Chicago jewelry designer, thrilled 2025 began for her with a great feature on her jewelry in *Artful Home* magazine... Bravo IAN publisher **Cliff Carlson**

completing the "River to River Run"... Congrats to **Peg** and **Bob Ryan** of Shannon Rovers' pipe band fame on their 55th wedding anniversary... Sunday dinner at Il Girasole may never be the same as Chicago A-listers discover it, including **Tom Hackett**, **Tom McGuire**, **Courtney Daley Thompson**, **Jim Sharp** and **Michael Moore**... **Rochelle Trotter** spending time at Qs Lounge with best friends **Terri Winston**, **O'Morris**

Adams and the man himself, **Quenten Curtis**... Former TV newsy **Andy Shaw** at Chula Vista Golf Club in the Lake Chapala ex-pat region of Mexico south of Guadalajara... **Mark Roscoe** had another incredible day of filming "The Place in Between" with actors **Sayed Badreya**, **Opal Staples**, **Marissa Harris**, **Valeria Madvek**, **Sandra May** (**Sandra Garcia**) and **William Potts**.

SAFE: **Shew**, **Lydia de Chanov**, **Richard Paddor**, **Graham Howe**, **Annette Ramirez**, **Allison Unger**, **Diane Holland**, **Bill Brigden** and **Luis Vazquez** have all marked themselves as safe from the fires in Southern California.

CHICAGO HISTORY: Remembering how back in 1912, **William Sianis** came to Chicago from Greece with \$5 in his shoe. And a crazy idea in his head. And the rest, as they say, is Billy Goat history.

MOVEABLE ART: The large botanical canvas of *Spring Blooms in Italy* will soon go on display at Il Girasole, (Sunflowers) at 2700 N. Western this week joining four other works by this writer.

America did not invent human rights. In a very real sense human rights invented America. - **Jimmy Carter**

tog515@gmail.com

Letters to the Editor

We need humanity

As Chicagoans all of us can make an effort to live a better quality of life in 2025. I read in the police beat all types of violence that Chicagoans commit against others. In Thomas O’Gorman’s articles I read of the strong dislike that some aldermen have for the mayor and that the mayor has for some of his critics.

Interestingly in Uptown, Edgewater, and Rogers Park there are supporters of the mayor. A quote by early 20th century actor Charlie Chaplin maybe proposes

somewhat of a solution to these ongoing problems. He acted in silent movies in Chicago’s Uptown neighborhood on Argyle, between Broadway and Clark. He observed that, “We think too much and feel too little. We need humanity. More than cleverness we need kindness and gentleness. Without these qualities life will be violent and all will be lost.”

A good observation.

*Fred Case
Lakeview*

We need more taxpayers

Your articles on the proposed Broadway rezoning overlooks a critical benefit for Chicago taxpayers.

The city, the school district, and other tax entities are required by state law to increase their pension payments over the coming decade. This means the taxpayers need to come up with billions of dollars in additional revenue every single year.

We face two options: burden existing businesses and residents with higher taxes and devastating service cuts, or grow our tax base to lower the burden on an individual level.

As someone who intends to be paying property taxes here for

next 40 years, and who will be sending multiple children through CPS, I strongly prefer the second option. I welcome new neighbors and businesses to Broadway who can help share the burden of pension obligations we inherited from prior generations.

There’s much more the city can do to promote growth of our tax base, but allowing more housing (and more taxpayers) adjacent to the largest transit investment of the last 20 years is a good start.

*Alec Schwengler
Lincoln Square*

Why do they hate you but love your money?

It seems like the Mayor and the dopey Aldermen hate taxpayers, doesn’t it? Why is Mayor Brandon Johnson still listed as “on union leave from CPS”?

That is legalese for wage theft. Crooked labor unions in Chicago use the government to steal taxpayer money. As long as Johnson remains in that category, he acquires time in the Teachers Pension Fund. And the taxpayers have to pay his inflated pension, since his pension is based on his highest salary (Mayoral \$240,000 vs. Union \$180,000 vs. Teacher \$60,000). He acquires years in the teachers job, but at the higher pay rate.

And yes, Johnson runs the Park District.

I often take two dogs, Phineas and Basil, to dog parks. Most of the parks are in terrible condition. They are either mud pits or concrete slabs dreamt up from an East German nightmare.

The dog park at Horner Park has a semi-permanent sign with a Venmo number asking for money. Does Venmo come between Grande and Venti, or after? Who then is stealing this money? It costs nothing to drop wood chips on a dog park.

Streets and San’s Bureau of Forestry will deliver wood chips for free to block clubs and garden

clubs. They grind up tons of tree trunks, branches and limbs every day. Just get the Park District employees to put on their hats and coats and rake the wood chips.

Remember the interview Johnson gave while running for office? The one where he admitted he refused to give students homework or teach them anything meaningful, because he wanted to break the system, a system taxpayers paid him to be a part of.

But the weak, go along to get along Chicago Press Corps wouldn’t hammer the candidate on his admission. He was paid to be a teacher. And he failed the students. And then he became a CTU official. And then a Cook County Commissioner. And then the Mayor. After destroying that students’ futures.

Is he just there for their money, and the inflated pensions?

He won’t build more schools on the North Side but he will give rich out-of-town developers millions of tax dollars.

Why is the City going to let a developer tear down the old Gordon Tech High School? That could be an expansion of Lane Tech High School and 3600 more spots for Chicago schoolchildren.

*Mike Sullivan
Avondale*

Plan B

Don DeBat’s insightful two-part critique of the recently unveiled “final master plans” for Cabrini Green is both accurate and timely. It underscores the old adage: “Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it.”

Relying solely on professional planners has its limits. While their proposals are often accompanied by colorful renderings of building sites and LEGO-like structures, they frequently lack a comprehensive vision. For example, how will residents navigate to and from work in such a densely packed environment? The necessary infrastructure to support this “urban pod” concept seems as unrealistic as the plans for Lincoln Yards.

Chicago has an incredible capacity to build, thanks to our skilled trade unions, hundreds of small construction firms, and, of course, the major players with their towering cranes. Let’s utilize these resources across the city but on a more appropriate scale.

It’s time for Plan B.

*Tim Carew
Old Town*

MEMORIES from p. 4

Unfortunately, the cab stopped for a red light at the corner of Division and Larrabee, right in front of Cabrini-Green. A man walked up and opened the cab door. While brandishing a knife, he reached inside and grabbed her purse, which contained her airline tickets, jewelry, wallet and identification.

Because she was new to the neighborhood, and from the rural South, she jumped out of the cab and chased the thief to the front door of a gang-infested, burned-out Cabrini-Green high-rise.

Luckily, the cab driver saved her life by screaming: “Lady! You’ll die if step through that door!”

• 1998: After grammar-school classes at LaSalle Language Academy, at Sedgewick and North Park, our young son was followed home by a harem of a dozen

Despite the overall failure of Cabrini-Green, and the eventual razing of the property, in 2025, the Chicago Housing Authority [CHA] appears to be determined to repeat its mistake.

young African-American girls. Apparently, our son had invited them to our home for soft drinks on a hot summer day. Waving a broom, Dorothy, our caregiver, chased the girls away.

Earlier that year, two of our boys’ bikes were stolen out of our back yard grotto along with three cast-stone angel garden sculptures from our deck on Lincoln Park West. Luckily, our Weber grill was chained down.

• 2001: While residing in a gated townhome on Larabee, north of North Ave., our sons parked two new bikes inside a locked glass security gate. Both bikes were stolen when thieves scaled the wall.

• 2002: Our youngest son, who also attended LaSalle elementary school, experienced a bike theft

in the schoolyard at LaSalle. His older brother was peddling ahead of him and didn’t notice he was jumped by three neighborhood bike thieves.

The lasting impact of Cabrini-Green’s original construction created a crime wave in Old Town and Lincoln Park that started in 1954 and continued for more than five decades until the projects were razed.

Despite the overall failure of Cabrini-Green, and the eventual razing of the property, in 2025, the Chicago Housing Authority [CHA] appears to be determined to repeat its mistake.

The CHA wants to build 4,080 new affordable units on the vacant Cabrini-Green land south of North Ave., and the units are not all proposed as low-rise buildings and row houses. The notorious high-rises and mid-rises are part of the plan. Most are affordable residences, and likely will include hundreds of Section-8 public-housing units.

It’s déjà vu all over again!

For more housing news, visit www.dondebat.biz. Don DeBat is co-author of “Escaping Condo Jail,” the ultimate survival guide for condominium living. Visit www.escapingcondojail.com.

Chicago Children’s Theatre to host The Magic City

This month, the Chicago Children’s Theatre [CCT] will offer families a chance to immerse in the world of the Manual Cinema’s The Magic City. This production, running Jan. 25 to Feb. 16, weaves a narrative about fostering connections and embracing change, Encouraging children to build bridges rather than walls.

Performances will occur on Saturdays and Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m., with a spe-

cial afternoon matinee on Feb. 9, at 2 p.m., at the CCT, 100 S. Racine. Tickets, priced at \$35.25, are available at chicagochildrenstheatre.org.

Call CCT Guest Services at 312-374-8835, or email boxoffice@chicagochildrenstheatre.org to learn about weekday student matinees and discounted rates for schools, playgroups, birthday parties, and scouting groups.

POLICE BEAT from p. 6

people were robbed during a one-hour crime spree across Humboldt Park and Ukrainian Village. And on Dec. 29, six robberies were reported between Humboldt Park and the West Loop. While police stopped a vehicle suspected of being involved in the crimes, the only charges filed against its occupants were for drug possession.

At least seven people were robbed on Friday, Dec. 27, during a two-hour crime spree that started on the West Side and then moved into Old Town and Lincoln Park. And at least five people were robbed during a 45-minute spree the following evening.

From late Christmas Eve into Christmas morning, three armed robberies were reported in Bucktown, Lincoln Park, and Avondale. At least nine people were mugged during a string of armed robberies Dec. 21, and seven others on Dec. 9, including an off-duty FBI agent.

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Lakeview Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF EAST POINT CONDOMINIUM Plaintiff(s) vs. JOAN SHAPIRO BEIGH, AS SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE UNDER THE DANIEL SHAPIRO LIVING TRUST AND THE LAVERNE SHAPIRO LIVING TRUST, BOTH DATED 2/27/1997; BRAD BLOOM; MEGHAN M. ADAMCZYK; UNKNOWN OWNERS & NONRECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendant(s) Case Number: 2023 CH 02058 Sheriff's No: 250005 Pursuant to a Judgment made and entered by said Court in the above entitled cause, Thomas J. Dart, Sheriff of Cook County, Illinois, will on February 25, 2025, at 1:00 pm, in Room LL06 of the Richard J. Daley Center, 50 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois, sell at public auction the following described premises and real estate mentioned in said Judgment: Address: 6101 N. Sheridan Road, Units 41B and 41C, Chicago, IL 60660 (a/k/a 940 W. Glenlake Ave., Units 41B and 41C, Chicago, Illinois 60660 Improvements: a condominium unit in the condominium association known as East Point Condominium Sale shall be under the following terms: payment of not less than ten percent (10%) of the amount of the successful and highest bid to be paid to the Sheriff by cashier's check or certified funds at the sale; and the full remaining balance to be paid to the Sheriff by cashier's check or certified funds within twenty-four (24) hours after sale. Sale shall be subject to general taxes, special assessments. Premises will NOT be open for inspection. For information: Attorneys Info: Jamie L. Burns, Leventful Pearlstein, LLC, 120 S. Riverside Plaza, Suite 1800, Chicago, IL 60606 This is an attempt to collect a debt pursuant to the

Real Estate For Sale

Fair Debt Collection Practices Act and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. **13258674** 151515 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION BANK OF AMERICA N.A. Plaintiff, -v- WALTER W. MEEK, SR., SECRETARY OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, 5455 EDGE-WATER PLAZA CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 2023 CH 05348 5455 N. SHERIDAN ROAD, UNIT 1012 CHICAGO, IL 60640 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on May 22, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 7, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 5455 N. SHERIDAN ROAD, UNIT 1012, CHICAGO, IL 60640 Property Index No. 14-08-203-016-1099 The real estate is improved with a condominium/townhouse. The judgment amount was \$247,726.16. Sale terms: 100% of the bid amount shall be paid in certified funds immediately by the highest and best bidder at the conclusion of the sale. The certified check must be made payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to

Real Estate For Sale

quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, contact KELLEY, KRONENBERG, P.A. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 20 N. Clark St., Suite 1150, Chicago, IL, 60602 (312) 216-8828. Please refer to file number CR123040. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pend-

Real Estate For Sale

ing sales. KELLEY, KRONENBERG, P.A. 20 N. Clark St., Suite 1150 Chicago IL, 60602 312-216-8828 E-Mail: ileservice@kelleykronenberg.com Attorney File No. CR123040 Attorney Code. 49848 Case Number: 2023 CH 05348 TJSC#: 44-2341 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2023 CH 05348 **13258461** IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION CITIZENS BANK NA F/K/A RBS CITIZENS NA Plaintiff, -v- SCOTT J OH, IRENE S OH, UNKNOWN OWNERS AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, FIRST AMERICAN BANK Defendants 2023 CH 04524 3639 NORTH GREENVIEW AVENUE CHICAGO, IL 60613 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on April 17, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 13, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 3639 NORTH GREENVIEW AVENUE, CHICAGO, IL 60613

Real Estate For Sale

Property Index No. 14-20-121-006-0000 The real estate is improved with a two - four apartment building. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same

Real Estate For Sale

identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL, 60602. Tel No. (312) 346-9088. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200 Chicago IL, 60602 312-346-9088 E-Mail: pleadings@mccalla.com Attorney File No. 22-09388IL_782897 Attorney Code. 61256 Case Number: 22 CH 04524 TJSC#: 44-1155 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 22 CH 04524 **13258276** 080808 ----- 010101 ----- **Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700**

Rogers Park Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT, CHANCERY DIVISION CITIBANK, N.A., Plaintiff, v. CONCORD COMMERCIAL, LLC, CITY OF CHICAGO HOUSING AUTHORITY, ROBERT L. FERRINO, THREE CORNERS DEVELOPMENT, INC., FIRST MERCHANTS BANK, MADISON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, UNKNOWN OWNERS, AND NON-RECORD CLAIMANTS, Defendants. No. 2023 CH 05561 Consolidated with: FIRST MERCHANTS BANK, Plaintiff, v. CONCORD COMMERCIAL, LLC, CHICAGO HOUSING ADMINISTRATION, LLC; CITY OF CHICAGO; CHICAGO HOUSING AUTHORITY, CITIBANK, N.A., MADISON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, and ROBERT L. FERRINO, Defendants. No. 2023 CH 00357 NOTICE OF SALE TO: PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale heretofore dated September 20, 2024, and stamped and entered by the Court on September 24, 2024, by Judge Chlov@ Pedersen, and in Exhibit 1 thereto, and as otherwise amended by court order, and will require submission from buyer of Ten Percent (10%) by cash or certified funds at the time of the sale which must be included with a signed written purchase agreement through sealed bid and the balance of the total purchase price is due within 24 hours of the sale. Certified checks should be payable to Rick Levin & Associates, Inc. A copy of the required written purchase agreement to be used with sealed bids is available by contacting Rick Levin & Associates, Inc. This sale is not contingent on buyer's ability to obtain financing. The subject premises is being offered for sale subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said premises and is offered for sale without any representation as to the quality or quantity of title and without recourse to the Plaintiff, Citibank N.A. and its "as is" condition without any warranty express or implied nor fitness for use or purpose. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court and approval by the Chicago Housing Authority through execution of an Assumption Agreement. A six percent (6%) buyer's premium is in effect for this sale which must be added to the bid price to determine the total purchase price. The premises is not available for inspection unless you contact Rick Levin, President, Rick Levin & Associates, Inc. 1434 N. Astor Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610, phone number (312) 440-2000, or by email rick@ricklevin.com. Commonly Known as: 6418 N. Sheridan Road, Chi-

Real Estate For Sale

cago, Illinois 60626 6422 N. Sheridan Road, Chicago, Illinois 60626 Permanent Index Nos.: 11-32-331-037-0000 11-32-331-038-0000 11-32-331-039-0000 The person to contact for information regarding the premises is: Rick Levin, President, Rick Levin & Associates, Inc. 1434 N. Astor Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610, phone number (312) 440-2000, or by email rick@ricklevin.com. The Terms of Sale Are: The terms of sale are set forth in the Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated September 20, 2024, and stamped and entered by the Court on September 24, 2024, by Judge Chlov@ Pedersen, and in Exhibit 1 thereto, and as otherwise amended by court order, and will require submission from buyer of Ten Percent (10%) by cash or certified funds at the time of the sale which must be included with a signed written purchase agreement through sealed bid and the balance of the total purchase price is due within 24 hours of the sale. Certified checks should be payable to Rick Levin & Associates, Inc. A copy of the required written purchase agreement to be used with sealed bids is available by contacting Rick Levin & Associates, Inc. This sale is not contingent on buyer's ability to obtain financing. The subject premises is being offered for sale subject to real estate taxes, special assessments or special taxes levied against said premises and is offered for sale without any representation as to the quality or quantity of title and without recourse to the Plaintiff, Citibank N.A. and its "as is" condition without any warranty express or implied nor fitness for use or purpose. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court and approval by the Chicago Housing Authority through execution of an Assumption Agreement. A six percent (6%) buyer's premium is in effect for this sale which must be added to the bid price to determine the total purchase price. The premises is not available for inspection unless you contact Rick Levin, President, Rick Levin & Associates, Inc. 1434 N. Astor Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610, phone number (312) 440-2000, or by email rick@ricklevin.com.

Real Estate For Sale

A description of the improvements relating to the referenced premises include: all right, title and interest of Concord Commercial LLC and James Paul, as court appointed receiver, in and to the buildings, structures, improvements and fixtures erected or existing within or upon the leased premises as more particularly described as Parcel 2 herein above. Potential buyers are advised to independently verify any information they deem important. This notice is published in accordance with the requirements of Section 735 ILCS 5/15-1507, which mandates publication at least three consecutive calendar weeks, once each week, with the first notice published not more than forty-five (45) days prior to the sale and the last notice not less than seven (7) days prior to the sale. **13258830** 151515 ----- 080808 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. Bank National Association, as Trustee for Residential Asset Securities Corporation, Home Equity Mortgage Asset-Backed Pass-Through Certificates, Series 2006-KS2 Plaintiff vs. Domubari John-Miller a/k/a Dornubari John-Miller; Anthonia John-Miller; Vine Condominiums of Rogers Park; Illinois Department of Revenue; Amanda Donovan; Miles Donovan; Unknown Owners and Non Record Claimants Defendant 2023 CH 4164 CALENDAR 60 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered in the above entitled cause Intercounty Judicial Sales Corporation will on February 10, 2025, at the hour 11:00 a.m., Intercounty's office, 120 West Madison Street, Suite 718A, Chicago, IL 60602, sell to the highest

Real Estate For Sale

bidding for cash, the following described mortgagee real estate: P.I.N. 11-31-214-057-1011. Commonly known as 6966 North Wolcott Avenue, Unit 1N, Chicago, IL 60626. The real estate is: condominium residence. The purchaser of the unit other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by subdivisions (g)(1) and (g)(4) of Section 9 of the Condominium Property Act. Sale terms: At sale, the bidder must have 10% down by certified funds, balance within 24 hours, by certified funds. No refunds. The property will NOT be open for inspection. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. For information call Sales Department at Plaintiff's Attorney, The Wirbicki Law Group LLC, 33 West Monroe Street, Suite 1540, Chicago, Illinois 60603. (312) 360-9455. W23-0107 INTERCOUNTY JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION IntercountyJudicialsales.com **13258163** IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST Plaintiff, -v- SATESH B DAIBY Defendants 2019 CH 00259 1826 WEST PRATT BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60626 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on July 9, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 7, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chi-

Real Estate For Sale

cago, IL, 60606, sell at a public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 1826 WEST PRATT BOULEVARD, CHICAGO, IL 60626 Property Index No. 11-31-224-029-0000 The real estate is improved with a tan concrete, two-story single family home, detached garage. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in

Real Estate For Sale

order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC Plaintiff's Attorneys, One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL, 60602. Tel No. (312) 346-9088. THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. MCCALLA RAYMER LEIBERT PIERCE, LLC One North Dearborn Street, Suite 1200 Chicago IL, 60602 312-346-9088 E-Mail: pleadings@mccalla.com Attorney File No. 21-07497IL_700922 Attorney Code. 61256 Case Number: 2019 CH 00259 TJSC#: 44-3263 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2019 CH 00259 **13258081** 010101 ----- **Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700**

North Township Real Estate For Sale

Real Estate For Sale

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION TRUIST BANK Plaintiff, -v- MOJTABA DIRBAZ; LAKE POINT TOWER CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants. 2024CH07699 505 N LAKE SHORE DR APT 508, CHICAGO, IL 60611 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 11/20/2024, an agent of Auction.com LLC will at 12:00 PM on February 26, 2025 located at 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60606, sell at public sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate. Commonly known as 505 N LAKE SHORE DR APT 508, CHICAGO, IL 60611 Property Index No. 17-10-214-016-1852 The real estate is improved with a Condominium. The judgment amount was \$191,793.90 Sale Terms: 20% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to Auction.com LLC. No third party checks will be accepted. All registered bidders need to provide a photo ID in order to bid. The balance, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. (relief fee not required) The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a certificate of sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property, prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by the Condominium property

Real Estate For Sale

Act, 765 ILCS 605/9 (g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701 (C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. For information, contact Plaintiff's attorney: CODILIS & ASSOCIATES PC (630) 794-5300 please refer to file number 14-24-05100. Auction.com LLC 100 N LaSalle St., Suite 1400, Chicago, IL 60606 - 872-225-4985 You can also visit www.auction.com. Attorney File No. 14-24-05100 Case Number: 2024CH07699 NOTE: PURSUANT TO THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT, YOU ARE ADVISED THAT PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY IS DEEMED TO BE A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. **13257115** 151515 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST COMPANY, AS TRUSTEE FOR SOUNDVIEW HOME LOAN TRUST 2005-OPT3, ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-OPT3 Plaintiff, -v- BEATRIZ L. OLIVA, FRANK M. OLIVA, BYLINE BANK, THE LAKE SHORE CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 2024CH01401 consolidated with 2023D007078 1440 N. LAKE SHORE DR 21H CHICAGO, IL 60610 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 23, 2024, an agent for

Real Estate For Sale

The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 3, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 1440 N. LAKE SHORE DR 21H, CHICAGO, IL 60610 Property Index No. 17-03-103-028-1134 The real estate is improved with a residence. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the

Real Estate For Sale

foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527 630-794-5300 E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-24-01093 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 2024CH01401 consolidated with 2023D007078 TJSC#: 44-2941 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2024CH01401 consolidated with 2023D007078 **13258398** 080808 ----- IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS COUNTY DEPARTMENT - CHANCERY DIVISION U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCF 2 ACQUISITION TRUST Plaintiff, -v- MICHAEL TAURO, 30 EAST HURON CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION Defendants 2024 CH 05851 20 E HURON STREET UNIT 2010

Real Estate For Sale

CHICAGO, IL 60611 NOTICE OF SALE PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on October 16, 2024, an agent for The Judicial Sales Corporation, will at 10:30 AM on February 4, 2025, at The Judicial Sales Corporation, One South Wacker, 1st Floor Suite 35R, Chicago, IL, 60606, sell at a public in-person sale to the highest bidder, as set forth below, the following described real estate: Commonly known as 30 E HURON STREET UNIT 2010, CHICAGO, IL 60611 Property Index No. 17-10-104-037-1120 The real estate is improved with a condo/townhouse. Sale terms: 25% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the sale payable to The Judicial Sales Corporation. No third party checks will be accepted. The balance, in certified funds/wire transfer, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court. Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser will receive a Certificate of Sale that will entitle the purchaser to a deed to the real estate after confirmation of the sale. The property will NOT be open for inspection and plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the court file to verify all information. If this property is a condominium unit, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale, other than a mortgagee, shall pay the assessments and the legal fees required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4). If this property is a condominium unit which is part of a common interest community, the purchaser of the unit at the foreclosure sale other than a mortgagee shall pay the assessments required by The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1). IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE

Real Estate For Sale

WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW. You will need a photo identification issued by a government agency (driver's license, passport, etc.) in order to gain entry into our building and the foreclosure sale room in Cook County and the same identification for sales held at other county venues where The Judicial Sales Corporation conducts foreclosure sales. For information, examine the court file, CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. Plaintiff's Attorneys, 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100, BURR RIDGE, IL, 60527 (630) 794-9876 THE JUDICIAL SALES CORPORATION One South Wacker Drive, 24th Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-4650 (312) 236-SALE You can also visit The Judicial Sales Corporation at www.tjsc.com for a 7 day status report of pending sales. CODILIS & ASSOCIATES, P.C. 15W030 NORTH FRONTAGE ROAD, SUITE 100 BURR RIDGE IL, 60527 630-794-5300 E-Mail: pleadings@il.cslegal.com Attorney File No. 14-23-07312 Attorney ARDC No. 00468002 Attorney Code. 21762 Case Number: 2024 CH 05851 TJSC#: 44-2878 NOTE: Pursuant to the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, you are advised that Plaintiff's attorney is deemed to be a debt collector attempting to collect a debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Case # 2024 CH 05851 **13257894** 010101 ----- **Legal Ads DBA Public Notices. We'll Run Your Ad For 3 Consecutive Weeks For Only \$150.00. Call 773-465-9700**

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LANE from p. 1

most of the rest of the game. The Lions gave no quarter to the size and length possessed by the Champions. Lions' center Keyshawn Barfield battled the Champions' division one prospect center Dalton Scantlebury the whole game.

The Lions turned off Lane's usually productive three-point shooters. The Champions managed only one three-point field goal in the game.

The Lincoln Park gym is a unique place for top-level high school basketball game. It's small. Very small. Three rows of seats on each side and none along the baselines.

The staff at Lincoln Park are careful to only allow the proper number of people in the gym. It couldn't be more than a couple hundred. But it was enough to make it loud and provide a distinct home court advantage for the Lions with their students and fans quite literally on the edge of the court.

"I think the atmosphere was great. I love it. It was like a North Side battle. You've got kids on both sides who know each other. It was great. I think the home court advantage came to us, our school and wave of kids came out and showed pride and support," Anderson said of his team's home

court advantage.

The Lincoln Park Lions are one of the teams that emerged this year. It's not like no one expected them to be good. They showed signs last season. But the Lions have been a top ranked team all year. They defeated Whitney Young, St. Laurence and Curie, all ranked teams. They lost to Red Shield rival and perennial powerhouse Simeon by one point in a wild one at Simeon. They lost to suburban powerhouse Warren Township also by just one point.

Of their success this year, Anderson said, "I attribute that to the hard work that these guys put in. We watch film. We work on things. When it comes to certain teams and they see film and they see what a team can't do and won't do, we feed off that and we attacked that. We attack team's weaknesses."

The Lions are poised to win the Red Shield conference. It could work out that the Lions will play #2 ranked Kenwood, who is undefeated in the conference for the championship. The Lions have one loss in the conference, but if they win the rest of their conference games and defeat Kenwood in the regular season penultimate game, they would be Red Shield champs. Still, almost half the season is left to play.

BROADWAY from p. 1

cial position." This newspaper reached out to DPD lead planner Katharyn Hurd over the weekend asking her to explain the effect of TIFs on the Broadway Land Use Planning process and will update readers if a reply is received.

As of deadline we've heard nothing back from Hurd.

Further meetings on the proposed Broadway high-density plan require additional meetings to address a poor and overly-opaque planning process. The DPD has stated their desire for speed in making the zoning change.

While the Hispanic populations are increasing in a variety of neighborhoods across Chicago, and Chicago's suburbs continue to thrive, for a variety of reasons, current demographics show that the North and Northwest sides (and Hyde Park, Beverly and Morgan Park neighborhoods on the South Side) are where many college-educated residents choose to live. To meet this geographically-specific demand, city planners think that adding vast new density to Broadway and Western Ave. is the way to manage this consumer demand.

But the demand for speed at approving the upzoning proposal also leaves other community stakeholders broadly - and perhaps intentionally - in the dark. However, what is a certainty is that property tax revenue from any new developments along Broadway won't be in play for many years.

Songs of the Greek Chorus

Two current pro-development articles on the Broadway Land Use Planning process are in Streetsblog Chicago and Chicago YIMBY, both readily accessible online. Both appear to have been prepared with insider information.

Yet both stories are one-sided and neglect to identify the rushed impetus behind the deal while ignoring community stakeholders such as business owners, neighborhood block clubs, and community organizing groups.

Only two open house meetings have been held since October, and both denied citizen stakeholders any chance to openly question, and debate the value of this plan before the entire assembled audience.

The DPD is hosting a Broadway Land Use Planning Virtual Meeting 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 30. People can register for it on the DPD website. As is the case with all virtual meetings, some hidden person will control a virtual mute button, that will prevent the sharing of guffaws, groans, laughter and ridicule from the assembled audience. Virtual meetings also save public servants from having to dodge rotten tomatoes tossed their way by betrayed citizens.

Equally important is an in-person meeting hosted by the Coalition of Block Clubs 1 to 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25 on the 2nd floor at the Edgewater Public Library. While the public is invited, the public servants at DPD have refused to attend or participate in this meeting.

In his Streetsblog article, Richard Day lauds the potential

Broadway land use upzoning plan as good news for the neighborhoods of Edgewater and Uptown, sustainable transportation, and the city-at-large. He writes that the upzoning and high-density development plan would result in "more tax revenue for the city."

Only two open house meetings have been held since October, and both denied citizen stakeholders any chance to openly question, and debate the value of this plan before the entire assembled audience.

The proposed upzoning to B3-5 would make it possible to add significantly more housing to the Broadway corridor. Citing calculations by Steven Vance, cofounder of Streetsblog Chicago, about 18,000 new housing units would be allowed under the new zoning revisions to the 2.6 mile stretch of Broadway between Devon and Montrose, and would bring in an additional \$30-60 million in annual property tax revenue.

Vance says, "The current zoning regime has so many ways for an alderperson to intervene. That raises costs, delays housing, and sustains segregation." But other stakeholders wonder why city planners think it should be so easy for them to make such drastic and long term impactful changes to their communities... That the whole point of a democratic system of governance is to slow down overzealous bureaucrats and make big changes harder to implement.

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SHELF ICE from p. 1

which can cause panic and loss of muscle control almost instantly upon immersion.

The Great Lakes Surf Rescue Project [GLSRP] warns people to avoid piers and shelf ice due to slick and unstable conditions. "Because there are underwater currents, that ice is going to be less stable," according to Dave Benjamin, executive director. "And if you were to fall through, that current might pull you right under. And there is no rescue. There's no rescue for that situation. Hopefully they'll find you in the springtime."

Benjamin related two recent cases of people who fell through the ice on Lake Michigan's

shoreline to this newspaper. On Jan. 26, 2021, Johnny Jacobsen fell through some shelf ice at Loyola Beach in Rogers Park. Luckily, the water was only a few feet deep so he was able to get out of the water and back onto the beach as a friend videotaped the accident.

"I definitely think there should be some warnings or something," Jacobsen told the GLSRP. "I had no idea these existed. I thought I was walking on sand."

In another case, Bryce Dunfee, 22, of Fort Wayne, IN, fell through shelf ice on Feb. 21, 2022 while visiting West Beach at Indiana Dunes State Park in Porter County. Dunfee and five friends began to retreat to shore when the ice began to crack but he fell in.

His friends were unable to reach him due to the large waves and unstable ice. His body was recovered two months later.

In another case, the Chicago Fire Dept. rescued a Univ. of Chicago student walking on ice about one quarter mile off Promontory Point on Feb 5, 2022. The man had no idea that he was on ice and thought he was walking on ground.

Benjamin closed by adding that there are no reliable figures for how many people drown after falling through the ice on Lake Michigan. Most slip through the ice when alone in unreported accidents and aren't discovered until weeks or months later.

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Gregory J. Lindeman
Founder/Director